

REAL ADVOCACY FOR REALTORS®

GCAAR'S PUBLIC POLICY BRIEF

Montgomery County

Election 2018: GCAAR's County Executive and Board of Education Forum A Few Weeks Away



On Wednesday, September 26 at 10:00 a.m. GCAAR will be [holding a debate](#) for the candidates for Montgomery County County Executive. The forum will feature Democratic candidate Marc Elrich, Republican candidate Robin Ficker, and Unaffiliated candidate Nancy Floreen.

Earlier this year GCAAR held five forums for two contested primary elections: a forum for Democratic candidates County Executive, and four forums for Democratic candidates for Council At-Large.

[You can sign up here](#) for the County Executive Forum. Space is limited, as the event will be open to the public. Doors open at 9 a.m. and a continental breakfast will be served. We look forward to seeing you on September 26!

Council Introduces ZTA to Expand Cell Tower Options in Residential Zones

On July 18 the Montgomery County Council introduced Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) 18-11, Telecommunications Towers – Limited Use. As currently written, the ZTA would allow existing utility poles or light poles to be replaced with similar sized telecommunication towers in rural-residential and residential zones.

Specific to those zones, the telecommunications towers would be allowed where a pre-existing pole of at least 22 feet tall currently stands. Both the pre-existing pole and replacement tower would also have to be 30 feet from a dwelling, among other requirements.

The ZTA would amend how these polls are approved, the process to ensure it is a permitted use, and other design details. The introduction packet can be [found here](#).

A public hearing on ZTA 18-11 has been tentatively scheduled for September 11 at 7:30 p.m.



Take the Poll: What

Would You Change?

GCAAR is still shaping its 2018-2019 Legislative Priorities, and we want to [hear from you!](#)

What difficulties do you face?

What changes would you make to the real estate marketplace in MoCo?

Take this [two-minute survey](#) and let us know!

We will use these answers - and any feedback you have - to work toward a more favorable REALTOR® environment in Montgomery County.



District of Columbia

New Council Session Starts September 17

The DC Council begins its next session in less than two weeks. Some of the biggest issues it will discuss include home-sharing regulations and a potential restructuring of the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA).

The full calendar of DC Council hearings and meetings [can be found here](#), and make sure to stay tuned as it will be updated frequently over the coming weeks and months.



New DCRA Services Available

Speaking of the DCRA, there are several changes there worth noting.

There is a new process for locating documents and forms, [available here](#). A new one-stop shop for permits [is accessible here](#). And you can use [this new portal](#) to register a vacant building online, which you must do within 30 days of it becoming vacant.

Make sure to browse the rest of the DCRA website for additional resources that may be helpful.



Email your feedback or stories to mdlegislative@gcaar.com or dcleislative@gcaar.com.

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