

MEMORANDUM

September 14, 2018

TO: County Council

FROM: Amanda Mihill, Legislative Attorney *A. Mihill*

SUBJECT: Bill 10-18, Administration - Director of County Climate Policy – Established

PURPOSE: Action: Council roll call vote required

Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Committee recommendation (2-1, Councilmember Floreen dissenting): enact Bill 10-18 with minor amendments described on page 2-3.

Bill 10-18, Administration - Director of County Climate Policy - Established, sponsored by Lead Sponsor Councilmember Leventhal and Co-Sponsors Councilmembers Berliner and Hucker and Council Vice-President Navarro, was introduced on March 20, 2018. A public hearing was held on April 10 at which there were six speakers (see testimony and correspondence on ©9-16) and a Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Committee worksession was held on July 12.

Bill 10-18 would require the County Executive to designate an employee as a Director of County Climate Policy and define the duties of the Director of County Climate Policy.

Issues / Committee Recommendations

Several issues and proposed amendments were raised in testimony and correspondence related to Bill 10-18. One of those issues is discussed in detail below – the remainder are discussed in bullet points beginning in the middle of page 2.

Should an Office of Climate Policy/Emergency Mobilization be created? Bill 10-18 requires the Executive to designate a senior staff member as the Director of County Climate Policy and charges the Director with several duties. Some speakers urged the Council to instead create an Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization (©13-16). The duties of this office would include:

- advise the Executive on the creation of a Climate Executive Order;
- oversee the preparation of a Climate Emergency Mobilization Implementation Plan;
- oversee climate data collection and management;
- prepare periodic progress reports to the public;
- administer a climate test to maximize the impact of County decisions; and
- staff any related advisory committees.

Similarly, the Sierra Club (©11-12) urged that the Director be required to develop a climate action plan and measure progress using specific milestones of the County’s programs and policies addressing climate change. The Sierra Club further suggested that the director be assigned staff to carry out these duties. In Council staff’s judgment, this would effectively turn this into an “office” and therefore Council staff is considering this suggestion alongside the recommendation of others to create an Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization.

Council staff comments: The County presently has 2 different offices with different duties related to addressing climate concerns: the Office of Sustainability in the Department of Environmental Protection and the Office of Energy and Sustainability in the Department of General Services. These offices were formally created in 2014 by Bill 6-14. Bill 6-14 originally sought to create a single Office of Sustainability similar to the proposed Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization. However, in lieu of a single office, the County Executive urged the creation of these 2 offices that each have a different focus. The Office in DGS is primary focused “inwardly” and focuses on sustainability efforts directly impacted by the County. The Office in DEP is more “outward facing” and focuses on sustainability efforts throughout the County. A dedicated staff member bridging the gap may be a worthwhile investment, however merging these offices (or creating a new third office) via Bill 10-18. Council staff suggests that if this is the direction Councilmembers seek to go, a new bill be introduced that properly considers the challenge of merging these offices (or creating another office as a bridge between the offices) and the fiscal impact of so doing.

Committee recommendation: do not amend Bill 10-18 to establish an Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization.

Council staff has asked representatives from both Offices to attend today’s session to answer any questions that Councilmembers may have regarding the work of these Offices.

Committee amendment. The Committee recommended minor amendments to Bill 10-18. These include:

- *Coordination with energy policy designee.* Section 18A-10 requires the Executive to designate an Executive senior officer or employee to provide direction regarding energy policy and planning and report annually. Bill 10-18 should reflect that this policy official exists and the Director should coordinate with this employee.
- *Amendments proposed by the Office of the County Attorney.* The Bill review letter from the Office of the County Attorney did not raise any legal concerns with Bill 10-18, but did suggest several minor amendments to the Bill that are incorporated into the Committee recommendation.
- *Coordination with the Montgomery County Green Bank.* As introduced, Bill 10-18 specified that the Director must serve as a liaison with the Montgomery County Green

Bank. The Sierra Club suggested that this should be expanded to include other agencies working on the financial aspect of climate change (©11). County Executive staff recommended removing this duty because the County is already heavily involved with the Green Bank and another layer of oversight is unnecessary.

