

Interviews

MEMORANDUM

June 7, 2019

TO: County Council

FROM: Megan Davey Limarzi, Esq. *MCLAS*
Clerk of the Council

SUBJECT: Interviews - Montgomery County Planning Board

The Council received 24 applications to fill the two upcoming vacancies on the Montgomery County Planning Board. Seven applicants were selected for interviews. Applicants were advised that the Council will designate a new Chair in conjunction with the appointment process by designating either an appointee or another sitting Boardmember to be the Chair. If a current member of the Board is selected as Chair, both of the new appointees will serve as Boardmembers. All applicants were asked whether they were interested in serving as Chair only, Boardmember only, or whether they were interested in either position. Responses are noted below.

Background

The Land Use Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland requires that no more than three members of the Planning Board be from the same political party. Members serve four-year terms and are limited by State law to two full terms. Mr. Anderson is eligible to reapply as Chair per Section 15-102 of Land Use Article of Maryland Code. Members of the Planning Board may continue to serve until their successors are appointed and have qualified.

Current Boardmembers are Casey Anderson (Dem), Chair; Norman Dreyfuss (Rep); Natali Fani-Gonzalez (Dem); Gerald Cichy (Rep); and Tina Patterson (Unaffiliated).

The following applicants will be interviewed beginning **Tuesday, June 11 at 2:00 p.m.** in the 3rd floor Council Hearing Room:

Casey Anderson (Dem) *as Chair* ©1
Julian Haffner (Dem) *as Member* ©73

On **Thursday, June 13, beginning at 9:30 a.m.** the Council will interview the following in the 3rd floor Council Hearing Room:

William Kirwan (Dem) *as Member* ©95
Charles Kauffman (Dem) *as Member* ©77

On **Thursday, June 13, beginning at 1:30 p.m.** the Council will interview the following in the 3rd floor Council Hearing Room:

Jennifer Russel (Dem) *as Member* ©112
Partap Verma (Dem) *as Member* ©121
Brandy Brooks (Dem) *as Chair or Member* ©53

This packet contains:

Resumes and letters of endorsement
News Release

Circle #
1-164
165-166

BCC MICPS

Anderson

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CC

April 23, 2019

2019 APR 23 AM 10 58

RECEIVED
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The Honorable Nancy Navarro
President, Montgomery County Council
Stella Werner Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear President Navarro and Members of the County Council:

I respectfully apply for reappointment to a four-year term as Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board.

When I was appointed Chair in 2014, I said that Montgomery County was in the midst of a transition driven by economic, social, and demographic changes. I described how evolving preferences were increasing demand for housing in walkable, transit-oriented communities. I observed that the county was becoming less uniformly affluent and more racially, economically, and culturally diverse while the proportion of older residents was growing. I said that the county's competitiveness, and its ability to meet the needs of all residents, would depend on creating communities that attract workers, connect them to jobs, and offer a high quality of life.

Since then, we have made great progress together in connecting land use regulation more closely to the county's economic development, housing, and transportation goals. I believe that I have provided strong leadership, clear vision, and innovative ideas. Many more residents understand the importance of making sure that we have enough housing to meet demand at a range of incomes and a transportation system that works for everyone. We have a consensus in favor of protecting the Agricultural Reserve as an environmental and economic asset.

We still face serious challenges. Montgomery County boasts a highly-skilled and educated workforce, but too many of our residents are struggling with stagnant wages and burdensome housing costs. Revenue shortfalls threaten our ability to help our most vulnerable residents and to maintain our top quality school system. We risk losing workers who have the ability to move elsewhere for better opportunities, weakening our tax base.

This year the Planning Department began preparations for a comprehensive update to the "Wedges and Corridors" plan, which was adopted in 1964. The three pillars of the updated plan

will be economic competitiveness, racial and socioeconomic equity, and environmental sustainability. These objectives must inform our land use and transportation planning efforts in the coming decades. The new plan will establish a blueprint for equitable and sustainable growth in which people of diverse backgrounds, skills, and interests live side-by-side in mixed-income communities with access to jobs, educational opportunities, and housing choices.

The challenges and opportunities we face require sustained focus and a consistent approach. If reappointed, I will work to continue to strengthen the collaborative relationships I have developed with the County Council, the Executive Branch, the General Assembly, and agencies such as the State Highway Administration to make sure that the Planning and Parks Departments are an *integrated part of the county's work on economic development, equity, environmental protection, and related efforts to strengthen our communities for the future.*

It is a privilege to serve as Planning Board Chair, especially at a time when our county faces transformative challenges. I believe that my energetic leadership, focused vision, and new ideas have produced results that have served our communities well, and I hope this letter has conveyed a sense of what we have achieved together and what remains to be done.

I hope you will consider my application favorably, and I look forward to meeting with you to discuss any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Casey Anderson', written in a cursive style.

Casey Anderson

Casey Anderson

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

Planning Board Chair (August 2014 to present), *Commissioner* (June 2011 to present)

Led agency responsible for planning and regulation of land use and management of 421 parks covering more than 37,000 acres in diverse county with population over one million.

Kauffman Anderson Consulting / Cap Analysis Group

Litigation Consultant (May 2006 to August 2014)

Designed and managed opinion research projects and advised trial lawyers on strategy in complex antitrust, intellectual property, and product liability cases.

Coalition to Stop Gun Violence / Americans for Gun Safety

Director of Public Affairs (July 2004 to May 2006)

Organized advocacy campaigns to build support for tougher enforcement of existing gun laws and pass legislation to expand use of ballistics technology in criminal investigations.

U.S. Representative Martin Meehan

Chief of Staff (February 2003 to June 2004), *Legislative Director* (March 1993 to August 1995)

Directed communications, policy, and staff development for member of Congress.

AOL Time Warner

Vice President – International Public Policy (August 2000 to January 2003)

Developed and implemented government relations campaigns directed at U.S. and foreign governments on telecommunications, privacy, and intellectual property.

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky & Popeo

Associate (August 1998 to July 2000)

Represented cable television operators and telephone companies in regulatory policy proceedings and litigation before federal and state agencies and courts.

Justice Gregory Scott, Supreme Court of Colorado

Law clerk (August 1997 to July 1998)

Drafted opinions and conducted research for member of Colorado's highest court.

States News Service / Times-Journal Newspapers

Reporter (May 1990 to March 1993)

Covered politics and public policy for several daily and weekly newspapers.

EDUCATION

J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, *magna cum laude*, 1997
Served as articles editor of law review; graduated in top 10 percent of class.

M.S., Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, 1990
Wrote 6,000-word profile of U.S. Rep. Charles Rangel as part of degree requirements.

B.S., Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, 1989
Concentrated in American government and foreign policy. Graduated in three years.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Won 2017 Prince Livable Communities Leadership Award given by the Coalition for Smarter Growth to an individual from DC, Maryland, or Virginia who has demonstrated leadership on smart growth, transit and community revitalization

Invited presenter (with Montgomery Planning Director Gwen Wright) on "The New Suburbanism" at 2018 American Planning Association convention

CIVIC CONTRIBUTIONS

Montgomery County Transit Task Force (ex officio member)

Boy Scout Troop 209 (past assistant scoutmaster)

Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board (past vice chair)

Washington Area Bicyclist Association (past board member)

Woodside Civic Association (past vice president)

Law Students In Court Program, Inc. (past board member)

Silver Spring YMCA (past board member)

Coalition to Stop Gun Violence (past board member)



www.actfortransit.org

P.O. Box 7074
Silver Spring, MD 2090

March 4, 2019

Montgomery County Council
Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: Support for reappointment of Casey Anderson as Chair of the Planning Board

Dear President Navarro and Members of the Council:

The Action Committee for Transit strongly supports Casey Anderson's reappointment as Planning Board Chair. For the better part of seven years, he has effectively developed and worked with the Council to encourage more compact mixed use, transit-oriented, and walkable development, an increase in our supply of affordable housing, improvements to our bus and rail transit network, and better bicycle and pedestrian facilities. This work has definitely enhanced our County's attractiveness as a place in which to live, work, and play.

Some of his important assets are an ability and willingness to clearly explain the ins and outs of complicated multi-faceted issues, to seek out and listen to other points of view, build consensus, and generate innovative solutions and programs. The Purple Line Bethesda station re-conception with a new trail tunnel and redevelopment of the overhead building is one example of the flexibility and imagination that Casey brings to bear on problems.

Casey's reappointment would provide important continuity of leadership at the Planning Board at a time when the county needs to ensure plans are in place that can ensure the county's economic development and competitiveness, and equitable access to opportunity. He knows how the Planning Board works, smoothly manages the agency staff, and knows the labyrinth of government process.

For all of these reasons ACT strongly urges you to reappoint Casey Anderson as the Chair of the Planning Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Brand". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Nick Brand
President, Action Committee for Transit

The Action Committee for Transit is a membership-based volunteer organization in Montgomery County working to improve transit service, make roads safer for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers, and increase transit-oriented development.

January 30, 2019

Montgomery County Council
Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: Support for reappointment of Casey Anderson as Chair of the Planning Board

Dear President Navarro and members of the Council:

The Coalition for Smarter Growth has committed to supporting sustainable and equitable development, housing, and transportation in Montgomery County, funding a dedicated staff-person to work in the community for the past seven years. We are excited by the opportunities ahead for Montgomery County under your leadership, but we also recognize that the county faces significant challenges in economic development and access to jobs, housing supply and affordability, and affordable and accessible transportation. For these reasons, we strongly support the reappointment of Casey Anderson as Chair of the Planning Board.

The reappointment of Casey would provide important continuity of leadership at the Planning Board at a time when the county needs to ensure plans are in place that can ensure the county's economic development and competitiveness, and equitable access to opportunity. Based on recent experience, mixed-use, mixed-income, walkable, transit-oriented development (TOD) is essential for ensuring the county's economic competitiveness and growth in the commercial tax base, and Casey has done much to advance TOD in the county in partnership with the Council.

Marriott's move from Rock Spring to Bethesda is a testament to the value they see in TOD. Similarly, Amazon's selection of a TOD location at Crystal City/Pentagon City, Choice Hotel's location in Rockville, Nestle's in Rosslyn, demonstrates the need to accelerate TOD in Montgomery County in order to attract and retain major companies. When combined with strong MPDU policies, and additional transit investments, TOD – both at the Bethesda/Silver Spring scale and at medium density scale -- can improve access to jobs by transit, reduce combined housing and transportation costs, and grow the economy without increasing overall traffic.

Among his important initiatives, Casey shepherded through the new Subdivision Staging Policy which incentivizes and prioritizes TOD, transit, biking and walking; the award-winning Bicycle Master Plan; and the complex Bethesda Master Plan, including the establishment of market-oriented system for allocating development capacity and park impact payments to raise funds for open space. It is for these reasons that we awarded Casey Anderson our 2017 Prince Livable Communities Leadership Award.

Casey Anderson has led the Planning Board and its heavy workload with great skill – listening, and running the agenda and discussions smoothly and without acrimony. He knows how the agency works, knows the staff, and knows the government process. With the impending Countywide Master Plan update, Mr. Anderson provides the critical experience and record of success necessary to ensure the plan update goes smoothly and is developed in a timely manner. Developing a new Master Plan and continuing to advance TOD projects and other mixed-use development, along with developing innovative approaches to provide a range of housing types affordable to all levels of the workforce, are critical to the future of the county and its people.

For all of the reasons enumerated here, Casey Anderson has earned our strong endorsement for reappointment as Chair of the Planning Board.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stewart Schwartz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Stewart Schwartz
Executive Director

BCE-MCPB



ML
CC

Growing East County

Celebrating and advocating for MoCo's fastest-growing region

March 26, 2018

Council President Nancy Navarro
Montgomery County Council
Stella B. Werner Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850

Cc: All Councilmembers

Dear President Navarro and Members of the County Council:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board. In my work as an advocate for East County, I have seen the depth of Casey's commitment to our county and the breadth of his knowledge of real estate, transportation, and community development.

When I have faced adversity and opposition in my efforts to build for a better future for the East County, Casey has always been quick to offer ideas, advice, and support. I have especially appreciated his support of efforts that I have personally worked on, such as bringing placemaking/pop-up events to Burtonsville, pushing the State Highway Administration to "Fix 198" and other state roads, improving BRT by with providing more dedicated lanes, and re-establishing programming at the Maydale Nature Center.

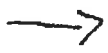
Casey has also been a leading several initiatives to reduce our unhealthy dependence on automobiles, including expanding affordable housing in transit-accessible areas, the Purple Line, BRT, pedestrian safety, and one of the most ambitious bicycle master plans in the country. As our county and neighboring jurisdictions continue to grow rapidly, we will need to keep up the momentum with strong leadership and bold ideas to ensure that Montgomery County encourages safe, affordable, and reliable alternatives to driving. For this reason, it is critical to maintain continuity in the Planning Board leadership.

Casey understands Montgomery County and has a provided vision and leadership at the Planning and Parks Departments. I hope you vote to appoint him to a new term as chair of the Planning Board.

Respectfully yours,

Sebastian Smoot

Growing East County
growingeastcounty@gmail.com



March 26, 2018
10:00 AM

NO street address

From: Mitch Warren
Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 10:58 PM
To: County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov
Subject: Support for Casey Anderson

Dear Council President Navarro:

I'm writing to express my support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Planning Board Chair. He has displayed strong leadership skills in advancing innovative ideas and vision for the future.

I have been particularly impressed by Casey's longstanding commitment to advancing walkable, transit-oriented development. I have known him for more than a decade, and I see him as one of the DC region's most knowledgeable and effective leaders in this area.

Casey is a strong supporter of transit, including the Purple Line and better MARC and bus service, as well as compact, mixed use development and affordable housing as important elements of our efforts to make the county more socially equitable, economically competitive, and environmentally sustainable. Casey has played an important role in building support for the Purple Line project, bike and pedestrian safety initiatives, the countywide Bus Rapid Transit plan, and stronger MPDU requirements for affordable housing, among many other projects and initiatives.

I believe that smart growth around good transit service is key to the county's economic future and see Casey as a leader who can deliver on such a vision.

Casey is a strong advocate, but he also understands the value of working with people who hold different views. He also has produced several fresh ideas that have been implemented successfully, such as redeveloping an office building in Bethesda to make room for a new Capital Crescent Trail tunnel and Purple Line station for the Purple Line. He also pushed the Planning Department to draft some of the most progressive transportation adequacy tests in the nation, and these rules have been adopted by the Council to raise standards for transit, walking, and biking infrastructure as part of new development.

Casey has been an exceptionally accomplished leader of M-NCPPC, and I ask that you appoint him to another term.

Sincerely,

Mitch Warren

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Good Afternoon Councilmember Navarro

I'm writing to support Casey Anderson's reappointment as Planning Board Chair. Mr Anderson has been a strong leader who has developed creative ideas in support of a clear vision for the county's future, and especially to advance walkable, transit-oriented development.

Casey has supported the Purple Line, better MARC and better bus service, as well as bike and pedestrian safety initiatives. I ask that that he be reappointed

Thank You

Bernie Mihm
Landscape Architect

Hardscape Grand Award Winner
ISA Certified Arborist

Fine Earth Landscape

Close

(10)

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers	Source
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Dear Council President Navarro:

I'm writing to express my support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Planning Board Chair. He has been a strong leader who has developed creative ideas in support of a clear vision for the county's future, and especially to advance walkable, transit-oriented development.

Casey is a longtime supporter of transit, including the Purple Line and better MARC and bus service, as well as affordable housing as important elements of our efforts to make the county more socially equitable, economically competitive, and environmentally sustainable. Casey has played an important role in building support for the Purple Line project, bike and pedestrian safety initiatives, the countywide Bus Rapid Transit plan, and stronger MPDU requirements for affordable housing, among many other projects and initiatives. Casey understands how to work with people with different views and has shown that he is effective in getting ideas and plans implemented. I ask that you appoint him to another term.

Sincerely,

Kathleen A. Mihm

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Dear Council President Navarro:

I'm writing to express my support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Planning Board Chair. He has been very effective at leading the administration of a department that is critical to the economic strength and livability of our fine county. He has also been a strong leader who is pursuing creative ideas in support the county's future, and especially to advance walkable, transit-oriented development.

Whether it's the Purple Line, residential and commercial development plans around metro stations, facilities and activities for our wonderful parks, pedestrian safety, bus rapid transit, affordable housing, or the many other matters our Planning Board addresses, Casey has helped our county make real progress. Casey understands how to work with people with different views and has shown that he is effective in getting ideas and plans implemented. I ask that you appoint him to another term.

Sincerely,

Dave Magill
Competitive Power Ventures, Inc.

Close

Email Viewer

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[HTML](#)

From: "Donna Baron"
Date: 3/2/2019 1:12:30 PM
To: "County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov"
<County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>
Cc:
Subject: Reappointment of Casey Anderson to Chair of the Planning Board

Dear Council President Navarro:

I am writing to express my support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board.

I have not always agreed with Casey, but he has always listened to what I have to say and responded in a thoughtful and reasonable way. He has treated me with honesty and respect. Shortly after he was appointed to his first term he joined me for a tour of the "Great Seneca Science Corridor" master plan area and the Belward Farm which I felt was important for him to see.

I value Casey's forthrightness and responsiveness and I think he deserves reappointment as Chair of the Planning Board.

Sincerely,

Donna H. Baron

Close

Email Viewer

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[HTML](#)

From: "Marc Bloom"
 Date: 3/1/2019 10:34:43 AM
 To: "County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov"
 <County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>, "Marc Bloom"
 Cc:
 Subject: From Marc Bloom, Endorsing the Reappointment of Casey Anderson as Planning Board Chair

Good Morning Distinguished Members of the Montgomery County Council,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Casey Anderson's application for reappointment as chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board.

I have the honor of counting a number of you among my long-time personal friends. And those of you who know me know that I have been passionately committed to the transformation of the White Oak area for the past 15 years. While with the FDA I was privileged to play a leadership role in their White Oak consolidation project, and for the past seven years I have served Washington Adventist Hospital, and in my capacity at WAH I have been closely involved in the effort to relocate the hospital to White Oak, very near to the FDA Campus, just to the north of the VIVA site. The eastern part of our County, long neglected, is well on its way now to becoming an internationally-significant hub of health care and bioscience for our country. As a two-time cancer survivor, it means the world to me to play even a small part in contributing to our mutual, community effort to improve the health and safety of our entire country and to bring economic justice and prosperity to thousands of our citizens.

To me, one of the heroes of this transformation has been Casey Anderson. I worked closely with Casey on the White Oak Science Gateway and Countywide Transitways (BRT) master plans, and I have been impressed by his vision, courage, intelligence, judgment, and leadership skills as well as the depth and breadth of his knowledge of land use and transportation planning. I also can attest to his unwavering commitment to the communities and people who make up Montgomery County, especially those people who have been left out in the past.

It would be hard to overstate the significance of Casey's role in the drafting and adoption of the White Oak Science Gateway master plan. At times I was extremely concerned that the plan would die or be badly compromised by a lack of vision and an insistence on adherence to outdated ideas about what is possible in the East County. From the beginning, Casey demonstrated that he understands the aspirations of our community, and he succeeded in pushing back against the conventional thinking that had held our part of Montgomery County back for decades. His leadership skills together with his mastery of the arcane details of transportation analysis and land use regulation put him in a position to help get a great plan for our future approved by the Planning Board and County Council.

Casey was equally important to the development and passage the countywide plan for Bus Rapid Transit, a vital step for the East County because of the pressing need for better transportation solutions on Route 29 and New Hampshire Avenue. These new transportation solutions will be invaluable to my hospital. have extensive experience in transportation planning and implementation, and Casey showed that he is at the forefront of innovative approaches to these issues. He also has demonstrated remarkable intellectual creativity and resourcefulness in conceiving the "unified mobility program" being used to allocate the cost of transportation projects among property owners in an equitable manner in White Oak without stopping economically beneficial projects.

I can think of no one who better understands the needs of East County than Casey. He has brought badly needed leadership, vision, and expertise to the Planning Board, and I urge you to appoint him to a new term as its chair.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for Casey's reappointment, and for everything each of you does for me, my family, and all the citizens and families of our County each and every day.

Sincerely,

Marc Bloom

Close

From: Tony Camilli
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 12:48 PM
To: County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov
Subject: Reappoint Casey Anderson to lead MoCo Planning Department

Dear Members of the County Council:

I am writing to express my strong support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Planning Board Chair.

Casey has been a leader and a champion for smart growth, affordable housing, and transit. Casey's achievements on the board are numerous and include:

- Supporting reforms to the MPDU law to create incentives for additional affordable units, especially in more affluent parts of the county;
 - Championing the construction of additional market-rate and regulated affordable housing as a central strategy to mitigate rising housing costs;
 - Advancing equity as a cornerstone of planning, including advocating for housing policies that create mixed-income, diverse communities and schools as well as transportation infrastructure that connects neighborhoods that have suffered from disinvestment.
 - Pressing for liberalization of the requirements for accessory dwelling units (ADUs) to make them less expensive and easier to build;
 - Encouraging the Planning Department staff to develop policies designed to encourage "missing middle" housing to create a wider range of more affordable types of new dwellings;
 - Proposing an innovative way to allocate development capacity in the Bethesda master plan that creates a new source of funding for urban parks in the downtown together with new incentives for additional affordable housing;
 - Suggesting the redevelopment of the Apex Building in order to build a better Purple Line station and below-grade Capital Crescent Trail connection, which led to a Minor Master Plan and mixed-use development project that is currently under construction;
 - Helping to draft the County's BRT task force report and to guide the BRT master plan that followed to approval by the Planning Board and County Council;
 - Leading the development and approval of the county's award-winning new Bicycle Master Plan, which will result in safer and less stressful bicycling infrastructure so that more residents can bike to work and school;
- Insisting that the new Subdivision Staging Policy include transit, walking, and bicycling and create incentives for compact, mixed use development in urban centers;
- Expanding the Parks Department's mission to include active urban parks, a strong and connected trail network, and high-quality playing fields for a diverse array of users;
 - Advocating for a strong Vision Zero policy and supporting its implementation through the Veirs Mill Master Plan, the Aspen Hill Vision Zero Study, the Forest Glen/Montgomery Hills Sector Plan, and the Bicycle Master Plan.

Casey understands the relationship between land use policy, economic development and the County's responsibility to provide opportunities and support for all its residents - including its most vulnerable. I have found him to be responsive, open, and willing to engage on policy issues and I appreciate that he's willing to meet with residents and share his ideas. Casey's thought-provoking blog posts and presentations provide valuable information and data that help interested residents better understand the county's land use policies and goals.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope that you will vote to reappoint Casey for another 4-year term so that he can continue his work on these issues and make our community a more affordable, equitable place to live.

Kind Regards,
Tony Camilli

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 4:13:17 PM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Casey for Planning Board Chair

From: mcampscomp@aol.com ·
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 4:11 PM
To: Albornoz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Friedson's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Glass's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Jawando's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Katz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Rice's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Riemer's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Casey for Planning Board Chair

Dear Council Member,

I am writing to urge you to support the reappointment of Casey Anderson as Planning Board Chair.

The County is at an important place now in its history, facing historic growth pressures, housing shortages, affordability issues, traffic and pedestrian safety issues and mass transit. All of the solutions to these challenges must be tied to economic growth, which is a complex undertaking. We should not be tossing out the expertise and experience that Casey Anderson brings to the job at this critical juncture. The continuity of his experience and knowledge is critically important right now.

From my experience as a resident for 20 years, it is important to have someone as Chair who is steady and diplomatic. Often, the issues before the Planning Board cause tension in communities that can easily boil over to anger and resentment, undermining the planning process, public trust and community engagement. Casey has been a steady presence balancing the needs for smart growth, biking, pedestrian safety, adequate and affordable housing and environmental concerns. And, it is important to note, that he has worked out a shared and transparent vision with the Council over the years and has been implementing a shared vision. There is no Chair that can make every person in every community happy all the time, but Casey has been remarkably effective at keeping the ship steady and moving us forward.

I think Casey is the best person to keep the considerable investment that the County has made here moving forward.

Sincerely,
Mary Campbell

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
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Date: 3/19/2019 6:02:52 PM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Letter of support for Casey Anderson

Dear Council President Navarro:

I am writing to ask for your support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Chair of the Planning Board.

Over the last ten years, I've gotten to know Casey as a trail's enthusiast and activist, in particular hiking and mountain biking, with a strong interest in the park system. He has been an important advocate for the parks in general and the addition of urban parks, improved athletic fields, and better trail connections in particular.

Casey works hard to meet with and hear from as many people as possible. I can attest that is he highly accessible to anyone with an interest in planning or park-related issues.

He has shown that he is deeply committed to making Montgomery County a more environmentally sustainable and socially just place even as we work to compete for jobs and economic opportunity.

I hope you will approve his reappointment to the Planning Board.

Sincerely,
 Jennifer Chambers

Author, Teacher, Mom & Outdoor Adventurer
 BLOG <<http://hikingalongkids.blogspot.com/>> - Hiking Along: A Feminist's Journey
 Through Teaching, Parenting & Outdoor Adventure
 Watershed Adventures of a Water Bottle
 <https://www.amazon.com/default/e/B00NTK0LX4/ref=dp_byline_cont_book_1?redirectedFromKindleDbs=true>
 Best Hikes with Kids: Washington, D.C., The Beltway & Beyond
 <https://www.amazon.com/Best-Hikes-Kids-Washington-Beltway/dp/1594857822/ref=asap_bc?ie=UTF8> - Mountaineers Books

Robert F. Cissel, Jr.

Date February 28, 2019

Dear Council President Navarro:

I'm writing to support Casey Anderson's reappointment as Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board. I do this as an individual and not as a member of any civic organization.

I got to know Casey after attending different hearings at Park and Planning on issues around Agriculture and the Agricultural reserve. Over time we developed a mutual friendship and trust and have had numerous discussions about protecting the AG Reserve.

Ever since that first meeting, I have been impressed with Casey's commitment to the quality of the park system and to our county. I followed his visits to all 421 parks last year, and I have had several conversations with him about how to improve the operation of the park system, how to preserve farming as a viable way of life in Montgomery County, and how to make our local government more effective in its economic development efforts. Casey is always interested in learning from my experience in business, and I have found that he is intellectually curious and consistently comes up with creative ideas.

In my experience, Casey is a thoughtful and dedicated public servant. I believe that he always has had the best interest of our citizens and county in mind. I believe our county benefits from his work as Chair of the Planning Board, and I hope you will approve his reappointment.

Sincerely,

Bob Cissel

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Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
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From: "Forrest Daniels" .
 Date: 3/12/2019 7:34:05 PM
 To: "County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Support for Reappointment of Casey Anderson as Planning Board Chair

Dear Council President Navarro and fellow Council Members:

I am writing to ask that you reappoint Casey Anderson as Planning Board Chair.

I have gotten to know Casey over the past two years through our participation in Leadership Montgomery and I have seen first-hand that he is a thoughtful and articulate advocate for environmental sustainability and economic development. Additionally, he and I recently communicated about the importance of incorporating a formal equity or social justice framework into future planning efforts which I hope, with your endorsement, he'll be afforded the opportunity to incorporate in his next term.

In his present tenure as Board Chair, Casey has been a champion for many progressive ideas, including affordable housing, the Purple Line and other transit improvements, as well as pedestrian safety and infrastructure.

I've also learned that he is deeply committed to improving the park system, and his efforts to buy more land for urban parks, improve athletic fields, and add trail connections are all very much appreciated by many county residents. Collectively, his vision addresses a few of the social determinants of health which would undoubtedly result in a healthier and safer county.

I hope you will vote to appoint him to a new term as chair of the Planning Board.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

--
Forrest A. Daniels, MPA, DSc, FACHE
Proud District 4 Resident

Close

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

HTML

From: "Sue Decker"
 Date: 3/12/2019 6:52:53 PM
 To: "County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: MoCo County Planning Board Appointment

Dear Members of the County Council:

I am writing in support of Casey Anderson's reappointment as Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board. Casey is widely respected as an effective and articulate advocate for equitable development, public transportation, and the other progressive policies we need to prepare our county for the future.

Casey is probably best known as a leading supporter of the Purple Line, improved bike and pedestrian infrastructure, and affordable housing, but he has played a part in a wide variety of transportation and land use planning issues. The countywide Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) plan, revitalization of Lyttonsville, Rosemary Hills, Forest Glen, and Montgomery Hills, downtown Bethesda, and many other initiatives incorporated his ideas. Thanks to his leadership, these plans have all emphasized environmental sustainability, higher standards for architecture and design, and incentives for additional affordable housing.

Casey has been one of our county's strongest backers of safer streets and more livable communities for many years, and he pushed the county to implement a comprehensive Vision Zero strategy. He understands the relationship between better transit, walking and biking and improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods. He has spent a great deal of energy to focus the Parks Department on buying and developing better urban parks, adding related programming such as community festivals and "pop up" activities.

I ask that you vote to support Casey's reappointment as Chair of the Planning Board.

Sincerely,

(22)

Sue Decker

Close

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Jacqueline Devine"
 Date: 3/11/2019 9:35:33 AM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: In support of Casey Anderson's reappointment as Chair of the MoCo Planning Board

Dear Members of the County Council,

I am writing to express my support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board.

As a Woodside area resident and neighbor of Casey's since 2010, I know that Casey is highly regarded in our community as an articulate advocate for equitable development, public transit, and a wide variety of other progressive ideas that will help make our county economically stronger and more socially inclusive.

Casey is well known for his involvement in the Purple Line, improved bike and pedestrian infrastructure, and affordable housing, but he also has played a significant role in almost every transportation and land use planning initiative in the recent past. The countywide Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system, revitalization plans for Lyttonsville, Rosemary Hills, Forest Glen, and Montgomery Hills and many other projects have included his ideas. In all of his work, Casey has emphasized sustainability, equity, and economic opportunity as the underlying objectives of land use and transportation planning.

Casey understands the relationship between better transit, walking and biking and improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods. I particularly appreciate his efforts in this area given that I personally do not drive nor own a car. I rely heavily on public transport and walkable streets.

