

5 Point Plan
to

POWER UP

Montgomery County's Economy



**Hans
Riemer**
Councilmember

We need stronger job growth

- Despite many positive changes, Montgomery County's job growth has slowed down as regional forces have shifted.
 - Northern Virginia generating 90% of new jobs in the region in 2019
- We need to chart a better course, beginning with:
 1. Purple Line Innovation Corridor
 2. North Bethesda Economic Development
 3. Tech Talent Pipelines
 4. More Entrepreneurship from our Federal Labs
 5. Transit for Upcounty and Across the Potomac

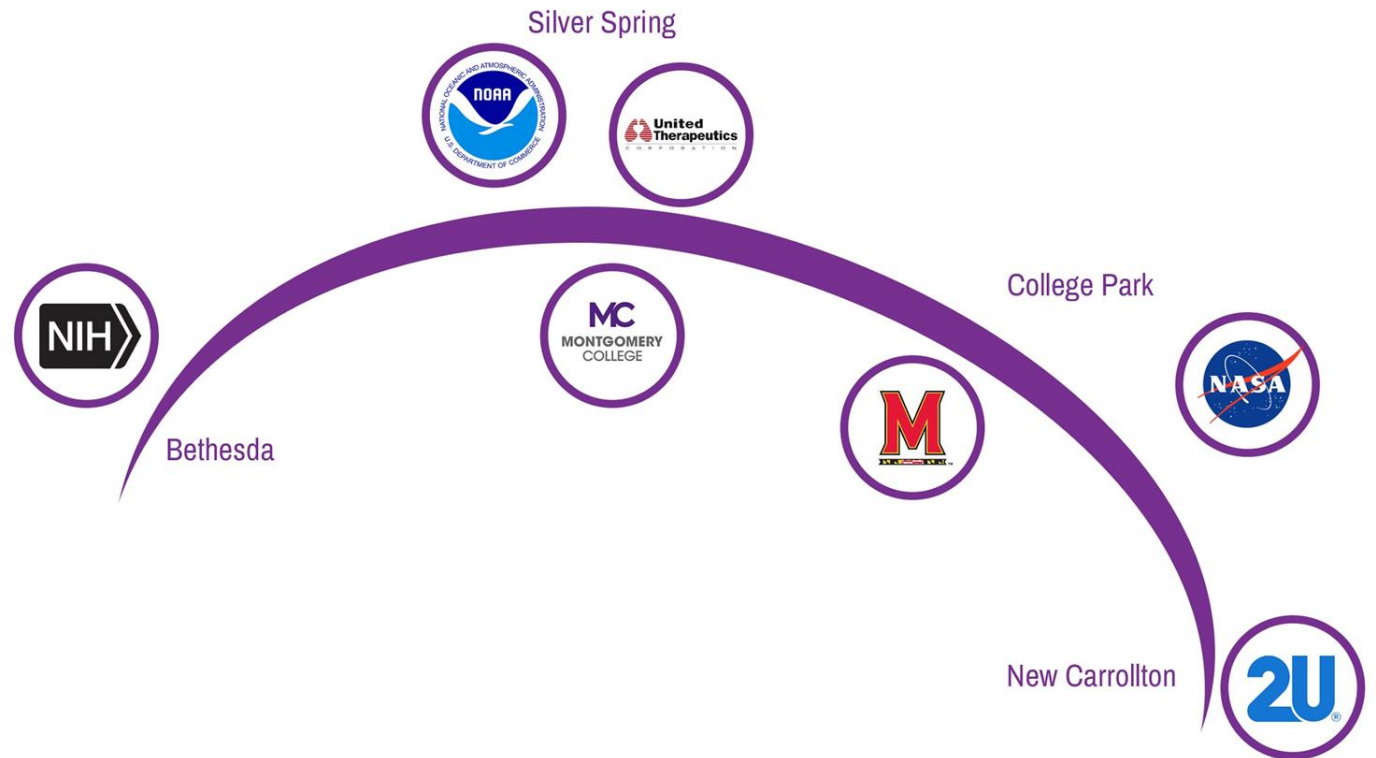


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Purple Line Innovation Corridor

Maximizing the economic potential of the Purple Line by creating a **thriving urban environment** that is connected to some of the world's most powerful research hubs.



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North Bethesda Economic Development

- Our County has an expansive vision for an urban corridor up and down Rockville Pike.
- In North Bethesda, large employers are making investments in new office markets and vibrant communities. We can support them by:
 - Building a new northern entrance to the White Flint Metro Station
 - Improving intersections and crosswalks on Rockville Pike to increase pedestrian and bicycle safety and comfort
 - Adding street furniture, public art, and wayfinding to create a sense of place



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Talent Pipelines

- In today's innovation economy, companies chase talent and talent drives growth
- Montgomery County is a talent factory but we must do more
 - Expand Universities at Shady Grove, Montgomery College
 - More degree programs and certificates that are aligned with the emerging needs of our growing employers
 - MCPS/KID partnership to invigorate science and tech learning
 - New STEM high schools with Montgomery College
 - Blue ribbon commission on science and tech talent

Entrepreneurship from our Federal Labs

- We have some of the world's most powerful research institutions
- We need a deliberate strategy and policy making that supports entrepreneurship from these labs. For example
 - NIH: biohealth, health IT
 - NIST: cyber, nanotech
 - FDA: medical devices
 - NOAA: climate science and geographic and weather tech.
 - Carderock Naval: Defense tech
 - NASA, NSA, APL
- Need programs, policy changes to support entrepreneurship

Transit Upcounty and to NoVA

- Gaithersburg (a biohealth powerhouse), Germantown, and Clarksburg are envisioned as employment hubs. But companies are increasingly seeking transit-served locations with walkable amenities
- We need to push the following Upcounty transit projects forward
 - The Corridor Cities Transitway
 - BRT on 355
 - BRT on 270 to Northern Virginia, as I have proposed to be added to the 270 managed lane plan
 - MARC integration with VRE, enabling a one-seat ride from UpCounty to Crystal City
 - Monorail or other transit to Frederick



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Progress report

- STEM high schools proposed, “Skills for the Future” fund established
- Federal lab impact initiatives (BHI, DefTech, NCI, etc)
- North Bethesda economic development project underway
- Revision of Gaithersburg/Rockville biohealth region zoning, transportation
- MCEDC organizing Purple Line Innovation Corridor strategy
- Housing policy – ADUs, COG goals, financing
- 5G legislation introduced
- Stay tuned...



**Hans
Riemer**
Councilmember

Contact

Councilmember.Riemer@montgomerycountymd.gov

@hansriemer

facebook.com/hansriemer4



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Riemer**
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