

Hello Councilmembers. My name is Isabella Majorowitz, and I am a member of the Northwood Environmentalist Group based at Northwood High School. I support the initiative to increase composting in MoCo that was proposed by Councilmember Glass, because I believe it will be beneficial to farmers and a step towards dramatically reducing greenhouse gases in our county.

Montgomery County produces around 147,000 tons of food waste per year, and current restrictions on the amount of compost farmers can take in means that a lot of this food waste is not being used. ZTA 20-04 would allow farmers to increase their use of compost and food waste: a step towards the ambitious goal of eliminating MoCo's greenhouse gas emissions by 2035.

As a young person, I think doing everything we can to prevent the climate crisis from having a further impact on our planet is essential. With this ZTA, we have an opportunity to support sustainable agriculture, while also working to reduce waste.

I urge the County Council to pass ZTA 20-04 to increase the composting program, and help Montgomery County become an even greener place. Thank you.