

09/09/2025

Dear Montgomery County Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for key elements of the University Boulevard Corridor (UBC) plan and the associated proposed revisions to the R60 zoning classification currently under review by the County Council. As a resident in the Sligo Woods community, I am excited about the opportunities this proposal presents for enhancing the quality of life for residents and homeowners in our area.

I believe that the UBC plan addresses critical community needs, including traffic safety, regional connectivity, environmental sustainability, housing, and economic development. These initiatives are pragmatic and essential for making our community more livable while reducing its environmental impact. The proposed zoning changes along the corridor represent a forward-thinking approach to achieving these goals.

Specifically, the plan proposes to rezone only corridor-fronting blocks, properties within a quarter mile of future Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) stations, and institutional properties to a mix of Commercial Residential Neighborhood (CRN) and Commercial Residential Town (CRT) classifications. This targeted rezoning would focus growth in transit-oriented, walkable locations, helping the county evolve toward a more efficient and sustainable future.

The changes would also allow community residents the option—not the obligation—to build additional housing types on their property, provided that enough free land is available. This flexibility can lead to more diverse housing options, greater attainability, and improved access to community-serving amenities, such as grocery stores, especially near transit stops. For owners of larger or underutilized lots, the opportunity to develop additional housing types could help alleviate the housing shortage while creating economic opportunities for property owners.

In sum, the UBC plan and the associated zoning changes offer significant benefits to residents, homeowners, and the broader community. By encouraging thoughtful development and transit-oriented growth, these proposals will help improve the quality of life for current and future residents.

I urge you to support both the University Boulevard Corridor plan and the proposed rezoning changes. These initiatives represent a meaningful step toward addressing our county's needs for sustainable growth, attainable housing, and economic vitality.

Thank you for your leadership and your attention to these important issues.

Sincerely,

Takele B. Yazew

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