Other proposed amendments. In addition to the issue raised above, several more minor issues were raised in testimony and correspondence:

- *What should the name of the Director be?* Bill 10-18 creates a “Director of County Climate Policy” (©2, line 3-4). Herb Simmens urged that this be retitled “Director of Climate Emergency Mobilization” (©14). There are no legal issues with either position title.
- *Specified coordinating departments.* Bill 10-18 specifies that the Director must promote coordination between the DEP Office of Sustainability, DGS Office of Energy and Sustainability, and the Department of Transportation (©2, line 10-11). The Sierra Club recommended that this be broadened to include the Departments of Environmental Protection, Transportation, Permitting Services, Health and Human Services, Economic Development [Council staff note: there is no longer a Department of Economic Development], County Stat, and the Housing Opportunities Commission. Council staff has no doubts that Departments other than those listed in Bill 10-18 may have something to contribute to the County’s climate goals. Rather than list them all, however, the Committee-recommended amendment would require the Director to promote coordination of climate efforts between the County, County agencies, state and federal agencies, and appropriate non-governmental organizations.

Committee recommendation (2-1, Councilmember Floreen dissenting): enact Bill 10-18 with amendments.

This packet contains:	<u>Circle #</u>
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Bill No. 10-18
Concerning: Administration – Director of
County Climate Policy - Established
Revised: 9/12/2018 Draft No. 4
Introduced: March 20, 2018
Expires: September 20, 2019
Enacted: _____
Executive: _____
Effective: _____
Sunset Date: None
Ch. _____, Laws of Mont. Co. _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: Councilmember Leventhal
Co-Sponsors: Councilmembers Berliner, Hucker and Council Vice President Navarro

AN ACT to:

- (1) require the County Executive to designate an employee as a Director of County Climate Policy;
- (2) define the duties of the Director of County Climate Policy; and
- (3) generally amend County laws related to administration and environmental sustainability.

By adding
Chapter 2, Administration
Section 2-25C

Boldface	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

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

1 **Sec. 1. Section 2-25C is added as follows:**

2 **2-25C. Director of County Climate Policy.**

3 The Executive must designate an employee as the Director of County Climate
 4 Policy. Among other duties, the Director must:

5 (a) advise the Executive, the Council, the Office of Sustainability in the
 6 Department of Environmental Protection, the Office of Energy and
 7 Sustainability in the Department of General Services, the Department of
 8 Transportation, and any other appropriate government agency, on the
 9 best means to achieve climate goals as defined by the Director;

10 (b) promote coordination between the Office of Sustainability, the Office of
 11 Energy and Sustainability, [[and]] the Department of Transportation,
 12 and the employee designated under Section 18A-10(a) to provide
 13 executive direction regarding energy policy and planning;

14 (c) coordinate climate efforts with County agencies including the
 15 Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission,
 16 Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Montgomery County
 17 Public Schools, and Montgomery Community College;

18 (d) promote coordination of climate efforts between the County, County
 19 agencies, state and federal agencies, and appropriate non-governmental
 20 organizations;

21 [[~~(d)~~]] (e) coordinate the development of public awareness programs to
 22 encourage residents, businesses, and other groups to participate in the
 23 County's climate goals, including the reduction of greenhouse gas
 24 emissions; and

25 [[~~(e)~~]] (f) recommend legislation to the County Executive and County Council
 26 necessary to achieve climate goals[; and

27 (f) serve as a liaison with the Montgomery County Green Bank]].

LEGISLATIVE REQUEST REPORT

Bill 10-18

Administration – Director of County Climate Policy - Established

DESCRIPTION: Bill 10-18 would require the County Executive to designate an employee as a Director of County Climate Policy and define the duties of the Director of County Climate Policy.

