

Zoning Code Rewrite: The County is currently in the process of rewriting our Zoning Ordinance, or Zoning Code. The zoning code can generally be described as a set of local rules regulating the use and development of property. Zoning ordinances typically divide a community into land use districts or "zones" and specify the allowable uses within each of those zones. For example, some communities, like Montgomery County, divide land into industrial zones, commercial zones, and one or more residential zones. The Planning Board Draft covers what's allowed in each zone, how one can build, and the process by which development is reviewed and approved.

- County Council public hearing on Zoning Text Amendment 13-04 (Zoning Ordinance - Revised) and District Map Amendment G-956 (proposed zone implementation) held **June 11 from 7:30 until ~10:00 pm**. View recorded sessions:
 - Part 1:
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=6&clip_id=5289
 - Part 2:
http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=6&clip_id=5290
- Zoning Montgomery Planning Board Draft:
<http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/development/zoning/index.shtm>
- PHED committee remaining sessions:
http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/council/pdf/agenda/cm/current_com_agnd.pdf

Bus Rapid Transit: The Countywide Transit Corridors Functional Master Plan – known to many of us as the BRT plan, for Bus Rapid Transit – is working its way through the planning process, and there's no doubt that in some form it will be forwarded to the Montgomery County Council.

- Montgomery Planning Countywide Transit Corridors Functional Master Plan: amendment to the master plan of highways
<http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/transportation/highways/brt.shtm>
- RTV/BRT FAQs from Councilmember Marc Elrich (At-large)
(http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/council/mem/elrich_m/pdf/BRTFAQ.pdf)

Purple Line: The Purple Line is a proposed 16-mile light rail line extending from New Carrollton in Prince George's County to Bethesda in Montgomery County. It would provide a direct connection to the Metrorail Red, Green and Orange Lines. The Purple Line would also connect to MARC Train, Amtrak and local bus services.

- MTA Transit Projects: <http://mta.maryland.gov/transit-projects>

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- Washington Post: Maryland seeks private-sector input on ways to finance and build Purple Line (http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/trafficandcommuting/maryland-seeks-private-sector-input-for-ways-to-finance-build-purple-line/2013/04/11/cc7b9958-a2b7-11e2-9c03-6952ff305f35_story.html)
- Purple Line – Opportunities & Challenges: <http://wearemoco.org/purple-line-opportunities-challenges/>

Taxation – Excise Tax – Disposable Carryout Bags Scope (Bill 10-13): Seeks to (1) modify the scope of the excise tax on certain disposable carryout bags; and (2) generally amend the law governing the excise tax on certain disposable carryout bags.

- Read Bill 10-13:
http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/council/pdf/bill/2013/Packets/20130423_10-13C.pdf
- **Public Hearing June 18, 2013**
http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/council/pdf/agenda/col/current_agenda.pdf
 - Sign up to testify by 6/18 at 10 am all 240-777-7803 – for 7:30 pm hearing at Council Hearing Room, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850

Costco Gas Station Special Exception Hearings: See separate hand out.

- **Hearing dates scheduled & public comments.** In addition to the upcoming June 4 date, the hearing date schedule as of today is: June 17, June 19, July 8, July 11, July 30, July 31, and Aug. 2. The Hearing Examiner will be setting aside one morning (or longer) of one date – likely Wed., July 31 – for “community walk-in” comments. So, if you want to be part of the official record of this case by giving testimony (rather than by written comments), this is your chance!
- **Hearing Transcripts.** Available at:
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OZAH/specialexceptiontranscripts.html.
- **Summary article in *Sentinel* newspaper.** See page 6 of the May 30 edition for a succinct summary of the Costco gas station fight to date. Paper copies are available for free at your local library. http://data.axmag.com/data/20130530/U22594_F220020/FLASH/index.html
- **KHCA Legal Defense Fund and contacts.** Since the original 8 days of testimony look likely to grow to 12, that means we still need to keep working to raise the dollars needed to pay the (deeply discounted) costs of our counsel and experts. Any donation you can make to the KHCA Legal Defense Fund is an investment in your own neighborhood's future, health, and quality of life! To donate, send checks made payable to KHCA Legal Defense Fund c/o Karen Cordry, 10705 Torrance Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20902. Or use the "DONATE" button on the KHCA website, www.kensingtonheightsmd.org. Thanks again to all who have helped us get this far!
- **Stop Costco Gas Coalition:** For hearing summaries, background on the issues ways to take action and why mega gas station placement is a concern for all neighborhoods
 - <http://www.stopcostcogas.org/index.html>