I also have appreciated his efforts to focus the Parks Department on buying and development of urban parks, adding related programming such as community festivals and "pop up" activities.

For all of these reasons, I ask that you vote to support Casey's reappointment as Chair of the Planning Board.

Thank you for your attention, regards,
 Jacqueline Devine

Close

(24)

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "MCCouncil@App.MontgomeryCountyMD.gov"
 <MCCouncil@App.MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>
 Date: 3/5/2019 12:07:40 PM
 To: "county.council@mccouncilmd.lmhostediq.com"
 <county.council@mccouncilmd.lmhostediq.com>
 Cc:
 Subject: Casey Anderson's Planning department reappointment - Submitted By:Dr
 Michael Dutka - (Attn: All CMs, Council Webform)

Dear Members of the County Council:

I am writing to express my strong support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Planning Board Chair. As one of the founders of YIMBY MoCo, an informal housing and community advocacy group, I've found Casey to be very responsive and accesable online and in person. To me, that is the hall mark of a great civil servant.

Casey has been a advocate for issue important to YIMBY MoCo like smart growth, affordable housing, and transit. Casey's achievements on the board are numerous and include:

- supporting reforms to the MPDU law to create incentives for additional affordable units, especially in more affuent parts of the county;
- championing the construction of additional market-rate and regulated affordable housing as a central strategy to mitigate rising housing costs;
- advancing equity as a cornerstone of planning, including advocating for housing policies that create mixed-income, diverse communities and schools as well as transportation infrastructure that connects neighborhoods that have suffered from disinvestment.
- pressing for liberalization of the requirements for accessory dwelling units (ADUs) to make them less expensive and easier to build;
- encouraging the Planning Department staff to develop policies designed to encourage "missing middle" housing to create a wider range of more affordable types of new dwellings;
- proposing an innovative way to allocate development capacity in the Bethesda master plan that creates a new source of funding for urban parks in the downtown together with new incentives for additional affordable housing;
- suggesting the redevelopment of the Apex Building in order to build a better Purple Line station and below-grade Capital Crescent Trail connection, which led to a Minor Master Plan and mixed-use development project that is currently under construction;

- helping to draft the County's BRT task force report and to guide the BRT master plan that followed to approval by the Planning Board and County Council;
- leading the development and approval of the county's award-winning new Bicycle Master Plan, which will result in safer and less stressful bicycling infrastructure so that more residents can bike to work and school;
- insisting that the new Subdivision Staging Policy include transit, walking, and bicycling and create incentives for compact, mixed use development in urban centers;
- expanding the Parks Department's mission to include active urban parks, a strong and connected trail network, and high-quality playing fields for a diverse array of users;
- advocating for a strong Vision Zero policy and supporting its implementation through the Veirs Mill Master Plan, the Aspen Hill Vision Zero Study, the Forest Glen/Montgomery Hills Sector Plan, and the Bicycle Master Plan.

Casey understands the relationship between land use policy, economic development and the County's responsibility to provide opportunities and support for all its residents - including its most vulnerable. Casey's thought-provoking blog posts and presentations provide valuable information and data that help interested residents better understand the county's land use policies and goals.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope that you will vote to reappoint Casey for another 4-year term so that he can continue his work on these issues and make our community a more affordable, equitable place to live.

-Michael Dutka
YIMBY MoCo
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/412869982459981/>

Close

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[HTML](#)

From: "Ken Firestone"
 Date: 3/12/2019 10:29:14 AM
 To: "County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Reappiont Casey Anderson Planning Board Chair

Dear Members of the County Council:

I am writing to express my strong support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Planning Board Chair.

Casey has been a leader and a champion for smart growth, affordable housing, and transit. Casey's achievements on the board are numerous and include:

- Supporting reforms to the MPDU law to create incentives for additional affordable units, especially in more affluent parts of the county;
- Championing the construction of additional market-rate and regulated affordable housing as a central strategy to mitigate rising housing costs;
- Advancing equity as a cornerstone of planning, including advocating for housing policies that create mixed-income, diverse communities and schools as well as transportation infrastructure that connects neighborhoods that have suffered from disinvestment.
- Pressing for liberalization of the requirements for accessory dwelling units (ADUs) to make them less expensive and easier to build;
- Encouraging the Planning Department staff to develop policies designed to encourage "missing middle" housing to create a wider range of more affordable types of new dwellings;
- Proposing an innovative way to allocate development capacity in the Bethesda master plan that creates a new source of funding for urban parks in the downtown together with new incentives for additional affordable housing;
- Suggesting the redevelopment of the Apex Building in order to build a better Purple Line station and below-grade Capital Crescent Trail connection, which led to a Minor Master Plan and mixed-use development project that is currently under construction;
- Helping to draft the County's BRT task force report and to guide the

BRT master plan that followed to approval by the Planning Board and County Council;

- Leading the development and approval of the county's award-winning new Bicycle Master Plan, which will result in safer and less stressful bicycling infrastructure so that more residents can bike to work and school;
- Insisting that the new Subdivision Staging Policy include transit, walking, and bicycling and create incentives for compact, mixed use development in urban centers;
- Expanding the Parks Department's mission to include active urban parks, a strong and connected trail network, and high-quality playing fields for a diverse array of users;
- Advocating for a strong Vision Zero policy and supporting its implementation through the Veirs Mill Master Plan, the Aspen Hill Vision Zero Study, the Forest Glen/Montgomery Hills Sector Plan, and the Bicycle Master Plan.

Casey understands the relationship between land use policy, economic development and the county's responsibility to provide opportunities and support for all its residents - including its most vulnerable. I have found him to be responsive, open, and willing to engage on policy issues and I appreciate that he's willing to meet with residents and share his ideas. Casey's though-provoking blog posts and presentations provide valuable information and data that help interested residents better understand the county's land use policies and goals.

I ask that you vote to reappoint Casey for another 4-year term so that he can continue his work on these issues and make our community a more affordable, equitable place to live.

--

=====

Ken Firestone,

=====

Close



Quality Solution Technologies, Inc.

9909 Founders Way
Damascus, MD 20872-2900
phone: 301.916.4522
fax: 301.972.6301
www.qst-inc.com

2-18-2019

Hon. Nancy Navarro, President
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Subject: Support for Casey Anderson

Dear President Navarro and Members of the County Council:

I am writing to express my strong support for Casey's Anderson's reappointment as Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board.

I got to know Casey through his efforts to help me create a policy that would allow Goshen United Methodist Church and Park and Planning to form a partnership. Stewartown Day is an historic African American community celebration that brings families together with history that dates back over 200 years. In 2017, Park and Planning was deciding not to allow the Stewartown day celebration be hosted at the Stewartown Park in Gaithersburg which has been a tradition for over twenty years.

I was contacted by Greg Wims along with other Goshen United Methodist Church members to discuss if there were any other options available to abort Park and Planning decision. I was a commissioner for Montgomery County Historical Preservation Commission for over twelve years and this decision disturbed me. I contacted Gwen Wright and she arranged a meeting between Michael Riley, John Nissel, Gwen Wright, and Casey Anderson. After our discussion, a decision was made for Park and Planning to partner with Goshen United Methodist instead of removing them from Stewartown Park.

We formed a steering committee with me as the chair and Casey gave his full support to the church's request for assistance from the Parks Department, which provided assistance with traffic management and "pop-up" recreational attractions that helped make the event a huge success for the community in 2018.

I'm also aware of Casey's support of many other community-minded initiatives, including affordable housing, the documentation and promotion of African American history sites in the county such as the Josiah Henson project and an online map of important places and events in African American history, and bicycle and pedestrian safety initiatives.

Casey is an especially effective advocate for making sure that the park system serves the needs of all groups of people in every part of the county. He has been a leader in getting the Parks Department to support community-building events like Stewartown Day and other activities designed to encourage people to build stronger connections to their neighbors by bringing them together through park programs such as festivals, games, and play equipment.

He also has been active in reaching out to people across the county, attending events and engaging in dialogue at public meetings, in the parks, and at community events. I have been impressed by his energy and commitment to being accessible and open. In the council quest to improve the disparities among minorities (which includes African Americans) Casey has shown his capabilities to address racial equality in Montgomery County.

In short, I believe that Casey has performed at a high level in the role of Planning Board Chair. I ask that you vote to reappoint him to a new four-year term.

Respectfully,



Warren Fleming
Prior Commissioner
Montgomery County Historical Preservation Commission

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 5:04:35 PM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Reappoint Casey Anderson

From: Susan Gellert
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 4:59 PM
To: countycouncil@montgomerycountymd.gov; Navarro's Office, Councilmember
<Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Reappoint Casey Anderson

Dear Council Member,

I am writing to urge you to support the reappointment of Casey Anderson as Planning Board Chair.

The County is at an important place now in its history, facing historic growth pressures, housing shortages, affordability issues, traffic and pedestrian safety issues and mass transit. All of the solutions to these challenges must be tied to economic growth, which is a complex undertaking. We should not be tossing out the expertise and experience that Casey Anderson brings to the job at this critical juncture. The continuity of his experience and knowledge is critically important right now.

From my experience as a resident for 30 years, it is important to have someone as Chair who is steady and diplomatic. Often, the issues before the Planning Board cause tension in communities that can easily boil over to anger and resentment, undermining the planning process, public trust and community engagement. Casey has been a steady presence balancing the needs for smart growth, biking, pedestrian safety, adequate and affordable housing and environmental concerns. And, it is important to note, that he has worked out a shared and transparent vision with the Council over the years and has been implementing a shared vision. There is no Chair that can make every person in every community happy all the time, but Casey has been remarkably effective at keeping the ship steady and moving us forward.

I think Casey is the best person to keep the considerable investment that the County has made here moving forward.

Susan Gellert

Dear Council President Navarro and Members of the County Council:

I'm writing in support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board.

As a Hillandale resident, I have been particularly impressed with his commitment to facilitating public and private investment in the East County, including Burtonsville, Wheaton, Silver Spring, and White Oak. His work was instrumental in getting a visionary plan for Bus Rapid Transit approved by the Planning Board and County Council, and he also played a central role in building consensus for the White Oak master plan. These efforts are beginning to pay off, and I look forward to his continued involvement in planning and implementation of BRT and development proposals to help bring jobs, amenities, and transportation infrastructure to the area.

Casey understands that we have a responsibility to plan equitably in ways that open opportunities for ALL of our residents and improve their quality of life; I am particularly interested in supporting folks who view their responsibilities through a lens of inclusiveness and equity!

For these reasons, I ask you to reappoint Casey to a new term.

Sincerely,

Tawna Grastv

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Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Stuart Grossman"
 Date: 3/20/2019 10:38:34 PM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Reappointment of Casey Anderson

Dear Council President Navarro and members of the County Council:

I am writing to voice my strong support for Casey Anderson's application for reappointment as Planning Board Chair.

I have lived in Montgomery County for 33 years, and I am currently a member of the Woodside Park community. As you all know, our county is complex and ever-changing. Balancing the needs of its diverse citizenry requires leadership from individuals who are well-informed, firmly committed to issues of fairness, and cognizant of the often competing desires for both economic development and environmental stewardship. Casey is this kind of leader. He is always anxious to engage members of our community in meaningful discussions about land use and transportation planning, and he listens carefully to ideas that challenge his own beliefs.

As a youth soccer coach and past member of the county's Commission on Children and Youth, I am deeply concerned about the ways that current policy decisions will change the lives of our county's young residents. Casey's support for the creation of more affordable housing, for the Purple Line, and for improvements and additions to the park system will help Montgomery County support the needs of all its residents, including our youth.

I ask that you vote to appoint Casey Anderson to a new term as chair of the Planning Board. Montgomery County needs his leadership, his compassion and his expertise.

Sincerely,
 Stuart Grossman

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Tim Hawk"
 Date: 3/25/2019 10:37:49 AM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Casey Support

Tim Hawk
 Wed, Mar 20, 6:34 PM (5 days ago)
 to countycouncil

I am writing to urge you to support the reappointment of Casey Anderson as Planning Board Chair.

The County is at an important place now in its history, facing historic growth pressures, housing shortages, affordability issues, traffic and pedestrian safety issues and mass transit. All of the solutions to these challenges must be tied to economic growth, which is a complex undertaking. We should not be tossing out the expertise and experience that Casey Anderson brings to the job at this critical juncture. The continuity of his experience and knowledge is critically important right now.

From my experience as a resident for 10 years, it is important to have someone as Chair who is steady and diplomatic. Often, the issues before the Planning Board cause tension in communities that can easily boil over to anger and resentment, undermining the planning process, public trust and community engagement. Casey has been a steady presence balancing the needs for smart growth, biking, pedestrian safety, adequate and affordable housing and environmental concerns. And, it is important to note, that he has worked out a shared and transparent vision with the Council over the years and has been implementing a shared vision. There is no Chair that can make every person in every community happy all the time, but Casey has been remarkably effective at keeping the ship steady and moving us forward.

I think Casey is the best person to keep the considerable investment that the County has made here moving forward.

Close

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "hydornrob@aol.com" ·
 Date: 3/11/2019 2:50:30 PM
 To: "County.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <County.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Support of Casey Anderson

Dear Members of the County Council:

I am writing to support Casey Anderson's reappointment as Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board.

I got to know Casey in my role with the Montgomery Village Foundation. I worked closely with him on the drafting and approval of a new master plan for Montgomery Village, and I found him to be a smart, capable leader who is highly responsive and willing to go the extra mile for our community. He did an outstanding job in guiding the Montgomery Village plan through the Planning Board and County Council while incorporating diverse stakeholder views with respect and compassion.

I have been impressed with Casey's commitment to and vision for our county. He understands the economic challenges we face, and he is an effective and persuasive advocate

for the steps we need to take to revitalize aging neighborhoods and prepare for the future. Casey has been an excellent public servant, and I think that our county has been helped

greatly by his work as Planning Board chair. I respectfully request that you reappoint him.

Sincerely,
 Robert Hydorn

Close

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 8, 2019 10:42:28 AM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Reappoint Anderson for the Planning Board

From: WILLIAM KIRWAN
Sent: Friday, March 08, 2019 10:33 AM
To: Albornoz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Friedson's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Glass's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Hucker's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Jawando's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Katz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Rice's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Riemer's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Reappoint Anderson for the Planning Board

Dear Council President Navarro and members of the County Council:

I am writing to express my strong support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Planning Board Chair.

I have gotten to know Casey over the past 5 years in my role as the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Committee Chair. In that capacity I have witnessed first hand his passion for the County and for what creates strong communities through thoughtful planning and transportation policies. Under his leadership he has overseen the Planning Department's highly successful initiatives that have and will continue to nurture positive growth for the benefit of all County residents. He has much more to offer the County as Planning Board Chair and I hope we can all benefit from his leadership for the next four years.

Casey has been a leader and a champion for smart growth, affordable housing, and transit. Casey's achievements on the board are numerous and include:

- Supporting reforms to the MPDU law to create incentives for additional affordable units, especially in more affluent parts of the county;
- Championing the construction of additional market-rate and regulated affordable housing as a central strategy to mitigate rising housing costs;
- Advancing equity as a cornerstone of planning, including advocating for housing policies that create mixed-income, diverse communities and schools as well as transportation infrastructure that connects neighborhoods that have suffered from disinvestment.
- Pressing for liberalization of the requirements for accessory dwelling units (ADUs) to make them less expensive and easier to build;
- Encouraging the Planning Department staff to develop policies designed to encourage "missing middle" housing to create a wider range of more affordable types of new dwellings;
- Proposing an innovative way to allocate development capacity in the Bethesda master plan that creates a new source of funding for urban parks in the downtown together with new incentives for additional affordable housing;
- Suggesting the redevelopment of the Apex Building in order to build a better Purple Line station and below-grade Capital Crescent Trail connection, which led to a Minor Master Plan and mixed-use development project that is currently under construction;

- Helping to draft the County's BRT task force report and to guide the BRT master plan that followed to approval by the Planning Board and County Council;
- Leading the development and approval of the county's award-winning new Bicycle Master Plan, which will result in safer and less stressful bicycling infrastructure so that more residents can bike to work and school;
- Insisting that the new Subdivision Staging Policy include transit, walking, and bicycling and create incentives for compact, mixed use development in urban centers;
- Expanding the Parks Department's mission to include active urban parks, a strong and connected trail network, and high-quality playing fields for a diverse array of users;
- Advocating for a strong Vision Zero policy and supporting its implementation through the Veirs Mill Master Plan, the Aspen Hill Vision Zero Study, the Forest Glen/Montgomery Hills Sector Plan, and the Bicycle Master Plan.

Casey understands the relationship between land use policy, economic development and the County's responsibility to provide opportunities and support for all its residents - including its most vulnerable. I have found him to be responsive, open, and willing to engage on policy issues and I appreciate that he's willing to meet with residents and share his ideas. Casey's though-provoking blog posts and presentations provide valuable information and data that help interested residents better understand the county's land use policies and goals.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope that you will vote to reappoint Casey for another 4-year term so that he can continue his work on these issues and make our community a more affordable, equitable place to live.

Sincerely,

Bill

William Kirwan, AIA, LEED AP
Principal

M U S E A R C H I T E C T S

7401 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 500
Bethesda, MD 20814
T. 301.718.8118
F. 301.718.8112

WWW.MUSEARCHITECTS.COM

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Jennifer M. Kirwan" <[redacted]>
 Date: 3/25/2019 9:06:18 AM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: I support Casey Anderson's continuing role as Planning Board Chair

Dear Council President Navarro and members of the County Council:

I am writing wholeheartedly in support of Casey Anderson's application for reappointment as Planning Board Chair.

Casey is an engaging and articulate advocate for equity, environmental sustainability, and economic development as central pillars of land use and transportation planning, and I think the county is well served by his leadership.

He is a long-time supporter of many progressive policies, including creative approaches to creating more affordable housing, building the Purple Line together with an improved Capital Crescent Trail, and Vision Zero.

Casey is also an enthusiastic backer of the park system, and he has brought many good ideas to the table in seeking to make it an even more integral part of our county's quality of life. He has led efforts to focus on acquisition, development, and programming of urban parks, improvements to maintenance of ballfields, and additional trails, especially in the East County.

Casey is always willing to talk with anyone who has an interest in the county's future, whether they agree with his ideas or not. I think he has shown a keen understanding of our community, and I ask that you vote to appoint him to a new term in his role as chair of the Planning Board.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Kirwan

Resident, Sligo Park Hills

Jennifer Menassa Kirwan, AIA
Principal Menassa Architecture, LLC

Close

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "David Popper" <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Date: 3/18/2019 6:56:47 PM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov" <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: In support of Casey Anderson

To the members of the Montgomery County Council:

As a member of the Kemp Mill community for the last 25 years and a frequent visitor to Brookside Gardens and the Northwest Branch trails, I ask that you reappoint Casey Anderson's as Planning Board Chair. We need someone with his leadership to lead us on a path of environmental sustainability.

Casey has been a long-term supporter of the our parks, public transportation and affordable housing. His emphasis on transportation planning, specifically the Purple Line and Capital Crescent Trail brought him to my attention, and I have been impressed with his progressive and balanced approach to economic development and environmental preservation. His eye to improving ball fields, walking paths and bike trails will make our county more welcoming to families for generations to come.

When I learned that his reappointment was up for debate, I needed to write this note of support. We need representatives who understand our community and how we can make our County a better place to live for all. Please appoint him to a new term as chair of the Planning Board.

Thank you for your consideration.

David Popper

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Sanjida Rangwala" <Sanjida.Rangwala@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Date: 4/8/2019 10:50:31 PM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov" <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Appointment of Casey Anderson as Planning Board Chair

Dear President Navarro and Members of the Montgomery County Council,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Planning Board Chair. Casey has long been a leader and a champion for sustainable, smart growth, mass transit, and cycling and walking in the county.

During his tenure on the planning board, Casey has been successful in building consensus among different community and government stakeholders to develop master plans that allow for increased housing capacity, particularly affordable housing, across the county. He has pushed for reforms that would make it easier to build accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and promote additional "missing middle" housing, particularly in locations that are currently unaffordable to many residents. Casey's work as Chair has been guided by a focus on mitigating rising housing costs, preventing displacement, and promoting socially and economically integrated communities.

As a resident of eastern Montgomery County, I especially appreciate Casey's success in guiding the BRT plan, which resulted in a groundbreaking of the US-29 Flash BRT in late October of last year. In fact, Casey has been a consistent champion of alternative transportation to single occupancy vehicles, a critical step to mitigate climate change and build more connected and socially-cohesive communities. Casey led the development of a new Bicycle Master Plan that will re-envision and re-create our suburban commercial strips as bicycle and pedestrian friendly public spaces. He has supported the county Vision Zero initiative by ensuring that all new master plans and the Subdivision Staging Policy include safe, convenient access

for transit users, cyclists, and pedestrians.

Last but also significant, Casey has been an effective and enthusiastic communicator of his work on the planning board. He has pioneered a blog to provide county residents with data on housing, schools, and demography supporting policy choices made by the board. He's also been effective at boosting county parks and programs through his social media feed. Casey has been unfailingly polite, personable, and approachable, willing to meet with residents and discuss county policies and challenges.

I urge you to vote to re-appoint Casey Anderson as Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board so he can continue his important work in making our county a more affordable and equitable place to live.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sanjida Rangwala

Close

(43)

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 1:19:36 PM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Casey Anderson Planning Board Reappointment

-----Original Message-----

From: Linda Rosendorf
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2019 12:57 PM
To: Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Albornoz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Friedson's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Glass's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Hucker's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Jawando's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Katz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Rice's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Riemer's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Cc: Linda Rosendorf <linrosendorf@gmail.com>
Subject: Casey Anderson Planning Board Reappointment

Dear Council President Navarro and Members of the County Council:

I am writing in support of Casey Anderson's reappointment as Chair of the Planning Board (PB). Casey has been supportive of and overseen updates to the PB-approved Countywide Corridor of Transitways Functional Masterplan. He has a long record of achievement in planning and delivering walkable, transit-oriented development and has played an important role advancing progressive transportation policies. Transit is a critical component of congestion relief in Montgomery County. We cannot continue expanding highways that move cars and not people.

Montgomery County needs an experienced PB Chair to continue the PB's role in planning housing and businesses near transit connections. I hope you will reappoint Casey Anderson to a new term.

Linda Rosendorf

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

HTML

From: "Chris Rutledge"
 Date: 3/17/2019 10:27:10 AM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Casey Anderson - Reappointment as Planning Board Chair

Dear Members of the County Council:

I am proud to call Casey Anderson a friend and colleague for several decades, and am pleased to support his application for reappointment as Planning Board Chair.

Through those many years I have known him, Casey has demonstrated his passion for, and commitment to, the people of Montgomery Country.

I'm sure you have followed his work as I have, and have thus seen his advocacy for equity, environmental sustainability, and economic development as the guiding goals of land use and transportation planning, and I believe he has been highly effective in his current role.

He is a long-time supporter of many progressive policies, including creative approaches to creating more affordable housing, building the Purple Line together with an improved Capital Crescent Trail, and Vision Zero.

Casey is also an enthusiastic backer of the park system, and he has brought many good ideas to the table in seeking to make it an even more integral part of our county's quality of life. He has led efforts to focus on acquisition, development, and programming of urban parks, improvements to maintenance of ballfields, and additional trails.

Casey is always willing to talk with anyone who has an interest in the county's future, whether they agree with his ideas or not. I think he has shown a keen understanding of our community, and I ask that you vote to appoint him to a new term in his role as chair of the Planning Board.

Sincerely,

Chris Rutledge

Close

Dear Members of the County Council:

I am writing to express my strong support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Planning Board Chair.

Casey has been a leader and a champion for smart growth, affordable housing, and transit. Casey has a long record of effectiveness and achievement on the Planning Board, including:

- Pressing for liberalization of the requirements for accessory dwelling units (ADUs) to make them less expensive and easier to build;
- Supporting reforms to the MPDU law to create incentives for additional affordable units, especially in more affluent parts of the county;
- Championing the construction of additional market-rate and regulated affordable housing as a central strategy to mitigate rising housing costs;
- Advancing equity as a cornerstone of planning, including advocating for housing policies that create mixed-income, diverse communities and schools as well as transportation infrastructure that connects neighborhoods that have suffered from disinvestment.
- Encouraging the Planning Department staff to develop policies designed to encourage "missing middle" housing to create a wider range of more affordable types of new dwellings;
- Proposing an innovative way to allocate development capacity in the Bethesda master plan that creates a new source of funding for urban parks in the downtown together with new incentives for additional affordable housing;
- Suggesting the redevelopment of the Apex Building in order to build a better Purple Line station and below-grade Capital Crescent Trail connection, which led to a Minor Master Plan and mixed-use development project that is currently under construction;
- Helping to draft the County's BRT task force report and to guide the BRT master plan that followed to approval by the Planning Board and County Council;
- Leading the development and approval of the county's award-winning new Bicycle Master Plan, which will result in safer and less stressful bicycling infrastructure so that more residents can bike to work and school;
- Insisting that the new Subdivision Staging Policy include transit, walking, and bicycling and create incentives for compact, mixed use development in urban centers;
- Expanding the Parks Department's mission to include active urban parks, a strong and connected trail network, and high-quality playing fields for a diverse array of users;
- Advocating for a strong Vision Zero policy and supporting its implementation through the Veirs Mill Master Plan, the Aspen Hill Vision Zero Study, the Forest Glen/Montgomery Hills Sector Plan, and the Bicycle Master Plan.

Casey understands the relationship between land use policy, economic development and the County's responsibility to provide opportunities and support for all its residents - including its most vulnerable. I have found him to be responsive, open, and willing to engage on policy issues and I appreciate that he's willing to meet with residents and share his ideas.

For all of these reasons, I request that you vote to reappoint Casey so he can continue his work on these issues and make our community a more affordable, equitable place to live.

Thanks,

Eric C. Saul, RA | Owner
SAULARCHITECTS

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "M Schoenbaum"

Date: 3/8/2019 11:55:32 AM

To: "Craig Rice" <councilmember.rice@montgomerycountymd.gov>, "Councilmember Albornoz's Office" <councilmember.albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov>, "Councilmember Glass" <councilmember.glass@montgomerycountymd.gov>, "councilmember.jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov" <councilmember.jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov>, "Hans Riemer" <councilmember.riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>, "Montgomery County Council" <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>

Cc:

Subject: Please reappoint Casey Anderson as Planning Board Chair

Dear Councilmembers Rice, Albornoz, Glass, Jawando, and Riemer,
 I am writing to ask you to reappoint Casey Anderson as Planning Board chairman. As a Boyds resident who is active in local community organizations, I have seen Casey at work on the MARC Rail Communities sector plan and other Park and Planning projects since 2014. He knows a lot and is always willing to learn more, he has a good strategic sense of when to stand firm and when to compromise, and he pays attention to detail without losing sight of the big picture. Most importantly, I believe that his vision for Montgomery County is what we need for an environmentally- and economically- sustainable future, and I believe that as Planning Board chairman, he has the knowledge and skills to put us on the right path.

Sincerely,
 Miriam Schoenbaum

Close

(48)

Dear Council President Navarro and members of the County Council:

As a resident of Woodside Park, I am writing in strong support of Casey Anderson's application for reappointment as Planning Board Chair. We have been lucky to have his leadership in the County, and would suffer a great loss without him in charge.

Casey is an engaging and articulate advocate for equity, environmental sustainability, and economic development as central pillars of land use and transportation planning, and I think the county is well served by his leadership.

He is a long-time supporter of many progressive policies, including creative approaches to creating more affordable housing, building the Purple Line together with an improved Capital Crescent Trail, and Vision Zero.

Casey is also an enthusiastic backer of the park system, and he has brought many good ideas to the table in seeking to make it an even more integral part of our county's quality of life. He has led efforts to focus on acquisition, development, and programming of urban parks, improvements to maintenance of ball fields, and additional trails, especially in the East County.

Casey is always willing to talk with anyone who has an interest in the county's future, whether they agree with his ideas or not. I think he has shown a keen understanding of our community, and I ask that you vote to appoint him to a new term in his role as chair of the Planning Board. Leaders like Casey are rare and should be recognized for their great value to our community.

Sincerely,

Kate Simpson

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:01:31 PM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Casey Anderson Planning Board Reappointment

From: Shannon Babe-Thomas
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2019 3:26 PM
To: Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Casey Anderson Planning Board Reappointment

Dear Council President Navarro,

I am writing to ask you to reappoint Casey Anderson as chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board.

I have gotten to know Casey over the past year-and-a-half, and I have seen the knowledge and thoughtfulness he brings to his job. He cares deeply about the social, economic, and environmental health of our community, and he has worked to apply these values to both land use planning and the park system.

Casey is a persuasive advocate for the urgency of steps to improve our economy and create jobs, but he also is an articulate proponent of social justice, advocating innovative ideas for affordable housing and better public transportation.

Casey also has spent a great deal of time and energy helping to prepare the park system for the future, and I appreciate his work in focusing on urban parks and programming for the most intensively developed areas of the county along with a continued commitment to stewardship of natural resources. His work on improving the maintenance of ballfields is helping to reduce the amount of chemicals needed to keep the grass in good condition, and he has been especially effective in advocating for sound management of stormwater management projects.

Not many people know Montgomery County and its diverse people as well as Casey. He has shown that he has the skills and vision for the future we need, and I ask that you approve his reappointment as Planning Board Chair.

Sincerely,

Shannon

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Shannon Babe-Thomas

50

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Greg Wims" ·
 Date: 2/27/2019 10:10:01 AM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: FW: Reappointment of Casey Anderson

Letter to Montgomery County Council 2-27-19

From: Greg Wims
 Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2019 9:59 AM
 To: 'ounty.council@montgomerycountymd.gov'
 Cc: 'caseybanderson@gmail.com'
 Subject: Reappointment of Casey Anderson

Honorable Nancy Navarro, President
 Montgomery County Council
 100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
 Rockville, Md. 20850

Dear President Navarro and Members of the County Council

I write this letter as a 5th generation native of Montgomery County, Md. born and raised in the Historic African American community of Stewartown outside of Gaithersburg. We have an annual celebration to honor our history the 2nd week of July. This year we celebrate 36 years and without the strong support of Casey Anderson working with the Parks Department the celebration would not be as successful as it has been. He asked the Parks Department to help with temporary play equipment, assistance with traffic issues and other related issues.

