



# CITY TAKOMA OF PARK MARYLAND

**Support House Bill 1229 - Montgomery County - Alcoholic Beverages Licenses - Health and Safety Regulations MC 21-25**  
**Senate Finance Committee**  
**March 26, 2025**

The City of Takoma Park supports and urges favorable consideration of House Bill 1229, which is intended to ensure that the Board of License Commissioners for Montgomery County consider the impact of the volume of alcohol-related calls to County's first response for immediate policy or medical assistance in the area surrounding the address of the proposed license.

The City of Takoma Park is a diverse community with residents from around the globe and thriving business districts. Recently, the City has seen an increase in the number of licensed carry-out beer and wine establishments within its Takoma-Langley Crossroads business district. There are six licensed carry-out beer and wine establishments within a quarter mile of the district's center.

The proliferation of this business type has created unintended consequences. There is a constant issue with alcohol bottles and cans that litter the streets. I regularly see individuals that are publicly intoxicated and passed out on sidewalks and grassy areas. And perhaps the most disturbing thing, parents and teachers at a daycare center have reported that they must explain to their children why someone is inebriated because they happen to pass out in front of the school's driveway.

This bill does not fully restrict new alcohol beverage licenses from being issued. The bill requires the board to consider the impact of the density of existing retail establishments on the public health and safety of the community when issuing licenses. Considering the growing substance use issues facing our region and nation, we urge you to support this bill that requires the Board of License Commissioners for Montgomery County to take a data-driven approach and consider the incremental impact of an additional license. We must work together to support businesses while minimizing the societal risks that an oversaturation of a single type of business might pose to a community. We urge a favorable report.