

# East County Presence Feasibility Study

Board of Trustees  
Montgomery College  
April 19, 2021

# Background: Previous Studies

College Expansion Strategy (February 2020) established the vision below and recommended a consultant Feasibility Study process to provide additional data.

## Vision

*The College Expansion initiative to bolster educational opportunities for East County residents strongly aligns with the College's goals in its strategic and master plans. In collaboration with current and future partners, the County and the College have a unique opportunity to offer secondary education, non-credit, two-year, baccalaureate, graduate degrees, and lifelong learning opportunities to meet the needs of the East County. To maximize the benefit to East County residents, the College recommends creating a 'two-plus- two-plus-two' approach (i.e, two-year, four-year, and graduate offerings) all in one, convenient location. As the campus grows, there is opportunity to reach out further in the community and partner with Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) to offer secondary school offerings on-site to move students seamlessly to the post-secondary level.*

*College leaders envision this expansion as a place to meet the specific needs of the residents, address gaps, and create opportunities in business, cybersecurity, culinary, early childhood education, ESOL, general education, hospitality, lifelong learning, small business/entrepreneurship, and health sciences, along with other areas as additional needs and opportunities emerge. The College is able to provide clear pathways to a credential to address student interests in acquiring new skills, to differentiate themselves in the marketplace, and expand their educational opportunities at a location that is close to home and work in Montgomery County.*

# Project Scope and Timeline

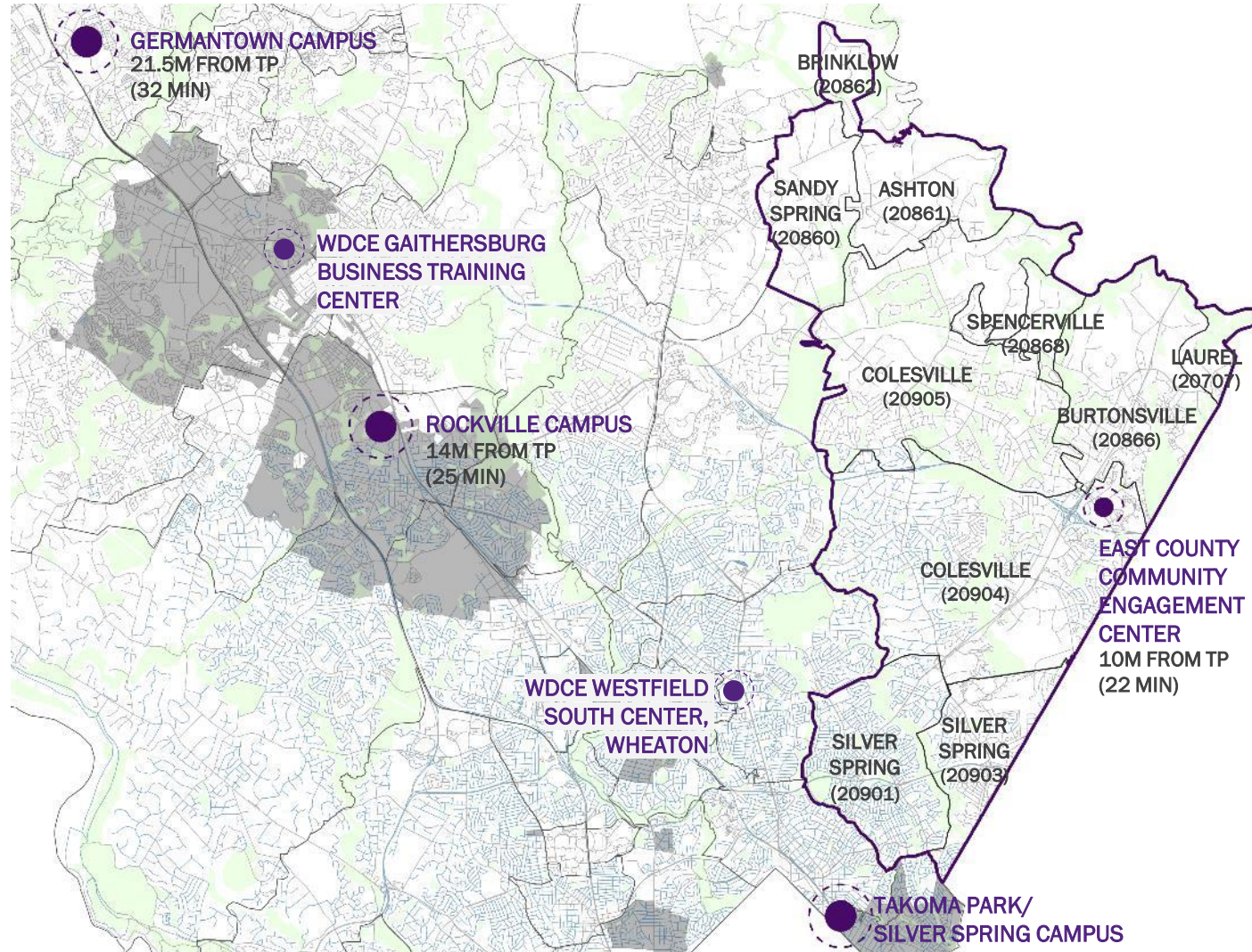
Nov 2020-Jan 2021  
Market Analysis and  
Community Needs

Feb – Mar 2021  
Real Estate Options

Apr 2021  
Operating Budget

May 2021  
Build-out Scenario and  
Capital Budget

Jun 2021  
Facilities Master Plan  
Update



Eastern  
Montgomery County  
is an area of  
diversity and need,  
and providing  
opportunities there  
is aligned with the  
College's mission.

MC's presence will  
need to be culturally  
matched and  
provide the highest  
level of wrap-  
around services.

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# Our Mission, Vision, and Values

More than just words, our mission, vision, and values reflect, in an inspiring way, who we are as an institution and why we are so dedicated to our students and their success. These aspirational standards set our priorities and drive our actions every day.

**OUR MISSION:** We empower our students to change their lives, and we enrich the life of our community. We are accountable for our results.

**OUR VISION:** With a sense of urgency for the future, Montgomery College will be a national model of educational excellence, opportunity, and student success.

**OUR VALUES:** Excellence, Integrity, Innovation, Equity and Inclusion, Stewardship, Sustainability

Montgomery College has grown into an institution where radical inclusion—that is, deeply rooted values of welcoming all individuals who seek higher education or continuing education—is an essential element of our identity. **By intentionally cultivating our campuses as places where equal opportunity flourishes, we have advanced our own educational mission, contributed to the aspirations of Montgomery County, and added to the vision of our nation.**



# Eastern Montgomery County Profile

- Currently, Eastern Montgomery County is a minority-majority region, with 73% of the population identifying as non-white, with the majority of the non-white population identifying as Black/African-American. By 2030, the population is projected to continue to diversify.
- While Spanish is the predominate language spoken in East Montgomery County other than English, there are also significant clusters of French, European languages, Korean, and other languages (e.g., Amharic).