PROBLEM: County climate policy direction is determined by several departments and offices in County government.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: To allow the County to take a holistic approach to climate policy.

COORDINATION: Office of the County Executive, Departments of Environmental Protection, General Services, and Transportation.

FISCAL IMPACT: To be requested.

ECONOMIC IMPACT: To be requested.

EVALUATION: To be requested.

EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE: To be researched.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION: Amanda Mihill, Legislative Attorney, 240-777-7815

APPLICATION WITHIN MUNICIPALITIES: N/A

PENALTIES: N/A



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

GEORGE LEVENTHAL
COUNCILMEMBER
AT-LARGE

MEMORANDUM

March 13, 2018

TO: Councilmembers

FROM: George L. Leventhal, Councilmember *Georj*

SUBJECT: Director of County Climate Policy

On March 20, I will be introducing the attached legislation which would require the County Executive to establish a Director of County Climate Policy. The new director will advise, and coordinate activities among, the Executive, the Council, the Departments of Environmental Protection, General Services and Transportation, and will work with other appropriate government agencies on the best ways to achieve the County's climate goals.

The new director would also recommend legislation necessary to achieve climate goals as well as coordinate climate efforts with various County agencies including the Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Montgomery County Public Schools and Montgomery Community College. A Director of County Climate Policy under the County Executive will allow county government to take a holistic approach to climate policy at the local level and will enable a strategic and uniformed approach on implementing the county's climate vision.

If you have any questions or if you would like to co-sponsor this bill, please contact Walton Harris in my office.



ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

MEMORANDUM

April 9, 2018

TO: Hans Riemer, President, County Council

FROM: Jennifer A. Hughes, Director, Office of Management and Budget
Alexandre A. Espinosa, Director, Department of Finance

SUBJECT: FEIS for Bill 10-18 – Administration – Director of County Climate Policy -
Established

Please find attached the fiscal and economic impact statements for the above-referenced legislation.

JAH:brm

c: Bonnie Kirkland, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer
Lisa Austin, Offices of the County Executive
Joy Nurmi, Special Assistant to the County Executive
Patrick Lacefield, Director, Public Information Office
David Dise, Director, Department of General Services
Eric Coffman, Department of General Services
Bruce Meier, Office of Management and Budget
Felicia Zhang, Office of Management and Budget

Fiscal Impact Statement
Bill 10-18 – Administration – Director of County Climate Policy - Established

1. Legislative Summary

Bill 10-18 would require the County Executive to designate an employee as the Director of County Climate Policy to advise government agencies on the best means to achieve climate goals, promote coordination between County departments, coordinate climate efforts with other County agencies, coordinate development of public awareness programs, recommend legislation to achieve climate goals, and serve as a liaison with the Montgomery County Green Bank.

2. An estimate of changes in County revenues and expenditures regardless of whether the revenues or expenditures are assumed in the recommended or approved budget. Includes source of information, assumptions, and methodologies used.

Bill 10-18 is not estimated to affect County revenues or expenditures.

3. Revenue and expenditure estimates covering at least the next 6 fiscal years.

None.

4. An actuarial analysis through the entire amortization period for each bill that would affect retiree pension or group insurance costs.

Not applicable.

5. An estimate of expenditures related to County's information technology (IT) systems, including Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems.

Not applicable.

6. Later actions that may affect future revenue and expenditures if the bill authorizes future spending.

Not applicable.

7. An estimate of the staff time needed to implement the bill.

Not applicable.

8. An explanation of how the addition of new staff responsibilities would affect other duties.

Additional staff time to implement the bill is expected to be distributed among existing staff and would be incorporated into and build upon existing work and departmental activities.

9. An estimate of costs when an additional appropriation is needed.

Not applicable.

