

Montgomery County Economic Development Organizations

Montgomery County has multiple organizations that have the growth of the county's economy and the success of our business sector at the heart of their missions. While each entity has a different perspective, operates within a different structure, and leverages different resources, they work collaboratively to ensure that an individual or a company seeking business assistance is directed to the most relevant source. The following is meant to help guide you in determining which organization may be your best starting point.

Montgomery County Department of Economic Development: DED is an executive branch agency of Montgomery County. Its mission is to establish the county as a globally competitive, highly diversified, knowledge-based economy that encourages company retention and growth, new job creation and new company formation. It administers the county's financial incentive programs, business incubator network, workforce programs, and support for the agricultural community, in addition to the more traditional economic development functions: retention, attraction, marketing, small business assistance, master planning engagement, etc. www.choosemontgomerymd.com; 240-777-2000.

Two cities within Montgomery County also have economic development entities:

- City of Gaithersburg Economic Development Office; Tom Lonergan; www.gaithersburgmd.gov; 301-258-6313, x2171.
- Rockville Economic Development, Inc; Laurie Boyer; www.rockvilleredi.org; 301-315-8096.

Montgomery Business Development Corporation: The MBDC a 501c6 that is led by the private sector, but funded primarily by the county. It provides a business-friendly perspective on economic development issues, including legislative and regulatory advocacy, strategic planning, retaining and attracting businesses. The MBDC's mission is to establish a vision for the county's long term economic future, develop and articulate strategies to achieve that vision, advocate for strategic change in practices and policies, and set and report on measurements. www.montgomerybusiness.org; 240-399-3903.

Chambers of Commerce in Montgomery County: Chambers are organized either around geography, e.g., the Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce, or around ethnic business communities, e.g., the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Montgomery County. They are membership organizations that provide programming, advocacy and networking opportunities for their members and the business community in general. Contact information for the county's 15 chambers of commerce is available at <http://www.choosemontgomerymd.com/business-community/local-business-organizations/>.

Additional business organizations support specific industry sectors, ethnic communities, geographic areas, etc. Examples include:

Technology Council of Maryland; Latino Economic Development Corporation Bio-Health Innovation (Central Maryland); Maryland Women's Business Center

Please see a complete list of organizations with contact information at <http://www.choosemontgomerymd.com/business-community/local-business-organizations/>.