



## UPCOUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

### Full UCAB Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2025

#### **HYBRID MEETING**

*In Person: UpCounty Regional Services Center  
12900 Middlebrook Rd, Germantown, MD 20874*

*Online Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86090967789>*

Meeting ID: 860 9096 7789

*By phone: 301 715 8592*

- 7:03 p.m. **Call to Order and Welcome – Roll Call** – as shown below
- 7:04 p.m. **Review/Approve minutes from 3.17.25 Meeting** – minutes approved as shown – 1<sup>st</sup> Paul Klee and 2<sup>nd</sup> Theresa Watkins
- 7:05 p.m. **Police Report; Commander Dillman (D#6, Gaithersburg/MontgVllg), Commander Pallas (D#5, Germantown), Commander Satinsky (D#1, Rockville)**
- Overall Q1 2025 numbers are lower than 2024
  - Resources in the MCPD are still down – community engagement of officers has been helpful
  - Traffic enforcement is increasing
  - Homeless mansion behind the District 5 has been dismantled and services offered to the homeless
  - Body cams on officers serve to help absolve officers of wrong doing on calls but are also being used to monitor officers more closely day to day while not on calls.
  - Crime on autothefts by youth is down 40%
  - More foot patrol and bike patrol used
- 7:20 p.m. **Community Concerns** – none brought forward
- 7:21 p.m. **Topic: Drone as First Responder: Captain Nick Picerno, Director of the Special Operations Division**
- **Update on how the program is going UpCounty**
  - **What areas does it cover in Upcounty**
  - Information shared on how the drone works, limitations and advantages
  - Drone (1) improves response times (2) more efficient at arrests (3) better decision making prior to officers arriving so they know better what the situation presents (ex. Call that a person was waving a gun at a convenience store but drone showed it was a cell phone)
  - Another site to be added to District 5 (Germantown) – currently covers 2.5 sq miles used primarily in Urban areas
  - Can be used for fire and rescue as well due to thermal intelligence to help fire fighters see where the fire is heaviest so they know best approach to putting out fire

- Adding additional sites requires additional staff – looking for pilots that are certified to fly drones – may open up to non police staff.

7:47 p.m.

**Topic: Needs and Community communications from the Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service:** *Battalion Chief Jay Blake* [Jason.blake@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Jason.blake@montgomerycountymd.gov)

- Upcounty coverage: 235 sq miles and 8 stations
- Each station is fitted for the geographic region (ex. Great Seneca Valley Park caught fire so they were able to deploy vehicles necessary for a brush fire).
- There is an automatic aid from surrounding counties like Frederick
- They assess community info every 7 years to ensure the proper equipment is on hand to facilitate services
- Replace old fire alarms with new ones that are sealed units – lasts 10 years. American Red Cross program will go into homes to help replaced old fire alarms with new ones. Placement in bedrooms recommended
- Baking soda and fire blankets are always good to have on hand near any possible fire hazards- best not to try to fight a fire. Call 911 and exit all members out of the house
- Narcan access has helped reduce the amount of overdose victims

8:23 p.m.

**County Council Report**

**Glass Office**

- Budgets are being voted on May 22nd

**Balcolm Office**

- \$3M offered to settle White's Ferry issues and open it back for commuters

**Luedtke Office**

- NOW housing – vetoed by Executive Elrich

**Sayles Office**

- Budget coming up for review

8:32

**Regional Director's Report – Ruben Rosario**

- 300+ people attended the worksource Montgomery event on 3/26
- 4/12 Dept of Rec – Spring Eye Clinic giving away 112 glasses and kidney screening
- 4/24 State of County address
- Tuesday 4/22- placemaking for Germantown
- Wednesday 4/23 Brink Road bridge public meeting with MCDOT
- May 1<sup>st</sup> CIP FY 27

8:40

**New Business:**

**Letter to County Council on Operations budget (review and vote)** – the letter shared with the board was reviewed and was decided to be tabled since time was not left to discuss the information at the depth required. It was later noted by Craig Wilson of Balcolm's office that our letter would need to be submitted before the next full board meeting. This precipitated a full board public working session to take place instead of the Quality of Life meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss content and vote before the 17<sup>th</sup> which is the last day to submit the letter

8:57 p.m.

**Bylaws adjustments (review and vote)** – it was discussed that the current bylaws do not facilitate executive board seats that make the board seats effective. It was motioned by Christel Bivens, current Chair that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President be replaced by a Secretary. The motion was accepted by 1<sup>st</sup> by Paul Klee and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Saundry. The board voted unanimously to adopt the change in the bylaws and none opposed.

- 9:04 pm      **Board Nominations** – Nomination committee has worked hard to find nominees for the upcoming UCAB year. Currently we are missing someone for the Secretary position and the Quality of Life subcommittee Chair. It was mentioned by both Ruben Rosario and the Chair that although our appointments are voluntary in nature that in order to be an effective board members must participate actively through our communities and in meetings to be stewards of information multi-directionally.
- 9:10 pm      **CIP FY27 (topics and attendance)** – the CIP FY27 budget meeting is on May 1<sup>st</sup>. By show of hands we found 6 volunteers from the board population that would volunteer their time at the meeting to collaborate with community to gather information non CIP needs for Upcounty
- 9:16 p.m.      **Adjournment** at 9:16 p.m. 1<sup>st</sup> Paul Klee 2<sup>nd</sup> Jason George

## **2024-2025 Board Members and Committees (EA=excused absence, A=absent, P=present)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Committee</b>
Matilda Adu (A)	Rockville	Quality of Life
Andrew Saundry (P)	Germantown	Land Use
Steve Augustino (A)	Gaithersburg	Quality of Life
Paul Klee (P)	Darnestown	Land Use
Christel Bivens (P)	Germantown	Land Use
Jay Guan (A)	Clarksburg	Quality of Life
Wayne Jacas (EA)	Boyds	Land Use
Steve Robinson (P)	Damascus	Land Use
Kraig Walsleben (P)	Damascus	Land Use
Lynn Arndt (EA)	Boyds	Quality of Life
Michelle Ashafa (A)	Clarksburg	Quality of Life
Jason George (P)	Germantown	Land Use
Melane Hoffmann (EA)	Clarksburg	Land Use
Mary Keane (P)	North Potomac	Quality of Life
Paul Lauria (P)	Gaithersburg	Land Use
Dana Pauley (P)	Boyds	Quality of Life
Marc Robles (P)	Montgomery Village	Quality of Life
Sarah Stevens (P)	Damascus	Quality of Life
Teresa Watkins (P)	Clarksburg	Land Use
Matthew Woormam (P)	Germantown	Quality of Life

*Effective July 2024*

**Note:** Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible, but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If these or other services or aids are needed to participate in this activity, contact Jake Adler at 240-447-0216 or at [jake.adler@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:jake.adler@montgomerycountymd.gov)

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