

Resolution No.:	<u>20-605</u>
Introduced:	<u>July 30, 2024</u>
Adopted:	<u>September 10, 2024</u>

**COUNTY COUNCIL  
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

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Lead Sponsor: Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee

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**SUBJECT:** Adoption of the 20th Council’s Commitment Statement to Racial Equity and Social Justice.

**Background**

1. On November 29, 2022, in order to clearly articulate the commitment of the County Council to racial equity and social justice, and affirm the need for racial equity and social justice in the County, the 19th Council adopted a Commitment Statement (Statement) to Racial Equity and Social Justice.<sup>1</sup>
2. At the direction of Council leadership, the Racial Equity and Social Justice Core Team (Core Team)<sup>2</sup> developed for the Council’s consideration an updated 2024 Commitment Statement to Racial Equity and Social Justice.
3. On June 13, 2024, the GO Committee voted unanimously to recommend to the full Council the approval of the 2024 Racial Equity and Social Justice Commitment Statement.

**Action**

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

1. The Council adopts this Commitment Statement on Racial Equity and Social Justice

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2022/20221129/20221129\\_16.pdf](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2022/20221129/20221129_16.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> The Council Racial Equity and Social Justice Core Team includes members from both Central and Councilmember staff who meet regularly throughout the year.

**2024 COMMITMENT STATEMENT ON  
RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE OF THE 20TH COUNTY COUNCIL**

The Council affirms that racial equity and social justice are core values.

The Council recognizes the history of racism in our country and how it has led to many current day disparities in education and job attainment, housing, and healthcare, as well as disproportionate incarceration rates for people of color. The Council recognizes that racial inequities have become institutionalized in the policies and practices of many agencies, and organizations, governmental and otherwise.

The Council aims to achieve racial equity and social justice by dismantling the policies, practices, and systems of oppression, wealth, and privilege that have developed and sustained these inequities and injustices. The Council is committed to providing resources that support actionable solutions.. The Council is committed to oversight over the Racial Equity and Social Justice Act, and transparent, intentional, and actionable solutions that will address and remedy those inequities and injustices and serve all Montgomery County residents.

This Commitment Statement is a living, enduring statement. It captures in one place, the 20th Council's ongoing and deep commitment to transforming daily, organizational, cultural, internal, and external practices to ensure racial equity and social justice that it seeks to foster, enhance, and expand in Montgomery County.

**The Montgomery County Council is committed to establishing and advancing an equitable community by striving to ensure that every enacted policy, practice, and system reflects racial equity and social justice.**

2. The Council will set aside time at future staff retreats and meetings to review additional suggestions and revise/update the Commitment Statement.

3. The Council will review, and if appropriate update and revise the Statement during the second year of each Council.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sara', written over a horizontal line.

Sara R. Tenenbaum  
Clerk of the Council