



# MONTGOMERY VILLAGE FOUNDATION, INC.

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April 5, 2024

Mr. Marc Elrich  
Montgomery County Executive  
101 Monroe Street  
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear County Executive Elrich and County Councilmembers:

On behalf of the Montgomery Village Foundation (MVF) Board of Directors, thank you for the opportunity to provide input and feedback on the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Operating Budget, specifically for adding \$50,000 to the County Government's Facility Planning project to begin a Program of Requirements for a Montgomery Village/Gaithersburg Recreation Center.

Thank you for this addition to the FY25 budget, in consideration of a potential new county-operated community center in this area.

MVF recognizes the need for equitable recreational facilities, programming and opportunities for all residents, and currently supports as many needs as possible for all residents of Montgomery Village. Our camps, classes, events and programs are also open to all residents of the county to participate in; a philosophy that hasn't changed in our nearly 60 years as a planned community. While we welcome the study of a potential new center, we understand the unique circumstances this particular proposal presents.

In the interim, MVF, the City of Gaithersburg, Montgomery County Recreation, and other interested stakeholders have engaged in conversations centered around providing collaborative youth-based programming opportunities. Regardless of the outcome of the ability to provide an additional community center in the Upcounty, a primary hurdle is still accessibility to programming. MVF respectfully requests that transportation needs be addressed as part of the Program of Requirements. Further, it is our hope that a more robust partnership with Montgomery County Recreation can be established to supplement recreation programming for Montgomery Village residents that MVF is not able to support on its own. As county taxpayers, Village residents deserve an increased level of service.

Additionally, MVF would be open to working with the county to enhance Montgomery Village facilities to support ongoing recreational programming.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Doniele U. Ayres". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Doniele Ayres, President  
Montgomery Village Foundation  
Board of Directors

DA/mc

CC: MVF Board of Directors