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For immediate release

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GCAAR issues statement regarding Montgomery County's FY26 Operating Budget & vote on income tax rate

ROCKVILLE, Md. – The Greater Capital Area Association of REALTORS® (GCAAR) has released the following statement from GCAAR President Samantha Damato:

"When the Greater Capital Area Association of REALTORS® (GCAAR) launched our Stop the Tax Hikes campaign, we were facing down proposals to increase Montgomery County residents' property and income taxes to fund an ever-growing county budget. Since then, county residents have spoken up through our campaign in droves – voters have sent over three thousand emails to their county officials in just the past two weeks – calling for the Council to spare them further financial hardship and to budget within the county's means. We are glad to know their messages have been heard. Today's vote signals an end to these unnecessary and irresponsible proposals. There will be no new taxes from the Montgomery County Council this year.

"We thank the Councilmembers for their unanimous vote to save our residents from these proposals. The county budget is an unwieldy thing to manage, and it takes courage and conviction not to take the easy way out by passing the buck to taxpayers. While the county still faces challenges, the decisions made this week ensure a better fiscal foundation for future discussions.

"GCAAR will continue to fight for the financial health and economic competitiveness of Montgomery County. We welcome all those who share in our goal of making our community a welcoming place for all who seek to call it home."

About GCAAR

The Greater Capital Area Association of REALTORS®, one of the largest local REALTOR® associations in the U.S., is the voice for REALTORS® in Washington, D.C. and Montgomery County, Maryland. Representing more than 12,000 real estate professionals in the greater capital area, GCAAR provides services vital to its members' daily business needs and works with lawmakers to ensure public policy that encourages homeownership and supports the real estate industry. For more information, visit www.GCAAR.com

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