COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

AN EXPEDITED ACT to:

(1) establish an Office of Food Systems Resilience as a non-principal office of the Executive Branch;
(2) prescribe the authorities and responsibilities of the Office of Food Systems Resilience; and
(3) generally amend the law regarding offices of the Executive Branch.

By amending
Montgomery County Code
Chapter 1A, Structure of County Government
Section 1A-203

By adding
Montgomery County Code
Chapter 2, Administration
Section 2-64Q

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:
Sec. 1. Section 1A-203 is amended, and Section 2-64Q is added, as follows:

1A-203. Establishing other offices.

(a) Executive Branch. These are the offices of the Executive Branch that are not part of a department or principal office:

Office of Agriculture (section 2B-1A)
Office of Animal Services (section 2-58C)
Office of the Commission for Women (section 27-28, et seq.)
Office of Community Use of Public Facilities (section 2-64M)
Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (section 2-64O)
Office of Grants Management (section 2-64P)
Office of Food Systems Resilience (section 2-64Q)
Office of Human Rights (section 27-4)

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DIVISION 23. OFFICE OF FOOD SYSTEMS RESILIENCE.

2-64Q. Office of Food Systems Resilience - Functions.

The Office of Food Systems Resilience must:

(a) in coordination with the Maryland Food Council, serve as a liaison between government and food systems stakeholders, including residents, businesses, farms, food assistance providers, charities, and educational institutions;
(b) in coordination with the Department of Environmental Protection, the Office of Agriculture, the Department of Planning, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Office of Community Partnerships, serve as a central liaison and coordinator for County government food systems initiatives and projects;

(c) develop and maintain a strategy for improving the efficiency, equity, sustainability, and resilience of the food systems in Montgomery County;

(d) advise the County Executive and County Council on food systems related policy issues, as well as deliver a report on the state of the local food systems with recommended policy, budgetary, and regulatory changes to the County Executive and County Council no less than annually;

(e) develop and maintain a system to collect and process local food systems data to support accurate and timely monitoring of the state of the local food systems, and analyze such data to support decision making and strategic planning;

(f) in coordination with the Office of Grants Management and the Office of Procurement, set policies and procedures for grants impacting the local food systems that are consistent with the aforementioned food systems strategy and work to leverage County resources to pursue state, federal, and private sector resources to support local food system initiatives;

(g) in coordination with the Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, the Department of Health and Human Services, and local food assistance providers, support disaster response feeding planning and operations;
(h) in coordination with the Office of Racial Equity, work to address racial inequities and develop practices to ensure social justice and address disparities in the local food systems; and

(i) represent the interests of Montgomery County in regional, national, and international food systems coordination efforts.

Sec. 2. Expedited Effective Date. The Council declares that this legislation is necessary for the immediate protection of the public interest. This Act takes effect on the date on which it becomes law.
Approved:

Gabriel Albornoz, President, County Council  7/13/2022

Approved:

Marc Elrich, County Executive  7/25/2022

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Approved:

Judy Rupp, Clerk of the Council  7/25/2022