



Montgomery  
County Council

**Committee:** Directly to Council  
**Committee Review:** N/A  
**Staff:** Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq., Clerk of Council  
**Purpose:** Final action – vote expected  
**Keywords:** #CouncilAppointments

AGENDA ITEM #25  
July 28, 2020  
**Action**

## SUBJECT

Appointment to Montgomery County Planning Board (MCPB)

## EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

## COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Not applicable.

## DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

Gerald Cichy's first-term on the MCPB expired on June 14, 2020. On July 7, 2020, the Council interviewed Gerald Cichy, Anthony Falcone, and Roberto Pinero to fill the vacancy. The Council received 10 applications. Staff from the Office of the County Attorney conducted financial disclosure interviews on June 15. A draft resolution to appoint a member of the Planning Board is before the Council for action.

### Background

Members serve four-year terms and are limited to two full terms. 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. In addition to Mr. Cichy (Rep), current board members are Chair Casey Anderson (Dem), Vice Chair Natali Fani-Gonzalez (Dem), Tina Patterson (Unaffiliated), and Partap Verma (Dem). This position cannot be filled by a Democrat.

Within three days of the appointment by the Council, the name of the appointee will be delivered to the County Executive, who shall within 30 days after the appointment either approve or disapprove the appointment. In the event that the County Executive disapproves an appointment, he shall return the appointment to the Council with the reasons for the disapproval in writing. The Council may, by the affirmative vote of 7 of its members, appoint a member of the Commission over the disapproval of the Executive.

## SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

Not applicable.

### This report contains:

Resumes & letters of endorsement:

Cichy ©1-4 (endorsements from Bob Buchanan ©5, Kendra Wells ©6, MoCo Chamber of Commerce ©6.5)

Falcone ©7-10

Pinero ©11-14 (endorsement from Sierra Club ©15-16)

List of applicants ©17

Draft resolution ©18

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Cichy

GRC 3-9-2020 Letter

Gerald R. Cichy, P.E., AICP

March 9, 2020

Council President Sidney Katz and Council Members  
Montgomery County Council Office  
Stella B. Werner Council Office Building  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear President Katz and Council Members:

I like to express my continued interest and qualifications to continue to serve Montgomery County and its Citizens as a Planning Board Member and M-NCP&P Commissioner over the next four years, and I respectfully request your approval of my reappointment. As Montgomery County and the Planning Board undertake "Thrive 2050", I believe my education and experience in planning, engineering, transportation and administration can be of value to the sound and equitable growth of the County.

Over the past four years as a Commissioner, I have valued the knowledge, leadership, and sincere concern of the Chair and Planning Board Members, Planning and Parks Directors and their staffs for the welfare and sound growth of the County, and the input, questions and comments provided by Citizens and Businesses of the County.

During my tenure on the Planning Board, I have supported the Council's initiatives on Vision Zero, Racial Justice and Social Equity, and Affordable Housing, among others. Having grown up in a safe and sound Public Housing Project in Jersey City, I have always had an appreciation for Affordable Housing as a community benefit, which helped lead me to completing a Planning Master's Thesis on Affordable Housing.

I have lived in Montgomery County since December 1969 and have had the honor of serving as its Director of Transportation. I am registered as a Republican in Montgomery County. My wife grew up in the County and attended its excellent Public School System, as have our son and our daughter, and now our 5 grandchildren are all in Montgomery County Public Schools.

Always being an advocate for Multi-Modal Transportation, in 1997 I have received a US Patent for a Bus Rapid Transit Vehicle with doors on both sides to allow access both at curbside, and at a median or rail station platforms directly. In 2001, I also received the Federal Transit

Administration (FTA) "Innovative Idea Award" for a 200 Mile Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) System supplementing the 103 Mile plus Metro Rail System in the Washington Region, including Montgomery County.

I am a "Certified Planner - AICP" with the American Institute of Certified Planners, and a Registered "Professional Engineer-P.E." in the State of Maryland, with both credentials by examination. I have a BSCE - Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, a Master in City and Regional Planning, a Master in Civil Engineering, and PhD level courses at the National Center for Smart Growth, at the University of Maryland College Park.

