

TO: 22 November 2023

Montgomery County Council Montgomery County Maryland

FROM:

Friends of Sligo Creek

RE: CB 40-23

Supporting: Tree Canopy and Roadside Tree Requirements – Fee Revision

This is the simplest of bills, but important in many ways. Trees are crucial to the county (and the world) – even though we're losing total canopy. Especially when trees are intentionally removed, they must be replaced. The people who have them removed must pay for the actual cost of replacement.

The cost of new trees has increased. The old fixed charge was \$250. Now you can't buy a 2" caliper tree for less than about \$450-475. This bill would raise the fee from \$250 to \$450 or \$475 with an inflation upgrade. This would cover the actual cost of purchase and delivery of a tree.

It is clear. It makes sense – in fact it's critical.

Friends of Sligo Creek is a mostly volunteer nonprofit dedicated to the appreciation, protection and improvement of Sligo Creek Park and its watershed. This bill affects us and the entire county.

Thank you for your support of this important measure.

Kit Gage

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