

MONTGOMERY COUNTY 2020 FEDERAL PRIORITIES

TRANSPORTATION

- Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act (PRIIA). Seeking reauthorization of PRIIA that would include the annual \$150 million federal match for WMATA, as well as a \$150 million appropriation in FY21 for WMATA
- Federal infrastructure Investment- Support House Democrats' five-year "Moving Forward Framework" proposal that would authorize \$760 billion in infrastructure investment (e.g., highways, transit, rail, airports, harbor water & wastewater, broadband & communications, etc.). Legislation expected at the end of February
- Federal Parkway Rehabilitation and Federal Lands Access Funding- Seeking adequate levels of federal funds for maintenance of transportation assets managed by the National Park Service (e.g., Clara Barton Parkway, George Washington Memorial Parkway, etc.)
- DCA Overflight Noise- continue partnership with Congressional delegation to advance FAA noise mitigation procedures and press for the completion of FAA studies on health impacts and aircraft overflight noise as directed under the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

- Deployment of Small Cell Wireless Antennas- Urge Congressional delegation to continue to legislatively challenge FCC's small cell orders preempting local authority to manage the placement and size of small cells in public rights-of-way. Request support and cosponsorship of H.R. 530, Accelerating Wireless Broadband Development by Empowering Local Communities Act of 2019, and S. 2012, Restoring Local Control Over Public Infrastructure Act of 2019
- Cable in-kind franchise fees- Urge Congressional delegation to continue its efforts to legislatively challenge the FCC's Order granting cable operators the right to reduce their franchise obligations which will have a significant fiscal impact on local governments' ability to fund cable services to government buildings and schools, discounts for seniors, veterans and poor families and other obligations (S. 3218/H.R. 5659)

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Reducing Mental Illness in Jails- Urge Congressional delegation to support full funding of the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program, as well as supporting legislative efforts to restore health benefits for justice-involved individuals

ENVIRONMENT

- “Forever Chemicals”- Urge Congressional delegation to pursue legislation in 2020 to address the public health threat of PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl Substances) contamination. These toxic, super- resilient, man-made chemicals contaminating drinking water and other media have been linked to cancer, kidney disease, and birth and developmental disorders, and have triggered significant national concern. Federal action is needed to address PFAS “lifecycle” issues from production to disposal that would include providing federal funding for remediation of PFAS-contaminated drinking water supplies.
- Water affordability- Urge Congressional delegation to seek increased federal investment in water affordability programs similar to the home energy affordability program LIHEAP

HOUSING

- Housing Affordability- Urge Congressional delegation to continue its work on expanding the supply of affordable housing through increased federal funding for key housing and community development programs (e.g., Home Investment Partnerships (HOME) program, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, and Homeless Assistance and Section 8 Vouchers), as well as supporting legislation that would expand the Low Income Housing Tax Credit used to encourage more private sector investment in new construction, acquisition, and rehabilitation of rental housing affordable to low-income households. Request their support and cosponsorship of the Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act (S. 1703 and H.R. 3077) pending the 116th Congress

HEALTH

- Older American Act reauthorization- Urge our Congressional delegation to support this reauthorization that is a major vehicle for the delivery of social and nutrition services for seniors in the County
- Medicaid, Medicare, SNAP- Urge our Congressional delegation to continue their opposition to program cuts contained in the President’s FY21 budget which would have a significant impact on health outcomes and access to care services
- Health inequities- Following-up on a staff-level meeting between Dr. Travis Gayles and senior legislative staff from our Congressional delegation, the County would urge our delegation to support federal programs aimed at addressing challenging health disparities in our communities. Specifically, urging the delegation to examine the eligibility requirements of HRSA’s Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program to ensure that communities with pockets of poverty are served, increasing the funding levels for CDC programs addressing sexually transmitted infections and tuberculosis, and supporting the HHS initiative “Ending the HIV Epidemic: A Plan for America” aimed at reducing HIV infections by 90% by 2030

EDUCATION

- Title I and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)- Urge Congressional delegation to support full funding for Title I and IDEA which provides billions of dollars nationally to public education for disadvantaged children and disabled children

6/8/20