

MONTGOMERY COUNTY 2013 FEDERAL PRIORITIES

Federal Budget. Montgomery County urges our Congressional delegation to work toward a federal budget compromise that avoids sequestration. The impact of across-the-board federal cuts on Maryland's economy would reduce federal grants to State and local governments by about \$150 million, cut domestic and defense jobs in our region, and reduce State and local tax revenues due to job losses and wage decline.

Transportation Infrastructure Funding. Significant long-term investment in America's infrastructure is critical. Montgomery County recognizing that Congress is no longer earmarking federal appropriations. We would urge that our Congressional delegation focus their attention on the County's most urgent need: transportation investment. Without strong federal and state partners, Montgomery County will continue to struggle to maintain its ability to compete regionally, nationally, and globally. The County has strong assets (e.g., key federal facilities, two biotechnology corridors, a highly educated workforce, and strong public schools), but it also has some of the worst traffic congestion in the country. We need a strong federal partner to work with the State of Maryland and invest in Montgomery County's capital infrastructure. Two major transit projects, the Corridor Cities Transitway and the Purple Line are critical to Montgomery County's long-term economic growth. Substantial federal funds will be needed to advance these projects. Both these projects fall within the Federal Transit Administration's New Start program. The Purple Line is in Preliminary Engineering (PE) while a request by Maryland Transit Administration for the CCT to enter PE is expected to be made late winter/early spring 2013.