I also know Casey has been supportive of affordable housing, the preservation and interpretation of important African American history sites (such as the Josiah Henson park and museum) project and innovative map of significant locations in Montgomery County.

Casey is extremely active in working to ensure that the park system is for everyone. In addition to his support for Stewartown Day, he has pushed the Parks Department to

build its capacity to organize and offer programming that can help to strengthen all communities.

Casey is highly visible and accessible, and I especially enjoyed joining him for part of his tour of all 421 parks last year. I have impressed at the number and variety of events he attends, and have observed that he is welcoming an open to all kinds of people in every part of the county.

I believe Casey has been an outstanding Chair of the Planning Board and hope the Council will reappoint him to another term.

Sincerely,
Greg Wims

Close

Brooks



Brandy H. M. Brooks

2 April 2019

The Honorable Nancy Navarro
President, Montgomery County Council
Stella B. Werner Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Council President Navarro:

For over 15 years, I've fought for the right of all community residents to have a real say in decisions about land use and development that affect their daily lives and well-being. As Montgomery County prepares to update its General Plan for the next half-century, I want to use my passion and knowledge to ensure that our plan is deeply grounded in the needs and aspirations of all those who make our county the beautiful place that it is – especially those residents who have been excluded from the benefits and bear a disproportionate share of the burdens from our land use decisions. Therefore, it is a pleasure to present my qualifications for the Montgomery County Planning Board seat that will be vacated by Norman Dreyfuss in June 2019.

I bring to this position 10 years of professional experience in design and planning, plus 14 years of experience as a community activist and organizer for environmental, social, and economic justice. I hold a Bachelor in Design Studies from the Boston Architectural College and a Master in Public Administration from Suffolk University. I've taught and guest lectured on community design, community food systems, and community engagement and social change at the Boston Architectural College, Suffolk University, Harvard's Graduate School of Design, MIT, and Tufts University. I continue to present and train across the country on food justice, community organizing, and community-driven development and planning.

My resume speaks for itself. And yet, it doesn't tell the whole story of why community control over planning and land use matters so much to me, and how I've seen the power of true community-driven decision making transform my own relationship to local government and public officials.

In 2009, I was appointed by the Mayor of Somerville to serve on the city's Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee – sixty-one community members charged with updating Somerville's 30-year-old plan to address the current issues and opportunities in our community. I was used to public "input" processes where community stakeholders were asked to share their ideas, and then that feedback went into the black box of backroom decision-making. But SomerVision was different.

Planning staff didn't simply present their proposals for what the plan should include, then ask us to comment. Instead, the staff provided us with background information about current trends and data for our city, and then let us determine the priorities and parameters for the comprehensive plan. That meant that we were the ones who defined diversity and equity as core values for the plan; who wrestled with what our goals needed to be around affordable housing or green space; who fought with one another about how much development belonged in which areas of the city.

The SomerVision process got me excited about local government and the role I could play as a community member. I went on to serve on Somerville's Zoning Advisory Board, and I saw my neighbors serve on advisory boards and commissions that implemented the plan's goals through regulatory updates and development decisions. SomerVision affirmed our right and our ability to own public decision-making for our community – and it's an experience that helped inspire my run for office last year. As the County Council and County Executive bring racial equity and social justice to the forefront in our government decision-making, SomerVision illustrates how we can center the voices of our community members in these processes.

We are at a critical moment in Montgomery County, when we are wrestling with who we will decide to be and what our future will look like. Will we be a county that truly respects and supports all our residents? Will we respond to the urgent necessity of restoring health to our air, water, land, and people? Will our housing, economic, transportation, energy, utilities, food and other systems be designed to meet our essential human needs while also responding to the threats of climate change and racial and economic injustice? These are questions that we must respond to in our General Plan, and that we can only answer together. I want to use my decades of commitment to equity and justice, my deep understanding of community engagement, and my thorough knowledge of planning and public policy to help our county meet these challenges.

Thank you for your consideration of my application. You can reach me at 240-424-0064 or at brandy@brandy4moco.com to schedule an interview. I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brandy H. M. Brooks". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Brandy H. M. Brooks



Brandy H. M. Brooks

Organizing and building power for social, environmental & economic justice.

Community-based public service professional with over 15 years of planning and community engagement experience. Areas of expertise include community organizing (issue and electoral campaigns); community-based food systems; nonprofit strategic planning and organizational design; program development and management; education and workshop facilitation; and justice and anti-oppression work.

Relevant Experience

One Square World

Boston, MA

Consultant (2019-present)

- Strategy planning and business development for nonprofit equity and sustainability consulting firm that serves public agencies and community organizations
- Provide training and consulting services to client agencies and community groups

Candidate for County Council At-Large

Montgomery County, MD

Democratic Primary (2017-2018)

- Candidate for at-large seat on 9-member county council, representing a county of over 1 million people covering 500 square miles
- Placed 7th in field of 33 Democrats, earning over 26,000 votes as a first-time candidate
- Built engaged base of supporters running on a bold progressive platform that highlighted affordable housing, a just economy, racial & gender justice, and a people-powered democracy

Progressive Maryland

Silver Spring, MD

Leadership Development Organizer (2017-2018)

- Created Progressive Maryland's local training program to support leadership development for staff and community members across the state
- Organized and conducted 11 local trainings (ranging from 1 to 3 days) on relational organizing and movement-building political campaigns, providing training for over 200 leaders from Progressive Maryland and other People's Action affiliates

Dreaming Out Loud, Inc.

Washington, DC

Director of Programs (2016-2017)

- Program oversight and coordination, program development and staff management for farmers market, urban agriculture and micro-enterprise programs.
- Partnership development and relationship management with community-based organizations, public agencies, and community members to develop and refine programming.

The Food Project

Boston, MA

Director of Community Programs (2011-2013)

- Senior manager for diverse range of community food access and food justice education programs partnering with low-income and minority communities in greater Boston.
- Department- and organization-wide strategic planning, including process facilitation, plan writing, and implementation to align staff and financial resources with strategic priorities.



Brandy H. M. Brooks

- Program development, budget and operations oversight, and program evaluation.
- Partnership development and relationship management with community-based organizations, public agencies, and individual volunteers to develop and refine programming.

Bruner Foundation

Cambridge, MA

Director, Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence (2010-2011)

- Administration of national urban design award program, including management of application and selection process, case study writing and editing, and publication development.
- Marketing and publicity for award program, award winners and related events, including print and electronic materials, website management, and social media.
- Partnership and program development; event planning and management; program operations.

Community Development Department, City of Cambridge

Cambridge, MA

Rappaport Institute Summer Public Policy Fellow (2010)

- Policy fellow providing special assistance to the Community Development Department to conduct a feasibility assessment for development of a public market.
- Interviews with key local stakeholders regarding development of potential public market, including city and state officials and neighborhood community members.
- Research on public market governance, management and operations best practices, including on-site market tours and interviews.

Community Design Resource Center of Boston

Boston, MA

Founding Executive Director (2005-2009)

- Administration and operations for community design center that connected design professionals to community organizations for pro bono work and public education
- Technical assistance project management and educational program development and execution.
- Strategic planning, including process facilitation, plan writing, and plan implementation.

Education

Suffolk University, Sawyer Business School (2009-2011)

Boston, MA

- Master of Public Administration with concentration in Non-Profit Management, May 2011.
- Pi Alpha Alpha (National Honor Society for Public Administration).

Boston Architectural College (2002-2006)

Boston, MA

- Bachelor of Design Studies with concentration in Design Computing, May 2006.
- Atelier (student government) President, 2004-2005, and Vice President, 2003-2004.
- BAC Strategic Planning Steering Committee, 2004-2005.

Skills and Interests

Languages

Intermediate Spanish; beginner French & German.



Brandy H. M. Brooks

Selected Board Service & Volunteer Leadership

- *IMPACT Silver Spring* – In December 2018, Ms. Brooks joined the board of IMPACT Silver Spring, a network-building organization that fosters connectivity, collaborative action, and community leadership in Montgomery County communities that have been marginalized due to race, income, and immigration status. She focuses on organizational development and strategic planning.
- *Montgomery County Renters Alliance* – In October 2018, Ms. Brooks joined the board of the Montgomery County Renters Alliance, which supports advocates for policies that increase rental housing affordability, stability and quality, and build community among renters. She focuses on tenant organizing, fundraising, and building relationships with state and local legislators.
- *Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative* – From September 2012 to August 2013, Ms. Brooks represented The Food Project on the DSNI Board of Directors, its 35-member community-based governance body made up of residents and organizations located in the Dudley neighborhood of Boston. She also served as a DSNI Board representative to the governing board of its affiliated community land trust (Dudley Neighbors Inc.) and was an active member of the Finance Committee.
- *Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals* – From May 2013 to October 2014, Ms. Brooks served on the City of Somerville's Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate member. The ZBA reviewed requests for special permits and variances for construction and development projects ranging from homeowner and small business renovations to large mixed-use developments.
- *Mayors' Institute on City Design* – In October 2012, Ms. Brooks participated as a resource team member for MICD's 2012 Midwest gathering, which focused on food systems and community design. Resources team members provided feedback to 8 mayors from 6 different states on proposed development projects in their cities and shared relevant examples from their own work.
- *AIA Minnesota Affordable Housing Design Award* – In August 2012, Ms. Brooks was invited to serve on the jury for the American Institute of Architects Minnesota chapter's inaugural Affordable Housing Design Award. Jurors selected the awardees from 20 submissions provided by firms across the state, based on criteria that included design, program and community process.
- *Somerville (MA) Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee* – From September 2009 through the end of 2011, Ms. Brooks served as a mayoral appointee to this committee. The 61-member body formulated the goals and priorities for the City of Somerville's comprehensive plan, which was adopted by the Board of Aldermen in 2012.

Selected Teaching & Training

- *Sawyer Business School, Suffolk University; Social Change, Fall 2014* – This course fulfills the ethics requirement for undergraduates in business programs, and examines the role of business, government and the civil sector in addressing social problems. Students are introduced to concepts and examples of social change, social movements, regulation of business to achieve social objectives, and corporate social responsibility. Ms. Brooks was an instructor for the course.
- *Boston Architectural College, Rebuilding New Orleans Studio, Fall 2006* – This multi-disciplinary studio in the Landscape Architecture program brought together students for a community design project in the devastated Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans. As part of the teaching team that blended landscape architecture, community design, and economic planning and development, Ms. Brooks worked to build student understanding of the past and present social, economic and environmental factors contributing to the neighborhood situation. She also provided advice on community interaction and interviewing techniques during the nine-day studio trip to New Orleans.



Brandy H. M. Brooks

Selected Awards

- Distinguished Alumni in Service, Boston Architectural College, 2018
- New Economy Maryland Fellowship, Institute for Policy Studies, 2016
- Environmental Leadership Program Chesapeake Regional Network Fellowship, 2015
- Moakley Fellows Public Policy and Public Management Internship, Center for Public Management at Suffolk University Sawyer Business School, 2010
- Next American Vanguard, Next American City, 2009

Selected Conferences & Presentations

- *Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group 2018 It Takes A Region Conference (Philadelphia, PA)* – plenary speaker, “Staying Inspired and Moving Forward”
- *Chesapeake Bay Funders Network 2018 Fall Meeting (Easton, MD)* – panelist, “Community Action and Organizing around Climate, Food and Agriculture”
- *Chesapeake Foodshed Network Development Series (webinar)* – panelist, “For Us, By Us: Community Ownership & the Food System in Washington, DC”
- *CommonBound 2016 (Buffalo, NY)* – moderator, “Growing Food and Power: Food Sovereignty in the United States”
- *Philadelphia Area Cooperative Alliance CO-UP: A Teach-In for Cooperators (Philadelphia, PA)* – presenter, “Shared Equity and Worker-Housing Co-op Collaboration”
- *Rooting DC 2016 (Washington, DC)* – presenter, “Fighting Oppression in the Food System”
- *ArchitectureBoston Expo 2012 (Boston, MA)* – panelist, “Urban Agriculture and the Form of the City” and “Design. Action. Social Innovation.”
- *Design in Action 2011 (Philadelphia, PA)* – moderator, “Innovative Approaches to Community Building”; panelist, “What Will You Do Differently Tomorrow?”
- *American Planning Association 2011 National Conference (Boston, MA)* – panelist, “Empowering Youth through Place-Based Planning”; tour co-leader, “Urban Agriculture and Local Food Systems”
- *Greenbuild 2008 (Boston, MA)* – panelist, “Why Diversity Matters: Sustainability Depends on Inclusion and a Commitment to Design for All”
- *American Institute of Architects 2008 Convention (Boston, MA)* – workshop organizer/moderator, “Engaging Youth to Design the Future”; tour leader, “Taking the T: A Tour of Boston’s Subway”; panelist, “Leadership Through Pro Bono Community Service: Architects in Service to Society”

Selected Publications

- “Can We Have Communities without Gentrification? Perspectives from the Ecovillagers Alliance,” *Communities Magazine*, Issue 178, Spring 2018 (with Eve Bratman, Taylor Mercedes, Josh Jancourtz, and Joel Rothschild)
- “Community Land Cooperatives Should Oversee Neighborhood Economic Development,” *Shelterforce*, Issue 190, Spring 2018
- “Silver Medal Winner – Gary Comer Youth Center & College Prep” and “Silver Medal Winner – Santa Fe Railyard Redevelopment,” *Partnering Strategies for the Urban Edge: 2011 Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence*, Cambridge, MA: Bruner Foundation, 2011
- *Lechmere Square Public Market: Preliminary Feasibility Study*, City of Cambridge Community Development Department, August 2010



Undermining White Support for White Supremacy

April 24, 2019

County Councilmembers
100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear members of the County Council,

We request your serious consideration of Brandy Brooks for the position of Planning Board Commissioner.

Ms. Brooks is the most highly and appropriately qualified candidate for this position. Ms. Brooks has degrees in design and public administration, and has a decade of professional experience in design and planning. In addition to these exceptional professional qualifications, Ms. Brooks brings the unique experience of having a decade and a half of community organizing experience in areas of racial, economic, and environmental justice.

Ms. Brooks has the innovative ideas needed to address challenging planning issues in our county while, most importantly, framing decisions through an equity lens that will ensure the most marginalized groups are not unduly harmed by planning decisions. No other candidate is as well-versed in issues of housing, transportation, food, economics, energy, and other systems of inequities that affect the daily lives of residents of Montgomery County. It is past time for the Planning Board to seriously address racial inequities in its planning decisions, and to change the way the Planning Board approaches all of its decision-making. That will require responsive, wholistic thinking, and intentional community engagement, and Ms. Brooks is the best possible candidate for this.

The county council has identified the need for greater racial equity in its governance. Two key priorities of Ms. Brooks, should she be appointed, include racial justice (addressing past land use injustices and inequities) and racial equity (addressing how we move forward in equitable ways from this point). We believe these must be central to land use decision making in our county if we are to live up to our stated goal of creating a more equitable county, and reconciling with our racist past.

Another key priority of Ms. Brooks is that community members should be directly involved in decision-making—not just giving input—about land use in our county. She believes, and we concur, that the Planning Board needs to make it easier for community members to know about, understand, and participate in planning and land use discussions and decision-making. This is an essential part of racial equity, since for too long members of marginalized communities have been shut out of the planning process while being forced to live with the decisions made by that process. We need a member of the Planning Board who will work to ensure members of affected communities are directly involved in decisions that impact them.

All appointments are important, but this one is particularly crucial given that the General Plan update will be coming up soon. This document will determine how land use and development will happen in our county for the next 50 years, so who we have guiding that process and ensuring that community members are centered is critical to the future of our communities. It is time for the Planning Board to change how it operates so that the impacted communities are involved and centered, rather than developers imposing development upon communities in unaccountable ways that leave us with overcrowded roads and schools, and push underprivileged residents out of our county.

Montgomery County government has stated its priority of racial equity, yet its recent hires and appointments fall short of that goal. As an Afro-Latina, Ms. Brooks should be given preference over similarly and lessor qualified candidates. In order to have more diversity in positions of power, we have to be intentional about appointing, hiring, and electing people who are from underrepresented groups.

Development is inevitable and essential, but we must make compassionate, informed, and equitable choices about the ways we develop to ensure a good quality of life for all residents of our county. Brandy Brooks is the best candidate for the Planning Board, and we urge you to vote to recommend her for appointment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The Montgomery County Chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2019 2:38:54 PM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: SURJ MoCo supports Brandy Brooks for Planning Board

From: Jenny Maggiore
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2019 5:38 PM
To: Alborno's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Friedson's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Glass's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Hucker's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Jawando's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Katz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Rice's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Riemer's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Cc: Brandy Brooks <brandy@brandy4moco.com>; SURJMOCOMD <surjmocomd@googlegroups.com>
Subject: SURJ MoCo supports Brandy Brooks for Planning Board

Undermining White Support for White Supremacy

April 24, 2019

County Council Members
 100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
 Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Members of the County Council,

We request your serious consideration of Brandy Brooks for the position of Planning Board Commissioner.

Ms. Brooks is the most highly and appropriately qualified candidate for this position. Ms. Brooks has degrees in design and public administration, and has a decade of professional experience in design and planning. In addition to these exceptional professional qualifications, Ms. Brooks brings the unique experience of having a decade and a half of community organizing experience in areas of racial, economic, and environmental justice.

Ms. Brooks has the innovative ideas needed to address challenging planning issues in our county while, most importantly, framing decisions through an equity lens that will ensure the most marginalized groups are not unduly harmed by planning decisions. No other candidate is as well-versed in issues of housing, transportation, food, economics, energy, and other systems of inequities that affect the daily lives of residents of Montgomery County. It is past time for the Planning Board to seriously address racial inequities in its planning decisions, and to change the way the Planning Board approaches all of its decision-making. That will require responsive, holistic thinking, and intentional community engagement, and Ms. Brooks is the best possible candidate for this.

The county council has identified the need for greater racial equity in its governance. Two key priorities of Ms. Brooks, should she be appointed, include racial justice (addressing past land use injustices and inequities) and racial equity (addressing how we move forward in equitable ways from this point). We believe these must be central to land use decision making in our county if we are to live up to our stated goal of creating a more equitable county, and reconciling with our racist past.

Another key priority of Ms. Brooks is that community members should be directly involved in decision-making not just giving input about land use in our county. She believes, and we concur, that the Planning Board needs to make it easier for community members to know about, understand, and participate in planning and land use discussions and decision-making. This is an essential part of racial equity, since for too long members of marginalized communities have been shut out of the planning process while being forced to live with the decisions made by that process. We need a member of the Planning Board who will work to ensure members of affected communities are directly involved in decisions that impact them.

All appointments are important, but this one is particularly crucial given that the General Plan update will be coming up soon. This document will determine how land use and development will happen in our county for the next 50 years, so who we have guiding that process and ensuring that community members are centered is critical to the future of our communities. It is time for the Planning Board to change how it operates so that the impacted communities are involved and centered, rather than developers imposing development upon communities in unaccountable ways that leave us with overcrowded roads and schools, and push underprivileged residents out of our county.

Montgomery County government has stated its priority of racial equity, yet its recent hires and appointments fall short of that goal. As an Afro-Latina, Ms. Brooks should be given preference over similarly and lessor qualified candidates. In order to have more diversity in positions of power, we have to be intentional about appointing, hiring, and electing people who are from underrepresented groups.

Development is inevitable and essential, but we must make compassionate, informed, and equitable choices about the ways we develop to ensure a good quality of life for all residents of our county. Brandy Brooks is the best candidate for the Planning Board, and we urge you to vote to recommend her for appointment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jenny L. Maggiore, Member

The Montgomery County Chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2019 10:38:37 AM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: SURJ MoCo supports Brandy Brooks for Planning Board

From: David Ward
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2019 3:48 PM
To: SURJ MoCo MD <surjmocomd@gmail.com>
Cc: Albornoz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Friedson's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Glass's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Hucker's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Jawando's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Katz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Rice's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Riemer's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Brandy Brooks <brandy@brandy4moco.com>; SURJMOCOMD <surjmocomd@googlegroups.com>
Subject: Re: SURJ MoCo supports Brandy Brooks for Planning Board

Thank you for doing this, folks. Brand is obviously the right person for the job.

David Ward

On Wed, Apr 24, 2019 at 2:55 PM SURJ MoCo MD <surjmocomd@gmail.com> wrote:

Undermining White Support for White Supremacy

April 24, 2019

County Councilmembers
 100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
 Rockville, MD 20850

Dear members of the County Council,

We request your serious consideration of Brandy Brooks for the position of Planning Board Commissioner.

Ms. Brooks is the most highly and appropriately qualified candidate for this position. Ms. Brooks has degrees in design and public administration, and has a decade of professional experience in design and planning. In addition to these exceptional professional qualifications, Ms. Brooks brings the unique experience of having a decade and a half of community organizing experience in areas of racial, economic, and environmental justice.

Ms. Brooks has the innovative ideas needed to address challenging planning issues in our county while, most importantly, framing decisions through an equity lens that will ensure the most marginalized groups are not unduly harmed by planning decisions. No other candidate is as well-versed in issues of housing, transportation, food, economics, energy, and other systems of inequities that affect the daily lives of residents of Montgomery County. It is past time for the Planning Board to seriously address racial inequities in its planning decisions, and to change the way the Planning Board approaches all of its decision-making. That will require responsive, wholistic thinking, and intentional community engagement, and Ms. Brooks is the best possible candidate for this.

The county council has identified the need for greater racial equity in its governance. Two key priorities of Ms. Brooks, should she be appointed, include racial justice (addressing past land use injustices and inequities) and

63

racial equity (addressing how we move forward in equitable ways from this point). We believe these must be central to land use decision making in our county if we are to live up to our stated goal of creating a more equitable county, and reconciling with our racist past.

Another key priority of Ms. Brooks is that community members should be directly involved in decision-making not just giving input about land use in our county. She believes, and we concur, that the Planning Board needs to make it easier for community members to know about, understand, and participate in planning and land use discussions and decision-making. This is an essential part of racial equity, since for too long members of marginalized communities have been shut out of the planning process while being forced to live with the decisions made by that process. We need a member of the Planning Board who will work to ensure members of affected communities are directly involved in decisions that impact them.

All appointments are important, but this one is particularly crucial given that the General Plan update will be coming up soon. This document will determine how land use and development will happen in our county for the next 50 years, so who we have guiding that process and ensuring that community members are centered is critical to the future of our communities. It is time for the Planning Board to change how it operates so that the impacted communities are involved and centered, rather than developers imposing development upon communities in unaccountable ways that leave us with overcrowded roads and schools, and push underprivileged residents out of our county.

Montgomery County government has stated its priority of racial equity, yet its recent hires and appointments fall short of that goal. As an Afro-Latina, Ms. Brooks should be given preference over similarly and lessor qualified candidates. In order to have more diversity in positions of power, we have to be intentional about appointing, hiring, and electing people who are from underrepresented groups.

Development is inevitable and essential, but we must make compassionate, informed, and equitable choices about the ways we develop to ensure a good quality of life for all residents of our county. Brandy Brooks is the best candidate for the Planning Board, and we urge you to vote to recommend her for appointment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The Montgomery County Chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "SURJMOCOMD" group.

To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to surjmocomd+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.

To post to this group, send email to surjmocomd@googlegroups.com.

To view this discussion on the web visit https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/surjmocomd/CABiu6Du-Zmxz5qYJed6YHf_SBzc%3DrWNkacr9R4_s2NwUhWoJug%40mail.gmail.com.

For more options, visit <https://groups.google.com/d/optout>.

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 25, 2019 10:39:07 AM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Recommend Brandy Brooks for Planning Board

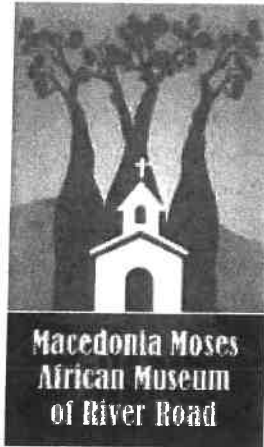
From: Megan Donohue <
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2019 12:12 PM
To: Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Recommend Brandy Brooks for Planning Board

ail:
Dear Councilmember,

I am writing to urge you to recommend Brandy Brooks for appointment to the Planning Board. Ms. Brooks is exceptionally well-qualified for this position. She has over a decade of experience in both design and planning as well as community organizing for environmental, social, and economic justice.

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope you will recommend Brandy for Planning Board.

Sincerely,
Megan Donohue



Bethesda African Cemetery Coalition
5119 River Road
Bethesda, MD 20816

April 17, 2019

County Councilmembers
100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear members of the County Council,

We request your serious consideration of Brandy Brooks for the position of Planning Board Commissioner.

Ms. Brooks is the most highly and appropriately qualified candidate for this position. Ms. Brooks has degrees in design and public policy, and has a decade of professional experience in design and planning. In addition to these exceptional professional qualifications, Ms. Brooks brings the unique experience of having a decade and a half of community organizing experience in areas of racial, economic, and environmental justice.

The Planning Board desperately needs to adopt a racial equity lens through which it evaluates its planning decisions. Currently, decisions are made without adequately and genuinely seeking out or listening to input from community members affected by those decisions. This must change. Ms. Brooks has the innovative ideas needed to address our county's challenging planning issues while, most importantly, framing decisions through an equity lens that will ensure the most marginalized groups are not unduly harmed by planning decisions.

African Americans as a group have suffered from decades of planning decisions that have been indifferent at best to discriminatory at worst. Communities such as Farm Road in Sandy Spring, Tobytown, Lyttonsville, Scotland, and River Road (including the forced displacement of the African American community there and the egregious mishandling of Moses Cemetery) have been devastated by unconscionable planning decisions that have majorly, negatively impacted the lives of African Americans in these communities. We need a champion for racial justice on the Planning Board to ensure decisions are made with an analysis of the impact on minority communities, and an emphasis on engaging communities prior to making planning decisions.

Two key priorities of Ms. Brooks, should she be appointed, include racial justice (addressing past land use injustices and inequities) and racial equity (addressing how we move forward in equitable ways from this point). We believe these must be central to land use decision making in our county if we are to live up to our stated goal of creating a more equitable county, and reconciling with our racist past. Additionally, another key priority of Ms. Brooks is that community members should be directly involved in decision-making—not just giving input—about land use in our county. She believes, and we concur, that the Planning Board needs to make it easier for community members to know about, understand, and participate in planning and land use discussions and decision-making. This is an essential part of racial equity, since for too long members of marginalized communities have been shut out of the planning process while being forced to live with the decisions made by that process. We need a member of the Planning Board who will work to ensure members of affected communities are directly involved in decisions that impact them.

Brandy Brooks is the best candidate for the position of Planning Board commissioner, and we urge you to vote to recommend her for appointment. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The Bethesda African Cemetery Coalition

Laurel Hoa, PhD

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2019 9:46:01 AM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Endorsement of Brandy Brooks for Planning Board by Joel M. Teitelbaum

From: joel teitelbaum |
Sent: Saturday, April 20, 2019 12:12 AM
To: Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Endorsement of Brandy Brooks for Planning Board by Joel M. Teitelbaum

Sent from my iPad

From: joel teitelbaum ·
Date: April 20, 2019 at 12:09:57 AM EDT
To: Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov, laurelhoa@gmail.com
Cc: Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov,
Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov,
Councilmember.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov,
Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov,
Councilmember.Jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov,
Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov,
Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov,
Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov,
Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov, Brandy Brooks
<brandy@brandy4moco.com>, SURJ MoCo Bethesda African Cemetery Coalition
<surjmoco-bacc@googlegroups.com>, marc.elrich@montgomerycountymd.gov
Subject: Re: [surjmoco-bacc] Organizational endorsement of Brandy Brooks for Planning Board

Nancy Navarro, Montgomery County Council President

I fully agree with Laurel Hoa's letter to our Montgomery County Council Members strongly supporting Brandy Brooks for Commissioner on the Montgomery County Planning Board (M-NCPPC). I am addressing this E-mail to Council President Navarro, with Cc's to our Council Members. I agree with The Bethesda African Cemetery Coalition powerful case for Ms. Brooks candidacy based on her land-use skills and commitment to racial equality and community responsiveness from our M-NCPPC Planning Board and Planning Department.

We have experienced a dismal pattern of undemocratic, racially-insensitive actions by the current Planning Board Chair who dismisses and disparages residents who express their concerns regarding too-hasty, ill-designed finalized Sector Plans. After he assumed the Chairmanship, Planning Board climate has deteriorated and evaded racial equity values.

A Case in Point - the Greater Lyttonsville Sector Plan - has been a mishandled process that discriminates against Minorities and current residents. At its final decision Hearing the Planning Board Chair suddenly inserted more than one-third higher housing unit density (adding on 1500+ housing units to the Planning Department's recommended 2250 units) without justification. Add-on housing units were squeezed into two Sector Plan Sites almost surrounding the suburban residential Lyttonsville neighborhood, an historically African-American enclave of 100 modest homes. This dramatic densification of housing units was imposed with no prior analysis or review, despite far lower recommendations from Planning Department planners and then Sector Plan manager - staff professionals who worked hard to accommodate both local community needs and moderate new growth.

Very little time (only 2 minutes each) was given to shocked community residents who tried to testify in favor of M-NCPPC planning staff doing an analysis of the Chair's hasty action. But these residents' requests were summarily denied by the Planning Board Chair. A final Planning Board vote approved this grossly altered Sector Plan after an unusual 20 minutes-long slide presentation by a one Developer company (EYA) requesting more densification. Even more housing units were then inserted by the Chairman based on a single Developer's untested new proposal to over-densify land-use in a small sub-section of the Sector Plan.

