

November 3, 2009

The Honorable Phil Andrews  
President, Montgomery County Council  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Council President Andrews:

The Tech Council of Maryland (TCM), Maryland's largest technology association with over 500 members employing more than 250,000 people, strongly urges your support for the Gaithersburg West Master Plan as approved by the Montgomery County Planning Board. This project is a key component of technology-led economic development and will create thousands of high-paying, family-supporting jobs in key growth industries like healthcare and bioscience that are critical to Montgomery County's economic future.

The proposed Shady Grove Science Center will be a vibrant, world-class, center of research and innovation that will help keep Maryland competitive in the today's most globally competitive sectors. It would create the kind of space where companies and government research institutions can plan for future expansion here in Maryland and foster a more robust and self-sustaining cluster of bioscience jobs in the State. The transit-oriented design also helps Maryland achieve its smart growth goals, by focusing future job creation around transit stations and increasing the ridership and cost-effectiveness of the Corridor Cities Transitway, a project TCM also strongly supports.

Again, TCM asks that you strongly support the Gaithersburg West Master Plan. If you need anything related to tech- or biotech-led economic development, please contact me anytime at 240-243-4080 or [rwinsky@techcouncilmd.com](mailto:rwinsky@techcouncilmd.com).

Sincerely,



Renée M. Winsky  
Chief Executive Officer

cc: County Executive Isiah Leggett  
Councilmember Roger Berliner  
Councilmember Marc Elrich  
Councilmember Valerie Ervin  
Councilmember Nancy Floreen  
Councilmember Mike Knapp  
Councilmember George Leventhal  
Councilmember Nancy Navarro  
Councilmember Duchy Trachtenberg