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**Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Statement on
Introduction of WMATA Funding Renewal Bill**

ROCKVILLE, MD: Senators from the D.C. Metro Area recently introduced the *Metro Safety, Accountability and Investment Act of 2019*. This bipartisan legislation, co-sponsored by Maryland Senators Ben Cardin and Chris Van Hollen, would renew federal funding for the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority (WMATA) for 10 years at an annual funding level of \$150 million.

While current federal funding requires matching funds from Maryland, D.C., and Virginia, this legislation provides additional federal funding of \$50 million per year that would not require matching funds from local jurisdictions. These funds would be for the purpose of financing capital and preventative maintenance projects, require reforms for varying safety, oversight, and governance, and provide additional funding for the Inspector General. If Congress fails to renew funding, it will expire this year.

“The Chamber thanks Senators Cardin and Van Hollen for their leadership in ensuring that Montgomery County workers have a safe and reliable public transit system to get to work,” said Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Gigi Godwin. “In addition to the authorized funding, much needed reforms are included in the legislation. This 10-year commitment is essential to Montgomery County’s future growth.”

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The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC) is a membership organization that accelerates members success through effective advocacy, programs, and events. Its membership includes small, medium, and large organizations representing a wide range of industries. For more information, visit www.mccc.md.com and follow the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce on social media @MCCCMD.



Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce

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