

**MCCF Letter to the Montgomery County Council
Recommending Funding for the Office of the People's Counsel**

May 10, 2022

Councilmembers,

The County Executive's recommended funding for the Office of the People's Counsel in the amount of \$224,598 is the top priority for the Montgomery County Civic Federation, Inc., in the FY23 budget.

This amount is an infinitesimally small percentage (.0039%) of the total recommended budget of more than \$6 billion. However, it represents so much more to Montgomery County residents who seek information about and need help to participate in critical County land use decisions.

Funding the OPC is in the public interest and will help to restore a balance of trust and integrity to the planning and public engagement process.

Please support funding of the Office of the People's Counsel. This recommendation has broad public support.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Alan Bowser
President
Montgomery County Civic Federation, Inc.