For and from my work in Planning and Transportation, I have learned that in planning "all things are related" and that blindly pursuing one goal can adversely affect another. In transportation I have always been "multi-modal" and have seen transportation "not an end in itself" but a system that helps people and families do the things that they need to do, or want to do, like: getting to work, education, health, recreation, visiting family and friends, and for business logistics.

My civic experience has include serving as President, Rockshire Citizens Association; and have been a Member of the Rockville Transportation and Traffic Commission, Rockville Environmental Committee, Appalachian Mountain Club, National Trust for Historic Preservation, and American Planning Association. I have also volunteer with Cystic Fibrosis, Rebuilding Together, Rockville Baseball as a Coach, and BSA as an Assistant Scout Master.

I graduated from the Senior Leadership Montgomery Class of 2016. I was fortunate to participate in this outstanding program, and even though I had served in Montgomery County Government, I learned about new and important programs to serve the community under the concept of what was called the "three-legged stool" of Government, Business and the Non-Profit Sector efforts. Over the past 4 years, I have learned even more about the growing diversity of the County, and that the expansion of our outstanding Montgomery Community, needs continuing care and attention for it to remain a "great place to live" for all.

I believe by continuing to serve on the Montgomery County Planning Board, I can continue to give back to my Montgomery County community in a meaningful and effective way. I have always been willing to listen to other viewpoints, and to then seek win-win solutions. In closing, I again respectfully request your approval of my reappointment.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Cichy, P.E., AICP

Commissioner - Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission and Montgomery County Planning Board  
Silver Spring, MD – 2016 to Present

Appointed by the Montgomery County Council in 2016 to serve as a M-NCP&PC Commissioner and as a Montgomery County Planning Board Member. Have supported Council approved Vision ZERO 2030, Racial Justice and Social Equity, and Affordable Housing, in my decisions on approving Planning and Park projects, and now also in Thrive 2050.

Leadership Montgomery Program

Montgomery County, MD -- 2015 to 2016

Participant in the Senior Leadership Montgomery (SLM) Program. Graduate SLM Class of 2016. Gaining broader knowledge of Montgomery County Needs and Assets.

President

Strategic Transportation Solutions  
Rockville, MD - 2015

Developing planning, engineering and financial strategic solutions to implement multi-modal transportation projects consistent with land use planning, the natural environmental, and racial and social equity and justice.

Acting Deputy Administrator for Corporate Services, Planning & Engineering/ Assistant Deputy Administrator for Operations/ Executive Assistant, Office of Planning / Chief, Special Projects

Maryland Transit Administration/ Maryland Department of Transportation, Baltimore, MD – 2003 to 2015

Areas of administrative responsibility have included, but not limited to: Statewide, Washington and Baltimore area transit planning and policy, civil engineering, MARC & rail freight, customer service, Locally Operated Transit Systems (LOTS-Ride On) support, and the Washington area transit office. Additional responsibilities have included human resources, finance, contracting, EEO, government relations, transit marketing, and elements of transit operations. Special leadership responsibilities include Smart Trip/Smart Card in Maryland as the "Maryland Charm Card" with link to the METRO Farecard, Environmental Justice, Transit Oriented Development (TOD) MTA Coordinator, MTA BRAC Coordinator, and Baltimore-Washington Maglev Project Manager Final EIS.

Consultant Experience as: Senior Associate, Senior Associate-in-Charge, and Vice President

ENDESCO, Inc., Sheladia Associates, Inc., Wilbur Smith Associates, Bengtson, DeBell, Elkin & Titus, LTD.  
Rockville, MD and Northern Virginia --1987 to 2003

Received Federal Transit Administration (FTA) - Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Innovative Ideas Award in 2001 for 200-mile Washington Area BRT System to supplement 103-mile METRO System. Directed project activities for the US 29 Busway, the Corridor Cities Transit Way, the Georgetown Branch Light Rail/Purple Line, the I-270/Shady Grove Interchange, and Western Maryland Historic Railroad Station. Director, Department of Civil Engineering and Transportation, handling airport, transit (Metro) and Tysons Transit Center design. Represented Virginia (VDOT) Transportation Commissioner at the Public Hearing for the "Smart Highway" in Blacksburg (VPI), VA Project Manager for Western Regional P&R Study with Washington Metro Extension beyond Dulles into Loudoun County, Virginia.