EYA's concept was for an urbanized node adding some 4000 residents to this Majority-Minority suburb of small neighborhoods with a total current population of 2000 residents - half in single family homes, half in affordable good quality apartments. The altered Sector Plan calls for razing to the ground three garden apartment complexes and a WSSC facility to be redeveloped into much denser housing units plus mixed use commercial space tightly concentrated along a single 2-block long suburban street near a future Purple Line station.

The Staff's Greater Lyttonsville Sector Plan Final Draft referred to the Planning Board for approval had been worked thru by Planners with community and small business inputs. The Chair transformed it into very densely-packed land-use along two short blocks of Lyttonsville Road - contrary to commitments by Planning Department staff to community residents. Using one Developer's densification concept outline, the Planning Board Chair gave no opportunity for review by other Commissioners or consideration by residents. He justified it by a supposed County Council demand to submit the Sector Plan very promptly and a strict time-limit to this Hearing. Once the altered Greater Lyttonsville Sector Plan was approved by a majority of Commissioners the Chairman abruptly ended its Final Hearing.

A rushed redraft of this over-densified Sector Plan was submitted to a County Council Hearing. None of the last-minute, add-on densities were explained to Council Members by the Planning Board Chair or Planning Department Director. Community members testified against it to no avail. Over a year later the County Council held a vote on this Sector Plan; community testimony was NOT permitted. The County Council majority voting in favor of the altered, over-densified Sector Plan publicly cited EYA's redevelopment concept outline as a key justification for accepting it - an irresponsible rationale for their approval vote.

Only one Council Member voted against, noting residents' strong objections and his deep concern that existing affordable apartment rental housing (serving Minority families) will be removed, displacing these lower-income families. He also took issue with the Planning Board's tightly controlled top-down process, leading to adverse outcomes for affordable housing renters and for residents of Lyttonsville neighborhood single family homes. He described a Broken Planning Process that evades community-level participation and ignores racial equity in planning decisions. Since then, this Broken Planning Process controlling a series of Sector Plans has resulted in serious adverse social/racial impacts.

In sum, the Planning Board (and Planning Department hierarchy) ignore racial equity issues. Their broken Planning process needs reform to respond positively to local communities.

Brandy Brooks has the training, the experience, and racially-sensitive community-oriented skills essential to be a Commissioner able to help reform these Broken Planning Processes.

I strongly support her candidacy. To achieve real reform, our new County Council should select Brandy Brooks and a new Planning Board Chair (and Planning Director). Council should decide - in tandem with our newly elected County Executive - the only ex-Council Member who voted to oppose Sector Plan over-densification and to seek a Planning Board responsive to communities and racial equity, and bring credibility to the Planning Process.

Voters in the 2018 Montgomery County Elections brought in several new reform-minded Council Members, replacing some Council Members backing a Planning Board Chair out-of-touch with most County voters, especially Minorities. Re-elected Council Members reading the Voters' Will in the decisive November 2018 election results should take note. Soon our new/renewed County Council faces crucial decisions: appointing a new Planning Board Commissioner and choosing a socially responsive qualified Planning Board Chair.

I hope our Council Members decide - to appoint Brandy Brooks to an open Commissioner position; to select a new Planning Board Chair to re-create public confidence in Planning decisions by institutionalizing an open Process befitting our County Planning Board.

Sincerely,

Joel M. Teitelbaum
Long-term Resident of Greater Lyttonsville community

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 18, 2019, at 3:51 PM, Laurel Hoa <laurelhoa@gmail.com> wrote:

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "MCCouncil@App.MontgomeryCountyMD.gov"
<MCCouncil@App.MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>
Date: 4/2/2019 10:39:22 AM
To: "county.council@mccouncilmd.lmhostediq.com"
<county.council@mccouncilmd.lmhostediq.com>
Cc:
Subject: Brandy Brooks for Planning Board - Submitted By:Dr Deborah Schumann - (Attn: All CMS, Council Webform)

Many residents in my part of the county have felt left out of the process for redevelopment of Westbard. Brandy Brooks has experience in city planning and would be a great addition to the Planning Board in our majority minority county. She will listen to residents and help Montgomery County remain a great place to live.

Close

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

HTML

From: "Esther Siegel" <
 Date: 4/3/2019 11:31:37 AM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Support for Brandy Brooks

Dear Councilmembers,

This letter is in support for Brandy Brooks' appointment to the Montgomery County Planning Board, in June, 2019.

In addition to getting to know her over the past 2 years as a committed community activist, we are quite impressed by her intelligence, delightful personality and are in awe of her community engagement, which I urge you to read about in her resume and letter to you.

Brandy fits all the essential ingredients for the Planning Board - experience in community development, leadership training, urban design, marketing and management. She would bring diversity of thought and expertise to the Board, as well as the respect and support from constituents, which she earned as a candidate for the County Council, receiving over 23,000 votes as a first time candidate by highlighting affordable housing, a equitable economy, racial & gender justice, and a people-powered democracy. Her focus on the Planning Board would advance that agenda.

We urge you to support Brandy's appointment to the Montgomery County Planning Board.

Thank you,

Michael Tabor
 Esther Siegel

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Haffner

JULIAN A. HAFFNER

April 8, 2019

Via E-mail (council@montgomerycountymd.gov)
Council President Nancy Navarro
Stella B. Werner Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue,
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Re: Montgomery County Planning Board Vacancy

Dear President Navarro:

I am writing to express my interest in serving as a Montgomery County Planning Board Member and M-NCP&P Commissioner. I believe I possess a broad and unique blend of legal and practical experience that make me the ideal candidate for the position, and I am excited by the opportunity!

As the attached resume indicates, over the last 15+ years I have held a variety of legal positions in fast-paced business environments which, when taken together, have prepared me well to assume a position as a member of the Planning Board. In addition to my extensive experience providing legal and strategic advice to C-suite executives, public officials and governmental entities, I also have established a record of civic and community leadership that makes me the ideal candidate. Whether leading Montgomery County's thousands of registered Black Democrats as President of the Association of Black Democrats of Montgomery County, or working to ensure fairness in the County's small business procurement practices as an appointed member of the County's Minority Owned and Local Small Business Task Force, or even serving as Treasurer of the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee, I have developed a record of substantial accomplishment in service to my community. I believe that my extensive professional experience coupled with my leadership, organizational and time management skills will allow me to make a significant and immediate contribution to the Planning Board and look forward to bringing these skills and more to bear as a member!

I hope to speak with you soon in more detail about my qualifications and background. In the meantime, should you have any questions or concerns regarding the foregoing or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I thank you for your time and consideration.

Regards,



Julian Haffner, Esquire

JULIAN A. HAFFNER

EXPERIENCED LEGAL COUNSEL

- *Goal-driven legal counsel with a proven record of achievement in fast-paced settings and under tight deadlines*
- *Problem solver equipped with broad subject matter expertise, and the interpersonal skills required to excel in team settings*
- *Adept at providing effective transactional legal and strategic advice to C-suite Executives and Public Officials*
- *Experienced with administrative and legislative processes*
- *Able to effectively lead, manage and collaborate with junior-level team members and support staff*
- *Adaptable, ready and willing to master new technologies and/or concepts that allow for more efficient work*
- *Now in search of a General Counsel role with a focus on transactions and state and local government relations*

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

- ❖ **Bar Admissions:** Maryland Court of Appeals, United States District Court for Maryland
- ❖ **Howard University School of Law, Juris Doctor**
 - Merit Fellow Scholarship Recipient
 - National Moot Court Team, Member
 - Social Justice Law Review, Associate Editor
- ❖ **Swarthmore College, Bachelor of Arts, Political Science**
 - Legislative Intern, House of Representatives, 104th US Congress
 - Policy Intern, The Aspen Institute (Energy, the Environment & the Economy)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY HOUSE OF DELEGATES | CHIEF OF STAFF

2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- Supervise legislative staff, draft and implement office policies, and manage office budget
- Maintain a working knowledge of issues and legislation related to Delegate's district, the House Appropriations Committee and Public Safety Subcommittee
- Develop and coordinate strategic communication plan and materials designed to effectively communicate the Delegate's message and legislative agenda
- Draft and disseminate press releases, manage and respond to media inquiries and requests, plan and execute press conferences
- Draft talking points, statements, memoranda and testimony for bill hearings
- Lead constituent outreach and casework services
- Develop and maintain strong relationships with county, state and local government officials, private sector government relations practitioners, and issue advocates
- Manage constituent mail response process

HAFFNER, LLC | ATTORNEY

2016 - PRESENT

Founder of boutique business law and consulting firm focused on:

- Identifying and mitigating legal and commercial risk
- Entity selection, formation and registration for startups
- Mergers & acquisitions
- Business planning, structuring and drafting complex commercial transactions
- Designing employee policy manuals and providing employer-side employment law compliance counseling
- MBE/DBE certification and procurement counseling regarding other federal, state and local set-aside programs
- Licensing and protection of intellectual property assets

JULIAN A. HAFFNER

Continued

➤ **Accomplishments:**

- Formulated defense strategies for various employment-related claims, and successfully mitigated client liability through the effective negotiation and drafting of settlement agreements
- Successfully led a bid protest challenging a defect in a Veterans Administration bid solicitation

LONGMAN & VAN GRACK, LLC | **OF COUNSEL**

2016 - 2018

- Provided general corporate legal advice for for-profit and tax-exempt entities including business planning, complex corporate transactional, intellectual property, employment law, and government contracts matters
- Performed Corporate Governance and Corporate Secretary functions and safeguarded corporate documents
- Assisted businesses in navigating the intricacies of minority and disadvantaged business policies including obtaining MBE/DBE certification, ensuring compliance with various socio-economic policies
- Supported litigation department conducting research both legal and factual, preparing motions and memoranda of law, and assisting with trial preparation

MCMILLAN METRO, PC | **ATTORNEY**

2006-2008 & 2014-2016

- Contributed actively to a full-service firm in handling entity formations including joint ventures and business planning, complex corporate transactions, intellectual property, employment law, mergers & acquisitions and government contracts matters
- Negotiated, drafted and reviewed commercial agreements, including teaming, construction and technology-related licensing agreements, commercial leases, MOUs/LOIs, SaaS Agreements, website terms and conditions of use and privacy policies, and vendor agreements
- Provided counsel regarding transaction structure, handled all aspects of mergers and acquisitions, including due diligence, and document drafting, provided employer-side employment law compliance including wage and hour defense, procurement matters, and intellectual property asset protection

➤ **Accomplishments:**

- Developed a 40-jurisdiction survey of state and local-level employment laws and designed legally-compliant and seamless policies and programs for client's multi-state operations
- Created GDPR-compliant data sharing and protection policy for client with a sizable European operation
- Developed and managed the process by which a client's entire 100+ misclassified workforce was converted from independent contractor status to employees

RICHA HAFFNER LAW GROUP, PC | **FOUNDER/SHAREHOLDER**

2008-2014

- Co-founded a boutique business and entertainment law firm offering mission-driven legal counsel to professional athletes, artists, microenterprises, nonprofits, emerging companies, healthcare providers, entrepreneurs and high-net-worth individuals
- Counseled clients on legal and commercial risk mitigation, entity formation, business planning and complex commercial transaction structuring, and protection of intellectual property assets
- Provided legal counsel on a range of regulatory matters, and represented clients before numerous state and local administrative boards and agencies
- Acted as Chief Legal Officer supervising the work and managing the budget of outside litigation counsel

➤ **Accomplishments:**

- Advised clients ensuring compliance with local liquor licensing laws; and Identified risks, presented options, and implemented solutions in the liquor licensing process
- Devised and implemented a distressed debt acquisition and finance strategy that allowed client to turn what would have been a failed investment into a profitable enterprise

JULIAN A. HAFFNER

Continued

LAW OFFICES OF LUIS LEON | SENIOR ASSOCIATE

2006

- Played an integral role in a general practice centered on civil litigation, criminal defense, family law and personal injury matters
- Represented clients in federal and Maryland state courts in commercial litigation, criminal defense, family law, and personal injury cases

LAW OFFICES OF MARIA MENA | ASSOCIATE

2003-2006

- Became a trusted and integral member of a general practice that handling matters of civil litigation, criminal defense, family law and personal injury
- Excelled in a small general practice setting to litigate cases involving consumer bankruptcy and family law
- Conducted bench and jury trials including criminal jury trials; also argued appellate matters
- Established firm standard operating procedures refining the client intake process and allowing for an increase in the firm's volume, and resulting in increased revenue and profit
- Incurred zero losses in handling the firm's appellate work

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION | LAW CLERK

2001

- Working in the Mass Media Bureau, led important research and assisted in drafting and modifying the FCC's media cross-ownership regulations
- Reviewed and summarized comments on proposed rulemakings
- Prepared FCC order drafts and opinions for publication

DUANE MORRIS, PC | LAW CLERK

2001

- Conducted detailed legal and general research and drafted legal memoranda for the Political Law, International Trade, and Energy Law practice groups

SIDLEY AUSTIN | LEGAL ASSISTANT

1998-1999

- Provided legal research and support for partners and senior attorneys in the Environmental Law Practice Group
- Devised filing system for several matters allowing for the efficient retrieval of information

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP & INVOLVEMENT

- ❖ Association of Black Democrats of Montgomery County, **President**, 2018-Present
- ❖ Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich Transition Team, **Member**, 2019-Present
- ❖ Democratic Business Council of Maryland, **Board Member**, 2014-Present
- ❖ Maryland Black Chamber of Commerce, **Legislative Director**, 2018- Present
- ❖ Maryland State Democratic Central Committee, District 17, **Elected Member, Treasurer** 2014-2018
- ❖ Montgomery County Minority Owned & Local Small Business Task Force, **Appointed Member**, 2015
- ❖ Montgomery County Commission on Juvenile Justice, **Commissioner**, 2014-2015
- ❖ NAACP of Montgomery County Division, Economic Development Committee, **Chairman**, 2014-2016
- ❖ City Gate, Inc., **Board Member**, 2015-2017
- ❖ Maryland State Bar Association Entertainment and Sports Law Section, **Chairman**, 2006-2008
- ❖ American Bar Association, **Member**, 2002-Present
- ❖ Bar Association of Montgomery County, **Member**, 2014-Present
- ❖ Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., **Member**, 1995-Present
- ❖ Maryland General Assembly, House of Delegates, Legislative District 17, **Former Candidate**

HONORS & AWARDS

- ❖ **VIP List – Successful By 40**, The Maryland Daily Record, 2016
- ❖ **Leadership Development Academy Fellow**, Bar Association of Montgomery County, 2015-2016
- ❖ **“Rising Star” Business and Entertainment Law**, Maryland Super Lawyers Magazine, 2012 -2016
- ❖ **“The Advisors You Should Know” Award Finalist**, SmartCEO Magazine's CPA & ESQ Awards, 2015

March 1st 2019

**Hon. Nancy Navarro, Council President
Stella B. Werner Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville MD 20850
county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov**

Re: Application for the Montgomery County Planning Board

President Navarro and Council Members:

Jane Jacobs said "the presence of great numbers of people, gathered together in cities should be enjoyed as an asset and their presence celebrated... Neighborhoods and suburbs which have prospered share the attributes of walkability, vibrant street life, density and diversity."

My work with many diverse groups and my decades of legal, business and political experience, have made me unusually sensitive to the problems of Community planning and public outreach and the need to arrive at mutually beneficial solutions. I know that Government alone does not create great places to live and grow older – private sector businesses, retailers, developers, academic institutions, health care organizations, social services providers, architects, religious and civic institutions all must work together to make our County more age-friendly. But government can certainly help by changing zoning and housing regulations, encouraging "mixed" commercial and residential use, making safer pedestrian cross walks, bikeways, better lighting, creating more public spaces, providing reliable and accessible public transportation, promoting "universal design" concepts and meeting growing housing needs with more affordable housing.

The perspective I offer the Planning Board is unique and inclusive.

- On the Taxicab Services Commission I currently represent our low income, handicapped and senior citizens. I am closely involved with DC and County Public Transportation issues through GROWS, JCA, and other affiliations.**
- I have overseen proposed legislation and public policy for six years on the Commission on Aging and now Chair the Commission on Aging Alumni Group.**
- As Mid-Atlantic Director of the National Aging In Place Council (NAIPC 2007-8) I vigorously promoted Aging In Place and worked closely with the founders of Beacon Hill Village to bring Villages to Montgomery County, where they now proliferate. I promoted Villages through County seminars, produced Montgomery's Got Talent and organized the printing of The Village Blueprint (the primer for organizing).**
- Most significantly, I created and chaired the COA summer study which led to the County enrollment in the international WHO/AARP Age Friendly Communities Program. This program with grass roots input, informs, organizes, and coordinates public and private planning activities. The study and advocacy efforts transformed and energized the County Age Friendly Advisory Group with the guidance of a Senior Fellow.**
- I am Secretary and Director of the Friends of the Human Rights Commission (a 501(C) 3 fundraising group), and am an Ambassador in the American Muslim Senior Society (AMSS).**

Charles Kauffman

- I serve on the Economic Development, Real Estate and Senior Marketing committees of the Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce and am a Director/Board Member of Visit Montgomery (MC CVB).
- I am a registered Democrat.

There are no simple solutions to the needs of society and we must use our money wisely and well to help government afford more health, recreational and social amenities for our citizens. To attract business development and assure Montgomery County's future prosperity, we need reliable public transportation, educational strength, and affordable housing that preserves the ambience of existing neighborhoods.

The Planning Board can be the catalyst for delivery and I hope to have the opportunity of serving.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Kauffman

CHARLES KAUFFMAN

SUMMARIZED BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION January 2019

Current:

- **Chair- Commission on Aging Alumni Group**
- **Commissioner- Montgomery County Taxicab Services Commission.**
- **Secretary/ Board Member – Friends of the Montgomery County Human Rights Comm.**
- **Board Member – Visit Montgomery (MC CVB)**
- **Ambassador – American Muslim Senior Society ASSM**
- **VamooseBus- Community Relations Director.**
- **DC Trails-Of -Counsel; specialty- motor vehicle infractions.**
- **Award 2014- Lifetime Member Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame,**
- **Award- GROWS Debra Levy- Humanitarian of the Year-2017**
- **Age Friendly Montgomery Advisory Group –Transportation and Communications Groups; JCA Transportation Advisory Group; Montgomery County –“Getting Around The County” – Advisory Group;**
- **Greater Bethesda Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce-Senior Marketing, Real Property Economic Development Committees; Arlington VA – Chamber of Commerce.**
- **Montgomery County Vital Living Network;**
- **DestinationDC-Washington DC Visitors Bureau;**

Prior County Service:

Commissioner- Commission on Aging – 2011-2017;
Nominating Committees- COA, Human Rights Hall of Fame, Neil Potter Awards.

Prior National Service: *Mid-Atlantic Director National Aging In Place Council (NAIPC) -2007-8.*
Veteran US Army-Adjutant General’s Office.

NYC Service: *Served on Community Planning Board #8 – Manhattan-Upper East Side.*
NYC Auxiliary Mounted Police -Central Park.

Education: JD- NYU Law School; BA- University of Michigan; Member NY Bar (Emeritus)

Political Affiliation: Democrat

Professional Business and Civic Experience:

Business and Public background in Real Property management, Transportation, Investments, Insurance, Event Production, personal management, retail ownership, direct marketing, telemarketing, advertising, communications.;NYC Planning Board #8 (Manhattan); Represented Landlords, Tenants in a wide range of legal matters including eminent domain valuation (certiorari), East Side Democrat Tenant’s group attorney. Prior business management – owner retail, mail order, internet business; Reverse Mortgage consultant; collections tax consultant. Managed conversions of Commercial Lofts to Residential use; Wells Fargo –Reverse Mortgage Consultant-Attorney; Of Counsel- The Negotiating Institute.

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

HTML

From: "Charles Kauffman"
 Date: 4/17/2019 8:28:25 AM
 To: "Nancy Navarro" <COUNCILMEMBER.NAVARRO@montgomerycountymd.gov>, "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov" <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Charles Kauffman - Application for Planning Board - Supplemental Career Information

April 17th 2019
 Council President Navarro
 and Members of the County Council
 Attached hereto for your consideration is a summary
 of aspects of my career which I wish to share with you.
 I look forward to meeting and discussing your concerns.
 Respectfully submitted,
 Charles Kauffman

Close

Charles Kauffman

April 16th 2019

Hon. Nancy Havarro
Members of the County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville MD 20850

SUPPLEMENTAL CAREER INFORMATION

This supplement is intended to inform the County Council of my substantial and relevant experience in business, law, real property development, management and financing and my perspective on the future.

76-80 JEFFERSON STREET CONVERSIONS. While attending NYU law school I managed several buildings including a block front on Jefferson Street in the Two Bridges area of Manhattan. Two 5 story buildings with a ground floor warehouse, loading dock, a factory, a street level restaurant and bar, and 30 loft spaces. Initially, the commercial lofts were unrentable but I saw the opportunity to create lofts for Artists in Residence by installing residential infrastructure. I managed the installation, construction and conversion process and later advocated for the passage of "Artist in Residence laws" which eventually were enacted. Lesson learned flexibility is invaluable.

The Jefferson Street properties were included in NYC's "TWO BRIDGES PLAN". A long delayed area plan for public housing. They were designated for redevelopment for 12 years many were buildings were vacant and unsaleable. I managed the eminent domain process including appraisals and achieved maximum awards. It was a graphic example of the downside of long delays caused by the Planning process which left property owners in limbo during the redevelopment process. Lesson learned - Uncertainty has a negative impact on the financial viability of property.

EMINENT DOMAIN - CONDEMNATION AWARDS. I was employed at a leading law firm specializing in eminent domain proceedings for properties affected by the demolition of the Third Avenue elevated subway line including extensive Bloomingdale holdings. I participated in certiorari appeals, including overseeing appraisals and related valuation issues. Other clients included owners of showroom, office, factory buildings in the Fashion District of New York City. I participated in sales, leasing, mortgaging, violations resolution and other property related matters representing tenants and landlords.

REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE. Returning from military service and recently married, I resumed management of the Jefferson Street properties. I obtained a real estate brokerage license and purchased and managed real property on the lower east side of NY. I also specialized in conversions, sales and rental of lofts for use as residence and studios. I hired and trained managers to convert commercial properties.

I was employed by law firms specializing in what was then called "Copyright and Show Business law" and in three years opened my office at 80 Pine Street, in NYC. My law practice was a "general" practice matters and included representing landlords, tenants, condemnations, violations, I was tangentially involved in matters involving acquisitions by the Zeckendorf interests in Freedomland, Co-op City, Kips Bay acquisition of property and conversions. I also managed a lucrative trucking facility on West 36th Street for my wife's family and a valuable pier and warehouse on the East River.

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES. NYC PLANNING BOARD. I was engaged in Reform Democratic Politics and was appointed to NYC PLANNING BOARD #8 which was in the first group of Planning Boards. We advised on many matters impacting a

a rapidly changing neighborhood including commercialization, demolition, and preservation of landmarks, parks and public amenities.

For two years I served as pro-bono counsel to the UPPER EAST SIDE DEMOCRATS representing tenants and small home owners who faced a surge of pressure from large residential developers. I became deeply involved in neighborhood preservation, landmarks and development of new housing.

FAMILY BUSINESS. I was brought in to resolve my family business disputes (H. KAUFFMAN & SONS SADDLERY CO., "everything for the horse and rider") and eventually assumed full ownership, management and financing of this century old family-owned retail and direct marketing business and its real property. During this period I created an advertising and public relations agency, INSPIRED ADVERTISING to enhance their direct marketing business. I eventually sold the bricks and mortar business converting and managing its internet business and licensing business. Along the way I co-authored a book "The Polo Primer".

LAW PRACTICE. I balanced law and business activities using several partnerships and represented clients in many businesses, trade groups and individuals including sellers, buyers, managers, owners, landlords, tenants, borrowers, lenders, debtors and creditors, trucking companies, waste paper collectors, collection agent associations, investment associations, publishers, composers and performers, recording companies and record pressing companies.

PRO-BONO. My pro-bono work included assisting the general counsel of CORE (Congress of Racial Equality) among others. I served as General Counsel to the Negotiating Institute where I focused on Conflict Resolution. Gerald Nierenberg conducted worldwide seminars based on his best-seller "Art of Negotiating".

MORTGAGE FINANCING. I have worked as a legal consultant for Wells-Fargo on home financing including Reverse Mortgages.

NATIONAL AGING IN PLACE COUNCIL. In 2007-8 I served as Mid-Atlantic Director of the National Aging in Place Council pioneering formation of Villages in the Capital area.

INTERCITY BUS TRANSPORTATION. I have been community relations representative for Vamoose Bus and representing them on Chambers of Commerce, Visitors Bureaus, Transit and Senior organizations in the Capital Area and I address traffic related matters for DC Trails.

As Montgomery County grows its economy must grow. We need thousands of units of affordable housing, a well-educated workforce and fluid and reliable transportation to attract businesses.

To achieve this we must assure a fair financial return and minimize risk for investors, business, developers and offer stability for residential and commercial users.

Closer coordination between the Planning Board and the Age Friendly Advisory Group will help address the human needs of all our residents.

Transportation needs focus. Fluid transit arteries can expedite delivery of services to the communities and reach out and develop the outer perimeters of Montgomery County. We need travel corridors and reliable public transportation.

We must tangibly encourage developers to build the thousands of needed housing units. This may involve creating new neighborhoods perhaps even new cities and towns while preserving existing neighborhood integrity. Affordability and profitably can be achieved.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES KAUFFMAN

AARP® Real
Possibilities
Maryland

200 St. Paul Place, #2510 | Baltimore, MD 21202
1-866-542-8163 | Fax: 410-895-0269 | TTY: 1-877-434-7598
aarp.org/md | mdaarp@aarp.org | twitter: @aarpmaryland
facebook.com/aarpmd

April 18, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Navarro
& Members of the Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Ave
Rockville, MD 20850

RE: Support for Charles Kauffman nomination to the Planning Board

Dear President Navarro:

I write to offer support for the nomination of Charles Kauffman to the Montgomery County Planning Board. We first met in Annapolis more than a decade ago at a meeting of United Seniors of Maryland. At that point, he had already been involved with the AARP Capitol Hill Strike Force, advocating for the 50+ population and their families before Congress. Since then, our ties have been strengthened as he became more involved with AARP in Montgomery County. His efforts resulted in greater activities by AARP in the County, including the "Montgomery's Got Talent" events, and he has pursued a significant role with the Commission on Aging, including a summer study that led to their recommendation to enlist the County in the AARP/WHO Network of Age-Friendly Communities. Mr. Kauffman continues to attend and support the successful efforts of the County to enhance the County as a community for all ages.

We now are working together to make the State of Maryland an Age-Friendly state, following up on Montgomery County's excellent example.

Based on my experience over the years, I offer sincere support for Mr. Kauffman as I anticipate that he is a resident who will bring vision, purpose, energy and passion to the Board.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,


Hank Greenberg
State Director



American Muslims Seniors Society

PO Box 726, Clarksville, MD 21029
(301) 384-6020 ■ bod@amssmd.org ■ <http://www.amssmd.org/>

March, 25, 2019

To County Council

The American Muslim Senior Society, is a non-profit Health and Long- term Care Resource Center. Our mission is to empower the underserved, isolated 55+ and their caregivers with the tools and resources to age in place.

AMSS, endures in a period of great stress, prejudice and threats to the Muslim community which greatly impact our vulnerable seniors. Charles Kauffman, has been designated an AMSS Stakeholder and is currently organizing an initiative to raise funds to train and certify members of the Muslim community as Caregivers for our elderly who feel more comfortable with people who speak their language and understand their customs and culture.

His broad range of contacts and organizational experience hopefully will enable us to form alliances with educational institutions to initially train, certify and place 25 or more Caregivers. He is helping us connect with Home Care agencies to finance and place these caregivers to assist older Muslims. His outreach and understanding of diverse communities in our County is extraordinary and would enhance the Planning Board. We heartily endorse his application.

Sincerely
Mona Negm
American Muslim Senior Society (AMSS)

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The Beacon Newspapers, Inc.
P.O. Box 2227
Silver Spring, MD 20915

Hon. Nancy Navarro and
Members of the County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville MD 20850

RECEIVED
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
COUNCIL

Greater Washington, DC
Phone (301) 949-9766
Fax (301) 949-8966

Greater Baltimore/Howard County
Phone (410) 248-9101
Fax (410) 248-9102

RE: Recommendation of Charles "Chuck" Kauffman for the
Montgomery County Planning Board

E-mail: info@thebeaconnewspapers.com
www.thebeaconnewspapers.com

I have known Charles Kauffman for more than 15 years. All the years I have known him (and no doubt for many years before), he has acted tirelessly as a passionate, influential and effective advocate for older adults.

As an example, after learning about the aging in place village concept that originated with Beacon Hill Village, Chuck helped introduce and popularize the idea of such villages locally via numerous County events and through his participation in many committees and groups. Today, thanks partly to his efforts, there are a number of such villages throughout Montgomery County.

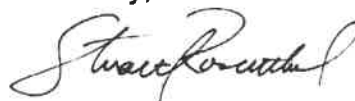
Similarly, he was one of the first people to promote the idea of Age-Friendly Montgomery. More than six years ago, I was serving on the original Advisory Board for Age-Friendly DC, and Chuck almost immediately seized on the idea as an appropriate one for Montgomery County and Maryland. He was a persuasive advocate who helped Age-Friendly Montgomery become a reality through events and individual lobbying of those who could make it happen.

In addition, he had a memorable tenure on the Commission on Aging (and helped create the Commission on Aging Alumni Group to enable past members to continue to have input), and served on the Taxicab Services Commission, the Commission on Human Rights, the Vital Living Network, and others.

Chuck has also been outspoken in fighting ageism, promoting affordable housing, and even produced two events promoting older adult talent through "Montgomery's Got Talent" at the Bethesda Theatre.

I believe Chuck would be a valuable addition to the Planning Board and encourage you to accept his application for the currently vacant position.