## Eastern Montgomery County Language Clusters

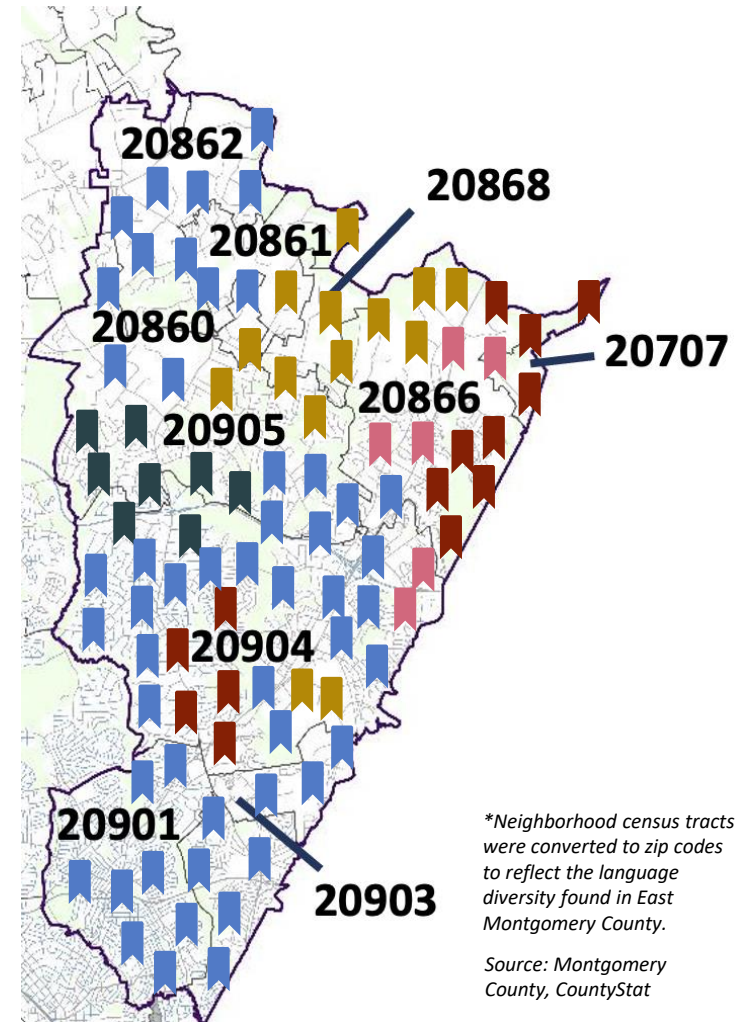
Spanish

French, Haitian, or Cajun

Korean

European Languages

Amharic/other unspecified language



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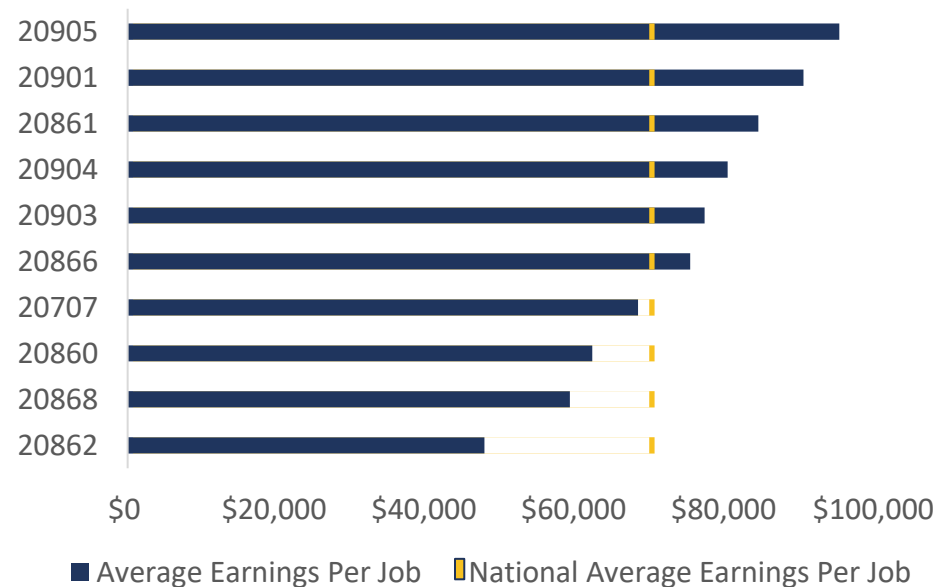
*Data Source: 2019, U.S. Census Bureau, data was pulled by Montgomery County East census designation— Fairland, Calverton, White Oak & Burtonsville PUMA*

Country or Origin (Place of Birth of Residents)	Number of People
Ethiopia	6,369
El Salvador	3,349
Cameroon	3,247
India	2,951
Haiti	2,417
Vietnam	1,520
China	1,442
Mexico	1,294
Guatemala	1,281
Liberia	1,013
Bolivia	1,010
Korea	1,001
Jamaica	959
Ghana	958
Nigeria	860

# Eastern Montgomery County Profile

- Because the Cost-of-Living Index is significantly higher in Montgomery County than nationally (143 compared to 100), we would expect that all job earnings would be above the national average. Because they are not, incomes suggest jobs that do not pay a living wage.

