



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich  
County Executive

March 6, 2025

TO: The Honorable Marc Korman  
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee

FROM: Marc Elrich  
County Executive

RE: House Bill 1064, *Montgomery County Planning Board and Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Open Meetings – Live Streaming Requirement MC/PG 101-25*

OPPOSE

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I am writing to express my opposition to House Bill 1064, *Montgomery County Planning Board and Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Open Meetings – Live Streaming Requirement MC/PG 101-25*.

As introduced, the bill amends State law governing open meetings and live streaming of audio and video for meetings of the Montgomery County Planning Board (Planning Board) and the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC Water). Under current law, both entities are required to stream live video or live teleconference audio of open meetings of the Board. The bill makes that requirement applicable only if the meeting is held at the headquarters of the Planning Board or WSSC Water or at a location where the Planning Board or WSSC Water held at least 10 meetings during the immediately preceding calendar year.

Although the Montgomery County House Delegation voted to support this bill with amendments that narrow the scope of the bill to a project site visit or educational field tour where no organizational business is conducted, I do not support the bill with those amendments either. Current law reflects an appropriate balance between ensuring transparency in the work of the Planning Board and WSSC Water and supporting their respective missions and should not be modified to reduce transparency.

I respectfully request that the Environment and Transportation Committee retain current law governing open meetings for the Planning Board and WSSC Water and give this bill an unfavorable report.