

# COUNCIL COMING ATTRACTIONS







## Week of Oct. 21, 2019


### Bicycle Master Plan, Semi-Annual Report of the Planning Board, Quarterly Economic Indicators, Schools Resource Equity Study, Community Grants, MC311 System Performance, Public Election Fund

Council Coming Attractions is a summary of some of the issues before the Council. All Council staff reports and additional information on each item scheduled for Council or Committee review can be viewed at: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/ondemand/index.html> .

The Council meeting schedule may change from time to time. The current Council and Committee agendas can also be viewed at: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/ondemand/index.html> .

-  The Council will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 22 at 9:30 a.m.
-  Council Vice President Sidney Katz and Council President Nancy Navarro will present a proclamation recognizing October as Cyber Security Awareness Month.
-  Councilmember Gabe Albornoz will present a proclamation honoring the lifetime achievements of Austin Heyman.
-  Councilmember Will Jawando will present a proclamation recognizing National Bullying Prevention Month.

## COUNCIL

-  **Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) 19-08, Bicycle Parking – Requirements and Design Standards**  
On Oct. 22 at 10 a.m. the Council will introduce ZTA 19-08. This zoning measure would implement the recommendations of the 2018 Bicycle Master Plan, which was approved by the Council in November 2018. Council President Nancy Navarro is the lead sponsor, at the request of the Montgomery County Planning Board. The amendment would do the following:
  - require smaller developments to provide bicycle parking facilities;
  - define terms;
  - provide dimensional and design standards;
  - add provisions concerning location, access and security; and

- add requirements for repair stations and electric bicycles.

The Council staff report can be viewed here:

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20191022/20191022\\_3A.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20191022/20191022_3A.pdf)

### **Semi-Annual Report of the Montgomery County Planning Board**

On Oct. 22 at 10:10 a.m. the Council will receive the semi-annual report of the Montgomery County Planning Board. Twice a year the Planning Board produces a report that provides highlights from the work programs of the Montgomery County Planning Department and Montgomery Parks. In the past, these reports have been published as booklets, but the Fall 2019 report will be a presentation to the Council. The Planning Department will discuss their ongoing work, both master plan and regulatory, with respect to the [General Plan](#), which was created in 1964 and has since been periodically updated. The topics covered in the report include a focus on trails, athletic fields, activating urban parks, park projects and Parks' volunteer program. Casey Anderson, chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board; Natali Fani-Gonzalez, vice chair of the Planning Board; Gwen Wright, director of the Planning Department; and Mike Riley, director of Montgomery Parks, are among those expected to attend the meeting. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20191022/20191022\\_4.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2019/20191022/20191022_4.pdf)

## COMMITTEES

### **Quarterly Economic Indicators Factsheets**

On Oct. 21 at 11 a.m. the Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee will receive a briefing on the Quarterly Economic Indicator Factsheets Report, which is produced collaboratively by the Planning Department's Research and Special Projects Division and the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC). The report provides quarterly updates on key economic indicators, including labor force, employment, real estate and capital investment data. Each edition also examines industry-specific information and trends. The latest report analyzes the County's tech sector; opportunity zones designed to spur economic development by providing tax benefits to investors; and the hospitality industry, among other topics. Those expected to attend the meeting include the following: Caroline McCarthy, chief, Research and Special Projects, Planning Department; Corinne Blackford, planner coordinator, Research and Special Projects, Planning Department; Sarah Miller, vice president of strategy, MCEDC; Brandon Bedford, research analyst, MCEDC. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20191021/20191021\\_PHED1.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20191021/20191021_PHED1.pdf)

### **Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Resource Equity Study**

On Oct. 21 at 2:30 p.m. the Education and Culture (E&C) Committee will review the MCPS Resource Equity Study. MCPS has developed an Equity and Achievement Framework to address disparities in student outcomes and ensure success for all students. The framework includes the following components: Evidence of Learning (EOL); Equity Accountability Model (EAM); and Equitable Access to Resources (EAR). In October 2019, MCPS released a final report produced in collaboration with Education Resource Strategies, which is an education-focused nonprofit, that examined how well MCPS allocates and uses resources among and across schools. The study included the following objectives:

- build a deep understanding of resource allocation, use and equity across the school system and within schools;
- build an understanding of how MCPS compares to other similar school districts in resource allocation, use and equity;
- share information on promising practices from schools that are getting results;
- create a set of tools that enable school and system leaders to make changes to resource use that aims to improve the equitable and effective use of resources;
- identify considerations for change or further study; and

- develop and implement an effective communication and engagement plan around per-pupil spending and resource allocation and use.

Dr. Jack Smith, superintendent of MCPS; Dr. Monifa McKnight, deputy superintendent of MCPS; and Nicky Diamond, chief financial officer of MCPS, are expected to attend the meeting. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20191021/20191021\\_EC1.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2019/20191021/20191021_EC1.pdf)

### **Community Grants Process**

On Oct. 21 at 9:30 a.m. the Government Operations and Fiscal Policy (GO) and Health and Human Services (HHS) Committees will meet jointly to review the community grants process. Beginning in FY21, the Office of the County Executive and Council will collaboratively develop a more robust approach to community grants that will be targeted to specific outcomes. This joint meeting is an update from [the July 18, 2019 meeting](#) where a vision and strategy for community grants was discussed to create a central County Grants Office in FY22 to source federal and state funds to increase the capacity of County departments. The Council staff report can be viewed here:

### **MC311 Strategic Options and**

#### **Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) Report 2019-15, Measuring MC311 System Performance**

On Oct. 24 at 2 p.m. the GO Committee will review OLO Report 2019-15, Measuring MC311 System Performance and review the operations and needed future improvements of the MC311 call center. The Council asked OLO to prepare a report on the metrics that the County currently uses to measure MC311 performance, explore other potential variables, and recommend what might be done to enhance the services provided by MC311. The report recommends that the following questions be explored to enhance MC311's efficacy and core functions:

- To what extent should the County require residents to use MC311 to reach County offices? Should the County consider a policy that all servicing departments that list MC311 as their primary point of contact also include their own phone number as a secondary contact, along with an explanation for residents of how using MC311 can save costs and hold servicing departments more accountable for service delivery?
- Who determines how far the call center should be expected to go in trying to answer resident questions? To what extent should MC311 be expected to try to answer questions versus triaging questions and then connecting callers with the best contact at the servicing departments?

The discussion is expected to include staffing levels, new technology platforms and operating departmental targets for responding to resident requests for service. Barry Hudson, public information officer, and Fariba Kassiri, deputy chief administrative officer, are among those expected to attend the meeting. The full report can be viewed here:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OLO/Resources/Files/2019%20Reports/OLOReport2019-15.pdf>

The Council staff report will be available on Oct. 21.

### **Public Election Fund**

The GO Committee will close out its meeting with a review of the County's public election fund. Under Maryland Election Law, Section 13-505, counties may establish their own system of public campaign financing. In September 2014 the Council unanimously enacted Bill 16-14, which established a Public Election Fund to provide public campaign financing for County Executive and Council candidates. When the Council enacted Bill 16-14 it was the first measure of its type in the Washington metropolitan region and in Maryland. The goals of this law are to:

- encourage greater voter participation in County elections;
- increase opportunities for more residents to run for office; and
- reduce the influence of large contributions from businesses, political action groups and other large organizations.

The Council is responsible for appropriating funds for the Public Election Fund. The Council staff report will be available on Oct. 21.