

To: Montgomery College Community

From: Dr. Jermaine F. Williams, President

Subject: **FY23 Operating Budget Plans for Montgomery College**

Date: March 4, 2022

Later this month, County Executive Marc Elrich is expected to announce his budget proposal for FY23, which will include the county's share of funding for Montgomery College's operating budget. As we look forward to learning about Mr. Elrich's proposed FY23 budget, I write today to update the MC community about our budget planning, including our requests for employee compensation, affordable tuition, and robust support of our educational mission.

Last month, Montgomery College submitted its operating budgets of \$321.3 million for fiscal year 2023, which begins July 1, 2022, to County Executive Marc Elrich and Council President Gabe Albornoz. This is a total increase of 2.8 percent over last year. The proposed FY23 budgets, which were adopted by the Board of Trustees, would keep tuition flat for the third straight year and provide wage increases for our faculty and staff, who received no increase to their base salaries last year.

On Monday, Board of Trustees Chair Michael Knapp and I met with the county executive to discuss the College's Current Fund request of \$152.7 million in county support for FY23. Included in that request is an increase of \$3.8 million to help pay for well-deserved compensation increases for our employees. Further, the College request includes an additional \$3.3 million to support establishment of the College's new East County Education Center. County Executive Elrich will review our budget request and provide his recommended county budget to the Montgomery County Council on or before March 15. The council will then make final budgetary decisions in late May. Expenditures in FY23 will be contingent on the final appropriation decisions of the council.

The College's FY23 Current Fund budget proposal includes \$55.6 million in state funding, which is determined according to the John R. Cade Funding Formula in Governor Hogan's FY23 budget. The Maryland General Assembly will take final action on the state budget later this month.

Enrollment declines at MC, just like declines at other community colleges in Maryland and nationally, have a significant impact on our tuition revenue. Strong support from our county and state funders helps us to avoid a tuition increase this year, while continuing our mission of serving our students and fairly compensating our skilled and dedicated employees.

The College thanks the Board of Trustees for its steadfast support of our work to provide high-quality, postsecondary education that is so vital to student achievements and a thriving local

economy, and its willingness to endorse operating budgets that advance key initiatives that support our strategic plan.

In the weeks ahead, the Board of Trustees and I will continue meeting with elected officials to underscore the value of approving our budget request. Our budget resources help us provide a life-changing educational experience for students. MC nurtures a culture of academic excellence, equity and inclusion, and welcoming campus and online environments.

Throughout this spring, I will provide updates on our FY23 budget approval process.

If you have any questions about the FY23 budget, please contact [Liz Greaney](#) or [Linda Hickey](#) in the College's Office of Business Services. The College's budget may be viewed [here on the MC website](#).

I thank you for the extraordinary work you do in support of our student mission.