Takoma Park City Council Meeting - February 21, 2018
Agenda Item 2B

Voting Session (Consent Agenda)
Resolution Regarding State Legislation – HB 988 – 2020 Census Grant Program – Establishment and Funding

Recommended Council Action
Consider adopting the resolution.

Context with Key Issues
The City Council reviews State legislation and considers whether to support, oppose, or take no position. When taking a position on a subject that has not previously been addressed by the Council or if there is a change from a prior position, a resolution is prepared to document the Council’s decision.

Council Priority
A Livable Community for All

Environmental Impact of Action
N/A

Racial Equity Impact Statement
If enacted, the legislation under consideration would provide grant funds for the purposes of gathering more accurate population data during the 2020 Census. This data could be used by the City Council and staff to better determine potential impacts of certain decisions on racial equity in the City.

Fiscal Impact of Action
To be determined during the budget process.

Attachments and Links
- Resolution Supporting HB 988 – 2020 Census Grant Program – Establishment and Funding
WHEREAS, HB 988 would establish the 2020 Census Grant Program to issue matching grants to local governments and nonprofit organizations to support the accurate counting of the population of the State and its local jurisdictions and the collection of basic demographic and housing information; and

WHEREAS, HB 988 would establish the 2020 Census Grant Program Panel; and

WHEREAS, HB 988 would authorize a local government or nonprofit organization to apply to the Grant Panel for certain matching funds on or before March 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of billions of dollars in federal grant funds are allocated on the basis of decennial census-derived statistics; and

WHEREAS, inaccurate counting during the decennial census could jeopardize funding from federal grant programs; and

WHEREAS, Montgomery County is among several census tracts throughout the State where achieving an accurate count of the population is challenging; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has expressed interest in obtaining accurate population data for the purposes of better understanding the impacts of decision-making on racial equity, among other important considerations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland supports HB 988.


Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk