



## COMMISSION ON AGING

January 17, 2020

The Honorable Bridget Donnell Newton, Mayor  
City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Re: Proposal for a Veteran's Home on the Redgate Golf Course Property

Dear Mayor Newton and Members of the Rockville City County:

The Montgomery County Commission on Aging (COA) is authorized by the Older Americans Act and was established by Montgomery County in 1974 to advise County government on the needs, interests, and issues of older adult residents, and to advocate on their behalf at the local, state, and national levels. The COA is aware of the Veteran's Administration's proposal with Maryland state financial cooperation to construct and operate a Veterans Home in the City of Rockville. We write in full support of the project, which we understand is also supported by Montgomery County and its Commission on Veterans Affairs.

The COA has reviewed the Draft Program Proposal and the Background Information about the proposed Veteran's Home. With over 43,000 veterans in Montgomery County, and only one existing Veteran's Home in the State of Maryland, such a project is clearly warranted and needed, as the financial commitments of the Veteran's Administration and the State of Maryland would indicate. While the economic benefits to our community with a projected \$12M payroll and total budget of \$22M are substantial, meeting the needs of our Veterans should be of paramount importance to all. With Charlotte Hall Veteran's Home in St. Mary's County being the sole home for Veteran care in Maryland, the need for a second facility is beyond question, and the Redgate property would appear to be a wonderful location. Approval of the site would show the strong support of Rockville to the well-being of our veterans.

The COA therefore joins in the requests of all who seek Rockville's approval of the commitment of land at Redgate to this project. Thank you for your consideration of the proposal. If the COA can be of any further assistance in the City's deliberation of providing its approval, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours,

Jean Dinwiddie, Chair

cc:  
Members, Rockville City Council  
Rob DiSpirito, Rockville City Manager  
Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Executive

**Department of Health and Human Services**

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