



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND**

**VALERIE ERVIN
COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

April 20, 2011

Maryland Health Care Commission
4160 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Montgomery County Council, my colleagues and I are sending this letter in support of Washington Adventist Hospital's Certificate of Need application with the Maryland Health Care Commission to relocate and develop a 21st century hospital and medical campus in the White Oak area of Montgomery County.

Washington Adventist Hospital is a valued and respected health care facility that provides health, wellness, and education programs to residents in our community. The relocation of this hospital will improve its contribution to our residents because it will increase accessibility and provide the opportunity for Washington Adventist Hospital to repurpose the current Takoma Park site to provide primary care, urgent care, rehabilitation services, as well as other health related services.

Given Montgomery County's life science assets, academic institutions, and educated workforce, the County Council is committed to investing in technology and innovation that will expand the economic pie for everyone by creating new opportunities in critical markets. One prime example of an area that will help shape the County's future is White Oak and the Route 29 Corridor. This area is primed to become an innovation center for Montgomery County. The new U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Campus will employ nine to eleven thousand workers. Other major employers in the area include: Kaiser Permanente, Children's Hospital, 3M Health Information Services, and if approved, Washington Adventist Hospital would bring an additional 3,000 workers to the area. The potential for this synergistic economic development will help to ensure the long-term fiscal health of Montgomery County. The chance to locate a hospital next to the FDA is an opportunity that should not be missed for new and innovative health care services.

We believe that Washington Adventist Hospital's Vision for Expanded Access initiative is the right fit for the County's economic development and land use goals. The new Washington Adventist Hospital campus will also be accessible by public transportation and its location, off major roadways, will improve emergency vehicle accessibility.

We know that Washington Adventist's history as a leader in ensuring access to care for all, as well as its commitment to improving the health and wellness of the community, is a vital asset to Montgomery County and the region. We encourage the Commission to support the hospital's application and approve Washington Adventist Hospital's Certificate of Need in the immediate future.

Sincerely,



Valerie Ervin
Council President



Roger Berliner
Council Vice President



George Leventhal
Councilmember



Marc Elrich
Councilmember



Nancy Navarro
Councilmember



Hans Riemer
Councilmember



Craig Rice
Councilmember

cc: Isiah Leggett, County Executive, Montgomery County
Rob Jepson, Washington Adventist Hospital
Montgomery County Councilmembers