Sincerely,



Stuart P. Rosenthal
Publisher
The Beacon Newspapers

BCC-MCPB



GROWS

Grass Roots Organization
for the Well-being of Seniors

2019-03-27
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

ML
CC

Hon. Nancy Navarro and Members of the County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville MD 20850
county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov
March 25, 2019

Dear Hon. Nancy Navarro and Members of the County Council,

It is with great pleasure to recommend Charles Kauffman for a position on the planning board for Montgomery County. Charles has been instrumental in positively supporting Montgomery County residents, and the GROWS organization for many years.

GROWS, the Grass Roots Organization for the Wellbeing of Seniors, is a non-profit organizations dedicated to providing advocacy, education, and services for older adults. Charles Kauffman has been an active member for over 15 years, first representing Wells Fargo, later as Mid-Atlantic Director of The National Aging in Place Council, and currently as Community Relations Director of Vamoose Bus. Over the years he created, organized many county events at the Rockville Senior Center, Holiday Park, F. Scott Fitzgerald Theater, and Bethesda Theater including , "Aging in Place: To Move or Stay", "Montgomery's Got Talent "and many other seminars and forums. These events introduced and produced County awareness and citizen participation in Aging in Place, Villages, Age Friendly Montgomery, Caregiving, Transportation, and Vital Living. Popularizing these initiatives makes Montgomery County a community for all to live and age gracefully. In 2017, GROWS awarded him its most prestigious award, the Debra Levy Humanitarian of the Year Award for his outstanding contributions. We strongly support Mr. Kauffman's application for a position on the Planning Board. Thank you for considering Charles Kaufman.

Sincerely,

Christina Green

Christina Green,
President of GROWS

443-487-1893



president@growsmc.org



www.growsmc.org



6101 Montrose Road, Suite 202,

Rockville, MD 20852



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Helping All Seniors Thrive®

April 18, 2019

The Hon. Nancy Navarro and
Members of Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

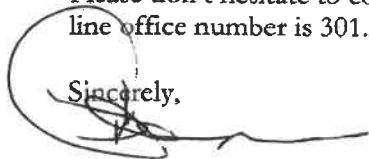
Dear Ms. Navarro and Members of County Council:

Charles "Chuck" Kauffman told me that he has applied to become a member of the Montgomery County Planning Board, and he asked me to share with you my experiences in working with him. It is a pleasure to do so because Chuck is a such a knowledgeable, articulate and high-energy advocate for persons who are old, poor or otherwise need a helping hand. Moreover, he is passionate about making Montgomery a community for a lifetime.

As a member of the Transportation Committee of Age-Friendly Montgomery, a member of the County's Taxicab Services Committee and the Community Relations Directors of Vamoose Bus, Chuck is a go-to person on many issues related to local transportation. Moreover, he is a longstanding member of the JCA Transportation Providers' Roundtable, and he is accessible, reliable and trustworthy.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I could provide additional information about him. My direct-line office number is 301.255.4255, and my e-address is dagamse@AccessJCA.org.

Sincerely,


David N. Gamse
Chief Executive Officer

Headquarters/Ann L. Bronfman Center
12320 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MD 20852-1726
Ph: 301.255.4200 or 703.425.0999
Fax: 301.231.9360

JCA® Mislser Adult Day Center
1801 E. Jefferson Street, Rockville, MD 20852-4045
Ph: 301.468.1740
Fax: 301.816.8679



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Partner Agency of
The Jewish Federation
OF GREATER WASHINGTON



52847

April 19, 2019

**Hon. Nancy Navarro and
Members of the County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville MD 20850**

Dear Council President Navarro:

I am writing in support of the application of Mr. Charles Kauffman to serve on the Montgomery County Planning Board. I believe that Mr. Kauffman's professional experience and demonstrated commitment to improving the lives of all Montgomery County residents make him an excellent candidate to serve on this most impactful Board.

I have known Mr. Kauffman for nearly a decade principally in his roles as a Commissioner on the Commission on Aging, as a member of Leadership Montgomery (and current chairman of the Senior Leadership Montgomery Alumnae Committee), and as a community advocate for a broad range of vital issues including affordable housing, transportation for seniors and individuals and disabilities, and Smart Growth policies--to name just a few.


Charles "Chuck" Kauffman was instrumental in Montgomery County being designated as an "Age-Friendly Community" by the World Health Organization and AARP. Chuck saw the value in having the County achieve this prestigious recognition and the benefits that would result particularly to the business sector. He has been a champion in educating public and private sector leaders about the value of older workers and the critical importance of the "senior economy"—as the discretionary income of seniors on average stimulate economic activity in the health, recreation and leisure, service and other industries. Chuck was visionary as an early spokesman for having constituent input (especially a voice for seniors and individuals with disabilities) in all aspects of planning.

Chuck's skills as both a lawyer and businessman enable him to bring a uniquely creative yet pragmatic view to addressing challenges and resolving problems. He

understands the critical importance of collaboration and teamwork and consistently treats others with respect.

I strongly endorse Mr. Charles Kauffman's to serve on the Montgomery County Planning Board. I am confident that Montgomery County residents will be well-served by having him as a member of this very important Board.

Sincerely,



jssa | Jay Kenney, PHD | Chief Operating Officer
Direct: 301-610-8302 | Fax: 301-309-2596
jkennev@jssa.org | www.jssa.org | Find us on Facebook



BCC-MCPB

Montgomery, MD

Close. For comfort.

ML
cc

March 25, 2019

Ms. Nancy Navarro, President
Members of the Montgomery County Council
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Council President Navarro and Members of the Montgomery County Council,

I am reaching out to you in support of the application of Charles Kauffman for an open position on the Montgomery County Planning Board.

Charles Kauffman has been on the Board of Directors of Visit Montgomery, the County's Destination Marketing Organization, since 2015. His prior legal and business experience and his efforts in popularizing intercity bus travel supported Visit Montgomery's engagement of Bethesda based marketing firm Streetsense to facilitate our marketing and rebranding. Tourism directly impacts economic development and the financial health of our County and Mr. Kauffman is a constant source of ideas and initiatives to increase County tourism. He advocated exploring opportunities to relocate the Newseum to Montgomery County, to expand the Kid's Museum, to popularize GlenStone, a world class museum, and to relocate DC United to the County. He has a broad Capital Area perspective and actively promotes Montgomery County not only as a gateway to DC but as a destination location for families visiting the area.

We heartily endorse his appointment, he offers a wealth of experience and broad vision.

Best,


Kelly R. Groff, CDME
Visit Montgomery

RECEIVED
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
2019 MAR 25 AM 12:01

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Email Viewer

no attachment Page 1 of 1

ML
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Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

HTML

From: "Elaine Binder" <
Date: 4/3/2019 10:17:49 AM
To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
<county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Cc:
Subject: Endorsement/Charles Kaufman

Dear Members of the Montgomery County Council,
Attached is my letter endorsing Charles Kaufman's candidacy as a member of the County Planning Board. I know he will be an active and dedicated member of the Board if he is appointed.

Thank you for considering this.

Elaine Kotell Binder

Close

91

BCC-MCPD

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FRANCIS CREIGHTON

March 25, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Navarro
President, Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear President Navarro:

I write in support of Charles Kauffman as a Member of the Montgomery County Planning Board.

Mr. Kauffman is a member of the Taxicab Services Commission (which I chair) representing low income, older adults and disabled persons. In 2018, he identified concerns about the use of funds collected from riders of Lyft and Uber for the Transportation Services Improvement Fund and advocated for improvements in how the funds would be used in the future. He developed and submitted a comprehensive plan for the preservation of the County's taxi industry with service improvements for all residents, but especially those who are low income, elderly and disabled. As Chair of the Commission, I have seen Chuck's passion to serve and focus on bettering our County for all of its residents.

I hope you will give Chuck every due consideration. He is a strong member of the TSC and as a citizen of the County I believe he would serve us all well on the Planning Board.

Sincerely,


Francis Creighton

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 22, 2019 9:35:43 AM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Charles Kauffman/ Planning Board

From: irwingb@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, April 21, 2019 10:15 PM
To: Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Charles Kauffman/ Planning Board

Hon. Nancy Navarro, President
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Councilmember Navarro:

I write in support of the application of Charles Kauffman for appointment to Montgomery County Planning Board. I am a forty-six year resident of Montgomery County and practiced law in the public and private sectors. I was a Deputy Assistant Attorney General in the US Department of Justice and a partner in a large international law firm.

I served on the Montgomery County Commission on Aging (COA) for six years, the last two of which as Chair. After that, I served as Chair of the COA Alumni Group, consisting of former members of the COA.

I have known Charles Kauffman for more than ten years, served on Montgomery County organizations with him and provide my views based on personal knowledge and experience.

Charles Kauffman is the Chair of the COA Alumni Group and was instrumental in organizing the group at its formation. For all the time that I have known him, he has been an active and committed participant in matters concerning seniors. He has also served on the Taxicab Services Commission and has ably represented the interests of low-income, older adults and disabled persons. He has also served on several committees, study groups and advocacy programs, where on many of which he was appointed chair based on his leadership experience.

From my knowledge, I can say that one of the defining characteristics of Mr. Kauffman's service has been his indefatigable commitment to the interests of the organizations he has served. He has always been diligent in pursuing their interests. And, of particular significance, he has strongly advocated for the education of the community and its public representatives on the importance of the Age-Friendly Communities Program.

Based on these views, I can wholeheartedly recommend him as a candidate for the Planning Board. He would be a positive addition to that agency,

Yours sincerely,

Irwin Goldbloom

BCC - MCPB



**Friends of the Human Rights Commission, Inc.
Montgomery County, MD**

1355 Piccard Drive, Suite 320, Rockville, MD 20850
www.friendsofhumanrightsmc.org

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March 29, 2019

Councilmember Nancy Navarro
Montgomery County Council
Stella B. Werner Council Office Building
100 Maryland Ave
Rockville, MD 20850

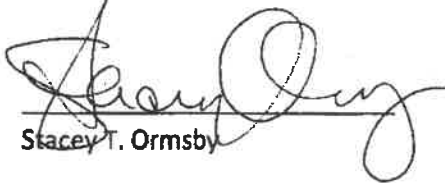
Re: Montgomery County Planning Board, C. Kauffman Letter of Recommendation

Dear Council President Navarro,

This letter is sent in support and recommendation of Mr. Charles Kauffman to join the Montgomery County Planning Board. Mr. Kauffman's long history of public service in Montgomery County and professional accomplishments make him well-suited for the County Planning Board. Additionally, he is a lifetime member of the Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame and an active participant in activities and outreach carried out by the Montgomery County Commission on Human Rights. Noting that the Human Rights Commission needs funding for its non-government funded functions which fight prejudice, hate crimes and incidents of violence, he joined the Friends of the Human Rights Commission, Inc. ("Friends, Inc."), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, as an inaugural Board member. Friends, Inc. assists the Human Rights Commission's efforts to educate and heighten pride and awareness of this County's rich social and cultural diversity. In addition to serving as Secretary, Mr. Kauffman is instrumental to bringing awareness of Friends, Inc., identifying key stakeholders, and building relationships in the community.

It is without hesitation that I recommend his appointment for a position on the Montgomery County Planning Board.

Sincerely,


Stacey T. Ormsby

APR 1 2019
1000 P... ..

Architect and Planner

Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

April 23, 2019

Dear Council President Navarro and members of the County Council:

I am pleased to submit my application for your consideration for appointment to the Montgomery County Planning Board. I am a lifelong Montgomery County resident, a product of its public schools, and parent of three children who have benefited from the excellent education of the county's school system. As an architect practicing in the county for 31 years, and working for the same community-based firm since my graduation, I have attentively observed the improvements to some of our communities in recent decades, but I also recognize the complex issues that arise as we seek to ensure that all our residents have the opportunity to benefit from growth. I believe my qualifications and experiences make me an excellent candidate for this important position.

Growing up in Silver Spring, I attended Oakview Elementary School, Eastern Junior High School, and Blair High School. At that time during the 1960s, 70s and early 80s, Silver Spring was already becoming a diverse, multi-cultural community with a mix of white and African-American residents and a growing community of Asian and Latino immigrants. But to me, these students from different backgrounds were nothing more than simply friends and classmates. In 1981, during my senior year, Stevie Wonder visited Washington, DC to lobby in support of making Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday a national holiday and while he was here, he came to Blair High School to address the students and perform a concert. He told us at that time that he had chosen to visit Blair because we - the students of what was recognized at the time as one of the most diverse high schools in the nation - were living the dream that Dr. King envisioned. Standing in that audience that day and experiencing that once-in-a-lifetime-moment opened my eyes to an acute awareness and appreciation of how fortunate I had been to grow up in this diverse community, and how special Silver Spring had become by 1981. Until that moment I had taken the diversity around me for granted - it simply was the world I lived in. Today I see more clearly how growing up at that time in Silver Spring foreshadowed what Montgomery County has become today, and this experience has inspired me in my work and in my service to this community.

I believe that my educational, work, and service experiences have prepared me to be a knowledgeable and effective Planning Board member. In all aspects of my life I am patient, thoughtful, principled, collegial, and consensus-driven in my approach to problem-solving. As an architect, the most important role I play for my clients, whether they are individual homeowners, businesses, or government agencies, is to guide them as they visualize and articulate their project needs. As we work through the process together, I give careful consideration to the benefits and compromises implicated in each decision along the way and communicate these tradeoffs to them in order to determine together how to proceed. In this, I see parallels to the role the Planning Board plays in working with residents, businesses, and elected officials as we plan for the county's future.

During my career, I have led the project teams for three completed elementary schools and three feasibility studies for school modernization projects for Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). Each project required accommodating a significantly enlarged and renovated school or an entirely new school into an existing community. As project lead, I held numerous public meetings during which residents expressed concerns over traffic, parking, and construction issues as well as the visual and environmental impacts of such large buildings upon their neighborhoods and homes. As a result of these meetings, we collaborated with the affected neighborhoods and, working together, achieved consensus on solutions that addressed

William Kirwan, AIA, LEED® AP

Architect and Planner

the issues they raised. MCPS has praised our success in managing this community process while delivering new or expanded schools, which exceeded the best hoped expectations of the community and MCPS in every instance. Through these projects, I understand parents' concerns about school overcrowding and the practical steps we can take to solve this ongoing challenge.

As a former Historic Preservation Commissioner (HPC) for 10 years, and as Chair for the past five, I have worked effectively with the rest of the commission to make important decisions that affect both individual property owners and their surrounding communities. This process requires an understanding of the county's historic preservation ordinance and the applicable local historic district preservation guidelines, as well as the ability to exercise good judgment and sensitivity. As a Planning Board member, I would also work collaboratively with my fellow board members and view all issues before us as they relate to our county's long-term planning and economic development goals. Overall, my deliberative approach is empathetic, open to opposing views, and flexible enough to consider alternative approaches to solving a problem.

I believe in building strong and economically resilient communities and improving opportunities for all our residents from every background, culture, and walk of life. Rather than shrink from change, we need to prepare for it. This means making sure we have enough affordable housing for residents of all incomes and transportation choices that connect them to jobs and educational opportunities. We must also continue investing in the amenities that enhance our daily lives, including our award-winning parks system.

As we consider our future and make difficult decisions, I believe we must respect our county's diversity and ensure none of our residents are left behind and everyone in our various communities is afforded the opportunity to participate in planning for our shared future. Public outreach to engage all citizens, particularly as the county updates its General Plan, is one of my priorities.

I am also motivated to pursue this public service by one of my personal heroes, my father Brit Kirwan. At age 81, in retirement from a career in higher education, he currently chairs the Governor's Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education, otherwise known as the Kirwan Commission. Its sweeping recommendations for the reform of Pre-K through 12th grade education throughout the State of Maryland just won overwhelming support in the Maryland General Assembly this month. His relentless pursuit of improvements to education at the state and national level is an inspiration to me in always pursuing how I can use my expertise to help improve the living, working and recreational environments of this great county in the years to come.

Thank you for your consideration. I am grateful to have lived and worked in such a caring and diverse community for so many years, and would be honored to continue serving Montgomery County as a Planning Board member.

Sincerely,



William Kirwan, AIA, LEED® AP

William Kirwan, AIA, LEED® AP

Architect and Planner

Overview

William Kirwan, AIA, LEED® AP, Principal, Muse Architects, PC received a Bachelor of Science in Architecture and a Master of Architecture from the University of Maryland with High Honors. After being a student in Stephen Muse's studio in graduate school and having been exposed to his thoughtful context based approach to architecture and urbanism, William joined Muse Architects upon graduation in 1987. In the ensuing years he served as Project Architect and Project Manager for many of the firm's award winning residential and institutional commissions. Following 15 years of employment from Intern to Senior Associate, he was elevated to Principal of the firm in 2003. William has been an adjunct faculty member of the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation of the University of Maryland, and has been a member of the Washington Chapter/AIA Board of Directors as Director for Design Issues. In 2007, he became an accredited professional with the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program. In 2009, William was appointed to the Montgomery County Maryland Historic Preservation Commission and served as its Chair from 2014 until stepping down from the Commission in 2019, following 10 years of service.

Professional Experience

**Architectural Intern, Project Architect,
Associate, and Principal, Muse Architects, PC**

January 1988 to Present

Has served as a Project Architect, Project Manager, Associate, Senior Associate and Principal for an award-winning firm spanning a 31-year career. Experience ranges from residential renovations and additions, new single-family residences, schools and commercial buildings, to campus and town planning. Owner and manager of a twelve-person firm based in downtown Bethesda.

- Received Over 60 Design Awards: Projects that William Kirwan served as Project Architect, Project Manager or Principal-in-Charge have won 62 design awards from organizations such the National Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and publications such as Southern Home Magazine.
- Published in over 20 books and periodicals: Projects that William Kirwan served as Project Architect, Project Manager or Principal-in-Charge have been published in 29 books and periodicals, such as Architectural Digest, Metropolis, and the Washington Post.
- Served as Project Manager and Principal-in-Charge for two new elementary schools for Somerset Elementary School and Beverly Farms Elementary School, one classroom and gymnasium addition for Westbrook Elementary School, and modernization feasibility studies for Chevy Chase Elementary School, Burning Tree Elementary School, and Cold Spring, Elementary School for Montgomery County Public Schools.
- Provided gratis design and project management services as Principal-in-Charge for the renovation of the former Carver Theater in Anacostia D.C. to become the Headquarters

William Kirwan, AIA, LEED® AP

Architect and Planner

for the Good Samaritan Foundation, a non-profit inner-city after-school mentoring program founded by former Washington Redskins Charles Mann and Art Monk.

- Holds Certification as a LEED Accredited Professional from the United States Green Building Council.

Volunteer and Community Service

Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission Commissioner and Chair

2009 to 2019

Served on the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission for ten years. Duties included the review of Historic Area Work Permits, advising the Montgomery County Planning Board on historic designation applications and master plan impacts upon historic resources, and providing testimony in public hearings before the County Council and Planning Board. Served as Chair of the Commission for 5 years.

Montgomery County BRT Task Force

2016

Served on the County Executive's task force directed to explore the issues of implementing a bus rapid transit plan for several major transportation arteries in Montgomery County.

AIA, Washington Chapter, Board of Directors Design Committee, Director for Design Issues

1994 to 2004

Organized design oriented activities, discussion, and exhibits for the AIA|DC Chapter membership. Reported to the Board on committee activities and long-range program plans. Curated and designed exhibit plans for 3 exhibits showcased at the National Building Museum.

Education

University of Maryland, Master of Architecture *Faculty Design Award Recipient*

1985-1987

University of Maryland, Bachelor of Science in Architecture

1981-1985

Montgomery Blair High School, Silver Spring, MD

1978-1981

Eastern Junior High School, Silver Spring, MD

1975-1978

Oak View Elementary School, Silver Spring, MD

1968-1975

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2019 12:51:37 PM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Recommendation for Bill Kirwan - Montgomery County Planning Board

From: Melissa Burke
Sent: Wednesday, May 08, 2019 12:49 PM
To: Albornoz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Friedson's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Glass's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Jawando's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Katz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Rice's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Riemer's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Hucker's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Recommendation for Bill Kirwan - Montgomery County Planning Board

Dear Members of the Montgomery County Council:

As a lifelong resident and owner of a Women Owned Small Business in Montgomery County, I am delighted to extend this recommendation for William (Bill) Kirwan for the open seat on the Montgomery County Planning Board. His extensive background in the community, professional experience as an architect, and long service on the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission, make him uniquely qualified for this position. I believe the Council would benefit from his leadership, past experiences and strong commitment to doing what is best for our county.

A few highlights from his resume:

- Life-long resident of Montgomery County
- Alumnus of Montgomery County Public Schools and now proud parent of a current student and two alumni of MCPS
- Architect with a 31-year career focused on a community-based practice in Montgomery County who is LEED certified by the U.S. Green Building Council
- Service on the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission for the past 10 years (as Chairman the last 5 years), an advisory commission to the Planning Board
- Leader of the Sligo Park Hills Civic Association

As a strong advocate for public outreach and soliciting the active participation and engagement of County residents, you will not find anyone more qualified and dedicated to serve than Bill Kirwan.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Melissa Bruns Burke

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Marty Brockway"
Date: 4/6/2019 10:19:47 AM
To: "County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov"
<County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>
Cc:
Subject: Mo. Co. Planning Board - William Kirwan

Dear Council Members:

Bill Kirwan, who lives in Sligo Park Hills just around the corner from me, has spent a lifetime being an actively community conscious architect and citizen. He would make an outstanding member of the Montgomery County Planning Board. Please give him your careful consideration.

Thank you,
Marty Brockway

Close

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Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Cate Timmerman Frezza" ·
 Date: 4/6/2019 11:24:55 AM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Fwd: William Kirwan

Dear Council,

On the recommendation I just sent for Bill Kirwan, I should have specified the Planning Board. Please forgive my oversight.

Many thanks,
 Cate Timmerman Frezza

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> From: Cate Timmerman Frezza ·
 > Date: April 6, 2019 at 8:37:43 AM MDT
 > To: County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov
 > Subject: William Kirwan

>

> Dear Council Members,

>

> I am writing today to encourage the Council to select William Kirwan as a board member. Bill is a neighbor of mine in the Sligo Park Hills development and I strongly recommend him. Bill would be an excellent choice to serve on our county council for a number important reasons.

>

> He is a long-time resident of Montgomery County whose application to the Council is based on an interest in and knowledge of county issues over the years, and it's history. He also has experience as a parent of children attending Montgomery County schools. Importantly, he has demonstrated a commitment to preserving the county's historic homes, and he has a broad knowledge of housing issues through his career as an architect in the county.

>

(01)

> Perhaps most important, however, is that Bill is a thoughtful, intelligent person who in my experience listens carefully in a discussion with others —obviously taking into consideration what others are thinking. Then when he speaks, his responses in the conversation come across as a reasoned contribution and always considerate of those in the room. What better qualities are there for someone who is showing a specific interest in serving on the county council with the types of challenges the Council faces and the need for Council members who serve the interests of the entire county?

>

> Sincerely,

>

> Cate Timmerman Frezza

Close

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Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Barbara Gleason"
 Date: 4/6/2019 10:15:11 AM
 To: "County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov"
 <County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: William Kirwan

Dear Members of the Montgomery County Planning Board:

I would like to recommend our good friend and neighbor William Kirwan for a seat on the Montgomery County Planning Board. As you can see, his background is extensive in support of the County in numerous ways.

as alumni of Montgomery County Public Schools

as parent of MCPS students

as an architect with a 31 year career focused on designing our schools and improving our communities

as an active member of our civic association

and for the past ten years, serving the County on the Historic Preservation Commission

You could not have a person more dedicated to the County's betterment than Bill Kirwan. We hope you give Bill your full consideration for this open seat.

thank you,
 Barbara and Gary Gleason

Close

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Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

HTML

From: "Sandra Heiler"
 Date: 4/8/2019 2:19:41 PM
 To: "County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Recommendation for William Kirwan to fill Planning Board seat

Dear Council Members:

I wish to wholeheartedly recommend William Kirwan to fill an open position on the Montgomery County Planning Board. Mr. Kirwan's resume makes abundantly clear that he is highly qualified for a position on the Board. In addition, though, I can attest that the personal qualities I have witnessed during our ten-year joint tenure on the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission (six years as fellow Commissioners, four years where he served as Chairman and I as Vice-Chairman) make him an ideal candidate.

The duty of each HPC Commissioner is to interpret Federal, County and local preservation guidelines and apply them to individual proposals from the public, M-NCPPC, and other county agencies. Throughout his tenure on the HPC, Mr. Kirwan has been a model Commissioner. He has been conscientious and dedicated to the work of the HPC, attending nearly every meeting of the commission and representing the commission at outside meetings. Moreover, he does his homework—visiting proposal sites, researching the topic at hand, and preparing careful, fair, articulate testimony.

Over the last ten years, Mr. Kirwan has made a significant contribution to Montgomery County. Joining the Planning Board would allow him to continue to do so.

Very truly yours,

Sandra Heiler

Chairman, Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission

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Email Viewer

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Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Julius Kassovic"
 Date: 4/10/2019 9:59:14 PM
 To: "County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov"
 <County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Fw: Support for William Kerwan - candidate for Montgomery County Planning Board

To the Montgomery County Planning Board:

We are writing this email to support William Kirwan, who is applying for the open seat on the Planning Board.

We have been his family's neighbors for almost 15 years, have worked closely with him as neighborhood volunteers and were engaged professionally as clients of his wife's architectural practice. We served together as volunteers during the repaving and runoff mitigation project in our neighborhood several years ago and over the last year and a half on the rebuilding of the old bridge on Park Valley Road over Sligo Creek. Bill's technical expertise, his common sense, and good humor all made him a great person with whom to collaborate on a team as well as to follow as lead representative on projects.

Bill is a life long resident of the County. He attended Montgomery County Public Schools, is a parent of MCPS students, and as an Architect worked on the design of local schools among his other projects. He is an active community member in our civic association, and served the County on the Historic Preservation Commission for the past 10 years.

Julius and Melissa Kassovic:

Close

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[HTML](#)

From: "Larry Letow"
 Date: 4/10/2019 10:08:16 AM
 To: "County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov"
 <County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Montgomery County Planning Board recommendation

County Council,

I would like to recommend William "Bill" Kirwan for a seat on the Montgomery County Planning Board. Besides being an ethical individual with a strong base of morals and history of honesty who has been a life-long resident of the County, including attending the Montgomery County Public Schools. He has also raised his children in the county and in the school system as well. He has spent 31 years as an Architect focusing on improving our communities and designing our schools. He is an active community member in his local civic association and has served the County on the Historic Preservation Commission for the past 10 years. He is a strong member of the county that should be strongly considered.

THANK YOU!

Larry

Larry Letow
 President and COO
 LG-TEK

(106)

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Dan Manoff"
 Date: 4/7/2019 7:44:32 AM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: William Kirwin

To the distinguished members of the council,

I have known Mr. William Kirwin for over forty years. I had to write this brief email to all of you to make you aware of the sterling character and excellent man this fine gentleman is. As a lifelong citizen of Montgomery County, it would be a significant benefit for our county to have this man on your council, with his relevant experience and pointed insight. William is that whole person, well educated, well rounded and emotionally mature. All of you would enjoy his contributions, and the citizens of Montgomery County will have a better quality of life if William succeeds in becoming a member of the council.

Respectfully,

Danny Manoff

Close

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Email Viewer

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[HTML](#)

Date: 4/6/2019 5:25:04 PM
 To: "County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov"
 <County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: MoCo Planning board

I support Bill Kirwan for a position on the Montgomery County Planning Board.

Bill has been a resident of the Sligo Park Hills community for many years. He's an active member of SPH civic association. As an architect, he provided leadership and serves as our community liaison with MoCo on the replacement of an historic bridge over Sligo Creek. Bill is led our effort to ensure the replacement bridge retained as much of the historic design as possible.

He's engaged in the community, open minded, sees multiple sides of an issue, and a pleasure to work with.

Sincerely,

Anne McHenry
 President, Sligo Park Hills Citizens Association

Close

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Email Viewer

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[HTML](#)

From: "Karen O'Brien"
Date: 4/6/2019 11:08:55 AM
To: "County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov"
<County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>
Cc:
Subject: Support

We strongly recommend the selection of William Kirwin for the open position on the Planning Board. He is a life-long resident of the County, a product of Montgomery County Public Schools, a parent of MCPS students, an Architect who has spent a 31 year career focused on improving our communities and designing our schools, an active community member in our civic association, and has served the County on the Historic Preservation Commission for the past 10 years. He has shown himself to be a man who is thoughtful, attentive to details and a real team player, among other things. It is difficult for us to imagine a more qualified individual.

Bill and Karen O'Brien

Close

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Piety, Charles"

Date: 4/10/2019 5:49:10 AM

To: "County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov"
<County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>

Cc:

Subject: email of support for William KIRwan to fill the seat on the Montgomery County Planning Board

Good afternoon,

I am honored to write the county council today in support of my friend and neighbor William Kirwan. William (Bill) and I went to the same elementary (Oakview), junior high (Eastern) and high school (Blair) together. I'm sure you remember the vaunted Oakview Steelers, 6th grade flag football champions? Unscored upon in the regular season and undefeated champions. Bill and I were a part of that magical run.

Seriously, more important than going to the same schools, what motivates me this morning to write you is my belief that Bill will do what is right for ALL the citizens of Montgomery county while trying to grow MC is a sensible way. I believe his background as an architect gives him a good perspective on the complex issues the planning board has to deal with.

sincerely,

Charles Piety

Charles Piety

Teacher: Honors Chemistry, IB Chemistry, AP Chemistry

Sponsor: Science National Honor Society

Coach: Assistant Coach, Boys JV Basketball

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Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
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HTML

From: "greg whelan"
Date: 4/6/2019 8:09:04 PM
To: "County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov"
<County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>
Cc:
Subject: Bill Kirwan

Dear Council members,
I'm emailing to voice my support of Bill Kirwan's interest in joining the county planning board. Bill is an upstanding citizen, intelligent, levelheaded and fair. His outstanding experience and talents make him a perfect candidate for this role.
Please consider his application favorably.

