



## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

**APPROVED**

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland convened via video conference at 10:11 A.M. on Wednesday, May 27, 2020.

### PRESENT

Councilmember Sidney Katz, President  
Councilmember Gabe Albornoz  
Councilmember Evan Glass  
Councilmember Nancy Navarro

Councilmember Tom Hucker, Vice President  
Councilmember Andrew Friedson  
Councilmember Will Jawando  
Councilmember Craig Rice

Councilmember Hans Riemer

The Vice President in the Chair.

### **Meeting with U.S. Senator Ben Cardin**

Senator Cardin said he is working closely with the State's representatives - "Team Maryland" - to address the impacts of the pandemic. He stated that testing capacity must increase and is the top priority as the State starts to reopen and for schools to reopen in the fall. He expressed the view that the federal supply chain is lacking and inconsistent messaging is hindering efforts to contain the virus.

Regarding economic issues, Senator Cardin said the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act has been successful in assisting businesses and individuals, but is running out of funding. There is a need for the federal government to have a continuing role to provide resources as the pandemic continues. He noted that the Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (HEROES) Act is pending but bipartisan agreement has not yet been reached. Senator Cardin expressed the view that there would be a second round of federal assistance to state and local governments and school systems.

Regarding immigration issues, he noted that the Delegation took steps to address public health issues at detention centers, but that it is too close to the election to be able to change the President's current agenda.

Senator Cardin responded to questions from Councilmembers on how the medical system would move forward, restrictions on home evictions, additional unemployment relief, funding for additional COVID-19 testing and tracing, the PPP program, post-COVID infrastructure investments and implications for tele-medicine, voter and election protection, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for the food insecure, and efforts to keep Purple Line construction on schedule.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 A.M.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

*Approved/Signed by Clerk of the Council*

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Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.  
Clerk of the Council