10. A description of any variable that could affect revenue and cost estimates.

If the County Executive chose to create a new position, the classification analysis of the Office of Human Resources would determine the cost.

11. Ranges of revenue or expenditures that are uncertain or difficult to project.

Not applicable.

12. If a bill is likely to have no fiscal impact, why that is the case.

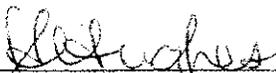
The Bill requires designation of an employee, not the creation of an additional position.

13. Other fiscal impacts or comments.

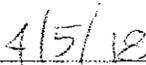
Not applicable.

14. The following contributed to and concurred with this analysis:

Eric Coffman, Department of General Services



Jennifer A. Hughes, Director
Office of Management and Budget



Date

Economic Impact Statement
Bill 10-18 Administration – Director of County Climate Policy - Established

Background:

Bill 10-18 would:

- (1) Require the County Executive to designate an employee as a Director of County Climate Policy
- (2) define the duties of the Director of County Climate Policy; and
- (3) generally amend County laws related to administration and environmental sustainability.

1. The sources of information, assumptions, and methodologies used.

There were no needed assumptions or methodologies from the Department of Finance in the preparation of this economic impact statement.

2. A description of any variable that could affect the economic impact estimates.

There are no variables currently that could affect economic impact estimates. The new director will advise, and coordinate activities among, the Executive, the Council, the Departments of Environmental Protection, General Services and Transportation, and will work with other appropriate government agencies on the best ways to achieve the County's climate goals. The new director would also recommend legislation necessary to achieve climate goals as well as coordinate climate efforts with various County agencies including the Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Montgomery County Public Schools and Montgomery Community College.

3. The Bill's positive or negative effect, if any on employment, spending, savings, investment, incomes, and property values in the County.

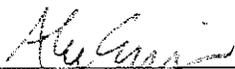
Bill 10-18 will have no impact on the County's economy as it simply requires the County Executive to designate an employee as a Director of County Climate Policy. Legislation eventually recommended by the new Director to achieve climate goals has the potential to impact employment, spending, savings, investment, incomes, and property values in the County with the estimated effects to be analyzed in separate economic impact statements.

4. If a Bill is likely to have no economic impact, why is that the case?

Please see paragraph 3.

5. The following contributed to or concurred with this analysis:

David Platt, Dennis Hetman - Finance.



Alexandre Espinosa, Director
Department of Finance

4/6/2018

Date

Jerry Pasternak
Vice President

Office 202-872-2524
pepco.com
jpasternak@pepco.com

701 Ninth Street NW
Washington, DC 20068-0001

April 10, 2018

Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Re: **Bill 10-18, Administration – Director of County Climate Policy – Established**
Bill 11-18, Buildings – Environmental Roof Design – Non-Residential and
Multi-Family Buildings
Bill 12-18, Real Property – New Home Sales Contracts – Solar Panel Systems

Dear Council President Riemer and Councilmembers:

The Potomac Electric Power Company (Pepco), a subsidiary of Exelon Corporation, provides safe, reliable, affordable, and sustainable energy to more than 857,000 customers throughout our Maryland and District of Columbia service territories. We applaud Montgomery County for its commitment to sustainability and appreciate the opportunity to submit these comments in support of MC Bill 10-18, MC Bill 11-18, and MC Bill 12-18.

These bills would enhance the County's reputation as a leader in protecting the environment, conserving resources, and integrating sustainability into decision-making. In addition, these bills would increase the use of renewable energy in the county and prompt more homeowners to install solar panels on the roofs of their homes.

These are laudable objectives that align with Pepco's goals and initiatives.

Today's consumers demand clean, affordable energy that is always on, and they want tools that give them greater control over how and when they use energy. That is why Pepco is implementing innovative solar programs and initiatives, giving all customers the ability to take advantage of this clean energy technology.

