



MID-COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

Isiah Leggett  
*County Executive*

Luisa Montero-Diaz  
*Mid-County RSC Director*

July 8, 2016

The Honorable Isiah Leggett  
Montgomery County Executive  
101 Monroe Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Rockville, MD 20850

The Honorable Nancy Floreen  
President, Montgomery County Council  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear County Executive Leggett and Council President Floreen:

The Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board takes this opportunity to express its support for requesting additional State and County funding for the costs of leasing a sufficient number of optical scanners for voting, so that each polling location in Montgomery County would have at least two operating machines in place.

We understand that the mandate to use such machinery was implemented with the primary election this year, but that the State has participated in funding for only one optical scanner for each location. The Board of Elections has reported that there were equipment failures at five locations in the County, three of which had only one scanner in place.

Needless to say, it is unsettling for voters to leave a ballot to be scanned later when another machine could be transported, installed and working in place. We understand that the Board of Elections has requested additional funding from both the County and the State of Maryland to obtain the additional 158 scanners. We understand that such costs are normally split half and half between the County and the State.

We urge the County Executive and the County Council to work together with the State Government and our County Delegates and Senators to address this vital need for citizen participation in the voting process in a manner that allows for some mechanical failures without undermining confidence in the overall process. We also want to express appreciation for the County taking whatever interim steps are necessary to address this need in time for this year's General Election.

Sincerely,



Gregory Intocchia  
Chair

cc: Montgomery County Councilmembers  
Montgomery County Board of Elections