

*Clerk's Note: Removed an inadvertently placed bracket at the beginning of line 99.*

Bill No. 10-21  
Concerning: Economic Development –  
Economic Development Strategic  
Plan – Economic Development  
Corporation - Duties  
Revised: 5-12-21 Draft No. 12  
Introduced: March 2, 2021  
Enacted: May 27, 2021  
Executive: June 2, 2021  
Effective: September 1, 2021  
Sunset Date: None  
Ch. 12, Laws of Mont. Co. 2021

## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Lead Sponsor: Councilmember Friedson  
Co-Sponsors: Councilmembers Riemer, Navarro, Alborno, and Katz

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**AN ACT** to:

- (1) transfer the drafting of the County's Economic Development Strategic Plan from the Executive to the County's Economic Development Corporation;
- (2) require the Executive to provide comments to the Council on each draft Plan by a date certain;
- (3) require the Council to adopt the Plan by a date certain; and
- (4) generally amend the law governing the County's economic development.

By adding

Montgomery County Code  
Chapter 15A, Economic Development  
Section 15A-4A

By amending

Montgomery County Code  
Chapter 15A, Economic Development  
Section 15A-5

Chapter 20, Finance  
Sections 20-75 and 20-76

<b>Boldface</b>	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

*The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:*

1           **Sec. 1. Section 15A-4A is added and Sections 15A-5, 20-75 and 20-76 are**  
 2 **amended as follows:**

3 **15A-4A. Economic Development Strategic Plan.**

4           (a) *Duties of the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation.*  
 5           Beginning no later than July 1, 2021 and each fourth year thereafter, the  
 6 Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation (Corporation)  
 7 must submit a draft Economic Development Strategic Plan to the  
 8 Executive and the Council. The draft Economic Development Strategic  
 9 Plan should include relevant economic development measures and input  
 10 from partner agencies and organizations, such as the Planning Board and  
 11 the County’s Workforce Development Organization.

12           (b) *Duties of the Executive.* Beginning no later than September 1, 2021 and  
 13 each fourth year thereafter, the Executive must submit to the Council any  
 14 recommended revisions to the draft Economic Development Strategic  
 15 Plan submitted by the Corporation.

16           (c) *Duties of the Council.*

17           (1) After receiving the draft Economic Development Strategic Plan  
 18 from the Corporation, the Council must hold a public hearing on  
 19 the draft Plan.

20           (2) Beginning on December 1, 2021 and each fourth year thereafter,  
 21 the Council must adopt, by resolution, an Economic Development  
 22 Strategic Plan.

23           (d) *Contents of the Plan.* The Economic Development Strategic Plan should  
 24 be consistent with the Council’s Economic Development Platform  
 25 approved by Resolution No. 19-300 and must include metrics to assess  
 26 the County and its partners’ ability to address relevant economic  
 27 development measures including:

- 28           (1)   creation of jobs;
- 29           (2)   growing wages;
- 30           (3)   identifying and supporting strategic industries;
- 31           (4)   retention and attraction of new companies and employers;
- 32           (5)   growing the tax base;
- 33           (6)   supporting and increasing entrepreneurial activity; and
- 34           (7)   other actions necessary to promote economic development in the
- 35                     County.

36           (e)   Two-year Update. Beginning no later than July 1, 2023 and every fourth  
 37                     year thereafter, the Corporation may submit amendments to the approved  
 38                     Economic Development Strategic Plan based on new information since  
 39                     the Council adoption of the previous Plan. The Executive may comment  
 40                     and the Council may approve, after holding a public hearing, an amended  
 41                     Economic Development Strategic Plan.

42           (f)   Outcomes. The desired outcomes of the Economic Development  
 43                     Strategic Plan should include:

- 44                     (1)   a thriving and diversified economy;
- 45                     (2)   racial equity and social justice;
- 46                     (3)   greater innovation; and
- 47                     (4)   environmental sustainability, including a reduction in climate
- 48                                     change.

49           (g)   Reporting. The corporation must report to the Council periodically on  
 50                     the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

51   **15A-5. Economic development program.**

52           (a)   The [Board of Directors] Montgomery County Economic Development  
 53                     Corporation must recommend economic development programs and  
 54                     associated performance measures to the Executive and Council each year

55 to advance the policy objectives and perform the activities listed in  
56 Section 15A-1[, including revisions to the County’s strategic plan for  
57 economic development established by Section 20-76(a)].

58 (b) In its economic development programs, the Corporation should  
59 collaborate with the Montgomery County Workforce Development  
60 Board to advance the County’s economic development strategic plan  
61 adopted under Section [20-76] 15A-4A.

62 \* \* \*

63 **20-75. Use of Fund.**

64 (a) The Director may spend or allocate funds from this Fund consistent with  
65 the economic development strategic plan approved under Section [20-76  
66 in a Regulation adopted under method (1)] 15A-4A, including the  
67 following criteria:

68 (1) the proposed assistance will materially improve the County’s  
69 economy and advance County economic development objectives  
70 and strategies; or

- 71 (2) the assistance is necessary to:
  - 72 (A) bring a significant number of new jobs to the County;
  - 73 (B) add a significant number of new jobs to an existing  
74 operation in the County;
  - 75 (C) retain a significant number of jobs at an existing operation  
76 in the County; or
  - 77 (D) respond to other economic development objectives.

78 \* \* \*

79 **20-76. Economic Development [Strategic Plan,] Fund Administration.**

80 (a) [The Executive must submit, by method 1 regulation, an economic  
81 development strategic plan for the County to the Council for approval on

82 or before October 1, 2015. Beginning no later than October 1, 2019 and  
83 each fourth year thereafter, the Executive may amend the strategic plan,  
84 by Method 1 regulation, to be consistent with the strategic plan adopted  
85 by the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation. The  
86 success or progress of the strategic plan must be measurable and the plan  
87 must include measures to address:

- 88 (1) job creation;
- 89 (2) private sector compensation and benefits;
- 90 (3) target industries;
- 91 (4) target geographic areas;
- 92 (5) workforce education and training;
- 93 (6) growth in tax base;
- 94 (7) economic opportunity for residents;
- 95 (8) encouragement of entrepreneurs and small business;
- 96 (9) land use; and
- 97 (10) other actions necessary to promote economic development in the  
98 County.


99 b)] The Executive may adopt Regulations under method (1) to administer  
100 [this] the Economic Development Fund.

101 [(c)] (b) The Executive must report by March 15 each year on the status and  
102 use of the Fund. This report can be included in the Executive's proposed  
103 operating budget. The annual report must:

- 104 (1) describe the success of each award of financial assistance in  
105 satisfying the economic development goals supporting the  
106 assistance;
- 107 (2) identify any assistance agreement where the recipient did not  
108 satisfy the performance criteria in the agreement; and



Approved:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom Hucker, President, County Council 5/27/2021  
Date

Approved:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marc Elrich, County Executive 6/2/2021  
Date

*This is a correct copy of Council action.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq., Clerk of the Council 6/3/2021  
Date