Pepco is embracing trends and advancing innovative technologies to respond to changing consumer expectations, and we are laying the groundwork for a more modern, integrated power grid. To that end, Pepco has taken important steps to make information available to customers, Distributed Energy Resource (DER) developers, and other stakeholders to facilitate deployment of DERs in our Maryland service territory. Pepco now provides on-line, state-of-the-art Hosting Capacity Maps which indicate how much generation can be added to a feeder before the feeder reaches capacity. We have established Distributed Energy Resource Collaboratives in all our jurisdictions to ensure that we receive meaningful input and recommendations from stakeholders and community members on advancing the implementation of DER effectively, and that we are responsive to changes that may need to occur.

Montgomery County Council
April 10, 2018
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We have provided faster and easier solar installations, including an improved online application for solar interconnection and a list of pre-approved equipment, to support our customers' decisions to install renewable energy generation.

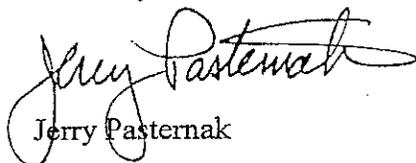
In 2016, Pepco released its WattPlan online service to help customers estimate potential electricity generation and savings of installing a solar system based on their specific rooftop characteristics, historical usage, current rates, and available rebates and credits. Customers are able to create a personal estimate, view side-by-side comparison of financing options and learn more about the interconnection process.

As a result of its enhancements to the interconnection process and development of innovative tools that drive solar growth and expand customer access to solar, Pepco was named Utility of the Year in August 2016 by the Smart Electric Power Alliance.

In 2018, Pepco will also introduce an on-line Solar Heat Map to show how much solar photovoltaic (PV) generation is currently installed or pending installation on individual circuits, with tools to filter for active and pending projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments, and we look forward to working with you and other stakeholders in the ongoing effort to increase the use of renewable energy in Montgomery County.

Sincerely,



Jerry Pasternak

ca

Sierra Club testimony on Bill 10-18, Director of County Climate Policy

Delivered to County Council at hearing on April 10, 2018 at 1:30 pm

Good afternoon! I'm Dave Sears, chair of the MoCo group of Sierra Club and am here speaking on its behalf.

We support the purpose and intent of this bill; and, overall, we urge MoCo government to invest sufficient resources to more effectively address climate change. Our investment must be strategically targeted to achieve significant progress and measure its impact.

This bill represents an important step in the right direction.

But we also urge the Council to think beyond this bill:

- The senior climate director should be located to achieve maximum visibility and success, such as by reporting directly to the County Executive.
- Bill 10-18 specifies that the responsibilities of the director should include coordinating among county government entities; representing the county with key outside stakeholders; and being vested with the authority to speak for County government both internally and externally.
- We suggest that the intra-government coordination function explicitly include the entire Dept of Environmental Protection, the Dept of Transportation, the Dept of Permitting Services, the Dept of Health and Human Services, the Dept of Economic Development, the County Stat, and the Housing Opportunities Commission.
- We suggest that coordination with the Green Bank should be expanded to include other agencies working on the financial aspects of addressing climate change.
- We suggest that coordination with stakeholders should include key non-profit entities with a strong interest in addressing climate change.
- We suggest that the position should also have responsibility for: developing a comprehensive climate action plan; and measuring progress (using specific milestones) of the county's programs and policies addressing climate change.
- In order to carry out these important functions, the director should be assigned staff, with the expertise to carry out the research, analysis, outreach, and negotiation that will be needed for success.

In structuring the new position within County government, and assessing what additional resources are needed, it will be important to review the experience of other jurisdictions; we encourage the Council and/or Council staff to do so.

Finally we note our disappointment that not all positions related to addressing climate change that have been funded by the Council in recent years -- or vacated by a key staff person -- have actually been filled. (For instance, authorized positions in DEP's Office of Sustainability remain unfilled many months after authorization; and although a lead energy analyst left several months ago, that vacancy has not yet been filled.) We urge the Council to pay more careful attention to implementation of its climate change actions.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to being a partner with the county as it moves to more aggressively and effectively address climate change.