Executive Vice President

American Road & Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA)  
Washington, D.C. --1984 to 1986

Directed professional staff of national trade group representing the U.S. transportation construction industry. Implemented reorganization and filled key positions. Organized the first "National Forum on Work Zone Safety" with Federal Highway (FHWA) and American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (MSHTO).

Director, Department of Transportation

Montgomery County Government  
Rockville, MD - 1979 to 1984

Responsible for developing and implementing combined operating and capital budget of over \$100 million. Managed largest county department with over 1100 employees, including six major divisions and four staff offices. Reorganized MCDOT within 5 months, setting up a new Transit Division and separate Equipment Division. Credited with changing the orientation of the department to one that emphasized the transportation needs of the community. Brought Federal, State, County, developer, and citizen interest groups together to solve mutual problems. Instituted numerous administrative and management improvements, including the county's first approved Employee Awards Program, Quality Circle Program and Keep Montgomery County Beautiful. Enjoyed excellent working relationship with Park & Planning staff, meeting monthly to coordinate implementation of Master Plan transportation and transit projects.

Assistant Director

Maryland Department of Transportation  
Office of the Secretary, Planning and Programming Unit  
Baltimore, MD -1973 to 1979

Directed preparation of 1<sup>st</sup> Maryland Transportation Plan (MTP), and Action Plan for Environmental and Citizen Input. State Representative to TPB/COG, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (METRO) and State's Commissioner, Bi-County Washington Suburban Transit Commission (WSTC). On Capitol Hill with MOOT Secretary.

Community Assistance Coordinator

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Washington, D.C. --1971 to 1973

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Environment and Urban Systems. Responsible for developing policy and legislative recommendations for immediate Director, Assistant Secretary and U.S. Secretary of Transportation, on Washington METRO, Union Station, Arlington Cemetery Metro Station, District of Columbia Freeway System, Metropolitan Washington transportation issues, national transportation programs, and State and metropolitan transportation projects and regional planning. Secretary Office rep on Traditionally Black College and University Transportation Initiative.

Supervisory Civil Engineer

District of Columbia Dept. of Highways and Traffic  
Washington, D.C. -1965 to 1971

Office of Planning and Programming. Highest position Chief, Planning Research, in this position coordinated preparation of Highway Planning and Research (HPR) Program, developed and conducted research programs. In other positions, conducted location and traffic studies on District of Columbia Interstate System in support of Congressional approval. Department representative to Transit Station Joint Development Projects, transit studies and Community Service Centers program.

Commissioned Officer

National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Admin. (NOAA) - US Coast and Geodetic Survey (C&GS) - 1961 to 1965

Executive Officer, Ship Manner; Chief, Photogrammetric Survey Party; Certified in Airport Obstruction Surveys. Conducted Survey and Environmental Studies on Chesapeake Bay, Potomac River, Norfolk Area, Charleston Harbor, Lake Mead, and Galveston Bay. Received two Admiral's Letter of Accommodation for Outstanding Field Work.

Civil Engineer

Charles T. Main  
Boston, MA 1961

Following graduation, responsible for highway, environmental, and drainage design on Niagara Parkway, Robert Moses Power Project, Niagara Falls, NY.

Cooperative Work Program

Northeastern University 1956-1961

While a student at Northeastern University, performed survey and highway design work for Edwards and Kelcey, Clarkeson Engineering and Charles T. Main under a 5-year co-operative work program. Designed alignment for I-495, the Outer Beltway around Boston, and its interchange with US Route 3 and the Lowell Connector, in Massachusetts.

Education

Northeastern University, Boston, MA, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering (BSCE)  
Catholic University, Washington, D.C., Masters in City & Regional Planning (MCRP), with Affordable Housing Thesis.  
Catholic University, Washington, D.C., Masters in Civil Engineering (Transportation)  
University of Maryland College Park, MD, Advanced Graduate Studies in Smart Growth and Transportation

Registration, Certification or License

P.E. - Professional Engineer; Maryland No. 17271 by examination; Virginia No. 20365  
AICP - Certified Planner; American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) by examination.  
Maryland Real Estate License No. 89301 (Inactive)  
US Patent No. 5,669,307 BRT and Freeway Bus (Additional Doors Driver Side-Conventional Doors Curbside) 6/23/97  
US Federal Transit Administration (FTA) - Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Innovative Ideas Award, June 18, 2001

References:

Will be furnished upon request.

