



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

HANS RIEMER
COUNCILMEMBER (AT LARGE)

CHAIR
PLANNING, HOUSING, AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE

March 4, 2022

Dear Chair Barve and members of the Committee,

I write to express my support for House Bill 1259 - The Accessory Dwelling Unit Authorization and Promotion Act.

In 2019, I authored Zoning Text Amendment 19-01, which substantially legalized Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) in Montgomery County. Since the new rules have gone into effect, ADUs have blossomed in the County. They are a win-win approach to making expensive places like Maryland more affordable. They create options for homeowners to earn income with a rental unit or share expenses by living with extended family, and create more affordable options in neighborhoods that are frequently otherwise closed off to families with more modest incomes.

Thanks to our attention to design, they also blend in with the existing neighborhoods and because they are dispersed across the County, impact on infrastructure in any particular place is negligible. Legislation to make ADUs legal in more places across the state would be a major step toward alleviating our regional housing shortage and meeting the needs of all residents.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hans Riemer", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Hans Riemer
Councilmember (At Large)
Chair, Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee