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For immediate release

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GCAAR issues statement on passage of Workforce Housing Legislation

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

“We would like to congratulate Councilmembers Natali Fani-Gonzalez and Andrew Friedson on yesterday’s passage of the final piece of their More Housing N.O.W. (New Options for Workers) package. We would also like to thank Council President Kate Stewart and Councilmembers Marilyn Balcombe, Dawn Luedtke, Laurie-Anne Sayles, Gabe Alborno and Evan Glass for their support in the approval of Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) 25-02, Workforce Housing.

“Montgomery County has been in a housing crisis for years. The authorization of missing-middle housing options in previously closed-off zones along major transportation corridors will add much-needed attainable housing at varying price points below that of the increasing price of a detached, single-family home. In that development, this ZTA will create new workforce housing units along with much-needed, market-rate housing.

“As many groups like the REALTORS® supporting this effort have stated, the policies put into place by ZTA 25-02 are not untested or experimental. They are based on existing and successful practices around the country. They are modest, effective steps toward a better housing marketplace that repeated polling clearly shows are supported by the majority of those in our county.

“Legislation like ZTA 25-02 sets a bold, but achievable vision for our county. With broad coalitions like the one we saw yesterday, it is vital we continue this progress to strengthen Montgomery County's economic competitiveness and the middle class.

“We recognize the vote was not unanimous, and we stand ready to continue our work with all communities and elected leaders who seek a more affordable and welcoming Montgomery County.”

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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