Sirs:

Thank you for this excellent effort. It is master piece of government attempting to mitigate and adapt to an overwhelming adversary. Below are the first set of comments about the draft of the Montgomery County (MC) Climate Action Plan (CAP).


Right in the beginning in the Executive Summary, I congratulate Montgomery County (MC) for presenting Fig. ES-1 that shows what each sector’s Greenhouse Gases (GHG) poisons of MC’s economy has to reduce. It needs a sentence referencing a webpage or an appendix that contains the data collected to construct Fig. ES-1.

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/Resources/Files/climate/draft-climate-action-plan.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/Resources/Files/climate/draft-climate-action-plan.pdf) needs to have all appendices included. Perhaps that is where a brief narrative about the methodology used to collect the data used to construct Fig. ES-1 is presented.

The [https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/climate/ghg-inventory.html](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/climate/ghg-inventory.html) webpage needs to say what MC’s total of all GHG was produced during the base year.

Pg. 33 of the CAP draft “The first climate scenario… emissions increase until middle of the twentieth century” (should say twenty-first century?) Also, Fig. 7 of Pg. 40 needs to show the definitions of RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5 within the figure so its forecast is linked to human behavior.

Well done, Climate Risk Reduction is included, thoroughly explained complete with quantification provided. MC’s CAP sets the standard!

Pg. 53, is a good place to print 2018 MT of CO2e was produced by MC and what MC’s 2027 MT of CO2e target is to show the magnitude of MC’s goal. Fig. 18 excels at being instructive!

Tables 6 – 10 showing CAP’s GHG mitigation actions mapped to CURB tool emissions reduction strategies is an excellent product of connecting the goal to the actions needed for success.

Tables 13 thru 17 where MC’s CAP matches each economic sector’s CAP actions to estimates of GHG reduced, the action’s social benefits, to economic gain or loss, to jurisdiction, to each action’s public and private cost estimates, complete with listing the action’s primary and contributing government agency is brilliant! Following that each CAP action is thoroughly
explained with all the factors included is totally professional.

Tables 26 and 27 are great analytical tools, but their descriptions located on Pg. 75 need to be included within each of their corresponding tables.

The County’s E-1 action that develops an “opt-out” Community Choice Energy (CCE) program to purchase renewable energy on behalf of electricity customers in the County is clever. I will write my state and county elected officials that I support it.

I fully support CAP’s B-2 implementation of a point-of-sale or lease ordinance requiring replacing the fossil fuel equipment with electric options before the building is sold, leases are renewed, or new leases are signed after tenant turnover; and an ordinance that requires fossil fuel equipment’s replacement when OWNERS undertaking major renovations or HVAC/water heating replacement before being granted an occupancy or mechanical permit. However, the energy audit ordinance which would require resident sellers to conduct an energy audit and disclose the results before the sale of the property should be changed to WHEN THE OWNER REFINANCES HIS PROPERTY in MC. This inexpensive procedure with its results collected by MC would provide both the county and the owner greater information about the property’s state of condition and possibly accelerate the use of energy conserving technology throughout the county. Also, employees of energy conservation within the county need to be certified. I will write to all the At-Large and my district’s councilman that these three government interactions with the county’s real estate owners will evenly spread out the burden of reducing their assets’ GHG poisons and will put those mitigation actions at the discretion of the property owner.

CAP action T-3 that encourages the use of ZEVs is a necessity. As a disincentive to own combustion cars, China places a considerable delay when possessing gas burning auto’s registration applications. I would support that.

That is all I have at this time. Please thank all the workers and volunteers that helped with this effort.

Sincerely,

Jeff Silva

For COVID-19 Information and resources, visit: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COVID19