



## **Takoma Park City Council Meeting – January 8, 2025 Agenda Item 2**

### **Work Session**

Planning for Review of State Legislation and Establishment of a Bill Review Working Group

### **Recommended Council Action**

Plan for review of state legislation and establish a legislative review working group.

### **Context with Key Issues**

The Maryland legislative session opens on Wednesday, January 8. Over the next three months, the City Council will have the opportunity to review legislation of interest and testify on bills that are priorities for the City or when the legislation would have a significant impact on the City and/or its residents.

Ann Ciekot, the Legislative Advocate, will provide a legislative update at the beginning of each City Council meeting beginning January 15 and continuing through the end of the session. She will also provide by email a tracking list of bills that the Council may wish to review or testify on based on priorities expressed by the Council and impact on the City and its residents. The list includes a descriptive bill title, the name of the bill sponsor, a link to the legislation, and the date of the bill hearing once scheduled. The list is usually sent to staff over the weekend and will be shared with the full Council by email for review.

To facilitate review of bills, preparation of testimony, and scheduling of Councilmembers to testify, a three-member working group of the City Council should be established. The working group will meet with Ms. Ciekot and staff weekly at a mutually agreed time.

### **Council Priority**

All: Advancing a Community of Belonging; Fiscally Sustainable Government; Environmentally Sustainable Community; Engaged, Responsive, Service-Oriented Government; Community Development for an Improved & Equitable Quality of Life

### **Environmental Considerations**

The Council considers environmental and sustainability goals when reviewing State legislation.

### **Fiscal Considerations**

The Council considers the City's fiscal health and promotion of opportunities for revenue generation and cost savings when reviewing legislation.

### **Racial Equity Considerations**

The Council considers racial equity in reviewing legislation.

### **Attachments and Links**