



COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

APPROVED

Tuesday, December 6, 2022

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland convened in the Council Hearing Room, Stella B. Werner Council Office Building, Rockville, Maryland at 9:31 a.m. on Tuesday, December 6, 2022.

PRESENT

Councilmember Evan Glass, President	Councilmember Andrew Friedson, Vice President
Councilmember Gabe Albornoz	Councilmember Marilyn Balcombe
Councilmember Natali Fani-González	Councilmember Will Jawando
Councilmember Sidney Katz	Councilmember Dawn Luedtke
Councilmember Kristin Mink	Councilmember Laurie-Anne Sayles
Councilmember Kate Stewart	

The President in the Chair.

COMMENTS by President Gabe Albornoz

Mr. Albornoz welcomed his new colleagues to the Council and a video was presented reflecting the accomplishments of Mr. Albornoz and the Council during the past year. 2022 was a year of recovery and great progress in the County, a year of immense challenges, and the Council adopted major initiatives to improve public safety and public health. Mr. Albornoz noted a top priority continues to be the restriction of the sale of ghost guns and prohibit guns in places of public assembly to address gun violence, as well as the creation of the Police Accountability Board to improve transparency of police actions. As Chair of the Health and Human Services (HHS) Committee, he noted investments in public health, particularly for mental health services, and initiatives to make health services available to all residents including the 988 call center and school wellness centers. The Council also took steps to address food insecurity and help end childhood hunger; and increasing support for early childhood care and education and enhancing sports equity for girls. The video reflected the shared commitment by his Council colleagues to ensure Montgomery County remains a world-class inclusive community for individuals to live, work, or start a business, raise a family, and age in place.

Mr. Albornoz expressed thanks to his staff for their support, Council staff for their hard work, and his family for their sacrifices during the past year.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL OFFICERS

Mr. Albornoz called for nominations for Council President. Ms. Fani González nominated Mr. Glass for Council President. There were no other nominations.

Unanimously elected Mr. Glass as the first Council President of the twentieth Council.

Mr. Albornoz called for nomination for Council Vice President. Ms. Balcombe nominated Mr. Friedson for Council Vice President. There were no other nominations.

Unanimously elected Mr. Friedson as the first Vice President of the twentieth Council.

Adopted **Resolution 20-01**, naming Mr. Glass to serve as the first President of the twentieth Council, and Mr. Friedson to serve as the first Vice President of the twentieth Council.

Mr. Glass expressed thanks to Mr. Albornoz for his leadership over the past year and presented the commemorative gavel.

The Council recessed at 10:02 a.m. and reconvened at 10:12 a.m.

COMMENTS by new Council President Evan Glass

Mr. Glass thanked residents of the County for electing him to a second term as an At-Large Councilmember and expressed thanks to his husband and his late mother; and thanked his staff for their hard work and his Council colleagues for their support. He stated his continued priority of collaboration for the benefit of County residents, and to work with County Executive Elrich, Governor-Elect Moore, State representatives, local stakeholders, and residents to ensure the Council's work is focused, productive and meaningful. He acknowledged the most diverse and representative Council in the County's history, and the expansion of the Council to 11 members to better reflect the County's diversity.

Mr. Glass noted the County's success in combating the COVID pandemic by achieving the highest vaccination rate in the Country, and the Council's collaborative efforts to protect tenants and families, assist small business, and support front-line County employees while prioritizing public health, education,

and economic development; address long-standing inequities, maintain a Triple A bond rating, and adopt historic legislation to address the climate crisis, public safety, and social inequities.

Mr. Glass expressed his intent to continue to push forward policies that are more just and to ensure the most vulnerable residents are healthy, safe, and housed while being responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars; to continue to address health inequalities with continued support of minority health care initiatives; to consider shelter as a fundamental right and address housing stability and the diverse housing needs of residents; and to address transit equity, increase access to the bus system and to continue to push for free bus service for all residents. Work will continue to prevent pedestrian and bicyclist injuries and fatalities through common sense traffic solutions, and he pledged to work with State partners to make our roads safer and enhance regional connectivity. He highlighted the need to improve climate resilience, reduce the County's climate footprint, and mitigate climate change in the County, noting recent environmental strides, including the Brookeville bus depot, the largest solar charging infrastructure project in the United States, and the goal of eliminating the County's gas emissions by 2035. Also, work will be ongoing to support and attract small businesses and emerging companies to the County and noted the creation of the Council's new Economic Development Committee, which will be devoted to analyzing efforts to grow the business sector. A priority will be to continue to address major social economic equity concerns in order to make the County a fair and equitable place where all residents can live, worship, work, raise a family, and age in place, and to make sure hate has no home in Montgomery County.

GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Announcements - Agenda and Calendar Changes

- (1) [The Council is seeking applicants for the vacancies on the Montgomery County Planning Board. The application deadline is January 13, 2023, at 5:00 pm.](#)

Ms. Rupp, Clerk of the Council, also announced updates to the agenda, noting the worksession and action on State Legislation; and on the consent calendar item 5D, deleting Julian Orlin from the County Executive's appointments to the County-Wide Recreation and Parks Advisory Board.

- (2) **B. Acknowledgement - Receipt of Petitions**

No petitions were received this week.

C. Action - Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes for approval.

(3) **INTERVIEW** - [County Executive's Appointee as Deputy Director, Department of Housing and Community Affairs \(DHCA\): Scott Bruton](#)

Interviewed Dr. Scott Bruton, the County Executive's Appointee as Deputy Director, DHCA.

(11) **INTERVIEW** - [Board of Appeals](#)

Interviewed Richard Melnick for a position on the Board of Appeals.

(4) **WORKSESSION/ACTION** - [State Legislation \(Local Bills\)](#)

Participating in the discussion were Ms. Wellons, Senior Legislative Attorney; Mrs. McCartney-Green, Legislative Attorney; Ms. Wenger, Director, Office of Intergovernmental Relations (OIR); Dr. Orlin, Senior Analyst; and Ms. Farag, Legislative Analyst.

Discussed 2023 Local and Bi-County Bills with hearings scheduled on December 8, 2022. Noted that Bills scheduled for hearing on December 15, 2022, would be considered by the Council at its December 12, 2022, session.

Supported **MC 15-23**, Montgomery County - Village of Friendship Heights Special Taxing District - Procurement, without objection.

Considered **MC 6-23**, Montgomery County - Speed Monitoring Systems - Authorized Highways. Noted that a chart showing roads impacted by this legislation is being prepared by Department of Transportation (DOT) staff as requested by Mr. Jawando at the Council's November 28, 2022, meeting. Noted that any roads with speeds up to 45 miles per hour could be impacted and that the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) requested and supports this legislation. Supported **MC 6-23**, without objection.

Discussed **MC 8-23**, Montgomery County - Speed Monitoring Systems - Maryland Route 200 (Intercounty Connector (ICC)). Dr. Orlin noted that questions include who is responsible for paying for cameras on the ICC, who will monitor the system, and who would receive the revenue. Ms. Luedtke expressed concern that the Bill could reduce the County's authority to create and move forward with a Memorandum of Understanding, thereby treating Montgomery County differently from other jurisdictions, and noted necessary modifications to the Bill that would be needed to prevent this from happening.

Ms. Farag commented that MCPD expressed concern that mobile cameras (defined as those in a van or other vehicles) could cause a safety issue on the ICC and preferred the use of fixed-post cameras; and that staffing shortages within MCPD could delay implementation of the Bill. Requested OIR draft a position statement to reflect concerns noted above and supported **MC 8-23** with modifications, as suggested by Ms. Luedtke.

Requested more information on **MC 1-23**, Montgomery County - School Bus Monitoring Cameras - Distribution of Fines. Mr. Glass commented on the need to refine the system before funds are allocated to areas where spot treatment may or may not be available. Mr. Albornoz commented on the need to collaborate with the State Department of Transportation to address fundamental engineering issues on roadways and requested a joint Public Safety (PS) and Education and Culture (E&C) Committee meeting to follow-up on this issue. Agreed that the common goal is to make the areas where school buses stop safer for students and that this should be conveyed to the sponsors of the Bill.

Supported without objection **MC 4-23**, Montgomery County - Alcohol Beverage Services - Advisory Board; **MC 5-23**, Montgomery County - Alcoholic Beverages - Board of license Commissioners - Qualifications; and **MC 6-23**, Holders of Class B-BWL (Clubhouse/Lodge) License and Class 7 Micro-Brewery License.

Agreed to hold **MC 13-23**, Montgomery County - Collective Bargaining for Sheriff's Office Employees - Binding Arbitration Procedures, pending further legal analysis by staff.

(5) **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Approved the following consent calendar items listed below.

Mr. Albornoz made the motion, which carried without objection.

- A. [Introduced a Resolution to approve end-of-year transfers for the County Government's FY22 Operating Budget](#)
- B. [Received the End-of-Year Report of the Council's Audit Committee](#)
- D. [Adopted Resolutions 20-02 and 20-03, confirming the County Executive's appointments to the County-Wide Recreation and Parks Advisory Board: Brenda Bonazelli, Chris Nasti, John Plate, Yolanda Goettsch, Michael Ricci, Alison Gillespie, Michael Jacknis, Kessia Prather](#)
- E. [Adopted Resolution 20-04, confirming the County Executive's appointment to the Mental Health Advisory Committee: Michael Chindblom](#)

The Council recessed at 12:15 p.m. and reconvened at 1:31 p.m.

- (6) **PUBLIC HEARING** - [Amendment to the FY23-28 Capital Improvements Program and Special Appropriation #23-60 to the County Government's FY23 Capital Budget, Department of Technology and Enterprise Business Solutions - Business Continuity Phase II \(No. 342303\), \\$7,469,000 \(Source of Funds: Current Revenue and Short-Term Financing\)](#)

The public hearing was conducted. Additional information for the Council's consideration should be submitted by the close of business on December 13, 2022.

- (7) **PUBLIC HEARING** - [Bill 28-22, Common Ownership Communities - Duties, Requirements and Procedures](#)

The public hearing was conducted. Additional information for the Council's consideration should be submitted by the close of business on December 13, 2022. A Planning, Housing and Parks Committee worksession will be scheduled at a later date.

- (8) **PUBLIC HEARING** - [Expedited Bill 34-22, Streets and Roads - Classification of Roads](#)

The public hearing was conducted. Additional information for the Council's consideration should be submitted by the close of business on December 13, 2022.

- (9) **PUBLIC HEARING/ACTION** - [Supplemental Appropriation #23-18 to the County Government's FY23 Operating Budget, Department of Transportation, Streets and Roads - Roadside Trees - Protection, \\$60,750 \(Source of Funds: Street Tree Planting Fund\)](#)

The public hearing was conducted and the record closed.

Adopted **Resolution 20-05**, approving the subject supplemental appropriation. Mr. Friedson made the motion, which carried without objection.

- (11) **INTERVIEWS** - [Board of Appeals](#)

Interviewed Christopher Hitchens, Carol Kosary, and Alan Sternstein, applicants for a partial term on the Board of Appeals.

The meeting adjourned at 2:21 p.m.

This is a correct copy of Council action:



Judy Rupp
Clerk of the Council