**From:** Katz's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2020 12:41:31 PM  
**To:** Council President  
**Subject:** PW: Planning Board GRC Re-Application and Resume

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**From:** Bob Buchanan <b.buchanan@buchananpartners.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2020 12:18 PM  
**To:** Katz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Hucker's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Navarro's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov>; Riemer's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Planning Board GRC Re-Application and Resume

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

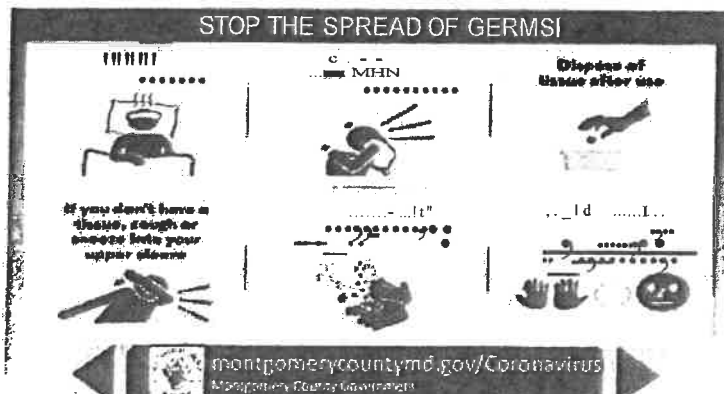
Dear All,

I am writing in support of the reappointment request from Jerry Cichy, whose extensive transportation experience and expertise are much needed assets for the County at this difficult time. Jerry also gets what is needed for us to grow economic development and our tax base.

Bob



[www.m.gov/ce,...](http://www.m.gov/ce,...)  
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/census/>



<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/coronavirus>

**From:** Katz's Office, Councilmember [Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2020 2:44:43 PM  
**To:** Council President  
**Subject:** Fw: Montgomery County Planning Board Vacancy

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**From:** Kendra Wells <kendrawells@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 13, 2020 1:16 PM  
**To:** Katz's Office, Councilmember <Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** Montgomery County Planning Board Vacancy

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear Councilmember Katz,

I'm writing to ask that when you consider filling the Montgomery County Planning Board vacancy you give serious consideration to appointing Gerald Cichy to a second 4 year term. I had the good fortune to participate in Senior Leadership Montgomery with Mr. Cichy and we have maintained a connection since our graduation in 2016 through monthly gatherings of SLM classmates. Each time we discuss matters related to planning and, in particular development issues that impact transportation, I am thankful for his experience, insight and open-minded approach to our discussions. He demonstrates, in his conversation, a commitment to fairness when deliberating issues. He is a great listener and a patient "educator" for those of us who care about key issues in planning that impact the county we love. If you haven't had an opportunity to meet with him one on one I hope you will make time to do so as you consider the applicants for this position.

I sincerely appreciate the leadership you are providing at this very difficult time. The Council communications and actions are important as we address COVID-19 and the long term implications of this virus.

Sincerely,  
Kendra Wells

Rockville, MD 20853

◆ Rarely do we find men who willingly engage in hard, solid thinking. There is an almost universal quest for easy answers and half-baked solutions. Nothing pains some people more than having to think. ◆ The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

**EVERYONE  
COUNTS IN  
't·MCMD**



[www.montgomery.gov/CQusut](http://www.montgomery.gov/CQusut)  
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/census/>



*To Lead, Advocate, and Connect as the Voice of Business*

Sidney Katz  
President, Montgomery County Council  
100 Maryland Ave  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

June 15, 2020

Re: MNCPPC Planning Board Commissioner Appointment

Dear President Katz and Councilmembers:

On behalf of the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC), thank you for the opportunity to comment on the selection of the next Commissioner of the Montgomery County Planning Board. MCCC members reviewed the application letters and conducted interviews with the four finalists.

MCCC was incredibly impressed and inspired by the bench of qualified individuals who are passionate about giving back to their community through service on the Planning Board. Our community is fortunate to have so many skilled candidates with integrity and experience who would be able to fulfill the duties of this position.