Testimony for Tuesday, April 10, by Jim Driscoll, as an individual. 9211 Topeka St., Bethesda.

Background: I am speaking several times today, two minutes on 10-18, one on the two solar bills, 11-18 and 12-18 and two minutes at the Budget Review hearing. Total of five.

Testimony by Jim Driscoll, in support of 10-18,

Good afternoon,

Jim Driscoll, 9211 Topeka St., Bethesda. I'm a decorated, combat veteran of Vietnam.

I speak to you today in behalf of the nine groups in our rapidly growing "Spring '18 Climate Emergency Mobilization" coalition and their thousands of members in Montgomery County. These include 350 MOCO, Montgomery County Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions and the Takoma Park Mobilization Environmental Committee.

In December, we asked you to declare a climate emergency and you did.

Now it is time to put that Resolution into action.

We sent each of you a Policy Questionnaire early last week from our coalition asking you to take 20 specific actions this Spring. We look forward to your response.

As we indicated, the top priority for our coalition is creating an Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization with the staff and financial resources needed to develop a plan for that climate mobilization in Montgomery County and to oversee all the County's climate efforts. We support the present bill as a first step in that direction and will seek to amend it to increase its influence and capacity. Besides the funding, we insist the name say "emergency" to describe reality and "mobilization" to describe what is required.

We thank Councilmember Leventhal for introducing this bill and members Berliner and Hucker for cosponsoring?

10

Testimony by Herb Simmens, Silver Spring, Md on Bill 10-18 The Director of Climate Policy

I am here on behalf of the Montgomery County chapter of The Climate Mobilization. TCM is a national group with the only plan to restore the climate through a society wide mobilization on a WW2 scale to eliminate all greenhouse gas emissions in a decade while removing CO2 from the atmosphere.

I wish to thank Councilman Leventhal for sponsoring this bill and for Councilmen Berliner and Hucker for being co-sponsors.

This bill takes a small step towards achieving the goals of the Emergency Climate Mobilization resolution you unanimously adopted in December 2017 that announces a climate emergency, calls for the elimination of all greenhouse gases by 2035 and the drawdown of carbon currently in the atmosphere.

Together these three provisions result in a commitment to climate action literally second to none to any city or county in the country.

In order to advance the goals of the resolution the bill should also:

- Establish an Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization
- Create a Director of Climate Emergency Mobilization instead of Climate Policy
- Insure that the Director and any staff can be hired from within or outside county government

Having 'emergency mobilization' in the title of the office and director sends a clear signal inside and outside county government that climate actions will not be seen as business as usual, and is also consistent with the words you used in passing the climate emergency resolution.

We also recommend that the duties of the office include:

- Advise the County Executive on the creation of a Climate Executive Order or orders
- Oversee the preparation of a Climate Emergency Mobilization Implementation Plan
- Oversee climate data collection and management
- Prepare periodic progress reports to the public
- Administer a 'climate test' to maximize the impact of county decisions
- Staff any citizens advisory committee created by the county

While we know that the budget for this office is a separate issue, you urge you to adequately fund the office in the FY 19 budget as well.

13

Director of Climate Policy – Bill 10-18
Testimony of Johanna Wermers on Apr. 10, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.

Hello, my name is Johanna Wermers and I'm a resident of Rockville. I became interested in air quality and climate issues when my daughter, Natalie, developed asthma and had to breathe with an inhaler when air quality was bad. Meeting Montgomery County's climate goals will significantly improve air quality in our county, preventing premature deaths and hundreds of asthma attacks per year, including those experienced by my own daughter.

I would like to thank Councilman Leventhal for introducing Bill 10-18 to bring in a Director of Climate Policy for Montgomery County and I'd also like to thank the entire council for passing the Climate Emergency Mobilization Resolution.