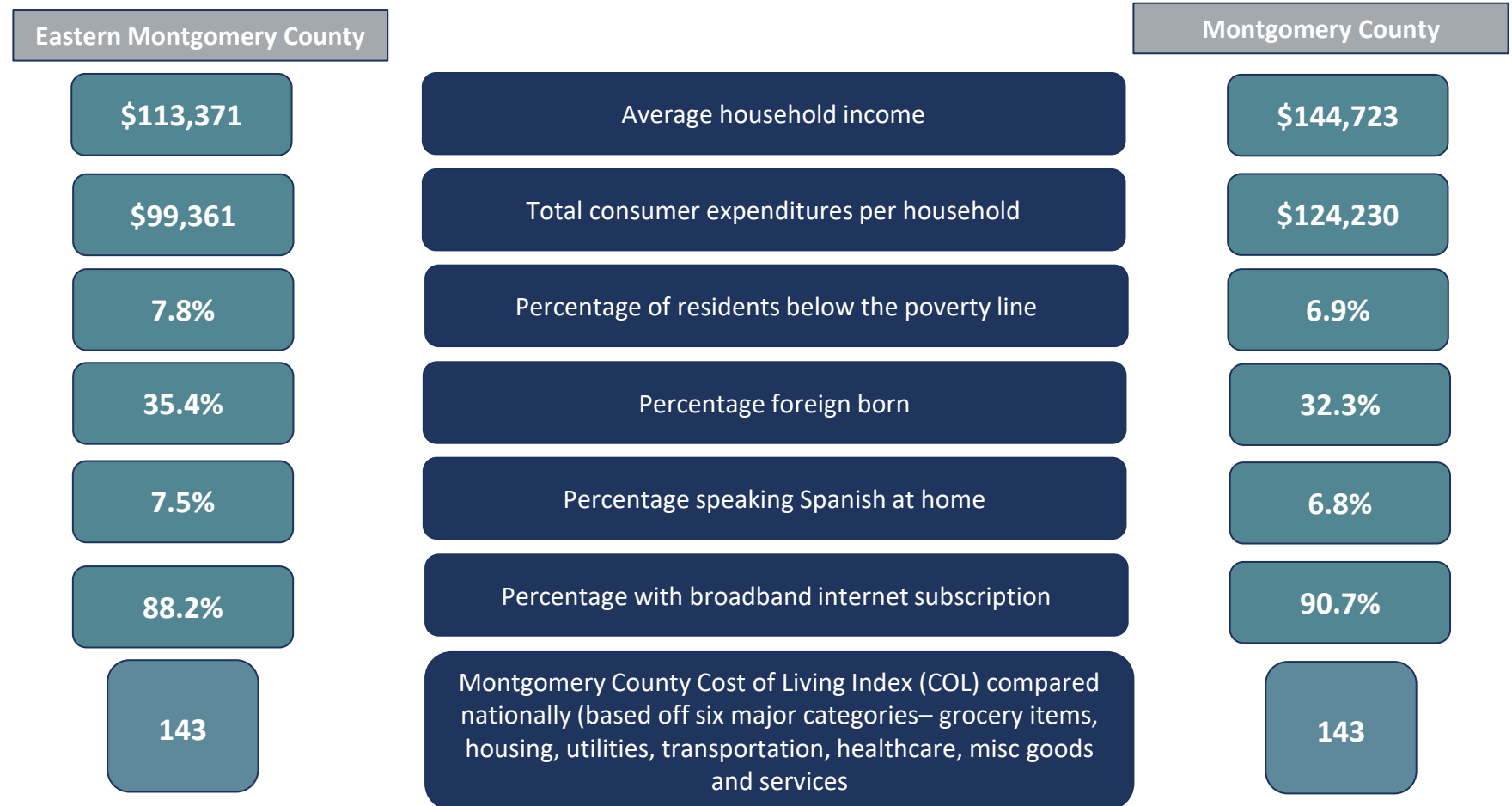
Average Earnings per Job in Eastern Montgomery County, 2020



Source: EMSI's Proprietary Employment Data. Avg earnings per job is equal to the total annual industry pre-tax earnings (wages, salaries, profits, benefits, and other compensation), divided by the number of jobs

# Eastern Montgomery County Profile

## Economic Indicators



U.S. Census Bureau, Data derived from 10 zip code area



# East County Presence Could Fill Gap for Services Needed

East Montgomery County public high schools provide many critical services, but some gaps remain. Stakeholders repeated that the East presence must be unique, and one of its key differentiation features could be addressing student and community needs, allowing for greater accessibility and successful outcomes.



## Innovation Incubator

- Sandbox model that allows for the design, implementation, and assessment of new ideas and programs
- Opportunity for students, businesses, and faculty to come together and innovate, build partnerships



## Social Services Support

- Ensuring that community members have access to the services they need to be successful
- Co-locating services such as a library space or basic needs services, and providing staffing to then perform outreach and connect students to those services



## Community Gathering and Empowerment

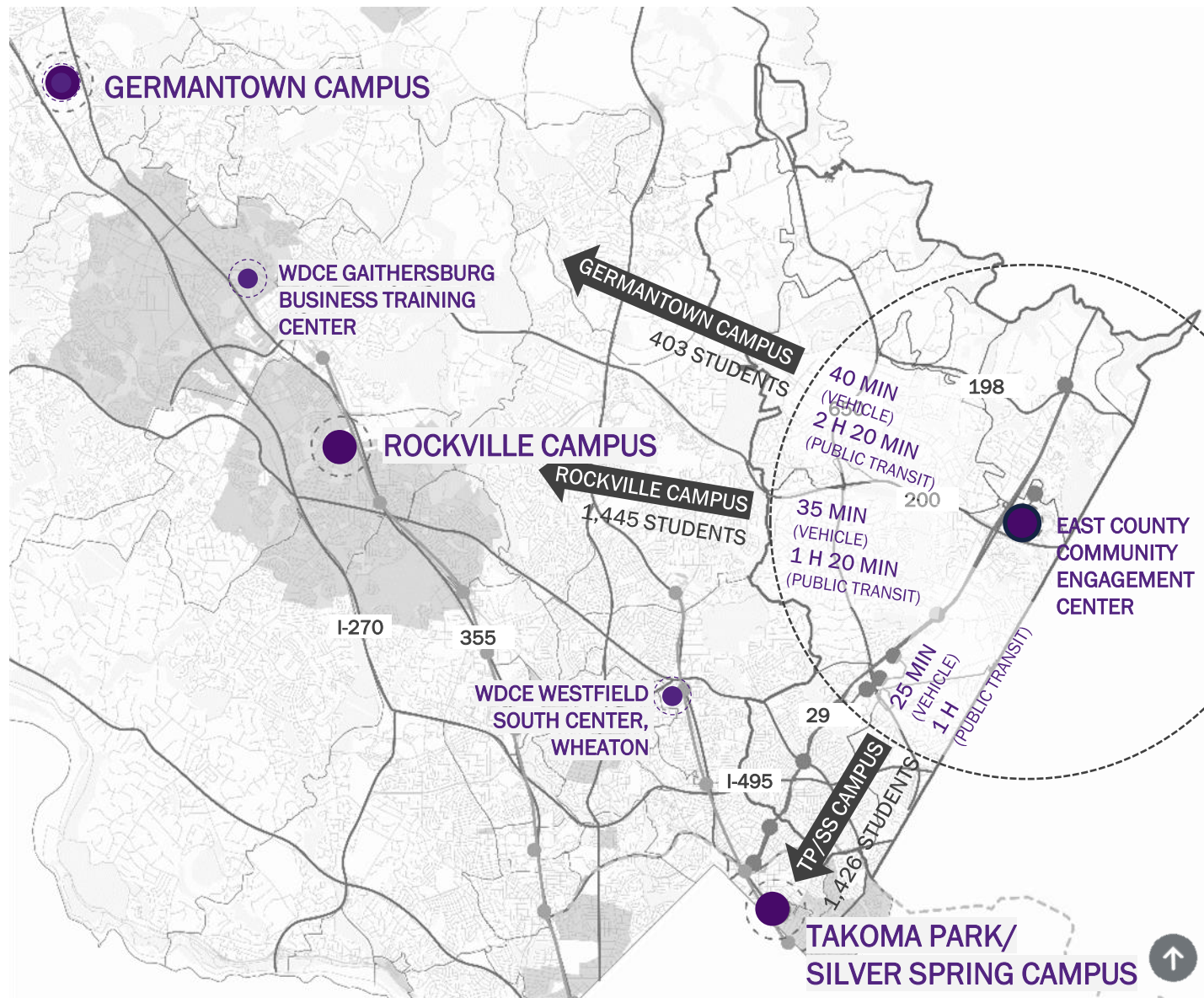
- Place-making; creating a welcoming culture that invites inclusivity, a sense of connection and belonging
- Leveraging and celebrating the cultural capital of East County residents, multi-generational spaces
- Creating a congregation space for the county



