

Resolution No.: 16-192
Introduced: June 12, 2007
Adopted: June 19, 2007

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

SUBJECT: Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee - Extension

Background

1. From 1997 to 1999, more people in the County were killed trying to cross the street than from homicides during the same time period. Pedestrian fatalities as a percentage of all traffic fatalities in Montgomery County have exceeded State figures for the last four out of five years.
2. In response to growing concern over the increasing number of pedestrian accidents, County Executive Douglas M. Duncan appointed the Blue Ribbon Panel on Pedestrian and Traffic Safety in June 2000.
3. County Executive Duncan charged the Panel with formulating a coordinated plan to improve pedestrian and traffic safety in the County. The Panel was asked to address the interrelated problems of pedestrian safety and access, road design, intersection safety, and traffic management.
4. The Panel spent over 18 months researching, hearing expert testimony from pedestrian safety specialists, visiting other jurisdictions where innovative pedestrian safety improvements were made, and, in January 2002, presented its Final Report.
5. The report included a series of recommendations (54 total) broken into four categories: Education, Enforcement, Engineering, and Legislative. A central recommendation called for the establishment of a formal County Executive-appointed advisory committee confirmed by the County Council to advise the County on the implementation of the recommendations in the report.
6. The Montgomery County Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) was established by Council Resolution 14-1281 on May 23, 2002; the term of the Committee was set for five years. From 2000 to 2006, Montgomery County experienced an average of 15 pedestrian fatalities per year, higher than the 1997-1999 average of 14.

This fact alone should make it clear that much remains to be done if the County is going to reduce the number of pedestrian fatalities. The PSAC plays an important role in the County's efforts to improve pedestrian safety and mobility.

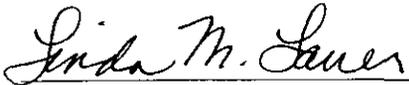
Action

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

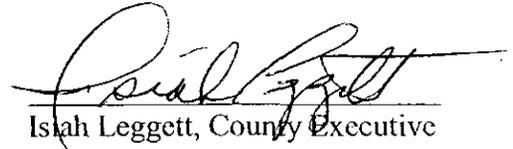
1. There is a Montgomery County Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC).
2. The Committee has 17 members. The members are appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council. The County Executive should appoint to the Committee:
 - (a) a representative of the Montgomery County Department of Police,
 - (b) a representative of the Montgomery County Department of Public Works and Transportation;
 - (c) a representative of the Montgomery County Public Schools;
 - (d) a representative of the Montgomery County Park and Planning Commission;
 - (e) a representative from one of the five Regional Service Centers;
 - (f) a representative of the Montgomery county chapter of the Maryland Municipal League;
 - (g) eight representatives of the public at large, representing different areas of the County;
 - (h) a representative from the County Council, who serves at the discretion of the Council; and
 - (i) a representative from the State Highway Administration
 - (j) a representative from the bicycling community.
3. The PSAC must partner with the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services.
4. The County Executive must designate a member of the PSAC to be the Chair. The Chair will be appointed for one two-year term.
5. The PSAC must advise the County Executive and County Council on the status of the implementation of the recommendations in the Blue Ribbon Panel on Pedestrian and Traffic Safety's Final Report.
6. The PSAC must provide advice to elected officials regarding priorities and needs in the areas of pedestrian and bicycle safety and access and other pedestrian-related issues.

7. The PSAC must continue to gather information on pedestrian safety and other pedestrian-related issues and identify any new issues that may emerge.
8. The PSAC will report on its activities annually to the County Executive and the County Council by November 1 of each year.
9. The length of membership will be staggered three-year terms.
10. The term of the Montgomery County Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee is extended to July 2012.

This is a correct copy of Council action.



Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council



Isiah Leggett, County Executive