

COVID-19: Montgomery County Community Recovery Advisory Group

Overview

The Community Recovery Advisory Group will consist of representatives from the spectrum of communities, populations, issue areas and institutions impacted by the pandemic. The group will advise the County Executive and County Council on the needs of the community in recovery and how the County can achieve a new normal that is more equitable than before the pandemic.

This group does not serve to direct the County's recovery priorities, but to advise the County throughout Recovery. This group will be briefed by the Recovery Manager, or designee, who will provide an overview of current recovery priorities, on which this group may provide feedback. The group will be supported by the Office of Community Partnerships, the Chief Equity Officer, Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security recovery staff, the Mission Area Teams, and other staff and subject matter experts as necessary.

The Community Recovery Advisory Group is one of three advisory groups being stood up to support the Recovery efforts. The other advisory groups are the Economic Advisory Group and the Public Health Advisory Group.

Roles of the Community Recovery Advisory Group Members

- Meet regularly to discuss and assess the recovery needs and challenges of the communities they represent
- Advise the County Executive and County Council on community recovery needs and challenges
- Serve as a liaison from their communities to this Community Recovery Advisory Group
- Share information on recovery resources to the community groups that members represent
- Members should wear a "big hat" and represent their area of expertise, not just their particular organization, and give voice to broader interests rather than exclusively those that impact their particular organization

Timeline and Frequency

- This group will meet throughout the short-term and intermediate phases of Recovery for about 3 months with a possible extension. At least initially, the group will meet once per week to discuss and provide a community assessment of the needs for the various communities in Montgomery County. As we move forward through the intermediate phase of Recovery, the group may decide to meet bi-weekly.
- It is anticipated that members of the Community Recovery Advisory Group will commit about 3 hours per week to this group. This time will consist of meeting time, any contributions made to a group deliverable, and any special engagements that may arise.
- Each group meeting should be no longer than an hour and a half. These meetings will be conducted virtually through conference call software (ex. Microsoft Teams).

Chair Role

- The Chair of this group will prepare the meeting agenda, facilitate discussion of the group, and compile a brief summary of their assessment and advice following each group meeting.
- The Chair will be appointed by the County Executive and will commit to about 5 hours per week to this group. This time will consist of meeting preparation, meeting time, compiling the group deliverable, and any special engagements that may arise. (County staff support will be available to the Community Recovery Advisory Group to assist with taking notes and scheduling meetings. If the Chair prefers, the Chair may select a member of the group to take notes at each meeting.)