## Technology Center

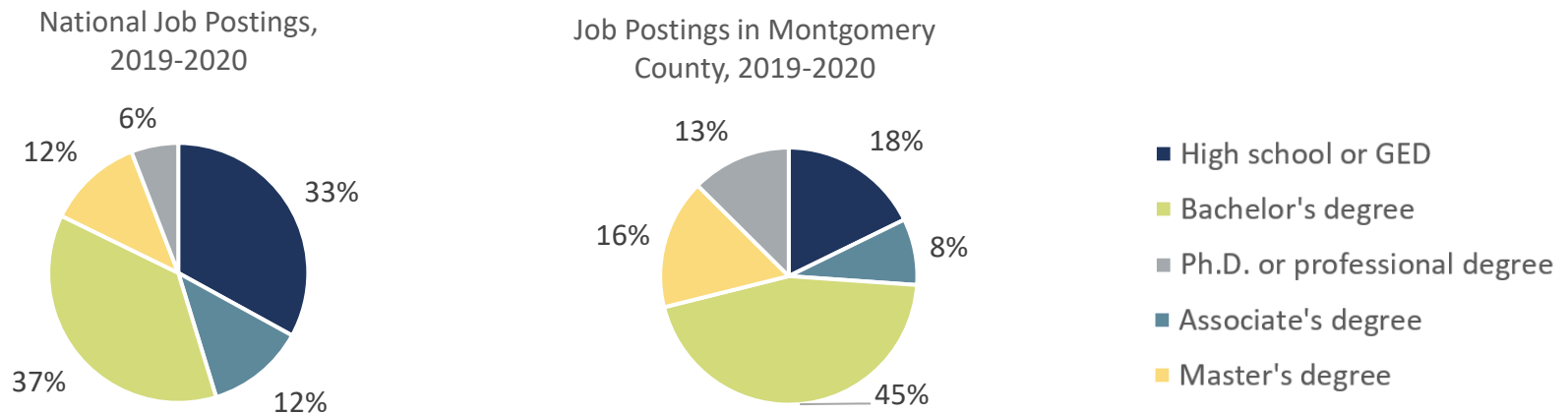
- Future-oriented, multi-use space that allows for the intentional design of virtual learning
- Faculty workshops that provide engaging online teaching strategies
- Serve as the “virtual hub” for coordination of all remote services

Transportation to education and employment opportunities is a challenge and underscores the potential impact from an east county location.



Market research suggests programs could focus on health sciences, engineering, technology, and four-year transfer pathways to take advantage of regional job opportunities. Community leaders have expressed interest in a commercial kitchen incubator, green technologies, English language opportunities, fine arts, and physical education/holistic wellness, and these may be partnership opportunities with some element of MC participation.

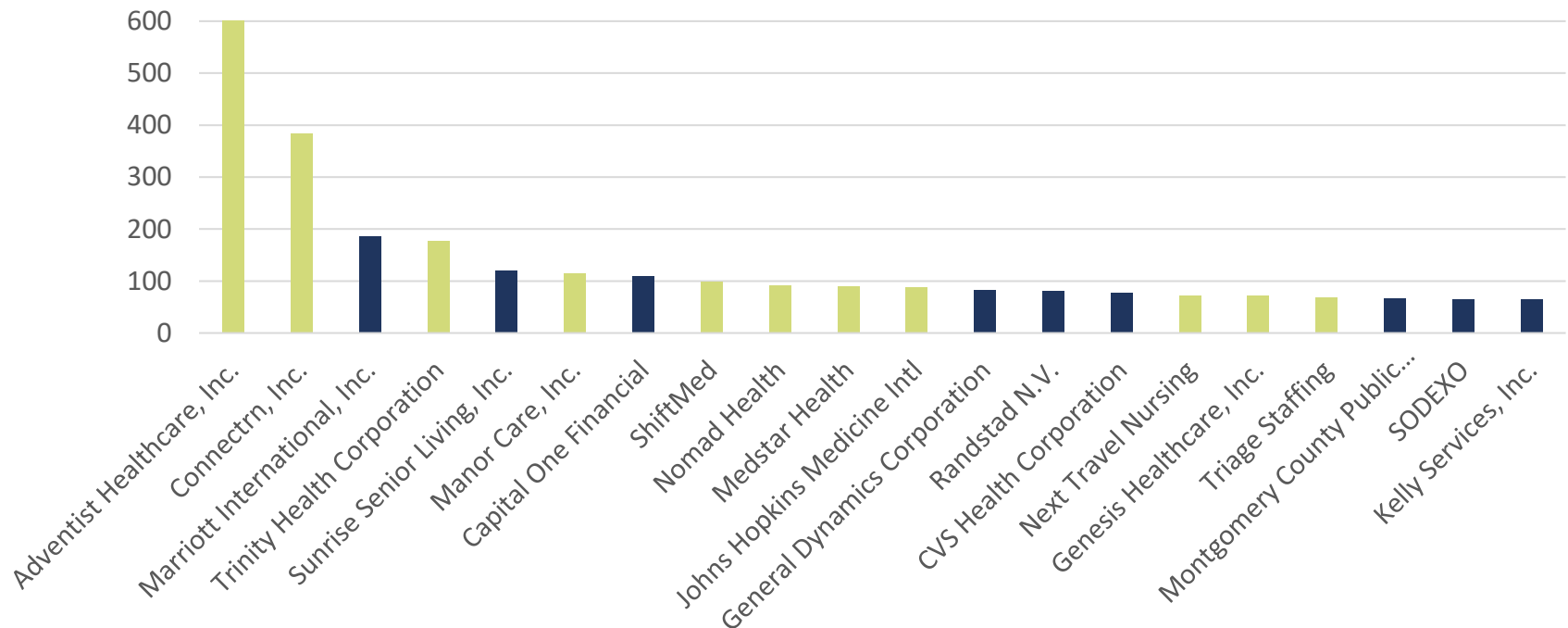
As Montgomery College continues to design a fourth presence, the consideration of pathways programs that lead toward a Bachelor's would help MC graduates be more competitive in the job market.



