



## **POSITION STATEMENT**

**Bill:** HB 0964 Montgomery County – Task Force on the Displacement of Residents of Emory Grove (5-25)

**Position:** SUPPORT

**Date:** February 25, 2025

**Contact:** Debra Borden, General Counsel

Jordan Baucum Colbert, Government Affairs Liaison

Dear Chair Marc Korman,

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (“M-NCPPC” or the “Commission”) has voted to support this bill with amendments to include the Planning Board Chair or his designee as a member of the taskforce. The current version of this bill reflects those amendments.

**What this Bill Does.** Establishes a Task Force on the displacement of residents of Emory Grove to study how urban renewal caused the displacement of residents from the Emory Grove community and make recommendations on potential remedies for those who were displaced by urban renewal; and generally relating to the Task Force on the Displacement of Residents of Emory Grove.

**Dedication to dismantling systemic racism.** The Commission is committed to the goals of this Bill. Montgomery Planning’s [Equity Agenda for Planning](#) is an ongoing commitment to systemically dismantle the institutional and structural racism that exists in and has long influenced planning and zoning processes and to prevent that influence in the future. We are committed to confronting the legacy of racism and its ongoing effects and to using this equity lens in all our plans, policies, practices, and other work—including to ensure that staff understand and practice social justice in their hiring practices and work to dismantle their own internalized biases. To that end, we are supportive of Delegate Crutchfield’s intent with this Bill. The taskforce will afford Montgomery Planning the opportunity to provide historical land use expertise, equity considerations and data analysis.

For these reasons, the Commission requests a favorable vote on HB 0964.