



To Lead, Advocate and Connect as the Voice of Business

**Bill 36-18, Transportation Management - Transportation Demand Management
Plan – Amendment**

Transportation and Environment

March 18, 2019

LETTER OF CONCERN

Bill 36-18 expands the role of Transportation Demand Management (TDM) in the County. Currently, there are a handful of places in the County where TDM plans are required; the proposed bill expands this countywide. Where TDM plans are currently required, an additional level of negotiation, and therefore real capital and operational costs, is added to projects.

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce supports transit-oriented development and the County's overall efforts to reduce traffic congestion. The Chamber has advocated strongly for the secured WMATA funding at the state-level and is an environmental steward as a Montgomery County Green Certified Business.

The Chamber advocates and promotes a regulatory climate that is conducive to economic development and expansion of our tax base. Our concern is that this bill would move the County in the opposite direction. MCCC also has specific concerns around imposing any regulation on how a property developer or owner utilizes their available parking.

The Chamber appreciates streamlining processes to make it easier to do business *with* the county; however, it should be equally as important to do business *within* the county. To the extent that the County Executive and County Council want to remain competitive with our surrounding jurisdictions and not have additional requirements, please note that TDMs are not required adjacent jurisdictions areas like Frederick and Prince George's County.

For these reasons, the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce has serious concerns with Bill 36-18.

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC) accelerates the success of our nearly 500 members by advocating for increased business opportunities, strategic investment in infrastructure, and balanced tax reform to advance Metro Maryland as a regional, national, and global location for business success. Established in 1959, MCCC is an independent non-profit membership organization and is proud to be a Montgomery County Green Certified Business.