Sincerely
Greg Whelan
Owner, McGintys Public House
Silver Spring

Sent from my iPhone

Close



April 24, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Navarro
President, Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Council Member Navarro:

I would like to submit my name in consideration for the Montgomery County Planning Board vacancy created by the expiration of Norman Dreyfuss' second term. I know the County Council now has the important job of considering applicants to fill that significant slot. I believe I am a candidate of substance for this position, due to my strong background in planning, advocacy and transportation. I have called Montgomery County my home for more than 43 years and know it well, from many different views. I have had a great deal of interaction over the years with both the Planning Board and the County Council and understand the synergistic relationship between the two and their important imprint on the County. As the County gently sheds its suburban moniker and urbanizes, the challenges facing us have propelled me to apply for the Planning Board position.

I have a long record of public service, having spent more than 30 years in the public sector. As Planning Director for the City of Gaithersburg, followed by a significant stint as Montgomery County's first Clarksburg Ombudsman, I relished the role of public servant. Serving on the Planning Board would continue this tradition of listening to the people and giving back, all of which are characteristic of our County's planning process. Both professional experiences gave me a deep appreciation for, and broad experience with the burgeoning Upcounty, an area that needs more attention than it has received in the past, particularly with respect to infrastructure. I have also followed closely the emergence of White Oak's new future by monitoring its' Master Plan review and approval process during my most recent position in the private sector. I believe my knowledge and familiarity with the Upcounty area, in particular Clarksburg, would be an asset on the Planning Board. I also live in an area of the County, White Flint/North Bethesda- where much positive change is underway and anticipated. It would be valuable to have a resident of that area as a witness on the Planning Board as the Pike District transforms. The changes underway to enhance my walkability and access to services are exciting and can't happen soon enough for me.

During my long tenure in Gaithersburg I worked alongside Andres Duany and the City Council and Planning Commission to take the County's MXD zone and transform it into the City's MXP zone, turning 352 acres of farmland into the motherlode of neo-traditionalism-Kentlands. That was followed by similar efforts at Lakelands, and subsequently Washingtonian, all of which put Gaithersburg on the map as an early example of New Urbanism and the charrette process. It was a challenging political process, totally uncharted. However, my staff and I, the developer, and the strong political will of our Mayor and City Council at the time, created one of the most successful New Urbanist projects in the country, that undoubtedly has withstood the test of time. I view it as my legacy. I bring these skills to the table.

My experience as Clarksburg Ombudsman tested my negotiating and mediation skills as I brought the conversation together between the disappointed community, developers and the government. While not all

problems were solved, I felt I was quite effective as a conduit for disseminating information, educating the citizens and listening to all. This skillset has been a strength of mine throughout my career as I managed a planning staff in Gaithersburg and served on a design team later in my career in the private sector at Rodgers Consulting. During my tenure in Gaithersburg I was charged with an ambitious "streamlining" task. I was asked to combine the existing Permits Department and the Planning Department and take on its leadership to offer the public a seamless development process. This required an enormous effort on my part, resistance from many because I was a woman and concern because the goal was to flatten the hierarchy and create a team where everyone would work together to produce the best product for the City of Gaithersburg. It was a difficult transition, but we were quite successful in creating a development review process for that 10+ square mile city that was second to none. I take some credit for that reputation that Gaithersburg continues to enjoy today.

More recently, I have held leadership positions as President of Montgomery Women, a group that seeks to encourage women into leadership positions by taking a chance and launching themselves. As VP of Economic Development for the Greater Bethesda Chamber I testified before the County Council on many issues focused on encouraging economic development in the County, as well as participated heavily in discussions regarding school capacity and transportation adequacy. I recognize the value of economic development in order to keep our community competitive and unlike some planners, have learned from the private side how the development process really works, particularly with respect to the costs that are levied before the shovel hits the dirt. I also was a member of the now famous "ZAP", the Zoning Advisory Panel, which had the unenviable job of re-creating the County's old Zoning Ordinance and turning it into a more workable document. Being acutely aware of the costs associated with the loss of time during the review process, during the ZAP study, I proposed a calendar limitation of 90-120 days for reviews, an addition to the process that characterizes it today. Accordingly, my knowledge of the Zoning Ordinance is part of the package that comes with me.

The recent election brought to light concerns about the need to grow the county and its business community in order to support the pressing needs of our population. Over the last several years the Planning Board has made great strides in that direction by updating many major master plans, but the task is not done. I think the Board, under the tutelage of the County Council, must continue this effort, particularly with respect to our aging corridors, but also maintain focus on the implementation of the adopted Master Plans. The Council and the Planning Board must work together to create the economic climate that will facilitate the market to proceed. A good master plan can't do the job alone, but together we could.

The current Planning Board, which is composed of strong figures, has a host of divergent opinions which generate much discussion as they engage. I believe my people skills could help facilitate bringing the Board together for the conversation we need to have about our County's future. I have spent a significant time at the Planning Board and appreciate the importance of their staff in helping the decision-making process. I think my familiarity with the staff and the process will be valuable in that regard. I hope you will seriously consider my application during the next steps to fill the Planning Board vacancy. I would certainly ask that I be included in the interview process which follows.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jennifer Russel

JENNIFER RUSSEL

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Principal

Rodgers Consulting, Inc.

April 2007 – December 2018

Planner on team of design professionals in the Planning Studio arm of land planning and civil engineering consulting firm. The team is well-known for its expertise in acquiring entitlements for New Urbanist, infill development and mixed-use development projects in Montgomery and Frederick Counties. Primary responsibility on the team and for all clients included close monitoring of the regulatory environment and knowledge-based issues at the county and municipal levels, with particular focus on adequacy of school capacity in relation to County's Subdivision Staging Policy (SSP). Served as a primary resource on legislation via leadership positions on local Chambers of Commerce and Building Industry.

Clarksburg Ombudsman

Montgomery County, MD

March 2006 – March 2007

Appointed by County Executive Doug Duncan in response to a "crisis in confidence" related to the planning process in the emerging corridor city of Clarksburg. Tasked to act as a seamless link between County government, citizens of Clarksburg and Park and Planning to provide information and assistance in the planning and approval process for a transit-oriented new town, in an effort to restore credibility to the development review process. Tasks include facilitating delivery of services to Clarksburg, problem solving and developing recommendations for planning and design solutions to create the vision for the community as originally proposed. Involved with citizens, government, business leaders and the development community to produce a neo-traditional community.

Director of Planning and Code Administration

City of Gaithersburg, MD

1994 - 2003

Supervised and managed multidisciplinary department of 40+ employees involved in planning, development and neighborhood services activities for the third largest municipality on Maryland under the aegis of autonomous planning and zoning powers. Actively involved in development review, Master Plan development, Implementation of Smart Growth policies, New Urbanism and quality managed customer service. Instrumental in implementation of the Kentlands neotraditional community. Merged Planning and Code Enforcement departments into a "one-stop" shop for development review in the City and assumed directorship of the combined department.

Planning Director 1978 – 1994
City of Gaithersburg, MD

Supervised planning agency of rapidly growing municipality in the suburbs of Washington, DC. Involved in site plan review master plan production, zoning interpretation, acting as staff to Planning Commission, Historic District Commission and Board of Appeals. Developed and implemented quality-oriented management framework with active teams.

Planner 1977 – 1978
City of Gaithersburg, MD

Served as staff planner under direct supervision of Planning Director. Reviewed and presented site plans, rezoning applications and annexations. Administered record plat process and staffed City Board of Appeals.

Housing Planner 1976 – 1977
Anne Arundel County, MD

Performed one-year contract with selected team to prepare a Housing Plan for Anne Arundel County under the direction of the County Department of Planning and Zoning.

Planner 1973 – 1976
Harford County, MD

Staff planner funded by "701" Comprehensive Planning Grant. Completed Community Facilities element of the Master Plan; developed Historic Preservation Ordinance for adoption and assisted in the establishment of the Housing Agency.

EDUCATION

Catholic University of America, Washington, DC
M.C.R.P. (Masters in City and Regional Planning)

George Washington University, Washington, DC
Bachelor of Arts International Affairs

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS/ACCREDITATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

Qualified as Expert Witness before the Montgomery County Hearing Examiner
CNU Accreditation 2010
APA – American Planning Association
Lambda Alpha – Honorary International Land Use Society

COMMUNITY CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

Montgomery County Planning Board Zoning Advisory Panel, Member - 2009

Former Board Member, Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce/

VP Economic Development and Government Affairs; Executive Committee - 2015-2018

Board of Directors, CCT Coalition: from inception

Montgomery Women, Board - 2012-Present; currently Special Events Co-chair; former President

Chair, Suburban Maryland Transportation Alliance (SMTA) 2015-present

Chair, Clarksburg Infrastructure Working Group - 2010

Former Board Member, BlackRock Center for the Arts - 2009-2015

Co-Chair BlackRock Center for the Arts 2019 Gala

PARTY AFFILIATION

Democrat



May 23, 2019

Montgomery County Council President Nancy Navarro
Stella B. Werner Council Office Building
100 Maryland Ave, Rockville, MD 20850

Re: Letter of Support for Jennifer Russel for Appointment to Montgomery County Planning Board

Dear Council President Navarro,

We are writing to you in support of Jennifer Russel's appointment to the Montgomery County Planning Board. Ms. Russel's extensive knowledge of land use, planning and zoning make her a very fitting choice for the Planning Board. Her 30 years as a public servant, and numerous years as a private sector consultant, have afforded Ms. Russel hands on experience that AOBA believes will be critical when making difficult policy decisions. Further, having served as the Ombudsman for Clarksburg, she has a talent for coalition building and fostering compromise which is so vital to the work of the Planning Board.

At AOBA, we have seen firsthand how Ms. Russel approaches complicated policy issues. When working with her on Councilmember Floreen's comprehensive re-write of the inclusionary zoning laws, her attention to detail and her grasp of zoning and housing policy was impressive. We were also impressed by the way she brought stakeholders together and continued to learn from diverse stakeholder perspectives. During our work together she was truly a leader in seeking solutions that would achieve County goals while respecting needs and concerns of the business community.

As Montgomery County looks to revitalize economic development and be cognizant of equity in policymaking, the Planning Board will be essential in supporting these priorities. We feel strongly that, as a member of the Planning Board, Jennifer Russel will bring the talent and passion necessary for that task.

If you have any questions, please contact Erin Bradley at er Bradley@aoba-metro.org or (301) 261-1460.

Sincerely,

Nicola Y. Whiteman, Esq.
Senior Vice President of Government Affairs

Erin Bradley
Vice President of Government Affairs, MD



Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Joan Clement"
 Date: 5/29/2019 1:10:22 PM
 To: "County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Appoint Brandy Brooks to the Planning Board

Dear Montgomery County Council members:

I urge you to recommend Brandy Brooks for appointment to the Planning Board. Ms. Brooks is exceptionally well-qualified for this position. She has over a decade of experience in both design and planning as well as community organizing for environmental, social, and economic justice.

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope you will recommend Brandy for Planning Board.

Joan Clement

Close

(118)

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 11:31:29 AM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Planning Board Vacancy

From: FREDRIC GILLESPIE |
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2019 4:24 PM
To: Katz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Cc: Albornoz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Glass's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Jawando's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Riemer's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Friedson's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Hucker's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Rice's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Planning Board Vacancy

Dear Councilmembers,

How fortunate you are to have a candidate with the credentials of **Jennifer Russel** for the vacancy on the Planning Board! She has been involved in all aspects of planning from the private sector, to the zoning panel, the Chamber of Commerce and also as an Ombudsman and cultural arts chairperson. We live in King Farm, a community that offers self-contained living, social, and working opportunities, and we have admired her leadership in creating similar communities - Kentlands, Lakelands, and Washingtonian. What a huge breadth of experience!

On a personal level, she is an individual who is engaging, accessible, and direct in her vision of the current and future status of Montgomery County. All for the good.

Thank you for supporting her candidacy,

Elaine and Fred Gillespie

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 10:31:05 AM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Vacant Planning Board Position

-----Original Message-----

From: Linda Dallas Reider [
Sent: Sunday, May 26, 2019 10:15 AM
To: Riemer's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Cc: Albornoz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Friedson's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Glass's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Hucker's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Jawando's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Katz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Rice's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Vacant Planning Board Position

Dear Councilmember Riemer,

I am writing in support of Jennifer Russel to fill the vacant planning board position.

I met Ms. Russel in the fall of 1975 when I moved to the area having just completed law school in the Boston area and taken the Massachusetts Bar Exam. Having been fascinated by the land use ideas I heard from my first-year law school Property Law professor, I eagerly peppered her with questions ♦ and continue to do so today.

You see, my husband and I became close friends with Jennifer and her husband and that friendship has been close and abiding for 44 years.

While I cannot speak about her professional accomplishments, I do know first-hand how dedicated she is to planning for land use in Montgomery County. I won♦t pretend to have a full grasp of all the issues, but I have had the benefit of many, many conversations with Jennifer when she answers my questions that usually start with ♦Why is the county doing....♦. I come away a smarter and more informed voter, citizen, and advocate.

I receive your emails updating me on your work as councilman and I greatly appreciate those as an excellent way to know what is happening in the county my husband and I have loved for these past 44 years ♦ and have no intention of abandoning for Florida!

I hope that my email has given you some additional insight. I have chosen not to recite Jennifer♦s astounding credentials and resume as I imagine you are in possession of her resume. I do, however, know her as a member who, if chosen, will listen thoughtfully to all constituencies and work harder than anyone I know to help reach the best possible solution for our county.

Sincerely,

Helen Linda Dallas Reider

Verma

April 1, 2019

Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Councilmembers:

In response to the council's announcement dated February 25, 2019, I am honored to have the opportunity to apply for the open position on the Planning Board. A true believer in robust civic engagement, I am a passionate advocate for improving countywide issues of pedestrian safety, affordable housing, and reliable access to good public transportation—particularly to those populations that have often been underserved.

As a lifelong Montgomery County resident, I am also committed to ensuring our county continues to invest in smart, green, and equitable policies that not only grow our economy, but also create a "sense of place" for all of our vibrant neighborhoods. Most importantly, as the son of immigrants and a member of the LGBTQIA community, I hope to be a voice for our county's more diverse populations and to advocate particularly for inclusive policies that serve our most vulnerable populations.

When my parents came to this country in the 1960s, my father was the first from his small village in India to go to college, and my mother spoke almost no English. After my father completed his PhD, they moved first to Prince Georges County. My father was professor at Howard University, and my mother took three different buses into the city in order to take free community English classes. After my siblings and I were born, we moved to Montgomery County, where we were one of many immigrant families who contributed to the diversity and vitality of the community. My parents believed very strongly that living the American Dream also meant giving back to the community. So while my father joined the U.S. Army to research infectious diseases, my mother took on the role of "community ambassador" for each new immigrant family that moved to our neighborhood. Through the countless welcome lunches she would host, I watched with wonder as she patiently helped our new friends navigate everything from county bus schedules to school enrollment forms. On more than one occasion, she may also have organized a field trip to the local supermarket in order to demonstrate the persuasive art of using an expired coupon! Throughout those early years – while there were plenty of moments where others saw only their dark skin and heard only their accent – my parents always reminded my brother, sister and me how lucky we were to be in America and how important it was to serve and help others.

In my adult life, I have strived to lead a life of service and integrity which not only honors my parents, but also our immigrant experience. I recently completed 15 years of service in the federal government as legal counsel at the U.S. Department of State and U.S. Department of Homeland Security, both agencies in which I have diligently ensured the fair application and due process of our country's immigration laws. My husband, a veteran of the U.S. Army, served multiple combat tours to Iraq as an infantry officer before serving as a diplomat and now as program manager for the U.S. State Department's peace operations capacity building efforts in Africa. We are raising our two sons (and a daughter who will arrive soon!) to be compassionate and thoughtful members of the global community.

Upon moving to Forest Glen in 2013, I discovered we were missing a forum where neighbors could routinely discuss important decisions that both the county and state were proposing for our community – particularly issues of housing, zoning, pedestrian safety, transportation, and broader community development. My response was to create the blog "Finding Forest Glen," an online platform that quickly became a place for readers and residents to discuss issues in a more transparent, holistic, and equitable way. In 2015, I organized a community outreach "charrette," where over 60 Forest Glen residents came together to discuss our redevelopment, pedestrian safety, and transportation priorities. Shortly after that meeting, in collaboration

with other community stakeholders, I memorialized these priorities by publishing the "Forest Glen Redevelopment Report: A Community's Voice." This report, an important public resource, is now available on the Planning Department's website.

Since 2015, through numerous civic engagements, I have tried to ensure that our "community voice" grows not only stronger and more inclusive, but also reaches planners and decision makers in our state and county government. To this end, I am a founding member of Friends of Forest Glen and Montgomery Hills, an advocacy group committed to equitably addressing transportation, environment, and development issues for both these communities.

In addition to my advocacy, in 2017 I was appointed to the Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board where I was recently elected to the Land-Use Chair position. In my spare time, I also volunteer as a mediator/panel attorney for the Montgomery County Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs - Commission on Common Ownership Communities. In this role, I have successfully mediated several HOA disputes throughout the county. Most recently, I was part of a coalition that successfully advocated for the county to receive over \$20 million for the 2nd metro entrance/pedestrian tunnel in Forest Glen. And last summer, my advocacy group also organized a Street Festival where over 700 attended to support local businesses and advocate for pedestrian safety in Montgomery Hills.

If selected to the Planning Board, I will be dedicated to the Board's mission of advancing a sustainable vision for the County while advocating for principles that define our unique communities. I am excited for this opportunity and thank you for your consideration for this position.

Sincerely,



Partap Verma

PARTAP SINGH VERMA

IMMIGRATION LAW

MEDIATION

URBAN PLANNING

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Professional attorney and certified federal mediator with over 15 years of domestic and international experience rendering expert legal, policy, and mediation advice focused on litigation risk, privacy and regulatory compliance, conflict resolution, immigration law, and interagency collaboration. Fast, accurate research, analytical, and oral communication skills coupled with a strong, inclusive management style. A vibrant work and community service history of legal writing, policy review, dispute resolution, organizational advocacy and community engagement. A dedicated public servant, and engaged county resident committed to smart growth, plural perspectives, and pragmatic decision-making. Fluent in Hindi and Urdu.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Counsel, Immigration Law, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC **2012-Present**

Serving as an Associate Counsel for the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) – Office of Chief Counsel. Provide legal advice and act as in-house counsel focusing on litigation risks, privacy issues, fraud prevention, and interagency information sharing spelled out in the Immigration and Nationality Act and applicable, supporting statutes.

- Certified as Refugee and Asylum Officer responsible for interviewing, assessing, and ultimately adjudicating refugee and asylum applications brought to the agency from UNHCR (the UN Refugee Agency) and the U.S. Department of State
- Conducted agency-level legal analysis for high-profile immigration inquiries coming from Congressional Member offices, including drafting formal responses to House and Senate Judiciary Committee staffs
- Led the agency's legal support for external stakeholder engagement documents on social media platforms and official USCIS communications
- Led drafting the agency's primary information-sharing agreements with the Department of Labor, Department of Defense and General Services Administration
- Served as Federal Mediator
- Nominated for prestigious Agency Director's Award in 2017 – one of 10 nominees in an agency of 16,000

Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC **2006 – 2012**

Served as Attorney-Advisor for the U.S. Department of State - Bureau of Consular Affairs, providing extensive legal and policy advice to senior bureau leadership, geographic bureaus, functional bureaus, and embassy/consulate staff globally. Legal advice included analysis of relevant regulatory and legislative proposals, on-going visa and passport issues, refugee and special immigrant visa (SIV) claims, and overseas American citizen service cases.

- Led the drafting of several high-profile interagency information sharing agreements, including agreements with the Departments of Treasury, Commerce, Justice, Defense, and various members of the intelligence community
- Represented the Department in administrative hearings and litigation proceedings involving the adjudication of visa and passport fraud cases
- Represented the Department in implementing international immigration related treaties, working closely with Embassies and Consulates to ensure compliance
- Awarded Department's prestigious Meritorious Honor Award in 2007

U.S. Diplomat – Consular Officer, U.S. Department of State, Istanbul, Turkey **2009**

Served six-month overseas diplomatic detail at U.S. Consulate – Istanbul, adjudicating over 2,500 visas specializing in business executives and managers as well as intra-company transferees. Provided policy and legal support to the Consulate team and attended numerous business liaison meetings, conducting public diplomacy outreach to the business and student community in Turkey.

U.S. Diplomat – Consular Officer, U.S. Department of State, Mumbai, India **2007**

Served six-month overseas diplomatic detail at U.S. Consulate – Mumbai, adjudicating over 4,000 visas in India's Business Executive Program. Provided legal and policy support at the Mumbai Consulate and interviewed over 100 applicants daily in various Indian languages and routinely worked on weekends to help with the visa backlog. Worked with the Indian Business Community to ensure that H1B applicants were properly adjudicated and streamlined through the visa process. Adjudicated treaty trader investor visas, focusing on bringing new investment and trade through the visa process. Presented at public diplomacy events on political, business, educational and government related issues at the Mumbai Consulate.

CIVIC EXPERIENCE

VOLUNTEER WORK

Founder & Community Blogger , Finding Forest Glen Blog (http://findingforestglen.wordpress.com)	2015 - Present
Member , Forest Glen Citizens Association	2013 - Present
Founder & Executive Board Member , Friends of Forest Glen & Montgomery Hills Advocacy Group (http://friendsofforestglen.org)	2015 - Present
Volunteer Legal Counsel , Deer Park Homeowner's Association	2007 - Present
Volunteer Mediator , Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs	2018 - Present
Executive Board Member , Gandhi Brigade, Silver Spring, MD	2017 - Jan 2018
Member and Land Use Chair , Mid-County Citizen's Advisory Board	2017 - Present
Executive Board Member , Sierra Club of Montgomery County	2019 - Present

OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

Forest Glen Charrette: Organized community event where over 60 community members attended to discuss pedestrian safety, traffic and redevelopment of Forest Glen - August 26, 2015

Montgomery Hills Charrette: Organized interactive discussion where over 75 community members attended to discuss redevelopment of Georgia Ave, focusing on pedestrian safety, traffic and community amenities - June 12, 2018

County Council CIP hearing: Successfully advocated for 2nd metro entrance at Forest Glen into the CIP budget - February 7, 2018

Montgomery Hills Street Festival: Organized an event where over 700 community members attended supporting local businesses and pedestrian safety at first Street Festival of its kind in Montgomery Hills - September 29, 2018

PUBLICATIONS

- "Forest Glen Redevelopment Report: "A Community's Voice" [LINK](#) - October 2, 2015
- "Montgomery County must improve pedestrian safety in White Flint, advocates say." [LINK](#) - November 30, 2017
- "Here's how Montgomery County could prioritize pedestrian safety in White Flint, Forest Glen, and beyond" [LINK](#) - December 1, 2017
- "A new entrance at Forest Glen Metro could strengthen two disconnected neighborhoods" [LINK](#) - June 3, 2015
- "Silver Spring is a more complete place thanks to its new library" [LINK](#) - June 29, 2015
- "A chain-link fence is blocking people from getting to the Forest Glen Metro" [LINK](#) - December 1, 2017
- "Forest Glen residents want to replace a giant Metro parking lot with buildings" [LINK](#) - October 29, 2015
- "Forest Glen residents and a state delegate want a MARC station in Forest Glen" [LINK](#) - June 30, 2015

EDUCATION

J.D., <i>Juris Doctor (with Honors)</i> , Pennsylvania State University	-2005
• <i>Certificate, International Comparative Law</i> , University of London	-2004
• <i>Certificate, International Trade Law</i> , University of Geneva	-2003
B.A., <i>Political Science and Spanish</i> , University of Maryland at College Park	-2001
<i>Paint Branch High School</i> - Burtonsville, Maryland	-1996

JHEANELLE WILKINS
Legislative District 20
Montgomery County

Ways and Means Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 225
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3493 • 301-858-3493
800-492-7122 Ext. 3493
Fax 410-841-3445 • 301-858-3445
jheanelle.wilkins@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

May 2, 2019

Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Montgomery County Councilmembers:

I am writing to share my enthusiastic support of Partap Verma to fill the vacancy on the Montgomery County Planning Board. A lifelong Montgomery County resident, Mr. Verma has demonstrated a strong commitment to our community through his activism, organizing, and outreach to ensure that all residents have a voice in decisions that impact their daily lives.

I have worked with Mr. Verma in his role as founder of Friends of Forest Glen and Montgomery Hills, a community advocacy group founded with the vision of improving neighborhood connectivity, Metro accessibility, pedestrian safety, and attracting businesses that better serve the community's needs through the redesign of the Georgia Avenue Corridor. In this role, I have witnessed Mr. Verma's ability to engage residents and utilize his knowledge of the planning process to make progress with the State Highway Administration for full funding for the MD 97 Montgomery Hills Project.

In addition, Mr. Verma has an impressive background in law and mediation. His role as the Land Use Chair on the Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board, environmental advocacy as an Executive Board Member of the Sierra Club of Montgomery County, and community engagement through membership on various civic associations and volunteer organizing make him an ideal candidate for the Montgomery County Planning Board.

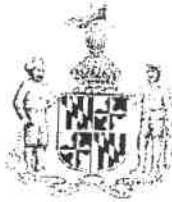
I am confident that Mr. Verma understands the needs of Montgomery County residents and will continue to be effective in making our community an even greater place for all. He has demonstrated an exemplary commitment to service, and I fully support his appointment to the Montgomery County Planning Board so he may continue to improve the quality of life for those who live here.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jheanelle Wilkins".

Delegate Jheanelle Wilkins

EMILY SHETTY
Legislative District 18
Montgomery County
—
Judiciary Committee



Annapolis Office
The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 224
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3181 • 301-858-3181
800-492-7122 Ext. 3181
Emily.Shetty@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Dear esteemed Members of the Montgomery County Council:

I am writing to express my strong support for the appointment of Partap Verma to the Planning Board.

I first learned of him through his incredible community advocacy via his informative blog Finding Forest Glen, which I followed for years before actually meeting Partap in person. His blog covered a wide array of issues ranging from housing to zoning, transportation and safety, and serves as a valuable tool in mobilizing members of the community around local issues.

Partap has since taken his role as a community organizer even further through his numerous local volunteer engagements. He has served on the Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board as the Land-Use Chair, has volunteered his time as a mediator/panel attorney for the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs-Commission on Common Ownership property, and most recently has worked closely with members of his neighborhood to advocate successfully for a second metro entrance/pedestrian tunnel in Forest Glen. He has also been extremely engaged with a coalition of Forest Glen and Montgomery Hills neighbors in an important effort to revitalize a critical section of Georgia Avenue.

Partap's commitment to improving our community is commendable, and he possesses both the experience and professional capabilities necessary to serve our county well on the Planning Board. While I know this decision is a difficult one with many talented candidates, I am pleased to recommend Partap Verma without reservation.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily D. Shetty".

Emily Shetty
Delegate, D18
MD House of Delegates

May 20, 2019

Montgomery County Council
Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: Support for appointment of Partap Verma to the Planning Board

Dear President Navarro and Councilmembers:

The Coalition for Smarter Growth is committed to supporting sustainable and equitable development, housing, and transportation in Montgomery County. We are excited by the opportunities ahead for the county, but we also recognize the significant challenges in economic development and access to jobs, housing supply and affordability, and affordable and accessible transportation. To meet these challenges, the Planning Board must continue to prioritize inclusive, transit-oriented growth. For that reason, we strongly support the appointment of Partap Verma to the Planning Board.

Partap has the issue area expertise and passion to be an effective member of the Planning Board. He is a proven local leader on affordable housing, pedestrian safety, and transit access. He has promoted civic engagement among his neighbors in Forest Glen, leading community planning and advocacy efforts. He has hosted successful dialogues and events, helped to found civic organizations, advocated for transit infrastructure, held a chair position on the Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board, and volunteered as a mediator/panel attorney for HOA disputes.

From these experiences, Partap has shown an impressive ability to connect with and listen to the needs of Montgomery County residents, an invaluable trait for a member of the Planning Board in an increasingly diverse county. He is an advocate for the needs of underserved and marginalized communities, and provides a voice for Montgomery's growing foreign-born/first-generation and LGBTQIA+ communities. As a dedicated federal employee and husband of a U.S. Army veteran, he also understands the importance of public service.

Looking forward, Partap will be able to provide a critical voice during upcoming and important conversations about the way Montgomery County will grow, including updates to the Subdivision Staging Policy and the Countywide Master Plan. His vision will help create the mixed-use, mixed-income, walkable, inclusive, and transit-oriented places that the county needs in order to further equity, environmental sustainability, economic competitiveness, and growth in the commercial tax base.

For the many reasons enumerated above, Partap Verma has earned our strong endorsement for

appointment to the Planning Board.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stewart Schwartz".

Stewart Schwartz
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jane Lyons".

Jane Lyons
Maryland Advocacy Manager

April 24, 2019

Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: **Planning Board – Letter of Recommendation**

Dear Councilmembers:

Please accept this letter of support and recommendation on behalf of Partap Verma for the vacant position on the Montgomery County Planning Board.

Partap is a true community advocate who has dedicated his time and resources to important initiatives in Montgomery County and successfully “moved the needle forward” to positively impact residents. From the creation of his blog, “**Finding Forest Glen**,” to the founding of the advocacy organization, **Friends of Forest Glen and Montgomery Hills**, Partap has done the hard work of grassroots community organizing and mobilized residents around issues of transit, pedestrian safety, environmental sustainability, and economic development. His participation in a coalition that successfully advocated for more than \$20M in funding for a 2nd metro entrance in Forest Glen demonstrates his ability to work well with Councilmembers and the public to advocate for win-win initiatives that benefit Montgomery County residents.