The resolution:

- Announces a climate emergency,
- Sets new climate goals for the county of an 80% reduction in all greenhouse gases by 2027 and 100% reduction by 2035, and
- Commits the county to developing programs to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Your unanimous support of this resolution now requires the emergency action that you committed to in December.

I'd like the bill to be amended to achieve an Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization with a director of that office and to ensure the director and any staff can be hired from within or outside the county. We need a Director of Climate Emergency Mobilization who will advise the county executive on the creation of a Climate Executive Order or orders and oversee the preparation of a Climate Emergency Mobilization Implementation Plan. The director also needs to oversee climate data collection and management. Periodic progress reports should be made to the public so we know if we making headway and the director needs to administer a "climate test" methodology to maximize the climate impact of county decisions. Finally, the director would staff a Climate Emergency Mobilization Plan Citizens Advisory Committee.

We have a climate emergency that we can't wait to address at another more convenient time in the future. If we do not change course before global warming tipping points are crossed, this destabilization of our climate will continue to cause ever-increasing suffering and potentially irreversible devastation for both current and future generations. The cost of not addressing climate change will be a far more expensive disaster that could be contained at lower expense if we act now. We need a Director of Climate Emergency Mobilization who will organize the robust response we need to comprehensively fight climate change in our county and to organize and lead our county in a sustained World War II level effort to bring down carbon emissions here.

11

I would like to congratulate the Montgomery County Council for passing the resolution declaring climate an emergency on December 5th, 2017. Now I ask your support for a new Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization. This Office will be responsible for achieving the goals of eliminating 80% of Green House Gases by 2027 and 100% by 2035.

The speed with which the climate is changing worldwide is shocking. Warming temperatures, sea level rise, more frequent extreme weather events, increasing numbers of earthquakes, shrinking ice sheets, decreasing snow cover, increasing climate migrations-all are climate change events causing alarm. The New York Times states "Climate Change is the greatest threat to humanity".

Please support the establishment of the Montgomery County Climate Emergency Mobilization Office. It is critical that the Office report directly to the County Executive and be funded with a budget of one million dollars for staff, the promotion of public awareness and professional assistance to develop the Climate Emergency Mobilization Plan. This Plan will enable Montgomery County to reach its Green House Gas goals already mentioned. Thank you for this opportunity to speak about solutions to Climate Change.

Nanci Wilkinson

AMENDMENT

To Bill 10-18

BY COUNCIL STAFF

PURPOSE: To make minor changes to Bill 10-18 recommended by the County Attorney's office:

Beginning on page 2, lines 5-9, change paragraph (a) to read:

1 (a) advise the Executive, the Council, the Office of Sustainability in the
2 Department of Environmental Protection, the Office of Energy and
3 Sustainability in the Department of General Services, the Department of
4 Transportation, and any other appropriate government agency, on the best
5 means to achieve climate goals as defined by the Director;

Beginning on page 2, line 10-11, change paragraph (b) to read:

6 (b) promote coordination between the Office of Sustainability, the Office of
7 Energy and Sustainability, [[and]] the Department of Transportation, and
8 the employee designated under Section 18A-10(a) to provide executive
9 direction regarding energy policy and planning;

Beginning on page 2, after line 15, add new paragraph (d) to read (and renumber):

10 (d) promote coordination of climate efforts between the County, County
11 agencies, state and federal agencies, and appropriate non-governmental
12 organizations;

Beginning on page 2, lines 16-18, change paragraph (d) to read:

13 [[~~(d)~~]] (e) coordinate the development of public awareness programs to
14 encourage residents, businesses, and other groups to participate in the
15 County's climate goals, including the reduction of greenhouse gas
16 emissions;

Beginning on page 2, line 19, change paragraph (e) to read:

18 [[e]] (f) recommend legislation to the County Executive and County Council
19 necessary to achieve climate goals; and

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