As you make your selection, we encourage you to consider the qualities required to be a successful Planning Board member. Ultimately, MCCC's recommendations are based on the perspective that it is vitally important for our County's economic viability to support business success through the planning and land use process. Therefore, we are interested especially in a candidate's approach to economic development, housing, moratorium, and needed transportation improvements (both roads and transit). In addition, knowledge of relevant planning and development issues as well as thoughtful, open-minded, and deliberative approach to managing the process are important.

Based on careful study of the application letters and the in-depth interviews we conducted, **the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce recommends that Jerry Cichy be reappointed to serve a second term on the Planning Board.**

Jerry has the proven experience, deep knowledge, and respected leadership to drive strong economic policies into his second term, specifically as the county is working through the Subdivision Staging Policy and the County's Thrive 2050.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'G. Godwin', is written in dark ink.

Georgette "Gigi" Godwin  
President and CEO

cc: Marc Elrich, County Executive  
Gus Bauman, MCCC Infrastructure and Land Use Committee Chair  
Bob Elliott, MCCC Infrastructure and Land Use Committee Co-Chair



Falcone

ANTHONY FALCONE

March 30, 2020

VIA EMAIL TRANSMISSION

Sidney Katz  
Council President  
County Council Office Building  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850

Council President Katz,

Please accept my letter of application for a position on the Montgomery County Planning Board.

With an unbeatable track record of successfully reengineering and revitalizing companies, it is a pleasure to submit my resume for a Planning Board Position. I believe that, upon review, you will recognize that my innovative strategies are exactly what The Planning Board needs to meet its strategic goals. My knowledge of the Planning Process has been demonstrated throughout my real estate centered career.

Applying such knowledge to making our Community a desired place to live and work would allow me to give back that knowledge to present and future generations.

My keen business insight and in-depth knowledge of improving desired outcomes of planning opportunities will provide you with an invaluable resource.

The Planning Board appears to me as a Board that realizes the importance of achieving Strategic Goals. That type of vision has defined and propelled my career.

I look forward to discussing your objectives and how we can work together to accomplish them. I am a registered Republican.

Sincerely,

Anthony Falcone

Enclosure

## **ANTHONY FALCONE**

### **EXPERIENCE**

- 2011- 2019 Aldon/Brown Development, LLC

President/Chief Executive Officer/Board Member/LLC Member

Privately held 70 year old Bethesda based Multi-Family Residential and Commercial Real Estate Service and Investment Company.

Responsible for restructuring the ownership structure and governance by establishing an outside board, reengineering and bringing efficiencies to stabilize day to day operations, financial reporting, insurance, investments, IT and human resources/employee benefits. Oversaw Brown family matters (including Family Agreements, succession, tax planning and asset portfolio asset strategies for its 750 plus million - dollar portfolio). Responsible for rezoning the Maryland Portfolio as part of the revised Bethesda Master Plan to create new neighborhoods. Coordinated all legal, tax and financing matters. Established Family and Investor Relations Office. Substantially increased value of portfolio.

- 2009-2011 Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington

Sr. VP/Chief Financial, Administrative and Operating Officer

Non -Profit and the largest provider of Social Services in the Washington Region. \$65 million annual revenue and hundreds of employees and volunteers. Responsible for reengineering management and bringing efficiencies to operations, financial reporting and its large real estate portfolio. Promoted affordable housing with affiliated Company (Victory Housing). Improved reporting with Board of Directors and the Executive Board (Cardinal) of the Archdiocese. Replaced most of top and middle management. Also improved insurance, IT, Human resources/employee benefits, legal outsourcing and all financing matters. The successful turnaround prevented the shutdown of the organization.

- 2008-2009 J Street Companies

Senior Vice President

Privately held purchaser of Randall Hagner (see below) Real Estate Service and Investment Company. Responsible for day to day operations, financial reporting, Bashuk family matters, insurance, investments, IT, Human resources/employee benefits, legal outsourcing and all financing matters.

- 2001-2008 Randall Hagner Ltd

Senior Vice President/Chief Financial Officer/Director/Shareholder

Privately held 104-year-old multi million portfolio. D.C. based full service Real Estate Service and Investment Company. Responsible for Asset and Tax Management, day to day operations, financial reporting, restructuring of third-party Property Management, Hagner family matters, insurance, investments, IT, Human resources/employee benefits, legal outsourcing and all financing matters. In 2007, assisted the Hagner family reorganize the Company to allow for the retention of certain family owned real estate assets while selling the majority of the operating companies newly formed entity's stock to a third party. Upon completion with new stockholder, assumed additional responsibilities of a newly merged entity J Street Development while remaining a member of the Randall Hagner Board.

