

For the fact is that if the land and the people are ever to be saved, they will be saved by local people enacting together a proper respect for themselves and their places. They can do this only in ways that are neighborly, convivial and generous, but also, and in the smallest details, practical and economic.

Wendell Berry

In summary: MCA supports the passage of this [resolution](#) and thanks you for your forward thinking.

Dear Councilmembers,

The quotation from Wendell Berry seems apt, as the proposed resolution inspires hopefulness that our County's upper area land use planning will undertaken with attention to public interest and detail, both practical and economic. On behalf of the Montgomery Countryside Alliance's board and membership, I ask that you move forward and pass this enlightened resolution.

Montgomery County's future development should be undertaken with the correct assumption that infrastructure and land use must be mutually supportive. There is something broken in a system that does not recognize that fact. We cannot disassociate land development from the carrying capacity of our transportation system, natural resources, and public services. To do so would jeopardize the health and well being of our communities, moving us further from our shared goal of sustainability. Though this premise is referred to here as a "detail" that should not diminish its foundational importance. It is *the* detail. And we thank you for recognizing this truth.

We look forward to supporting the Council on this and other modern initiatives.

Sincerely,

Caroline Taylor
Executive Director
Montgomery Countryside Alliance