



Summer Salutations!

Things aren't slowing down here in the summer, see below for what's happening on the local, state and federal policy levels.

Montgomery County

FY15 Budget

The Council formally adopted the FY15 Operating and Capital Budgets on May 22nd. Included in the budget was a total of \$44 million for affordable housing, including \$3.7 million for a new line item "Affordable Housing", in addition to \$2.3 million for Special Needs and Nonprofit Housing and over \$9 million for rental assistance. The total operating budget for the County stands at \$4.99 Billion, an increase of almost four percent over last years budget.

Primary Results

In the Democratic race, County Executive Leggett has won the nomination for re-election. He will be running against Republican Jim Shallack in the General Election. On the Council, we saw a very tight race for the District 5 seat, which resulted in Delegate Tom Hucker winning the Democratic nomination by just over 200 votes. He is running unopposed in November. Additionally, Councilmembers Elrich, Floreen, Leventhal, and Riemer won the Democratic nomination for the at-large seats. They will be running against Republicans Robert Dyers, Chris Fiotes Jr, Adol Owen-Williams, and Shelly Skolnick in the General Election.

The full results can be viewed on the [County Webpage](#).

You can register to vote online at the [Maryland State Board of Elections](#). The General Election is November 4, 2014, with early voting from October 23, 2014 - October 30, 2014.

White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan

The full Council received a briefing on June 17th from the planning department on the White Oak master plan. The PHED committee has held a series of five work sessions this month to go through the plan. The plan is scheduled to come back to the full Council on July 22nd, with action expected on July 29th. They Council will take up the sectional map amendment after Labor Day.

The latest version of the plan, and additional background material is available on the Planning Department's website.

Casey Anderson Elected as the New Planning Board Chair

On July 15th, the County Council voted 8-1 to elect Casey Anderson as the new Chair of the Planning Board. He succeeds Franciose Carrier, who did not seek re-election. Anderson has been a member of the board since 2011. The appointment is effective early August, pending County Executive Leggett's approval of the Council's resolution. As Anderson was already a member of the Planning Board, applications are now open to fill his position on the board. Applications are due September 3, 2014. For more information, see the Council's press release.

State of Maryland

Primary Results

In the Democratic race, Lt. Governor Anthony Brown won the nomination for Governor. In the Republican race, Larry Hogan won the nomination. The Attorney General race will see Jeffrey Pritzker (R) running against Brian Frosh (D) in the General Election.

Regarding the State Legislature, all Montgomery County incumbents won the nomination for their seats. Other races of note include Delegate Susan Lee wining the Democratic nomination for State Senate for District 16. She will be running against Republican Meyer Marks in the General Election. For the District 17 State Senate race, former Delegate Cheryl Kagan won the Democratic nomination, and will run against Republican Steve Zellers. In District 20, David Moon and Will Smith won the Democratic nomination for the seats vacated by Del. Mizeur and Del. Hucker. The two of them, in addition to incumbent Delegate Sheila Hixson, are running unopposed in the general election.

2015 Building Codes

As required by Maryland law, the Department of Housing and Community Development proposes to adopt the 2015 International Building, Residential, and Energy Conservation Codes. A public hearing will be held on August 28th and deadline for comments is August 31st. Amendments will be recommended by the Building Industry. For more information, contact Annette Rosenblum with the Maryland Building Industry Association.

2014 Qualified Allocation Plan

On July 8, 2014, Governor O'Malley signed the 2014 Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) and Multi-family Rental Financing Guide. Changes were necessary to comply with the passage HB 453, which among other items streamlined the local approval process. Applications under this funding round are due Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at 5 pm. Materials can be found at on the Department of Housing and Community Development's website.

Federal Government

Senate 2015 THUD Appropriations Bill Stalls

While June 5 saw optimism with the Senate Committee on Appropriations approving its FY2015 appropriations bill for the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development and Related Agencies (THUD) subcommittee by a bipartisan vote of 29-1, the bill has since stalled on the Senate Floor. The Senate bill calls for a total allocation of \$45.8 billion to programs administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This is an increase of approximately \$369 million more than the FY14 HUD spending levels. In contrast, the House FY15 THUD spending bill, which passed on the floor June 10th, would reduce HUD spending levels by \$770 million.

Changes to the Cabinet

Former Secretary to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Shaun Donovan has been tapped to serve as the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. President Obama nominated San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro to fill the HUD position. On July 9th & 10th, Donovan and Castro were confirmed by the Senate for their new positions.

Upcoming Events

July

22 - HomeAid Northern Virginia: Transformational Housing: Out of Shelter, Getting and Keeping a Home

August

12 - Nonprofit Roundtable: Moving Montgomery Forward; Putting the Challenges of Working and Living in Montgomery County in a Regional Context

September

15-16 - Bipartisan Policy Center 2014 Housing Summit

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