

Testimony on ZTA 26-01 Data Center Commercial Uses - Data Center

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To our council members and community members,

Please do NOT approve any data centers in Montgomery or Frederick Counties, especially near the agricultural area in Dickerson. We need to better understand the benefits and impacts on our area.

Things are far too uncertain on data centers right now. Most residents in MoCo and across the country have turned against data centers. The State is just beginning a study of data centers. The affordability crisis is directly tied to data center capacity, our electric bills are already too high and the People's Counsel has said the proliferation of data centers is to blame. What is the rush to jump in and allow large scale data centers here? There is every reason to wait, particularly with a project with unknown impacts speeding toward approval with no regulations. Slow down - get this right. Some of the lack of transparency from the industry is by design. We rely on our leaders to not accept NDAs and "proprietary information" and get the facts before allowing a new land use here.

These data centers are very detrimental to our land area and often are not used for the benefit of Maryland residents. Let's be smart and make smart informed decisions.

Thank You,

Susan McDermott