



May 13, 2022

The Honorable Gabe Albornoz
Council President
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Council President Albornoz:

On behalf of the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce's (MCCC) and our nearly 500 members, MCCC reiterates its support for important budget priorities, including funding for the Montgomery College East County Education Center. The County Council placed \$1 million on the reconciliation list for startup funds for the East County Education Center. MCCC respectfully requests that the Council fully fund this in the budget.

This funding will provide for the initial costs of the project to begin the process of fully investing in the East County Education Center. MCCC supports growing Montgomery College's ability to expand access in this underserved region and better address ongoing workforce needs. The East County Education Center project will be key to unlocking the untapped talent potential in East County and growing the ability to find labor market solutions that meet the needs of employers. This is especially important in high-demand industries like life sciences, technology, and innovative federal government contracting.

We look forward to continuing to partner with you on ways to move Montgomery County forward. As you continue your important work, please do not hesitate to reach out to us if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Godwin".

Georgette "Gigi" Godwin
President & CEO
Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce

cc: Members, Montgomery County Council

