Proclamation
Montgomery County Maryland

WHEREAS, Ms. Rosa Louise McCauley Parks is an American hero. Her courage and moral clarity in the face of bigotry and oppression highlighted the Civil Rights Movement and inspired millions to stand up for fundamental fairness; and

WHEREAS, Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat to a white man on a Montgomery, Alabama bus on Thursday, December 1, 1955, where her silent, determined defiance gave voice to millions in their fight against injustice and intolerance; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Parks' arrest sparked the December 5th boycott of city busses by 42,000 African American, which helped changed the course of America; and

WHEREAS, this act was called the Montgomery Bus Boycott which lasted 381 days ending later on December 21, 1956 with the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in November 13, 1956 that segregation on city busses was unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. had formed the Montgomery Improvement Association and led the mass movement of the bus boycott propelling the nonviolent resistance into what would be called the Civil Rights Movement; and

WHEREAS, Rosa Parks' heroism that day showed that one person can change the course of history and inspire the change in the hearts of a nation. She will be remembered as the mother of the Civil Rights Movement; in her own words "I'd like for everybody to remember me as a person who wanted to be free."

NOW, THEREFORE, DO WE, Marc Elrich, as County Executive, and Sidney Katz, as County Council President of Montgomery County, Maryland, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, December 1, 2020 as

ROSA PARKS DAY

in Montgomery County. We urge all our residents to remember Ms. Parks' indefatigable commitment to a better world and her fearless will to battle injustice at tremendous risk to herself for the sake of the greater good. We must continue the movement toward a more fair and just society for all.

Signed this ___1st___ day of __November__ in the year __2020__   _____   _____

MARC ELRICH
County Executive

SIDNEY KATZ
Council President