# Healthcare Leads the Field for Associate's Degree Holders

For job postings requiring an Associate's degree only, the following businesses were the top employers. 55% of the top 20 employers were either direct healthcare companies or healthcare staffing businesses.

Job Posting by Volume by Employer, Oct 2019- Oct 2020



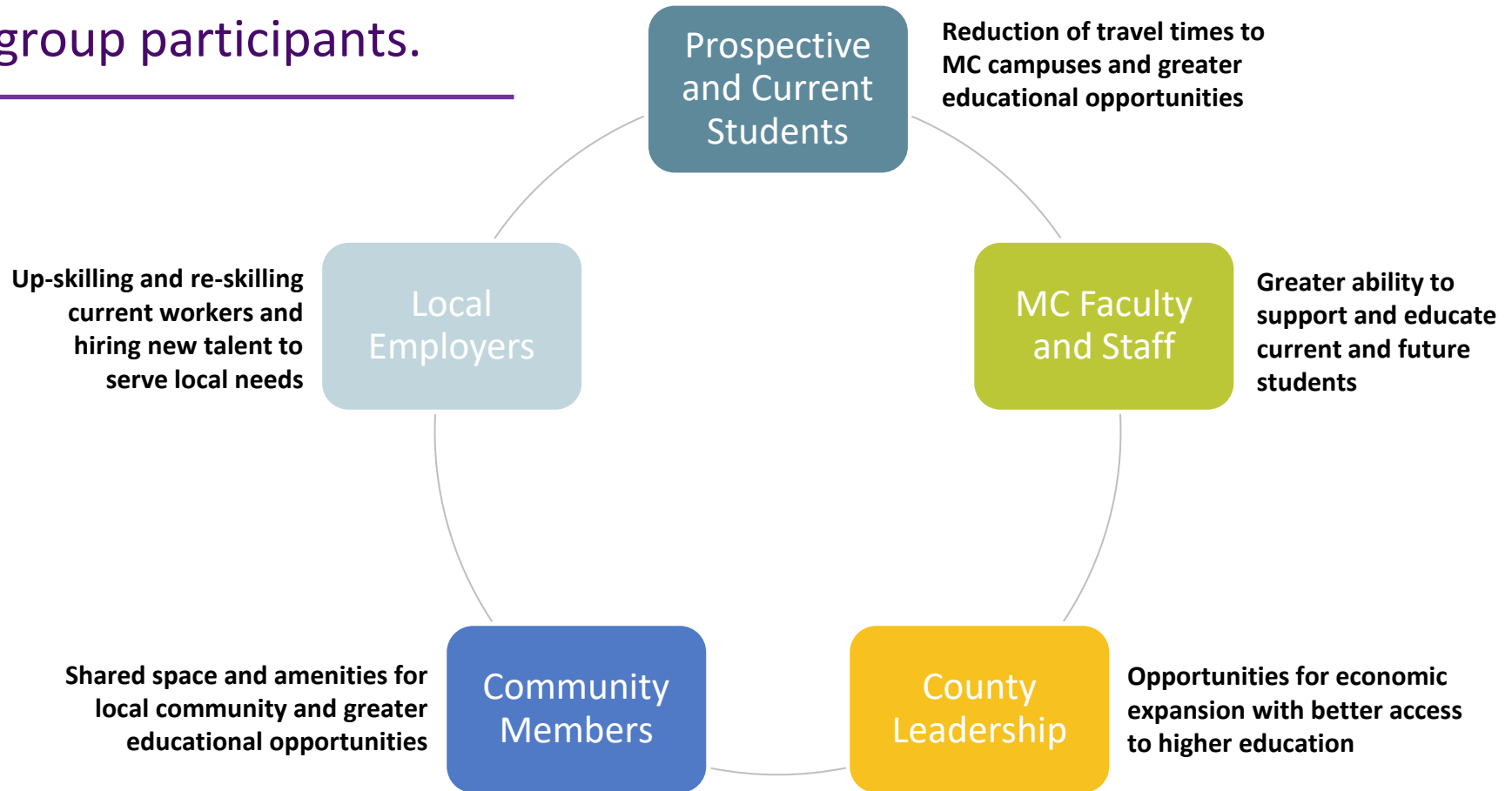
**The median advertised salary of these listings was \$64.4k. The top posted occupations were registered nurses, nursing assistants, licensed practical and licensed vocational nurses, and medical assistants.**

# Proposed Academic Focus Areas By Education Level

Education Level	Occupation Type	Job Titles
<b>Career and Technical Education (Workforce Development)</b>	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses</li> <li>Health Information Technologists, Medical Registrars</li> <li>Surgical Technologists, Surgical Assistants</li> <li>Medical Dosimetrists, Medical Records Specialists</li> </ul>
	Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Occupations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration Mechanics Installers</li> <li>Telecommunications Equipment Installers and Repairers</li> <li>Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Commercial and Industrial Equipment</li> <li>Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics</li> </ul>
	English language supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ESL courses for the immigrant community</li> </ul>
<b>Associate's Degree</b>	Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dental Hygienists</li> <li>Radiologic Technologists and Technicians</li> <li>Diagnostic Medical Sonographers</li> </ul>
	Computer and Mathematical Occupations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Computer Network Support Specialists</li> <li>Web Developers and Digital Interface Designers</li> </ul>
	Architecture and Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calibration Technologists and Technicians, Engineering Techs</li> <li>Electrical and Electronic Engineering Technologists</li> <li>Architectural and Civil Drafters, Mechanical Drafters</li> </ul>
<b>Pathways to a Bachelor's degree</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Montgomery County, 26% of job postings are available to applicants with up to an Associate's degree, but an additional 45% of postings are available with a Bachelor's degree</li> <li>Creating pathways to a four-year degree will make MC students more competitive in the job market long-term and will provide significantly better economic outcomes</li> <li>Heavy investment of strengthening articulation transfer agreements is recommended</li> </ul>	

There is strong support from focus group participants.

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COVID-19 has created shifts in the way we use physical campuses. Space planning and design for this presence has the opportunity to be forward-thinking.

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- Emphasis on experiential learning
- Hyflex classrooms for both virtual and in-person instruction



COVID-19 has created shifts in the way we use physical campuses. Space planning and design for this presence has the opportunity to be forward-thinking.