Partap’s degree in law, **certification as a federal mediator**, and **years of experience providing legal advice to top U.S. agencies** speak to his analytical competencies and temperament – critical components for a position as important as the Planning Board. His work as the **Land-Use Chair on the Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board** shows that Planning Board content is not new to him. He is well-versed in smart growth strategies that Montgomery County needs as our retirement population increases while the budget demands of our diverse residents also increase. He promotes ideas and strategies that are creative yet fiscally-sustainable. He has always been clear in his desire to create an interconnected community where opportunities are within reach for everyone.

I strongly recommend Partap Verma for the Planning Board. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Leslie Milano

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers	Source
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[HTML](#)

Hello Council Members - I am writing in support of my Partap Verma for the open seat on the Montgomery County Planning Board.

I have know Partap for several years and know him to be a strong advocate for sustainability and equality, and to be of good character.

I met Partap serveral years ago when I helped him and his husband convert their home in Forest Glen to solar power. We became friends through that process and have kept in touch.

Given his professional experience and personal commitment to helping better the community, I believe Partap would serve Montgomery County well as a member of the Planning Board.

Thank you for all of your service and dedication to the County, and for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kurt Zwally.

Close

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers	Source
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HTML

Dear Montgomery County Council:

I support Partap Verma's candidacy for the County Planning Board.

Brad Rourke

Close

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers	Source
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[HTML](#)

From: "Elton McIntosh"
 Date: 4/27/2019 9:53:39 AM
 To: "County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov" <County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Partap Verma for Planning Board

To Montgomery Country Council,

I'm writing in support of Mr. Partap Verma's bid to become a member of the Montgomery County Planning Board. I've been a resident of Silver Spring since 1999. I met Mr. Verma in 2012, when I joined the federal division in which he works. Since that time, I have come to know him in both a professional and personal capacity. We have shared many discussions about our shared Silver Spring/Forest Glen communities. I find Partap to be highly knowledgeable about issues affecting our community. These include transportation, housing and commercial development. He demonstrates a deep understanding of the impact on our lives of current county programs ,plans and initiatives. For example, we discussed the development of Bus Rapid Transit and my questioning of its necessity. I think his informed, thoughtful and reasonable approach to these issues would be an invaluable asset to the board.

Regards,

Elton McIntosh

Close

132

Email Viewer

Message**Details****Attachments****Headers****Source**[HTML](#)

From: "Andrea McIntosh" .
Date: 4/27/2019 10:29:07 AM
To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov" <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Cc:
Subject: Recommendation for Partap Verma

Dear Council Members,

I'm writing in support of Mr. Partap Verma's application to become a member of the Montgomery County Planning Board. My husband and I have been residents of Silver Spring since 1999 and we met Mr. Verma in 2012, through our positions as federal government employees. Since that time, I have come to know him in both a professional and personal capacity, and have gained much affection and admiration for him. Our families have shared many home-cooked dinners where we discuss issues relevant to the Silver Spring/Forest Glen communities we love. Mr. Verma is knowledgeable about issues related to development, education, housing, transportation, etc., and I find him to be reasonable, thoughtful, and always open to the opinions and arguments of others – including my 18-yr-old daughter who is prone to argue local politics with Mr. Verma. He is inclusive and respectful in discussions, and he has the benefit of growing up in Montgomery County and having been part of its evolution. I think his informed and thoughtful approach to these issues would be an invaluable asset to the board.

Thank you for consideration of his candidacy, and thank you for the work that you do.

Kind regards,

Andrea McIntosh

Close

133

Email Viewer

Message**Details****Attachments****Headers****Source**[HTML](#)

From: "Seth Troy"

Date: 4/25/2019 9:08:25 AM

To: "County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov" <County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov>

Cc:

Subject: Partap Verma for MoCo planning board

>
> Dear Montgomery County Council Member:
>
> Thank you for your service to our community.
>

I write this email in support of Partap joining the Montgomery County
> Planning Board. Partap and I both live in the Forest Glen neighborhood of
> Silver Spring and I have known him for about four years. During that time,
> he has been a tireless advocate for our community. He has been able to
> engage people, committees and departments within our local government and
> support positive change. Moreover, he has the ability to connect citizens
> and government in a way that I've never seen before. He's constantly
> reaching out to my neighbors and me with local updates, opportunities and
> events that should matter to us but we otherwise would ignore. Whenever I
> have a question about a local issue, he always has the answer. His passion
> for our community is unwavering and inspiring. We are incredibly fortunate
> to have someone with his energy, capability, and character who is willing
> to serve on the board and I hope he has the opportunity.

>
> Regards,
>
> Seth Troy

Close

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Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers	Source
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[HTML](#)

From: "Len Rickman"
Date: 4/25/2019 10:47:56 AM
To: "County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov" <County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>
Cc: "councilmember.hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov" <councilmember.hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: MoCo Planning Board

Dear County Council and councilmember Hucker. I am writing to support Mr. Partap Verma for a seat on the Montgomery County Planning Board. Mr. Verma has good ideas for transportation, land use, and other issues that the Planning Board addresses, and is highly qualified to serve.

Thank you for your consideration. - Len Rickman,

Close

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers	Source
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[HTML](#)

From: "Betsy Tao" .
 Date: 4/30/2019 9:54:03 AM
 To: "councilmember.katz@montgomerycountymd.gov" <councilmember.katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>, "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov" <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Letter in Support for Partap Verma's Candidacy for the MoCo Planning Board

Dear Madam and Sirs,

I am a resident of Rockville and am writing to enthusiastically support Partap Verma, my friend and colleague, and his bid to join the Montgomery County Planning Board. I can think of no one more suited for this position.

I first met Partap when I moved back to the DMV five years ago and first settled in Forest Glen, where he and I were neighbors and were introduced by a mutual friend. Since that time, Partap and I have remained closely connected as friends and coworkers, so I know him and his reputation very well. He is a person of many interests, but there is no doubt in anyone's mind that his primary passion in life is Forest Glen and the larger MoCo community.

Partap's resume speaks for itself, so I won't repeat any of it here. What I will do is offer a personal perspective, which is that behind every position he has served and every organization he has founded or become a part of, are the thousand other ways he has served the community that can't be put on a resume. Partap and his husband Palmer are known for their frequent large parties, which - regardless of occasion - have been wonderful community events where people who currently live in Forest Glen or used to live in Forest Glen come together. Partap is a master at connecting with others as well as connecting others based on shared interests, he is the person you go to for advice about anything in the MoCo community, and he is a untiring champion for MoCo and Forest Glen in particular. I have no doubt that all of these skills would make him a fantastic addition to the Planning Board.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Warm regards,

Betsy Tao

Close

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Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

HTML

From: "Shabnam Afsah" <
 Date: 4/1/2019 4:43:14 PM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Letter in support of Partap Singh Verma for Planning Board

I'm writing in support of Partap Singh Verma's candidacy for the county Planning Board. I have been a resident of Mont County since 1992 and as an active member of several grassroots groups, I am civically engaged and politically active. I have been friends with Partap for four years and feel that he has a lot of offer our county. He is a federal employee and a socially committed citizen. As the son of immigrants and a lifelong Mont County resident, he understands the challenges of planning for a county that is ethnically and financially diverse. In my view he will be of immense value to the Planning Board.

Yours sincerely,
 Shabnam Arora Afsah

Close

(137)

April 3, 2019

To: County Council
100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

From: Dr. Satya Bose

Reference: Recommendation for Mr. Partab Verma for Montgomery County Planning Board Position

Dear Council Member Hucker and County Council –

I am writing to you to provide my recommendation and support for selecting Partap Verma for the Montgomery County Planning Board position. I have known Mr. Verma for about 10 years. He has been an integral part of our community and has helped us during a time when our community was under attack by a harassing neighbor. Mr. Verma not only took charge of the situation but also spent hundreds of hours of his valuable time with the county and court system to make sure that our HOA survived. He is an experienced attorney and understands the importance of community harmony and civility. He is also a mediator and routinely volunteers with the Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

Partap Verma is intelligent, thoughtful and compassionate. He will be an asset to the Montgomery Planning Board. I can think of no other person that should fill this position and I hope you select Partap Verma for Planning Board.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

Satya Bose

April 1, 2019

Montgomery County Council
Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: Partap Verma Letter of Recommendation for Planning Board

Dear: Montgomery County Council,

It has been my great pleasure to have worked with Partap Verma for the past few years on establishing a cohesive vision for Forest Glen Metro Station. As a professional planner, I came to know Mr. Verma through his leadership role for the Forest Glen community. His passion for progress and his dedication to his community quickly became evident to me as both authentic and as an integral part of his day to day life. I have seen his leadership skills first hand as he represents the Forest Glen community at the County level. I can solemnly attest to Mr. Verma's integrity, intelligence and commitment. As a citizen of Montgomery County and as a planner, I highly recommend Mr. Verma to represent me and my fellow citizens as a member of the County's prestigious Planning Board.

Please contact me if you have any questions or wish further input, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruno P. Carvalho". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Bruno P. Carvalho, ASLA, AICP

Montgomery County Resident

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

HTML

From: "Shannon Dahn" ·
Date: 4/5/2019 7:59:31 PM
To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
<county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Cc:
Subject: Recommending Mr. Verma for Planning Board

Montgomery County Council:

I am writing to express my support for Partap Verma's application to the Planning Board. Partap has been a dear friend, colleague, and neighbor for several years. He is talented at bringing people together, finding solutions, and is an expert in the progressive policies that will move this county forward.

Sincerely,
Shannon Dahn

Close

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April 11, 2019

Council President Navarro
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Re: Letter of support for Partap Verma, Planning Board Commissioner

Dear Council President Navarro:

This letter is in support of Partap Verma's application for appointment as Planning Board Commissioner.

When first I met Partap, it was at the ground breaking of the Purple Line and I found he lived in the neighboring community of Forest Glen. (He later came to my rescue when I needed a ride home from this Prince George's County event.)

Since then we've been to multiple meetings together, corresponded by email, chatted in passing, exchanged information, and seen each other at community gatherings as we both learned about many topics. Partap demonstrates quiet competence as he soaks in knowledge.

With time, Partap increasingly demonstrated to me just how competent he is. Much credit goes to him for organizing the Forest Glen neighborhood with his creation of the "Finding Forest Glen" blog. He provides a vehicle for dissemination of information as well as a rallying point for the community to become more proactive. He uses his skills gained as an attorney and mediator in community life and they are certainly very applicable for serving on the Planning Board.

Personal attributes of caring and concern seem to be ingrained in him from his family life both growing up and now as a husband and father. He demonstrates these same qualities interacting with the community as he expands his field of county involvement. Being part of the Planning Board is a natural fit, knowing that decisions made as a Board member help to shape Montgomery County as an inclusive, diverse, growing community.

I hope you vote to appoint Partap Verma as a Planning Board Commissioner.

Sincerely,

Barbara (Bee) Ditzler

Good Morning Council Member Hucker,

My name is Sandeep Gangar and my family and I are residents of Montgomery County (currently White Oak, and soon to be Forest Glen). I am emailing you to communicate my support for Partap Verma to be considered for Planning Board Member. I've know Partap for quite some time. In that time he has made an impression on me as a dedicated family man. As a current Montgomery County resident, he has made a similar impression with his passion and commitment for enhancing our community. I've had the opportunity to observe Partap as an ardent supporter for the future betterment of our community through various community activities and advocacy. He would be a justified addition to the Planning Board in shepherding Montgomery County into the next decade.

As a son of immigrants with a similar upbringing as Partap, I can attest to the struggle our parents went through to provide for a better life for our families. Through dedication and hardwork, they achieved more than expected influencing both their children and their communities. I see these same qualities in Partap. Not to sound to over the top but his entire life has prepared him for community advocacy. I firmly believe Partap would be an excellent addition to the Planning Board and would be more than happy to discuss further should you consider him.

Thank you for your time and please do reach out if you have questions.

Sandeep Gangar

142

MELODY GOODMAN

April 22, 2019

Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: Planning Board Position

Dear Councilmembers:

I am writing to express my strong support of Partap Singh Verma's application for membership on the Montgomery County Planning Board. I hope that you will give Partap's application serious consideration, as I have no doubt he would prove to be a wonderful addition to the Board and provide tireless service to the entire community.

I became acquainted with Partap through our children's preschool, as our toddlers began around the same time. As you might imagine, the first days of school are more than a little stressful for many parents. I was immediately impressed with a few things about Partap. First, he was always friendly and warm to all of the parents, teachers, and staff. You will find his ability to connect with people from every background and to put them at ease to be invaluable in his work for the Board. Second, I was impressed with Partap's ability to really listen to everyone around him. Even while juggling his own children's needs, he has always been appreciably conscious and aware of the needs expressed by others in the small community of our school. Perhaps it reflects upon his upbringing or perhaps it is the result of his career as a diplomat, but his ability to truly connect with people continues to impress. Partap is an active and engaged member of our school, where he routinely shares his own perspective while simultaneously respecting the values of everyone else.

As I got to know Partap more, I've discovered that not only does he listen well to the needs of our small community, but that he does the same in all of his interactions. He's truly a leader in the Forest Glen community, for example, where he's managed to turn the concerns of a neighborhood into tangible action related to redevelopment projects. That ability to move beyond listening to actively take action is incredibly rare, and increasingly valuable. I have no doubt that Partap would apply the same skillset in his work for the County at large. His demonstrated passion for community outreach combined with a nearly boundless energy will help ensure that the Board continues its excellent work in our community.

Sincerely,



Melody Goodman

April 18, 2019

Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Councilmembers:

I am writing in support for my neighbor Partap Verma who is applying for the open position on the Montgomery County Planning Board.

Six years ago, my family and neighbors were simply blessed when Parthap and his husband moved into the neighborhood. During this time, Partap has become a pillar within the Forest Glenn community through his steadfast commitment to civic engagement, allowing the voice of our community to emerge and be heard.

Partap's personal history gives him a wealth of experience and knowledge that better helps him understand how to attain the end state for the interest of those he serves. His history has also made him a man of integrity that grounds his actions morally.

I am an active duty Soldier that currently finds myself in interior Alaska serving this great country. Through the actions of Partap Verma, the community of Forest Glenn is ever present ensuring that my family and I will return to our house in Montgomery County to the community that we so dearly miss.

If there are any questions, please feel free to reach me

Sincerely,


Torry Hook

County Council,

I enthusiastically recommend Partap Verma to The Montgomery County Planning Board. I believe he has the perfect background to support moving the Planning Board into the future. He has, for several years, in Forest Glen supported that community in finding its voice. He founded "Finding Forest Glen" that was an online platform for members of the community to organize and discuss issues that they faced together. He will undoubtedly raise the views of others that are seeking to feel a deep sense of belonging in our county.

In 2017 he appointed to the Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board and was recently elected to the Land-Use Chair position. He is also a seasoned mediator/panel attorney for the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs – Commission on Common Ownership Communities. Also, with the support of many others in the community, he was able to advocate for a 2nd entrance/pedestrian tunnel at the Forest Glen Metro, which will be supported by approximately 20 million dollars in funding given to the county.

He has the tools that are necessary to support our county's vision of sustainable development.

Regards,
Rephael Houston

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Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

HTML

From: "Amol Kasbekar"
 Date: 4/11/2019 12:16:40 PM
 To: "County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Partap Singh Verma for Planning board

Hello,

My name is Amol Kasbekar and I am a resident of Montgomery County at 9203 Friars Rd, Bethesda, MD 20817. I am writing this letter to support Partap Singh Verma for the open seat on Montgomery County Planning Board.

As a resident, I care how our county allocates and invests its resources in order to create a sustainable future for my family as well as all of its residents. One of the key issues in front of our community is supporting our diverse community. We need a balance on helping current residents achieve the right balance of lifestyle (traffic, school funding) as well as planning for future growth. We need to invest in growing our community and talent base as an engine to attract companies creating new jobs. A key pillar of this is housing and Planning Board plays a critical role in it. Smart housing, transit accessibility, affordable options, all go a long way in fulfilling this. I have known Partap personally and I believe he has the passion as well as the skills that our county and community needs to tackle these issues. He is a strong voice for our community and an asset our Planning board needs.

I strongly recommend his application for the Montgomery County Planning Board.

Sincerely, Amol

Close

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Brown, Anne

From: Chandni Kumar
Sent: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 10:03 AM
To: councilmember.hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov; county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov
Subject: Letter of Support for Partap Verma

Greetings,

I am writing to express my support for Partap Singh Verma for the vacant position on the county council's open planning board. We have lived in Montgomery County for many years now, and know Partap as someone who has worked tirelessly to bring awareness and resources to our community, address transit and development/re-development issues, as well as engage us and our neighbors to become a stronger voice together. We have no hesitation in recommending Partap, who we know would fight for our needs and what is best for Montgomery County, and hope that he is successful in this endeavor. Thank you!

Kind regards,
Chandni Kumar
Forest Glen resident

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April 7th, 2019
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Council Members

This letter is to show my enthusiastic support for Partap Verma's application to the open position on the planning board. Partap is a friend and neighbor whom I've come to know over the past several years in multiple capacities. I've witnessed the enormity of his dedication to our community and his integrity on a small and large scale.

One of the most impressive qualities I admire in Partap is his commitment to understanding perspectives that differ than his own. He has shown dedication to bringing others together, helping people feel heard, advocating for resolving issues faced in our community, and providing guidance to those who need direction on how to advocate for themselves. Partap has skills of a good mediator and conflict resolver. At his core he genuinely wants to help people. Further, in a region of educated over-achievers Partap remains to stand above the crowd with his work ethic.

Knowing a bit about Partap's background and his family I suspect that these skills and values were learned early in life but reinforced through his impressive professional resume and his many positive long and short-term relationships within the community. I immensely trust Partap to advocate for the people in our diverse and vibrant community. Thank you for taking to the time to consider this letter of support.

Sincerely,
Marie Land, Ph.D.

Dear Councilmembers:

I highly recommend Partap Verma for the open Planning Board Position. He is supremely qualified for this role. Partap exudes a positive energy with a "can do" attitude matched by none. He is task oriented and a team player. To have Partap on your team would be a win for the people of Montgomery County.

Sincerely,

Frank Leibsly

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Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

HTML

From: "Paul V. Lotterer"
 Date: 4/20/2019 8:57:51 AM
 To: "County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Recommendation to Appoint Partap Verma to the MOCO Planning Board

To the Members of the County Council:

I am writing to you to express my support for the appointment of Partap Verma to the Montgomery County Planning Board. I am a resident of Darnestown. I have known Partap since 2011. We worked together at the U.S. Department of State, and we were neighbors in Forest Glen from 2013 to 2015. Partap is the ideal candidate to serve on the Planning Board. He is an advocate for improving countywide issues of affordable housing, pedestrian safety, and access to reliable public transportation. He also has extensive community-service experience and a strong legal background.

When Partap moved to Forest Glen in 2013, he founded the blog "Finding Forest Glen" as a way of informing his neighbors about pressing issues influencing their community. He also serves on the Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board as the Land-Use Chair, and as a volunteer mediator/panel attorney for the Montgomery County Department of Housing and Community Affairs – Commission on Common Ownership Communities.

Partap believes in his community, whether it is his family, friends, neighborhood or Montgomery County as a whole. If selected, he will be dedicated to the Board's mission of advancing a sustainable vision for the County while advocating for principles that define Montgomery County's unique communities. I wholeheartedly recommend Partap Verma to a position on the Planning Board.

Thank you,

Paul Lotterer

(150)

Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

[HTML](#)

From: "Ryan Nicholson"
 Date: 4/2/2019 8:26:04 AM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Supporting Partap Verma for Planning Board

County Council Members,

I'm writing today to advocate for the appointment of Partap Verma for the Montgomery County Planning Board.

Partap is a constant and thoughtful advocate for the community. He understands that civic engagement is amplified when people are given a voice in the process. Within the first few minutes of our first discussion, Partap was inviting me to become more active in the community. Since then, he's the first person I turn to with questions about Forest Glen or where to get help with an issue.

He has proved himself to be informed, responsive, and open-minded about community improvement. I believe he would make an outstanding Planning Board Member.

Sincerely,
 K. Ryan Nicholson

Close

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Email Viewer

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Source			

HTML

From: "Kinnari P"
Date: 4/5/2019 1:31:16 PM
To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
<county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Cc: "councilmember.hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov"
<councilmember.hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Partap for Planning Board

Dear Council Member and Montgomery County Council,

I am writing to you because I would like to have Partap Verma on the Montgomery County Planning Board. I highly recommend him for the open position on the planning board. He would be an extremely valuable member for our county. He has excellent experience, knowledge and passion for the job and I would feel very well represented as a long time resident of MoCo.

Thank you,
Kinnari Patel
Resident of Montgomery County

Get Outlook for Android <<https://aka.ms/ghei36>>

Close

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Dear Councilmember Hucker and Members of the County Council

I write in support of Partap Verma's candidacy for a seat on the County's Planning Board.

I am a resident of Silver Spring, and I have been in Montgomery County for the past twelve years. I first made Partap's acquaintance when I read a piece he wrote about urban conditions in Silver Spring.

When we met in person, I was instantly impressed by his passion, zeal, and commitment to public service. I have since then got to know him well — as a friend, neighbor, and mentor in many respects.

Our County and region are in the midst of a historic demographic transition which calls for world-class planning and out-of-the-box thinking. For this to happen, we need experienced, knowledgeable, and dedicated members on the County's Planning Board.

Pratap's extensive civic experience, legal training, and extraordinary commitment to public service in our community make him an ideal candidate for a seat on the Planning Board.

If he is appointed, I have no doubt that Partap will be a great asset to the Planning Board. I am confident he will insist on the highest technical standards, draw upon international and national best practices, and promote transparency in the planning process.

We, as residents, will be well served by Partap and I would urge you to strongly consider his candidacy.

Respectfully,

Vikram Raghavan

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Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

HTML

From: "Briana Rose"
 Date: 4/15/2019 2:23:36 PM
 To: "County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov>,
 "councilmember.hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <councilmember.hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Planning Board Support for Mr. Partap Verma

15 April 2019

Montgomery County Council
 100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
 Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Councilmembers:

I am writing you today to give my complete and unwavering support for Mr. Partap Verma to fill the open position on the County Planning Board.

I first met Partap around 2017. I was the incumbent President of the Forest Estates Community Association. Partap came to one of our meetings to discuss the possibility of advocating for a new entrance at the Forest Glen metro station on the east side of Georgia Ave. I was instantly impressed by his knowledge on the subject at hand as well his passion on a sustainable vision not just for our community of Forest Glen, but Montgomery County as a whole. I was so drawn to his passion, that soon after, he and I became very close in working to advocate for that new metro entrance. Partap

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quickly because a friend and an ally to me and my community of Forest Estates to safe and accessible public transportation. We worked hand in hand on important transportation efforts for the next several months until I left Forest Estates.

It's obvious the moment you meet Partap how important Montgomery County is to him. He is a visionary and won't stop until he gets things done. He knows what makes a community great, and I have no doubt that he will do everything he can to continue to help grow Montgomery County. He is one of the most passionate people I have ever had the privilege to know and work with.

I have always felt very fortunate to live in Montgomery County, and I know with Partap on the Planning Board, I'm going to feel even luckier for years to come.

Best regards,

Brijana Rose

Close

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Dear Council Members,

My name is Audrey Schoomaker, a resident of Forest Glen and neighbor of Partap Verma. After my husband retired from a thirty-three year distinguished military career--that offered our family the opportunity to live in more than a dozen places--we chose to retire in Silver Spring. The reason to settle here was, in part, for work and opportunity. We have stayed here for nearly seven years. In that time our neighborhood has become a lively, engaged, socially active and tight community, stronger and better in every way.

This sense of connection and growth has been, in many ways, due to the initiative and energy of Partap Verma. He has provided leadership through civic engagement, social events, raising awareness through multi-media, and "building the team" of so many members of our neighborhood it would be very fitting to see him formalize his leadership and vision through membership on the county's planning board. It is without hesitation that I support Partap with confidence that the Montgomery County executives recognize the talent and commitment to excellence we have seen in Partap here in Forest Glen.

Sincerely,
Audrey Schoomaker

--

Audrey N. Schoomaker, BSN



Between stimulus and response, there is a space. In that space is our power to choose. In that choice lies our growth and our freedom. Viktor Frankl

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Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
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HTML

From: "Joel St Clair"
 Date: 4/20/2019 7:41:50 PM
 To: "County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Planning Board - Partap Verma

Dear Councilmembers,

I'm emailing as a resident of Montgomery County and one who cares for the makeup of our Planning Board. I'm grateful for your work and ask that you consider the application of Partap Verma for a position on that Board.

Partap is a neighbor and friend. I've seen first-hand his involvement and care for our community. But more than that, I've seen his engagement with members of the County in thinking through complex issues. His disposition and experience are well suited for the work on the Planning Board. And I urge you to consider his application.

Warm regards,

Joel

--

Joel St. Clair
 Pastor
 *Mosaic Community Church *

Close

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Councilmember Hucker,

It is my understanding that my neighbor, colleague, and friend Partap Verma has applied for the open Planning Board position for Montgomery County.

As a Montgomery County resident and Forest Glen supporter, I have seen firsthand the passion that Mr. Verma puts into everything he does for this County. He and I serve as Panel Members for the County's CCOC and have served as co-mediators. He gets the job done with heart and diplomacy. He not only comes up with executable plans, but he carries ideas to execution.

I hope you and the rest of the Council will consider selecting Mr. Verma for the important position.

Please call with questions or for a more detailed recommendation.

Respectfully,
Sarah Stanton

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Email Viewer

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Source			

HTML

From: "Amy Sussman"
 Date: 4/4/2019 9:09:20 PM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Letter of Support for Partap Verma for the Planning Board

April 4, 2019

Montgomery County Council
 100 Maryland Avenue, 6th floor
 Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Councilmembers,

As a resident of the Forest Glen area of Silver Spring, MD, I am writing in support of Partap Verma for the Montgomery County Planning Board.

I met Partap through mutual friends in the neighborhood, all of us raising families with young children of similar age. In our first conversation, I learned that he was volunteering his time for mediation with county housing and successfully encouraged our mutual friend to volunteer for the county as well.

Since then, I have seen Partap's active efforts in the community many times – organizing, engaging, and working toward making improvement to our

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neighborhood in numerous ways. He created a webpage that keeps the neighborhood well informed on county issues that impact us directly. He also created a Facebook page and organized events that have helped foster a sense of community and encourage social engagement with one another. His advocacy group has worked on issues of great importance to the residents in our community. For example, he has actively advocated for a new metro entrance on Georgia Avenue that will make our access safer, faster, and much more convenient. If Partap is chosen for the Planning Board, I'm sure that he would extend such local successes to improving quality of life for all of Montgomery County.

Partap truly embodies the proverb that if you want something done, ask a busy person to do it. He has a proven record of success in getting things done as he balances working, actively volunteering, going above and beyond in engaging the community, and raising and growing his own family. On a personal level, I have learned that as a warm, welcoming, and inclusive individual, his hard work is accompanied by the best of intentions for everyone. I truly cannot think of another individual who would work harder for the greater good of our county on the Planning Board than Partap Verma.

Sincerely,

Amy Sussman

Close

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HTML

Hello Council member -

As President of Deer Park HOA - I recommend Partap Verma for the Planning Board. For the last 12 years, Partap has been an advocate for our community ensuring that we had proper representation on the local and state level. He is a dedicated community member and we would be thrilled to have him on the planning board for the county!

Thanks you.

Sincerely Yours,

Pritam S Verma
President Deer Park HOA

Close

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Email Viewer

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers
Source			

HTML

From: "Gregory Wahl" <gregory.wahl@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Date: 4/8/2019 6:35:35 PM
 To: "county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov" <county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov>, "councilmember.hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov" <councilmember.hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc:
 Subject: Planning board recommendation

Dear Councilman Hucker et al:

I am writing to express my support for the planning board candidacy of Partap Verma. As a member of this community for the past eight years, I recognize the need not only for preservation but also community building. I am a homeowner in the National Park Seminary community, which has received a lot of focus from the community and beyond for its historical nature. However, once the buildings are saved, and the statues are righted, we have noticed a lack of community engagement beyond the borders of our small historic neighborhood.

However, whenever we attempt to make inroads with the greater population of the area, it was Mr. Verma's Facebook group focusing on the area that was always the first to offer help. Here at the seminary, I am a founding member of the Land Use Committee. We have tried to put on monthly activities for the community that will at once help clear our property of invasive plants and at the same time increase community awareness not only of our historic property but of the people who live here. Finding Forest Glen, Mr. Verma's brainchild, has always been there to help us get the word out to a much wider audience. Because of his help, and his willingness to work with us, we have made significant inroads into saving the actual Glenn that gave the neighborhood its name. I have never actually met the man, but we have conversed multiple times online, regarding our issue but also things as varied as metro access, road planning, community events, and other things. He has always seemed to me as someone intensely interested in the betterment of our community. That is why I think he will make an excellent addition to the board.

I would be happy to speak with anyone else on his candidacy, and I hope that you'll make the best choice for us as a neighborhood. I look forward to a time when people from more than 2 miles away don't look at me quizzically when I say I am from Forest Glen.

162

Gregory Wahl

Close

163

April 18, 2019

Tom Hucker
Councilmember
Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

RE: Partap Verma's Application for Montgomery County Planning Board

Dear Councilmember Hucker:

As long time residents of Montgomery County and Silver Spring/Forest Glen, we write to you in support of Mr. Partap Verma's application for a seat on the Montgomery County Planning Board.

As you may know, Mr. Verma is a lifelong resident of Montgomery County and an active member of the Forest Glen community. Since his move to our community in 2013, his energy and enthusiasm has resulted in significant movement for change to the Forest Glen area. An often overlooked enclave, Mr. Verma recognizes that Forest Glen could be a model of smart growth, green initiatives and a welcoming home for its diverse residents.

Mr. Verma's can do attitude – from the creation and maintenance of the blog "Finding Forest Glen", and serving on various boards and commissions, has placed visibility on our community's issues before county decisionmakers in a way that in the past has been less successful. His ardent advocacy to make our community safer, and more welcoming and his positive demeanor are characteristics that the planning board should find attractive. He is well spoken, articulate on the pressing issues of Forest Glen and the County, and has a wonderful spouse and family. He has a clear commitment to Montgomery County not just by words but by his actions and engagement.

