

## Thrive 2050 Testimony

Hello - Thanks for the opportunity to testify today on Thrive 2050.

My name is Matthew Lloyd and my family lives in Silver Spring - specifically in the Forest Glen neighborhood between Wheaton and downtown Silver Spring. My wife and I have lived in the County since 2010 and have 3 elementary aged children that all attend MCPS schools.

I want to share with the council today my confidence in MNCPPC to pull off the vision for Thrive 2050. Downcounty is an urban area and deserves to be managed as much for good urban planning policy. As a resident of in Forest Glen, its a great place - but as a metro stop, its a huge missed opportunity for the County.

I see Thrive 2050 as a way to bridge that gap -

I really appreciate that the plan looks at ways to plan for people over cars - which is a huge part of the missed opportunity for the County at the Forest Glen metro station. Thrive 2050 is a great way for the County to create vibrant and diverse mixed income neighborhoods that I want to feel good about raising my children in.

The Forest Glen neighborhood is a neighborhood with a metro stop dropped in - and Thrive 2050 is a way to build transit friendly neighborhoods where folks can easily walk and bike to neighborhood amenities like along a redesigned Georgia Ave.

As a family, we enjoy downtown Silver spring and Wheaton but we also love to head upcounty to the Agricultural Reserve for hiking and all the natural amenities there. That's another thing about Thrive 2050 that really excites me - the idea that the plan encourages infill development to prevent sprawl. That is really important to me to see Forest Glen grow and thrive - but also for the wider County's responsibility to manage keep a strong Agricultural Reserve upcounty.

This is an issue that is extremely important to me as a voter and county resident to reflect the kind of County that we want to raise our family in.

I'd like to close by strongly urging the council to start work sessions and vote on the plan ASAP in 2022 to help make Montgomery more affordable and sustainable for residents today and in all the years ahead.

Matthew Lloyd  
Silver Spring, MD