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- Spaces where learners can access technology and internet, especially those who may not have access at home
- Potential for some staff to work remotely



It is important for this presence to be commensurate with other MC campuses, while developing its own identity. Space planning projects a full build-out.

PHASE

1

1,000 HEADCOUNT  
610 FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

- 9 classrooms
- 2 class laboratories
- Small business incubator and maker space
- Capacity for 75+ faculty and staff
- Learning Resource Center, study and virtual learning spaces
- Demonstration kitchen and multipurpose fitness room
- Food service kiosk and food pantry
- **Partnership Opportunities:**
  - Commercial Kitchen Incubator
  - Non-Profit Partner Space

PHASE

2

3,273 HEADCOUNT  
1,997 FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

- 30 classrooms
- 7 class laboratories
- Small business incubator and maker spaces
- Capacity for 250+ faculty and staff
- Learning Resource Center, study and virtual learning spaces
- Fitness center
- Grab-and-go food service and food pantry
- **Partnership Opportunities:**
  - Commercial Kitchen Incubator
  - Non-Profit Partner Space
  - Event Space

PHASE

3

6,429 HEADCOUNT  
3,922 FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

- 60 classrooms
- 14 class laboratories
- Small business incubator and maker spaces
- Capacity for 400+ faculty and staff
- Learning Resource Center, study and virtual learning spaces
- Fitness and Athletics Performance Facility
- Cafeteria and food pantry
- **Partnership Opportunities:**
  - Commercial Kitchen Incubator
  - Non-Profit Partner Space
  - Event Space
  - Convocation Center

# Enrollment and Space Need Summary

## PHASE

# 1

1,000 HEADCOUNT  
610 FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

Net Assignable Square Feet  
41k - 44k

Gross Square Feet  
63k - 68k

### Comparable size:

- Paul Peck Academic and Innovation Building on the Germantown campus (68,000 GSF)

## PHASE

# 2

3,273 HEADCOUNT  
1,997 FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

Net Assignable Square Feet  
115k - 135k

Gross Square Feet  
177k - 208k

### Comparable size:

- Health Sciences Center on the TP/SS campus (98,000 GSF)
- Student Services Center on the TP/SS campus (111,000 GSF)

## PHASE

# 3

6,429 HEADCOUNT  
3,922 FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

Net Assignable Square Feet  
252k - 280k

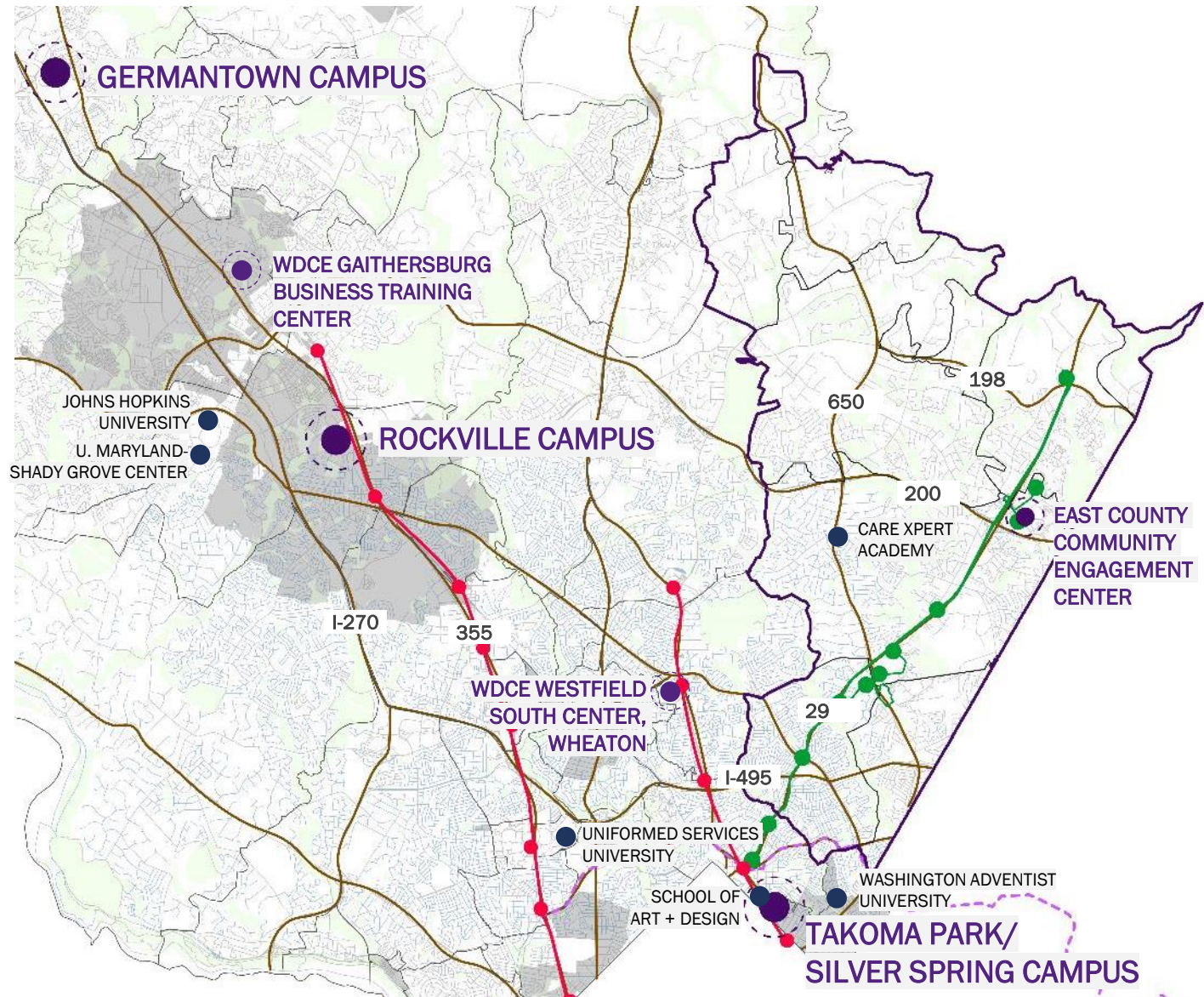
Gross Square Feet  
388k - 430k

### Comparable size:

- Science Center (East + West) on the Rockville campus (141,000 GSF + 42,000 GSF)
- Student Services Center on the Rockville campus (127,000 GSF)
- Physical Education Center on the Rockville Campus (85,000 GSF)

