

HOUSE BILL 964

N1

5lr1034

By: **Montgomery County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2025

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 6, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Montgomery County – Task Force on the Displacement of Residents of Emory**
3 **Grove**

4 **MC 5–25**

5 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force on the Displacement of Residents of Emory
6 Grove to study how urban renewal caused the displacement of residents from the
7 Emory Grove community and make recommendations on potential remedies for
8 those who were displaced by urban renewal; and generally relating to the Task Force
9 on the Displacement of Residents of Emory Grove.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
11 That:

12 (a) There is a Task Force on the Displacement of Residents of Emory Grove.

13 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

14 (1) the Director of the Montgomery County Office of Human Rights;

15 (2) the Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board, or the Chair's
16 designee;

17 (3) (i) the Executive Director of the Housing Opportunities Commission
18 of Montgomery County; or

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (ii) a member of the Board of Commissioners, designated by the
2 Executive Director;

3 (4) one member of the Montgomery County Historical Society, designated
4 by the Society;

5 (5) one member who has professional experience in issues of discrimination
6 or housing, appointed by the Montgomery County Council;

7 (6) one member who has professional experience in issues of discrimination
8 or housing, appointed by the Montgomery County Executive;

9 (7) one member of the Montgomery County Racial Equity and Social
10 Justice Advisory Committee, designated by the Committee;

11 (8) the Pastor of the Emory Grove United Methodist Church; and

12 (9) one member who is a former resident of the Emory Grove community
13 and lived in the community at any time between 1960 and 1985, designated by the Pastor
14 of the Emory Grove United Methodist Church.

15 (c) The Director of the Montgomery County Office of Human Rights shall serve
16 as the chair of the Task Force.

17 (d) The Montgomery County Office of Human Rights shall provide staff for the
18 Task Force.

19 (e) (1) The Task Force shall hold its first meeting not later than July 1, 2025,
20 and meet at least quarterly thereafter.

21 (2) The Task Force may hold additional meetings as determined necessary
22 by the chair.

23 (f) A member of the Task Force:

24 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

25 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
26 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

27 (g) The Task Force shall:

28 (1) review and analyze the displacement of residents of Emory Grove under
29 the urban renewal program carried out from 1960 through 1985 in order to:

1 (i) determine the basis for the development of the Emory Grove
2 urban renewal program and the guidelines and execution of the program, including how
3 property was acquired or purchased from landowners;

4 (ii) analyze the way urban renewal was administered in Emory
5 Grove;

6 (iii) analyze the decisions to use the urban renewal program in
7 Emory Grove and the equity impacts of the program;

8 (iv) analyze the guidelines and execution of the urban renewal
9 program in Emory Grove, including the purchase of property from landowners and the
10 demolition of homes;

11 (v) determine the basis for the purchase of property from
12 landowners in Emory Grove and identify the details of land purchases, including the
13 purchase prices and purchase agreements; and

14 (vi) analyze the plan for providing replacement properties or new
15 homeownership for the displaced residents of Emory Grove and the equity impacts of the
16 plan, including proposed dates to provide new replacement properties and incentives or
17 benefits for previous landowners; and

18 (2) if deemed appropriate by the Task Force, recommend remedies for past
19 inequities in the purchase of land by Montgomery County through the urban renewal
20 program in Emory Grove from 1960 to 1985, including methods for determining eligibility
21 and providing compensation, such as benefits for former landowners and incentives for
22 construction projects.

23 (h) (1) On or before December 15, 2025, the Task Force shall submit an interim
24 report of its findings and recommendations to the Montgomery County Council, the
25 Montgomery County Executive, and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government
26 Article, the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly.

27 (2) On or before December 15, 2026, the Task Force shall submit a final
28 report of its findings and recommendations to the Montgomery County Council, the
29 Montgomery County Executive, and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government
30 Article, the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
32 1, 2025. It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and 1 month and, at the end of June
33 30, 2027, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
34 abrogated and of no further force and effect.