- 1987 -2001: Natelli Communities/Potomac Investment Associates.

Executive Vice President/Chief Financial Officer/Investor Partner

Developer and homebuilder of fine residential golf and non-golf communities in the mid-Atlantic Region and developer of TPC at Avenel in Potomac, Maryland, TPC at Piper Glen in Charlotte, NC, among 6 others. Responsible for all operational, financial and real estate investor matters. Worked closely on planning and zoning matters. Created and successfully implemented the transition plan which allowed a smooth transition upon the untimely serious illness and ultimate death of the founding Natelli family member with minimal tax impact to remaining family members.

- 1986-1987: George Hyman Construction Company (now Clark Construction)

Controller: Top five national construction firm headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland. National controllership responsibilities and assisted in the transition from Hyman family (Ben Rome) to Jim Clark.

- 1983-1986: The Donohoe Companies, Inc.

Treasurer, Asst. Secretary, Investor: Headed financial operations and assisted in day to day operations for this over 100-year-old major local family construction, hotel investment and real estate Service Company based in Washington, D.C. Assisted in the transition of management to the next generation.

- 1978-1983: Arthur Andersen and Thomas Havey, CPA's. Leadership roles in providing audit and accounting services to leading businesses and non-profits.

**EDUCATION:** George Washington University (BBA. -Accounting) - 1978

Certified Public Accountant, Maryland (Tennessee in process)

Chartered Global Management Accountant, Maryland

**MEMBERSHIPS, BOARD ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY SERVICE:**

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants; Maryland & District of Columbia Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Board, Treasurer and Director The Heights School, Potomac, MD

Board Activities - Sovereign Military Order of Malta - Federal Association

Volunteer Activities - Saint Mother Teresa - Gift of Peace Hospice Home, Washington, DC

Assistant Scoutmaster Boy Scout Troop 706 Our Lady of Mercy Parish

Registered Republican

Pinero

April 14, 2020

Council President Sidney Katz  
County Council Office  
Stella B. Werner Council Office Building  
100 Maryland Avenue,  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Council President Katz:

I am writing to express my interest in the vacant position of Planning Commissioner at the Montgomery County Planning Board. I feel very qualified for this position since I consider myself a subject matter expert on issues of urban planning and affordable housing. I am also unaffiliated to a political party. I have a very strong academic record including a Masters degree in urban planning from Harvard university and Ph.D. studies from the University of California at Berkeley. I not only have the academic qualifications but also the experience having worked at GAO for the 25 years doing work related to urban planning, housing, and community development. During those years I advised Congressional majority and minority staff and provided objective and fact-based advice on these issues to members of Congress.

I also have a very extensive volunteer community service to Montgomery County where I have lived for the last 30 years. Some of my major contributions in community service include recently completing a one-year assignment as Chair of the Interagency Commission on Homelessness. I also served for 12 years on the Board of the Housing Opportunities Commission, the last four as the Chair. Some of the successes as the Chair included recruiting a new Executive Director, implementing the Rental Assistance Demonstration initiative, creating more housing choice vouchers for homeless veterans, and obtaining a higher share of low income housing tax credits from the state.

I look forward to hearing from you and please do not hesitate if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Roberto Pinero (signed)

**ROBERTO R. PINERO**

***PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE***

***Senior Analyst***, Financial Markets and Community Investment, U.S. Government Accountability Office, Washington, DC, March 1997 - September 2016. (Retired)

Reviewed and made recommendations regarding the housing programs administered by HUD and Treasury under the Recovery Act.

Reviewed and made recommendations on the consolidation of federal financial literacy programs administered by 15 federal agencies.

Assisted in Preparing Testimonies on FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program and on HUD's Project-Based Section 8 Program.

Reviewed HUD's Project-Based Section 8 Program and made recommendations to improve the program.

Reviewed EDA's Use of Excess Funds and Performance Awards which led the agency to implement the awards as required by legislation.

Reviewed EDA's Brownfield Program and made recommendations on how to streamline the program.