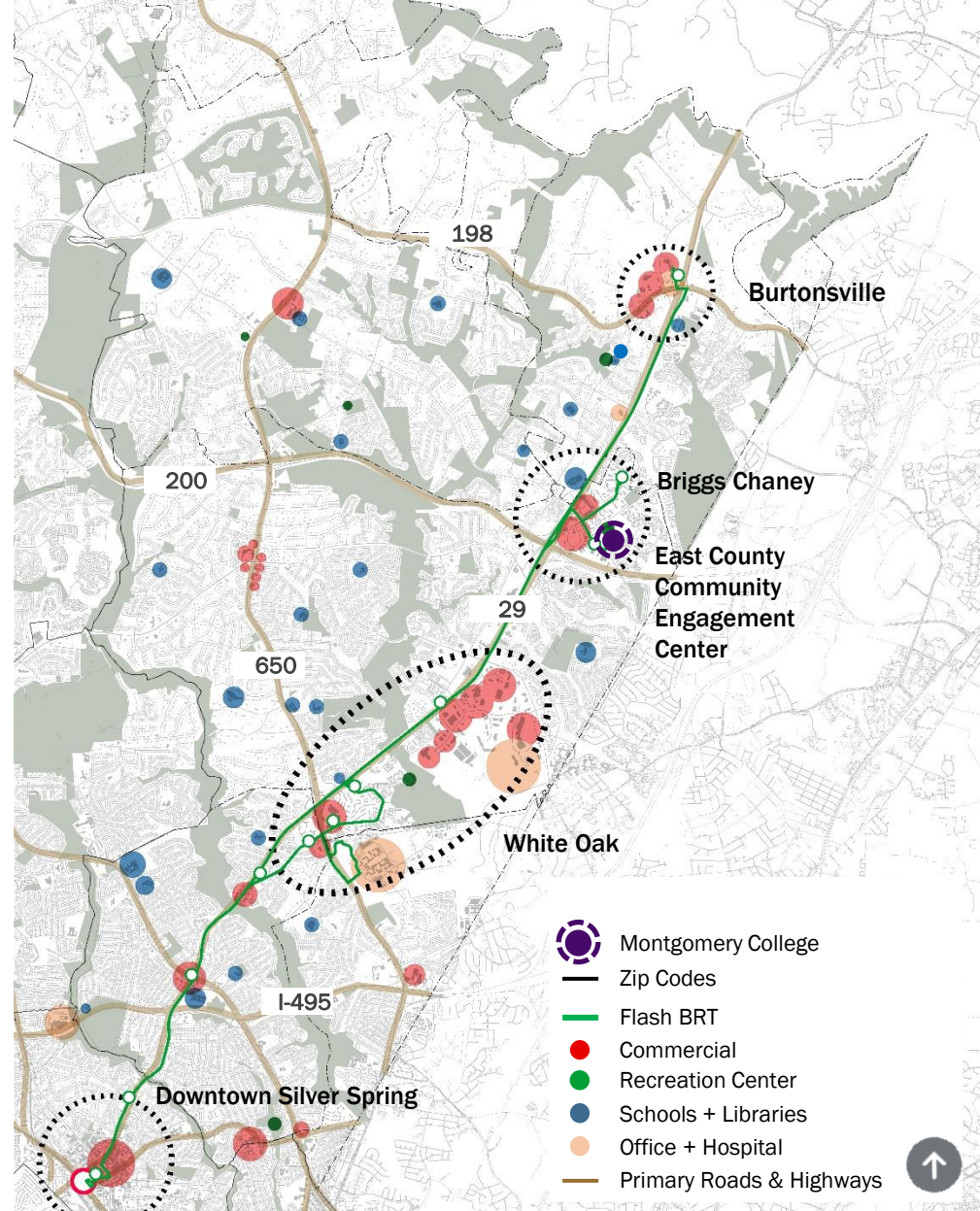
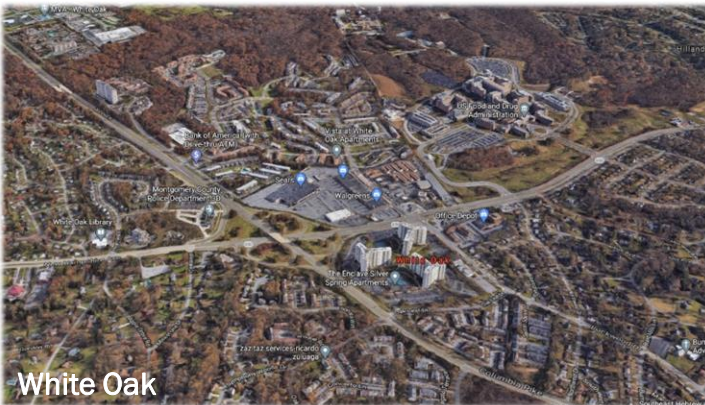


The Flash BRT line is an important asset and, like parking, will be a factor in site selection.





