Subject: Petition for State Grant of $1,000,000 for undertaking certain construction activities as part of the Takoma Park Commons renovation

Background

1. The General Assembly of Maryland has enacted various community college construction loan acts that provide State funds to assist the counties in financing the costs of acquiring land and constructing public junior, community, or regional community college buildings and facilities, the costs of which were incurred after the effective dates of the acts.

2. The County Council must file a petition to participate in the financial assistance provided in the acts with the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

3. The Board of Trustees of Montgomery Community College proposes undertaking certain construction activities as part of the Takoma Park Commons renovation project on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus of the College in Montgomery County. Upon resolution duly adopted by the Board, the Board requests the County Council to petition the Maryland Higher Education Commission for a grant of $1,000,000 needed to assist the financing of the public community college project which is described in the application for financial assistance.

2. In the FY2007 Capital Budget for Montgomery College, the Board of Trustees proposed undertaking certain construction activities as part of the Takoma Park Commons renovation project on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus of the College. On May 25, 2006, the County Council approved $6,900,000 for this project, contingent on the receipt of $1,000,000 from the State in FY 2007 and $2,450,000 in FY 2008.

3. In April 2006, the State General Assembly and the Governor approved the FY2007 State of Maryland Capital Budget, which included $1,000,000 for certain construction activities as part of the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus Commons renovation project. However, the Board of Public Works must still approve the specific grant and the necessary contracts. Before this approval, the County Council must file a petition to participate in the financial assistance provided in the acts with the Maryland Higher Education Commission. After the Commission receives this petition, the Commission will recommend to the Board of Public works that the Board approve the grant and the contracts.
Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following action:

1. In accordance with the enactment by the 2006 session of the General Assembly of the FY2007 State of Maryland Capital Budget and approval by the Governor, the County petitions the Maryland Higher Education Commission for a grant of $1,000,000 from the available funds of the various community college construction loan acts in order to participate in the available financial assistance.

2. If the Maryland State Board of Public Works approves a grant of less than fifty percent (50%) of the estimated total cost for undertaking certain construction activities as part of the Takoma Park Commons renovation project on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus of the College, the College must notify the County Executive and the County Council by requesting an amendment to the College’s Capital Improvements Program. The amendment must show the actual project funding schedule proposed and the Council must approve the amendment before the College awards a contract.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

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Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council