



EAST COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

February 16, 2023

The Honorable Marc Elrich
Montgomery County Executive
Executive Office Building
101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Mr. Elrich, Jermain Williams, Kristin Mink:

At their February 7, 2024 meeting, the East County Citizens Advisory Board (ECCAB) voted unanimously to convey the Board's full support for locating the proposed East County campus of Montgomery College in the VIVA White Oak development. As you know, the Board has been active advocates of a Montgomery College campus in East County for over a decade, and is happy to see the establishment of the Montgomery College Educational Training Center on Broadbirch Road.

Having Montgomery College in the aforementioned location will result in synergism with Viva White Oak, the Adventist White Oak Medical Center, and the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Together they will provide economic revitalization of East County businesses and allow residents to live, work, and recreate within their own communities. We also see reductions in the vehicle mode share with the proper routing of Ride-On and BRT bus services through this development. The county can provide one set of transit and road improvements to serve all four major users, rather than needing multiple sets of improvements. The workforce housing that Viva is planning to provide will allow nurses, teachers, firemen and others to live near where they work, rather than require an hour or so drive that many currently experience. The courses the college is expected to provide should result in improved job opportunities and income for those low-income individuals residing in East County. The location fits well with the White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan vision.

ECCAB wants to thank County Executive Marc Elrich, County Council members, Montgomery College, and Director of the East County Regional office Jewru Bandeh who have kept this project in focus, as well as our current District Council Member Kristin Mink and past members who have been pivotal in driving this effort in the forefront of amenities for East County.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our recommendations and continuous support in service to Eastern Montgomery County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Myo Khin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Peter Myo Khin
Chair, East County Citizens Advisory Board

Cc: Andrew Friedson, County Council President
D5 County Council Member Kristin Mink

Jewru Bandeh, Director, ECRSC
Jenny Bryant, OMB Director