Reviewed HUD's Section 8 Program, High-Risk and Troubled Public Housing Authorities and recommended actions HUD can take to improve their operations.

- Reviewed the employment discrimination complaint process at USDA and recommended actions USDA can take to address the delays.
- Reviewed the proposed rescissions to FY98 USDA's budget incorporated in a report by the Office of General Counsel to the Congress.

***Analyst***, Resources, Community, and Economic Development Division, U.S. General Accounting Office, Washington, DC, October 1990 - March 1997.

Band Level I

- Undertook an assignment on USDA's Team Nutrition Initiative examining issues related to personnel and travel that resulted in referrals to the USDA's Inspector General and the U.S. Attorney for possible criminal investigation.
- Conducted a budget analysis of USDA that identified millions of dollars of potential reductions to USDA's appropriations for fiscal years 1997 and 1998.

- Worked with congressional staff on audits covering housing and community development issues, and more recently, on food and nutrition issues.
- Planned and participated in three major audits of housing and community development programs at the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Mac) multifamily program, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) surety bond assistance programs, and the Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC) affordable housing disposition program.
- Audits led to major revision in Freddie Mac, SBA and RTC operations and regulations, including the suspension of Freddie Mac's multifamily program.
- Special Commendation Award for detecting financial and management problems at Freddie Mac.

***Special Assistant to the Director***, Office of Management and Budget, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, 1987 - 1990.

- Developed a long-range plan and integrated planning and budget system for the Commonwealth government.
- Represented the Director in meetings with Federal officials, bond underwriters, and national associations.
- Coordinated the budget and management divisions and designed the capital improvements office.
- Liaison with the Governor's Office and the Legislature in the preparation and execution of the budget.
- Supervised outside consultants hired to restructure the budget process.

***Economic Planner***, Governor's Economic Advisory Council, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, 1986 - 1987.

- Directed efforts to design and restructure the budget process of the Commonwealth government.
- Coordinated the budget planning restructuring with outside consultants and the National Association of State Budget Officers (NASBO).
- Successfully advised the Governor's Office on ways to restructure the budgets of the Education Department and the Metropolitan Bus Authority, resulting in improved operations and major savings to the government.

***Director of the Housing Element***, Planning Board, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, 1975 - 1979.

- Directed the design of a comprehensive housing plan for the island and its municipalities.
- Developed a housing information system and a model for allocating housing funds that was implemented by HUD's Caribbean Office for allocating

- housing and community development funds.
- Conducted housing market research and rendered various reports to the Legislature on housing cost and finance.
- Supervised a staff of 9 professionals.

### ***OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE***

***Chairman***, Interagency Commission on Homelessness of Montgomery County, November 2018-2019.

***Housing Commissioner***, Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County, September 2003-2015. Chairman of the Commission, 2011-2015.

***Member of the Board of Directors***, Town Center Apartments of Rockville, Maryland (a senior low-income development), January 2004-2015.

***Member of the Budget Review Committee***, Montgomery County Public Schools, 1995-1997.

***Member of the Commission on Children and Youth***, Montgomery County, Maryland, 1995-1997.

***Member of the Welfare Reform Task Force***, Montgomery County, Maryland, 1996.

***Visiting Professor***, Graduate School of Planning, University of Puerto Rico, 1987.

***Grants Coordinator***, Office of Academic Affairs, University of California at Berkeley, 1984-86.

***Adjunct Professor***, National Hispanic University, Oakland, California, 1985-86.

***Instructor***, Graduate School of Business Administration, Inter-American University of Puerto Rico, 1976.

***Planner***, Puerto Rico Development Group, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 1975.

***Junior Planner***, Puerto Rico's Public Housing Authority, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Summer 1974.

***Management Intern***, New York City Planning Commission, New York, Summer 1973.

### ***EDUCATION***

***Ph.D. Studies - City and Regional Planning***, University of California at Berkeley, California, 1982-86.

***M.S. -Sociology***, University of Wisconsin at Madison, Wisconsin, 1979-81.

***M. CP. - City and Regional Planning***, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1973-75.

***B.A. - Economics and History***, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, 1969-73. Also, studies at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico.

***High School Degree***, Colegio San Ignacio de Loyola, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, 1965-1969.

