



## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

**APPROVED**

Monday, November 23, 2020

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland convened via video conference at 2:33 P.M. on Monday, November 23, 2020.

### PRESENT

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

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

Councilmember Hans Riemer

The President in the Chair.

(1) Discussion - [State Legislative Program](#)

Reviewed local bills that have been filed by members of the Montgomery County State Delegation that will be introduced during the 2021 session of the Maryland General Assembly. Participating in the discussion were Ms. Wenger, Director, Ms. Boucher, Ms. Morningstar, and Ms. Samman, Office of Intergovernmental Relations (OIR); Mr. Zyontz, Ms. McMillan, and Mr. Levchenko, Senior Legislative Analysts; Mr. Howard, Deputy Director; Ms. Wellons, Legislative Attorney; and Ms. Farag, Legislative Analyst.

Supported, unanimously, MC2-21, Montgomery County - Speed Limits - Establishment, without the amendment supported by the County Executive.

Majority supported (8 to 1) MC1-21, Montgomery County - Residential Property Sales - School District Information. Mr. Friedson was opposed noting that the Council could address the issue through County legislation without the need for State legislation targeted solely at Montgomery County. Ms. Samman, Mr. Zyontz, Mr. Howard, and Ms. Wellons participated in the discussion.

Deferred MC3-21, Montgomery County - Cooperative Housing Corporations, Condominiums, and Homeowners Associations - Reserve Studies, until next week

after Councilmembers have had time to review the amendments. Councilmembers noted the importance of Delegates Crutchfield and Stewart, sponsors of the legislation, working with homeowners associations.

Supported, unanimously, MC4-21, Speed Monitoring Systems - Implementing Agency, and anticipated an opportunity to discuss it further with Delegate Stewart, the sponsor, about possibly amending to include red light and school cameras. Noted that Delegate Stewart was on video conference. Ms. Morningstar and Ms. Farag participated in the discussion. Ms. Farag noted that part of the County Code may need to be amended regarding authority to sign off on speed camera violation citations.

Opposed, unanimously, MC6-21, Montgomery County - Public Ethics - Payments to Elected Officials. Ms. Boucher and Mr. Zyontz participated in the discussion. Mr. Zyontz noted flaws with the bill such as expanding financial disclosure requirements to public speakers at Master Plan public hearings, which would reduce public input.

Opposed, unanimously, MC7-21, Montgomery County - Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC) - Closed Sessions. Discussed the purpose of the legislation, noting the proposed exception from open meetings for an “exceptional reason” is very broad and that HOC is already subject to the Open Meetings Act. Delegate Carr, the sponsor, participated in the discussion, as well as Mr. Spann, Executive Director, HOC, Ms. Samman, and Ms. Wellons.

Supported, unanimously, MC8-21, Montgomery County Stable Homes Act, with recommended amendments to define the terms “permanent” and “enforcement,” and to work out the reporting requirements. Ms. Samman, Ms. Wellons and Ms. McMillan participated in the discussion.

Majority supported (8 to 1) no position on MC10-21, Montgomery County - Interference with Electric Company's Vegetation Management Compliance - Exemption. Mr. Hucker was in support, noting that the County had this authority until 2013. Discussed the impact of the legislation, which would exempt the County from State law prohibiting the County from adopting or enforcing a local law or regulation or taking any other action that interferes with or materially increases the cost of work that an electric company must undertake to comply with the vegetation management standards. Noted that the Department of Environmental Protection is not aware of any recent issues regarding tree trimming, tree removal or stump removal. Councilmembers noted that some residents want aggressive tree trimming while others do not. Mr. Levchenko and Ms. Wellons participated in the discussion.

Mr. Katz noted that because of time constraints, the review of the remaining bills in the staff report will be taken up on November 30, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 4:01 P.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