



December 6, 2021

The Honorable Tom Hucker
Council President
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Council President Hucker and Members of the Montgomery County Council:

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC) supports Bill 44-21, *Montgomery County Green Bank – Funding – Fuel Energy Tax Revenue*. Bill 44-21 would require the annual appropriation of 10 percent of the Fuel Energy Tax for the County Green Bank to help finance clean energy technologies. The Green Bank is a publicly-chartered nonprofit that lowers the cost of financing local clean energy technology investments.

MCCC has previously shared its support of using Fuel Energy Tax revenues for dedicated, purpose-driven financing that invests in the County's building infrastructure. In our testimony for legislation to amend the County's Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS), MCCC asked that if the Fuel Energy Tax continues to be imposed the County should allocate a portion of this revenue for the purpose of assisting building owners in the financing technologies that offset the costs of complying with BEPS.

Bill 44-21 is a substantive step forward to make it more feasible for building owners to retrofit their properties and reduce emissions that meet the County's climate goals. MCCC requests that the County continue looking at additional alternatives that supplement efforts that work in partnership with building owners to reduce emissions.

Again, MCCC supports the passage of Bill 44-21 and looks forward to continuing to partner 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 blue ink, appearing to read "G. Godwin".

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