### ***OTHER QUALIFICATIONS***

Proficient in operation of Word, Excel, and Power Point

Proficient in English and Spanish. Somewhat proficient in Portuguese and French





**SIERRA CLUB**  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

June 1, 2020

Subject: Sierra Club Endorsement for Planning Board

Dear Council President Katz and County Councilmembers,

The Sierra Club Montgomery County Group is pleased to recommend Robert Pinero for appointment to the Montgomery County Planning Board.

To arrive at our recommendation, we distributed a questionnaire to each candidate to determine their experience with and perspective on land use, transportation, and other climate change and environmental issues. We received completed questionnaires from all four candidates and then interviewed each of them.

While all the candidates were serious in their responses – and indicated a commitment to public service, we were most impressed with Roberto Pinero, who stood out for several reasons.

We believe that Mr. Pinero's strong academic background in city planning, extensive experience in housing and community development at GAO and in our county, and his personality would make him an outstanding addition to the Planning Board. In his interview with Sierra Club, he impressed us as sincere, thoughtful, and authentic. We believe he would come to the Planning Board with a strong equity lens – he emphasized the need for transportation and land use decisions that will improve the transportation and housing options for lower income households.

Former colleagues of his at the Housing Opportunities Commission describe Pinero as hard working and a team player – both are critical attributes for a Planning Board member. He would be a passionate advocate for affordable housing and good transportation options for those without cars, but he would not be a disruptive force.

Mr. Pinero understands Smart Growth and is committed to its central tenets – encouraging most development in high density, walkable, transit-served, mixed-use, mixed-income neighborhoods with plenty of affordable housing and many parks and plazas.

Mr. Pinero has an impressive resume, which we will not repeat here. But a few pieces of his experience are worth underlining in addition to his strong academic credentials that include a degree from Harvard's Graduate School of Design.



**SIERRA CLUB**  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

Mr. Pinero's many years of service on the Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC) board (including four years as Board Chair) and on the Commission on Homelessness gives him valuable hands-on experience in working with a variety of key organizations and agencies. He has a good understanding of many of the county's challenges and opportunities; and has good working relationships with some key players. Because he has dealt with the Planning Board and the Planning Department on several occasions in recent years, he would start with some knowledge of important Planning Board processes. In addition, Pinero has demonstrated the ability to engage the participation of low- and moderate-income residents in complex land use decisions – always needed, but usually hard to achieve.

In sum, Sierra Club is impressed with Mr. Roberto Pinero and believe that he would be a valuable addition to the Planning Board. We encourage the Council to appoint him.

Sincerely,

Shruti Bhatnagar  
Chair, Sierra Club Montgomery County  
shruti.bhatnagar@mdsierra.org | 240.498.3459

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING BOARD 2020

<b>Applicants</b>	<b>Political Affiliation</b>
Rosana Aguilar Gaithersburg 20878	Rep
John Robert Austin Brookeville 20833	Rep
Gerald Cichy Rockville 20850	Rep
Anthony Falcone Potomac 20854	Rep
Justin Malcom Silver Spring 20910	Rep
Melissa McCall Silver Spring, MD 20910	Unaffiliated
Sigurd Neubauer Silver Spring 20910	Rep
Theresa Newsuan-Reyes Silver Spring 20910	Rep
Richard Peppin Rockville 20852	Green
Roberto R. Piñero Silver Spring 20906	Unaffiliated

Resolution No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTY COUNCIL  
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: County Council

**SUBJECT:** Appointment to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

**Background**

1. Article 28, Section 2-101, of the Maryland Code provides for the appointment of members to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. No more than three members of the Commission may be from the same political party.
2. The first term of Gerald Cichy (Republican) expired on June 14, 2020.
3. Besides Mr. Cichy (Republican), current Commission members are Chair Casey Anderson (Democrat), Natali Fani-Gonzalez (Democrat), Tina Patterson (Unaffiliated), and Partap Verma (Democrat).
3. The appointment of a member to fill the expired first term of Gerald Cichy is before the Council for approval.

**Action**

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

\_\_\_\_\_ is appointed to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission until June 14, 2024, or until a successor has qualified and been appointed. This appointment is effective \_\_\_\_\_.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.  
Clerk of the Council

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marc Elrich, County Executive  
County Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date