Dear Montgomery County Council,

Please vote against renewing the mask mandate. As you have already observed, the numbers are trending downward, and furthermore, the hospitalization rate is no longer coupled tightly with the number of cases. Montgomery County is one of the most vaccinated counties in the country. It is time to release your citizens from this burden.

However, if you do renew the mandate, please remove the requirement of "7 consecutive days of downward trend", which will result in a potential reset of the counter if there is as much as a 0.1% increase in any of the 3 metrics. This is counterproductive and unnecessary. Just leave it at "less than high".

Joe Gresock Maryland resident