Mr. Verma and his family will soon be our neighbors on Kimball Place and we look forward to welcoming them to our side of the tracks and knowing we will have a strong advocate for the future of Forest Glen and Montgomery County as a whole.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Marc Weinberger



Montgomery County Council

For Immediate Release

April 3, 2019

FOR INFORMATION: Anne Brown, 240-777-7925 anne.brown@montgomerycountymd.gov

Montgomery Council Seeks Applicants for Two Open Seats on the Montgomery County Planning Board

Deadline for Applications Is Wednesday, April 24, at 5 p.m.

ROCKVILLE, Md., April 3, 2019 — The Montgomery County Council is seeking applicants to fill two vacancies on the Montgomery County Planning Board. The second terms of Chair Casey Anderson (Democrat), and Norman Dreyfuss (Republican) expire on June 14, 2019. Mr. Anderson is eligible to reapply as Chair (per Section 15-102 of Land Use Article of Maryland Code) and has indicated his intent to do so. Mr. Dreyfuss is not eligible to reapply. The vacancies for Chair and Boardmember can be filled by residents of any political party affiliation.

Applications must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24, 2019.

Both positions can be filled by a Democrat, a Republican, a voter who declines to affiliate with a party, or a member of another party officially recognized by the Montgomery County Board of Elections. Each member must be a resident and registered voter of Montgomery County when appointed. Members serve four-year terms and are limited to two full terms, except when applying for a 3rd term as Chair.

Annual compensation for Boardmembers is currently \$30,000, and the Chair currently earns \$207,262. The Council expects to set the salary for the Chair prior to the appointment. No more than three members of the Planning Board may be from the same political party. Current Boardmembers are Casey Anderson (Dem),

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Chair; Norman Dreyfuss (Rep); Natali Fani-Gonzalez (Dem); Gerald Cichy (Rep); and Tina Patterson (Unaffiliated).

The Planning Board serves as the Council's principal adviser on land use planning and community planning. Planning Boardmembers also serve as commissioners of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

The Planning Board's responsibilities with regard to planning include preparation and amendment of the County General Plan; preparation and amendment of master plans and functional plans; formulation of subdivision regulations; preparation of or recommendations on text amendments to the County Zoning Code; implementation of the subdivision process by reviewing and approving all preliminary plans, site plans and other plans for development; advice on the planning implications of capital facilities and programs of the County government, Montgomery College, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission and Montgomery County Public Schools; commenting, under its mandatory referral authority, on plans for public facilities of local, state and federal agencies; and approval of the work program and the annual operating budget for the Planning Department and the Commission's bi-county offices.

The Planning Board sits as the Park Commission and approves the annual Parks Department operating budget and Capital Improvements Program (CIP); land acquisition contracts and major development contracts for parks; development plans for individual park facilities; policies for park operations; and park user fees.

The Planning Board meets all day, including into the evening, every Thursday and will schedule other meetings, as needed. The entire Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission meets the third Wednesday of every month. On average, a Planning Boardmember may spend two full days a week in scheduled and informal meetings. Additionally, substantial time is required for preparatory work and other activities related to Planning Board responsibilities.

Applicants should submit a letter of interest and resume (no more than 4 pages) listing professional and civic experience to: county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov or by mail to Council President Nancy Navarro, Stella B. Werner Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

Letters of application must be received no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24. It is the Council's policy not to consider applications received after the deadline. After the closing date, Councilmembers will review the letters of application and select applicants for interviews to be held soon thereafter.

Letters of application and resumes are made public as part of the appointment process, and are available for public review. The interviews are conducted in public and will be televised. A financial disclosure statement of assets, debts, income and family property interests will be required to be filed by each applicant. Only the ultimate appointee will be required to make the financial disclosure statement available to the public.

#

ADDENDUM

AGENDA ITEM #8


June 11, 2019

Interviews

MEMORANDUM

June 10, 2019

TO: County Council

FROM: Megan Davey Limarzi, Esq. 
Clerk of the Council

SUBJECT: Interviews – Montgomery County Planning Board

Attached are additional letters of endorsement for the two vacancies on the Montgomery County Planning Board.

Anderson
Russel

ENGINEERING * PLANNING * LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE * SURVEYING/GEOMATICS



May 9, 2019

To: The Honorable Nancy Navarro
President, Montgomery County Council
Stella B. Werner Council Building
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

From: Charles A. Irish, Jr. PE, LS, LEED AP
Principal/Managing Member
VIKA MD, LLC

Re: Planning Board Appointments

Dear Council President Navarro,

This letter is to voice our support of the reappointment of Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson and the appointment of Jennifer Russel as a new member. We provide our support as active members of the land use and planning field who have worked for public and private clients in Montgomery County since our offices were established here in 1980. Our office includes civil engineers, planners, landscape architects, and surveyors that have decades of public and private sector experience and are well-versed in the policies and procedures of land use and community planning in the County. Given our experience and relationships with the Planning Board members, their staff, and the numerous consultants we work with daily, we hope our perspective is of value.

In the case of Mr. Anderson, he has exhibited thoughtful leadership and progressive vision to address the many land use and community planning issues facing our County. We appreciate his willingness to consider a wide range of opinions, understanding of the complex relationships between various regulations, and his desire to improve our community for everyone in our increasingly diverse population. Given his success over the past term, we hope his reappointment will be a relatively simple decision.

Regarding the new member of the Planning Board, you have received numerous applications – some with a great deal of experience and expertise – but only one with the very specific and applicable knowledge of Jennifer Russel. It is rare for someone with such wide-ranging public and private sector experience and community service to step up and take on a roll that, frankly, can be difficult and sometimes thankless. As her application letter and resume make clear, she demonstrates the expertise needed to successfully administer each of the responsibilities a Planning Board member takes on:

- Preparation of various area master plans and functional plans
- Supervision of review and production of plans under subdivision regulations

VIKA Maryland, LLC

20251 Century Boulevard, Suite 400 * Germantown, Maryland 20874 * 301.916.4100 Fax 301.916.2262
Tysons, VA * Germantown, MD * Washington, DC

www.vika.com

①

- Recommendations on text amendments to the County Zoning Code
- Implementation of conceptual, subdivision, site plan, and mandatory referral procedures
- Advice on the planning implications of capital facilities and public programs of the County government

Beyond Ms. Russel's planning experience, she has demonstrated a willingness to support her community through numerous civic organizations. This trait shows her commitment to her community and the respect the community shows for her. For eleven years Ms. Russel worked at a "competing" consultancy, but we have worked together through various committees and on land use issues and we value her insight and dedication.

For these reasons, we think Ms. Russel stands out from the crowd of applicants and we highly recommend her appointment along with the reappointment of Mr. Anderson. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Charles A. Irish, Jr. PE, LS, LEED AP
Principal/Managing Member



Joshua Sloan, RLA
Director of Planning & Landscape Architecture

CC: Sidney Katz, Vice President
Gabe Albornoz, Councilmember
Andrew Friedson, Councilmember
Evan Glass, Councilmember
Tom Hucker, Councilmember
Will Jawando, Councilmember
Craig Rice, Councilmember
Hans Riemer, Councilmember

Email Viewer

Anderson

Message

Details

Attachments

Headers

Source

[HTML](#)

From: "Lee R Keiser" <president@southbradleyhills.org>
 Date: 6/7/2019 3:05:04 PM
 To: "Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>,
 "Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov"
 <Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Cc: "County.Council@Montgomerycountymd.gov" <County.Council@Montgomerycountymd.gov>
 Subject: Support for Reappointment of Casey Anderson as Planning Board Chair

Dear Madam President, Councilmember Friedson, and Colleagues:

This is to encourage you to retain Mr. Casey Anderson as Chair of the Montgomery Planning Board. It has been a privilege to observe his work, and to increasingly rely on the work of his dedicated and thoughtful staff, in my role as civic association leader for our established neighborhood one mile west of Bethesda's Central Business District; and as a member of Senior Leadership Montgomery, Class of 2019.

Leading up to the Council's approval of the Bicycle Master Plan last November, to support our civic association's related advocacy earlier in the year, I listened very closely (while sitting in a Council Hearing Room, or while on-line) to deliberations between Chairman Anderson, his staff, and Councilmembers. As an infrequent bicyclist, my personal awareness of the significance of Montgomery Planning's task-at-hand was initially quite limited. However, working in tandem with a few neighbors who are active bicyclists, once we dug deep into early drafts of the Bicycle Master Plan – combined with the multi-stakeholder perspectives that Chairman Anderson regularly brought to the Council's witness table – we were increasingly impressed by, and supportive of, the Plan's approach. Upon my initial outreach to Chairman Anderson's lead staffer for this project, when I needed clarification about designation of certain road/greenway segments within South Bradley Hills, my questions were answered thoroughly, guided by an important historical perspective. This staff-provided background helped to inform testimony that was presented by one of South Bradley Hills' active bicyclists nearly one year ago.

Moreover, as you may recall, Council hearings on the Bicycle Master Plan often featured heightened deliberations about, for example, the effect of proposed bike lane expansions on vehicle parking spaces; draft text around prioritization (tiering of different road or greenway segments); and interpretation of budget implications. Chairman Anderson always handled these exchanges respectfully and with active listening that, at least in my assessment, reflected wording and tone in the Plan's final report. Given the intensity of the debate, this was likely not an easy lift back at headquarters, but it was soundly guided by Chairman Anderson.

More recently, in a pro bono project undertaken as part of my Senior Leadership Montgomery requirements, I immersed myself in several Montgomery Planning publications that proved to be invaluable. Our team's project involved working with a Germantown, MD non-profit with which most of us had only very limited prior association. As team lead and principal author of our final report, to ensure that our recommendations were evidence-based, I relied heavily on Montgomery County Trends: A Look at People, Housing and Jobs since 1990 (published Jan. 2019); and on the MARC Rail Communities Sector Plan (Dec. 2018 draft). These research and sector plan documents – publicly-available data "gold mines" that helped bring us up-to-speed on demographics, housing, other economic considerations; as well as the vital role of placemaking in building community – were the glue that held our report (March 2019) together; and, we hope, enhanced its ultimate value for the non-profit that we advised.

Further, while crafting our civic association's quarterly newsletter, I regularly review other new reports from (3)

Montgomery Planning, most recently their Annual Monitoring Report (May 2019) on the Bethesda Downtown Plan. In addition, Mr. Anderson's frequent contributions to Montgomery Planning's "Third Place Blog" are also very enlightening for this public policy veteran whose professional experience is in a field other than urban planning.

Naturally, Montgomery Planning staff who specifically worked on the above-mentioned research reports and other publications are deserving of kudos, which convey with this letter of support as well. In fact, when Chairman Anderson presented (as a guest speaker and Leadership Montgomery alumni) to our Senior Leadership Montgomery classes in early 2019, he beamed with pride upon citing his staff's efforts on several of these same reports.

In conclusion, to this civic advocate, Chairman Anderson is a considerate, highly respectful, and visionary Montgomery County leader who deserves a second term as Chair of the Planning Board. This represents my own opinion, and may not necessarily be representative of all those residing in South Bradley Hills. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lee R. Keiser

President, South Bradley Hills Neighborhood Association

Bethesda, MD 20814 / 20817

E-mail: President@SouthBradleyHills.org

Close

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 07, 2019 3:30:54 PM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Planning Board Chair

Anderson

From: Ernest Rodriguez
Sent: Friday, June 07, 2019 3:06 PM
To: Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Planning Board Chair

Dear Council President Navarro:

I'm writing to express my support for Casey Anderson's reappointment as Planning Board Chair. He has demonstrated that he has the vision, leadership, knowledge and professionalism to help make our county a more inclusive, prosperous, and environmentally sustainable place.

I have been especially impressed by Casey's efforts to strengthen our economy while simultaneously working to ensure that the benefits of growth are broadly shared. His advocacy for affordable housing, better transit options, and urban parks reflect his commitment to equity as a cornerstone value.

Casey is well known for his initiatives to improve infrastructure for walking and biking as well as transit-oriented development. He has pushed the county to make progress in these areas, and I think it is important that he remain in his current role to continue to press forward in these areas. I think it important to maintain continuity and consistency in our shared vision for access and equality to affordable housing, transportation and urban amenities. I personally enjoy the many trail projects that the Parks Department has completed during his tenure, and I hope to see further advances in the trails program.

Casey has a great deal of experience and knowledge, but he also knows how to listen and understands the importance of working with people with different perspectives. He has been an excellent leader of the Park and Planning Commission, and I ask that you appoint him to another term.

Sincerely,
Ernest Rodriguez

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5

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 1:27:53 PM

To: Council President

Subject: FW: NO to Casey Anderson

Anderson

From: Diana Kaine

Sent: Tuesday, June 04, 2019 1:20 PM

To: Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Katz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Albornoz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Jawando's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Glass's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Riemer's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Hucker's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Rice's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Friedson's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov>

Cc: karen425@aol.com; dsheveiko@hotmail.com; dkarchner@gmail.com; annarevalo@hotmail.com; Montero, Luisa <Luisa.Montero@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Marc Elrich <Marc.Elrich@montgomerycountymd.gov>

Subject: NO to Casey Anderson

President Navarro and Councilmembers:

I just read the Bethesda Magazine article on Planning Board Chair Anderson and it seemed that he is on his way to be re-elected by you. Mr. Anderson has not been a person that works with the community. In fact, I don't understand how you allow him to be reconsidered after what he did in Wheaton. The Chair of the Planning Board voted in favor of the Costco gas station that the community hardly fought against. You would think that someone who bikes around would oppose a mega-gas station in an URBAN neighborhood. That was not the case. Commissioner Natalie was the only one who stood up for us and voted in favor of the ZTA that provided the 500 feet buffer that protected our neighborhood. This vote was paramount for the future of our community and the Chair of the Planning Board, who has been around since around 2010!, failed us. You should be promoting Natalie as planning board chair; she has certainly earned people's trust.

Diana Kaine

PS: I'm copying members of the Kensington Heights Association and WUDAC so they are aware of what you are about to do: [About KHCA](#) ♦ [Kensington Heights Civic Association](#)





Brooks

ML
CC

Montgomery County Democratic Socialists of America

1723 Cody Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20902

MontgomeryCountyDSA@gmail.com • Facebook: DSAMoCo • Twitter: MoCo_DSA

The Honorable Nancy Navarro
President, Montgomery County Council
Stella B. Werner Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

May 31, 2019

Dear Council President Navarro,

As representatives of one of the largest and most engaged progressive activist organizations in Montgomery County, we write to urge you in the strongest possible terms to support Ms. Brandy Brooks for the seat on the Planning Board which will be vacated by Mr. Norman Dreyfuss this summer.

We do not need to tell you that this is an important moment in Montgomery County's history. As the County prepares to update its General Plan for the first time in decades, it is vital that the interests of all Montgomery County residents be centered on the Planning Board. This document will determine how development occurs and how land is used for the next half-century, and we hold deep concerns that without Ms. Brooks's voice on the Board, we may see a General Plan designed for the benefit of a small elite.

Montgomery County DSA strongly believes that Ms. Brooks will center the needs of our community members; she will work for a General Plan for the many, not the few. During her time on the Somerville Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee in Massachusetts, she participated in a community-centered planning process designed to allow community members to identify and set planning priorities, and she has made it clear she wishes to see this model replicated in Montgomery County. In addition, she will prioritize racial justice and racial equity in land use decisions, and will work to ensure that sustainability is a foundational principle for planning decisions in deed, not just in word.

It is also clear that Ms. Brooks is highly qualified for the position. In addition to her tenure on the Somerville Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee, Ms. Brooks served on the Somerville Zoning Advisory Board. She holds a Bachelor's in Design Studies from the Boston Architectural College and a Master's in Public Administration from Suffolk University, and has taught about food justice, community organizing, and community planning at numerous prestigious institutions.

Finally, Ms. Brooks has a much stronger constituency in support of her application than her competitors. As a candidate for County Council At-Large, Ms. Brooks won over 26,000 votes last year. She was endorsed by a broad coalition of community organizations, including Progressive Maryland, the Montgomery County Education Association, Our Revolution, Progressive Neighbors, CASA de Maryland, and the Metro D.C. Democratic Socialists of America. The progressive community has not forgotten Ms. Brooks, nor are we unaware of the racial disparities on display in the Council's other



Montgomery County Democratic Socialists of America

1723 Cody Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20902
MontgomeryCountyDSA@gmail.com • Facebook: DSAMoCo • Twitter: MoCo_DSA

candidate interview decisions. We want to see Ms. Brooks on the Planning Board, and we and our allied organizations will not be shy about this demand.

Montgomery County DSA strongly urges the Council to vote for Brandy Brooks for the Planning Board. She is the best choice for a democratic, community-centered planning process that will prioritize racial justice and environmental sustainability; she is more than qualified; and she commands a large number of supporters. She is the best possible candidate for this position.

Best regards,

Elissa Laitin
Chair, Montgomery County DSA

Lily Amara Pastor
Secretary, Montgomery County DSA

David Reed
Treasurer, Montgomery County DSA

Frank Santos Fritz III
Steering Committee, Montgomery County DSA

John Lacny
Steering Committee, Montgomery
County DSA

Zach Wiita
Steering Committee, Montgomery County DSA

CC: Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich
Montgomery County Council
Montgomery County Planning Board

Email Viewer

Brooks

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers	Source
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[HTML](#)

From: "Joan Clement"
Date: 5/29/2019 1:10:22 PM
To: "County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov" <County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Cc:
Subject: Appoint Brandy Brooks to the Planning Board

Dear Montgomery County Council members:

I urge you to recommend Brandy Brooks for appointment to the Planning Board. Ms. Brooks is exceptionally well-qualified for this position. She has over a decade of experience in both design and planning as well as community organizing for environmental, social, and economic justice.

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope you will recommend Brandy for Planning Board.

Joan Clement

Close

9

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 11:05:07 AM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: Planning Board appointment

Brooks

From: Sam Pizzigati
Sent: Tuesday, June 04, 2019 10:53 AM
To: Albornoz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Friedson's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Glass's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Hucker's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Albornoz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Katz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Rice's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Riemer's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: Planning Board appointment

I attended a forum last night where the six candidates for the Montgomery County Planning Board attending all had a well-moderated chance to showcase how they would approach the planning challenges that face our county. The quality of almost all the candidates left me and, I think, most of the packed hall quite pleasantly impressed.

But one candidate stood out to me: Brandy Brooks.

I've lived in Montgomery County since 1975, after growing up in the 1950s and 1960s on Long Island, the classic archetype of American suburbia. Long Island has gone off the rails over recent decades, a victim of top-down planning that has younger families searching endlessly for affordable housing on aggravatingly congested byways.

We face a similar future unless we actively involve our communities in planning decisions and prioritize the public good over private gain. I believe Brandy Brooks has the planning policy background and the experience in fostering community engagement that can help us get to where we need to go.

I hope you'll give serious consideration to her candidacy. Thank you.

Sam Pizzigati
Kensington

10

Email Viewer

Brooks
Haffner

Message	Details	Attachments	Headers	Source
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[HTML](#)

From: "MCCouncil@App.MontgomeryCountyMD.gov" <MCCouncil@App.MontgomeryCountyMD.gov>
 Date: 6/8/2019 1:05:54 PM
 To: "county.council@mccouncilmd.lmhostediq.com" <county.council@mccouncilmd.lmhostediq.com>
 Cc:
 Subject: Planning Board Candidates - Submitted By:Dr Roger Paden - (Attn: All CMs, Council Webform)

<APP>CUSTOM <PREFIX>Dr</PREFIX> <FIRST>Roger</FIRST> <MIDDLE></MIDDLE>
 <LAST>Paden</LAST> <SUFFIX></SUFFIX> <ADDR1>2209 Richland PL</ADDR1> <ADDR2></ADDR2>
 <CITY>Silver Spring</CITY> <ZIP>20910</ZIP> <EMAIL>rpaden@verizon.net</EMAIL>
 <PHONE_H>3015853154</PHONE_H> <SUBJECT>Planning Board Candidates - Submitted By:Dr Roger
 Paden - (Attn: All CMs, Council Webform)</SUBJECT> <MSG>Dear Councilmembers,

I attended the Planning Board Candidate Forum hosted by the LGBTQ Democrats at the Silver Spring Civic Center last week.

I write to give you my impressions of the candidates as you will soon be voting to appoint two of them to the vacant positions on the Planning Board.

In my opinion Brandy Brooks stood head and shoulders above the others. In discussing the beltway widening proposal, she was the only candidate who discussed the environmental impacts of the project. Only she suggested that the proposed project would have negative environmental impacts; and only she claimed that we need to be transitioning away from the automobile (as much as we can). The other candidates, while opposing the projects talked about procedural issues and the seizing of homes. Admittedly these are important considerations, but they are secondary to the real concern. And only one candidate discussed this concern.

Also Ms. Brooks, unlike all the other candidates except for Julian Haffner (who I would also support) showed no understanding of the importance of 'soft values,' such as community, real diversity, and history, that must be preserved if the people who live in the county are to thrive. The other candidates talked about Disney-ified 'places' filled with Starbucks and Trader Joe's, and clearly thought of the residents of the county on the model of one-dimensional, Homo economicus. The shallowness of their vision and value system was breathtaking.

Of all the other candidates, one stood out, but for all the wrong reasons. Partap Verma seemed wholly unsuitable. He seemed to be completely unable to articulate a vision of a thriving urban community. His appointment would make the county into a worse place.

-Roger Paden </MSG>
 </APP>

Close

11

From: Navarro's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 5, 2019 9:20:15 AM
To: Council President
Subject: FW: My Recommendation for The County Planning Board

Verma
Brooks

From: Andrew Seidman ·
Sent: Wednesday, June 05, 2019 8:10 AM
To: Albornoz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Friedson's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Glass's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Hucker's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Jawando's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Katz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Rice's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Riemer's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>
Subject: My Recommendation for The County Planning Board

Dear Esteemed Members of the Montgomery County Council,

On Monday evening of this week, I had the opportunity to attend an event hosted by LGBTQ Democrats of Montgomery County at the Silver Spring Civic Center designed to introduce members of the community to the candidates running for The County Planning Board. I have lived in Silver Spring for the last ten years, first renting an apartment in downtown Silver Spring and, more recently, buying a house in Wheaton. Before that, I grew up right across the border in Washington D.C. and spent much of my time in Silver Spring. I have witnessed many of the major changes that have occurred here. I remember when there was no City Place Mall, no AFI, no Inventa towers, no Fillmore. Still, I'm a little embarrassed to say that this was my first time ever attending an event like this. I understand that members of the Planning Board are appointed by the Council, not voted on by the public, and that, therefore, constituents need to make their opinions and recommendations known to you.

Let me begin by saying that I think the candidates that appeared on Monday night were largely knowledgeable and on the right track in terms of where we, as a County, should be headed. However, as a millennial, a recent homeowner, and a resident of Silver Spring for the last ten years, one candidate in particular stood out to me and uniquely qualified and well placed for the challenges that face us now: Partap Verma. Mr. Verma gave answers that I thought were consistent with everything that Montgomery County should be striving to do in the years ahead. He opposes the Beltway Expansion, he is committed to building a multi-modal and integrated transit system that helps people travel both from the North to the South and from East to the West, he applauded the recent Bethesda Master plan to integrate more affordable housing into that community, he understands the need to balance development with the needs of current residents, he respects current businesses, he is committed to increasing safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers, and I am impressed with his recent ability to rally the Forest Glen community, a community that has not seen change in far too long.

Let me also say that there seemed to be a large contingent of constituents present that evening that were in favor of giving this position to Brandy Brooks; I think you'll probably hear from many of them. I wouldn't be surprised if Ms. Brooks is Mr. Ehrlich's pick for this position. I believe that Brandy Brooks is an excellent politician, someone that we should definitely be promoting for other positions in Montgomery County's government. However, based on her answers to several of the moderators' questions, I do not think she is the right person for this job. Ms. Brooks did say the right things about the need to increase affordable housing in Montgomery County, she also pointed to the Bethesda masterplan as a good thing, and she also seems committed to serving community members that have traditionally been passed over in the planning process. However, she also made several comments that were decidedly worrisome. Additionally, at the beginning of the meeting, the moderator stated several things that the Planning Board can do and several things The Planning Board cannot do. With many of her answers, Ms. Brooks made promises that, if she were elected, she would do many of the things that the Planning Board actually cannot do. For example, when asked how we can increase housing opportunities for the LGBTQ community, Ms. Brooks replied that we should take the lang out of private ownership, which is not something that The Planning Board can do. Moreover, when the moderator asked if any of the candidates were in favor of the Housing Moratorium, Ms. Brooks was the only candidate on stage that supported the current one-year housing moratorium placed on Montgomery County, a moratorium that prevents any affordable housing from being built. I'm afraid Ms. Brooks cannot have it both ways. In order build more affordable housing in our county, the housing ban has to be lifted. It also seemed to me that several of the candidates, including Mr. Partap, had more experience with Montgomery County than Ms. Brooks. For all of these reasons, I just don't think Ms. Brooks is right for this job.

Mr. Partap, on the other hand, seems to be moving forward doing the right sorts of things for Forest Glen. I would love for him to work closely with the esteemed Councilwoman Navarro on Wheaton. The Councilwoman, working with Ike Leggett, has already

6/10/2019

https://mccouncilmd.lmhostediq.com/COUNTY_COUNCIL/StreamDownloader.aspx?path=&filename=6102019_121132PM_E-Mail Mess...

demonstrated that she has an amazing drive and ability to balance new development with current neighbors and current businesses. We need more of that. We need to make Wheaton walkable, safe, and unique. We need to leverage our strengths and do even more to build more housing, more density, and more transit in our community. I think Mr. Partap is proving he's the right man for this sort of job. I hope you will consider him.

Thank you for your time today.

Sincerely,

Andrew Seidman

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Verma

ML
CC
MM

JARED SOLOMON
Legislative District 18
Montgomery County



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Appropriations Committee

Subcommittees

Education and Economic Development

Oversight Committee on Personnel

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

May 25, 2019

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to you on behalf of Partap Verma, an applicant for the open seat on the Montgomery County Planning Board. I would like to strongly recommend Partap for the appointment.

I have known Partap for several years and have had the pleasure of seeing firsthand his dedication, passion, and knowledge of planning and community development as we have worked together on improving the Montgomery Hills/Forest Glen corridor. Partap has been one of the founders and leaders of *Friends of Forest Glen and Montgomery Hills*, a dedicated group of community members that has rallied neighborhoods on both sides of Georgia Avenue to support improved design.

One of the things I appreciate most about working with Partap is his ability to involve the community. While working on the Montgomery Hills/Forest Glen project, Partap has successfully organized two major community conversations or "charrettes" to engage his neighbors on their views about redevelopment, transportation, and pedestrian priorities. He was also one of the organizers of a wildly successful street festival last fall that brought out over 700 people in support of neighborhood improvements. The next member of the Planning Board must prioritize engaging and working with local neighborhoods, and I believe Partap's track record shows he would be an excellent choice.

Through his creation of the website *Finding Forest Glen* and his work on the Mid-County Citizen's Advisory Board, I also have no doubt that Partap understands the weighty topics and issues that come before the Planning Board. Partap's practical and professional experience, as well as his extensive community involvement, will make him a tremendous addition to the Planning Board.

If you have any questions or need any further information, please let me know. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Delegate Jared Solomon

RECEIVED
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
PLANNING BOARD
2019 MAY -5 PM 2:19

From: Alison Gillespie <
 Sent: Sunday, June 09, 2019 4:57 PM
 To: county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov
 Subject: Partap Verma is a GREAT choice for planning board

To Everyone on the Council:

This week I know you will be conducting interviews and making decisions regarding the planning board. I am writing to express my support for Partap Verma.

Partap and I have known each other for about three years. I became acquainted with him during numerous community meetings about the Forest Glen area of the county.

I own a single-family home in Forest Glen which I bought 18 years ago. My children attend public schools, and my entire family uses mass transit. For years I've been working hard on pedestrian safety issues here in my own neighborhood and throughout the county. I have spent many hours attending meetings at the planning board over the last decade and become familiar with the wide variety of problems the county is now trying to solve through better planning. I also work in the Gaithersburg area and commute up to that area every day, which has helped me to understand how that part of the world differs from my own neighborhood.

I believe that Partap is good fit for the board because he understands what the board is and how it works and is cognizant of the whole county's current economic and social challenges. Partap is someone who understands the importance of data but can balance that knowledge with sensitivity towards social concerns and cultural sensitivities. I also think his commitment to building a more walkable, bikeable county and a stronger, more reliable transit system is just what we need to make the future brighter and more equitable.

Partap, unlike most of the other candidates for the board, has lived in Montgomery County for his entire life and grew up in an immigrant family. His family experiences and his time living in the East County are going to be extremely useful and provide real strength to the board in the coming years, should he be appointed.

I think that Partap also is able to balance the need for development with the needs of those who already live here. He has been able to build huge amounts of support for things like smart growth development near the Metro station in our own neighborhood, and this is an area of the county that had resisted all types of change for many decades prior.

Partap is also good at building consensus and knows that the planning board should remain non-political. His affable nature, good sense of humor and ability to work on a team has brought my neighborhood a long way. I am confident those skills will make him a valuable member of the board, where tough decisions must be debated on a nearly constant basis.

While attending the forum held by the LGBTQ Democrats of Montgomery County on June 3, I was rather alarmed by the highly charged political comments made by Brandy Brooks. My biggest concern with Ms. Brooks is that she is only interested in the planning board position because she thinks it will make a great place to grandstand. I believe Ms. Brooks would like to be on the board simply because she wants to run for council in the next election. I do not think she really has the experience or knowledge to work for planning.

Given that we are about to revise the large, county-wide master plan, I'd especially like for the council to vote for Partap. We need someone who is more interested in balance and long-term goals than getting publicity and election points.

Thanks for your time and consideration.

Alison Gillespie