# Activity Centers

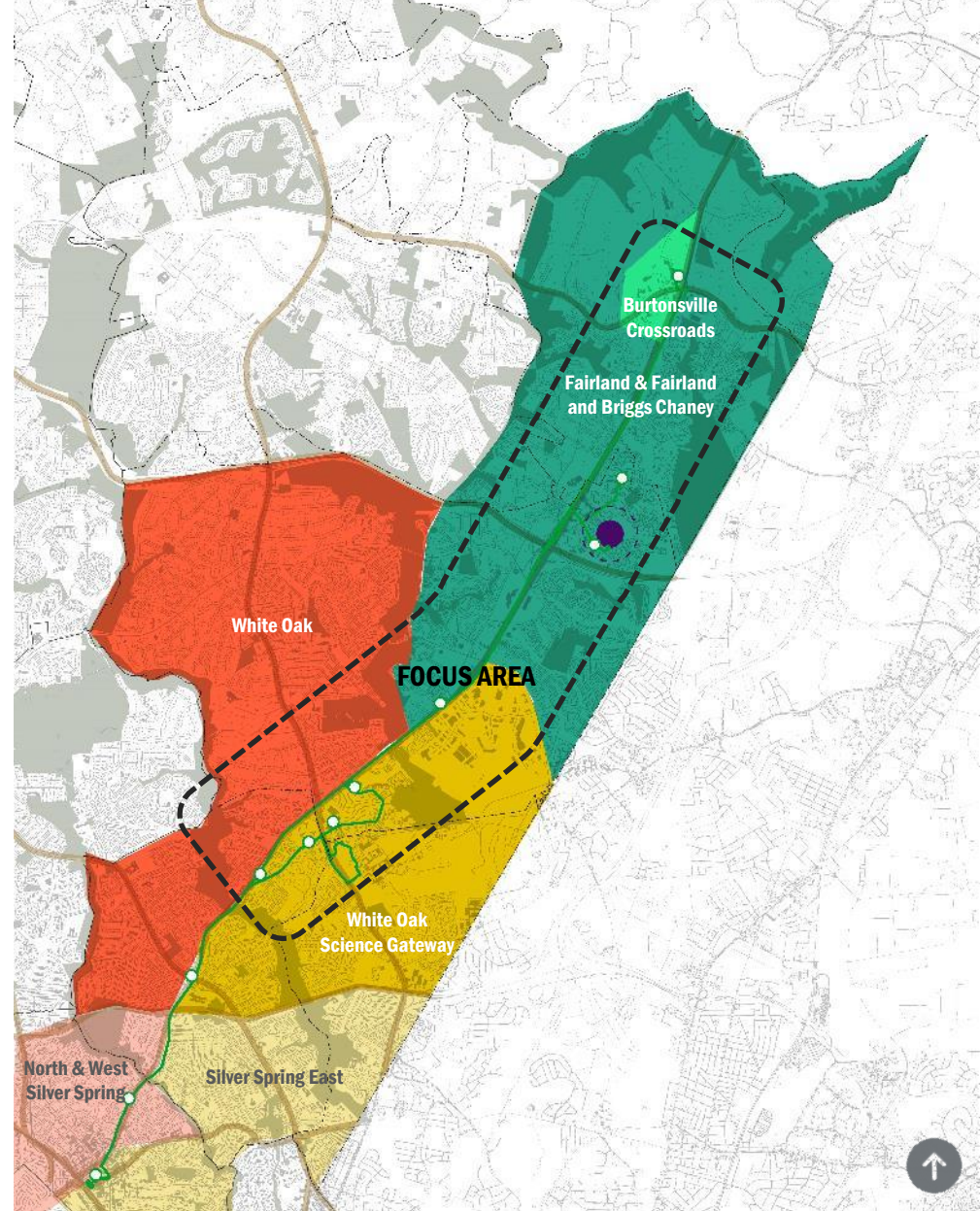




There is considerable energy and planning taking place for new development in this area.

## MASTER PLANS

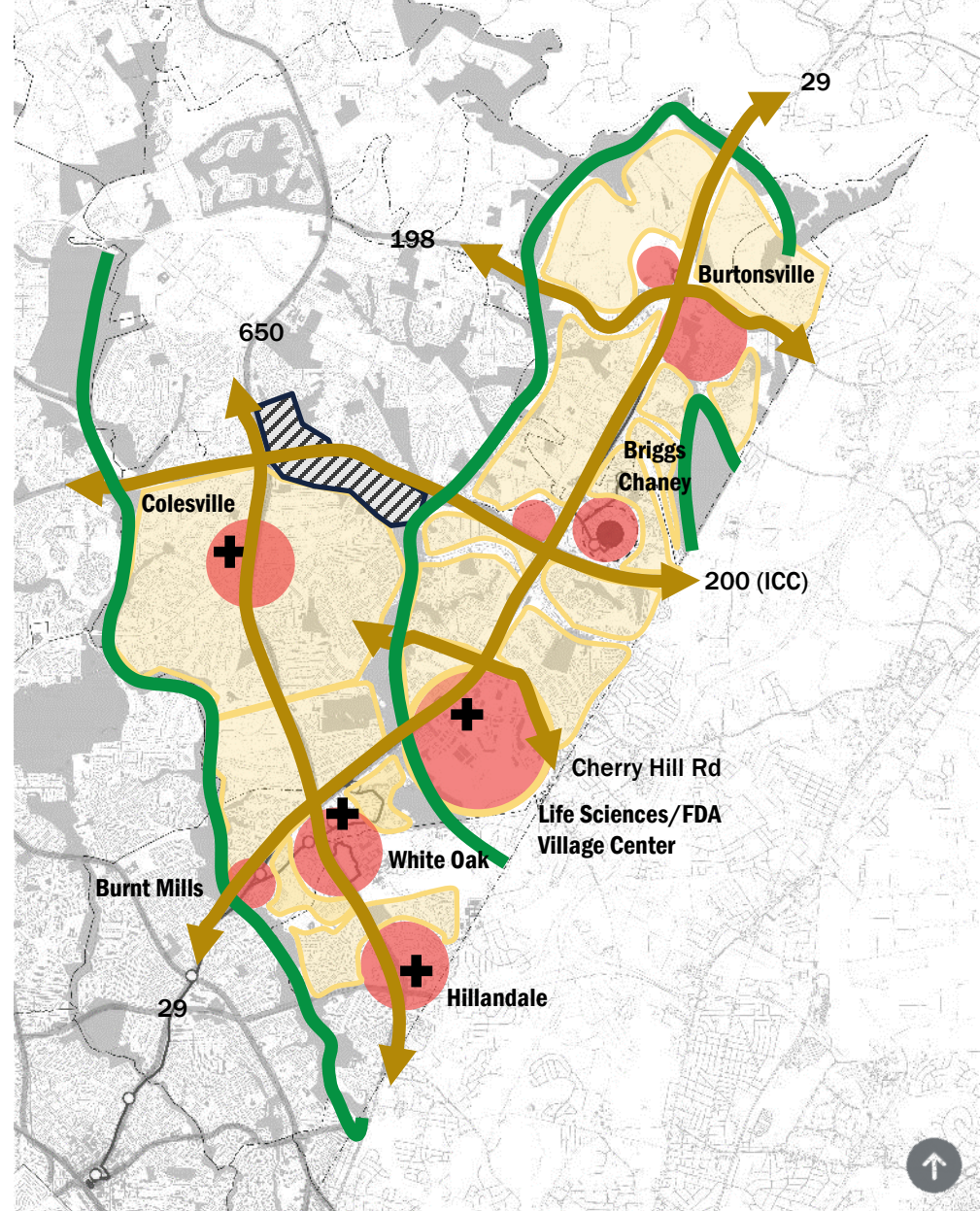
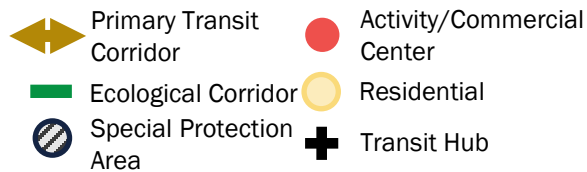
- In Progress - Fairland and Briggs Chaney
- 2020 - Thrive Montgomery 2050
- 2014 - White Oak Science Gateway
- 2013 - Countywide Transit Corridors Functional Master Plan
- 2012 - Burtonsville Crossroads
- 2000 - Silver Spring East
- 2000 - North and West Silver Spring
- 1997 - Fairland Master Plan
- 1997 - White Oak Master Plan
- Special Protection Areas





# Combined Master Plan Visions

- Reinforcing I-29 as the primary north/south transit corridor with new Flash BRT line
- Establishing transit hubs along I-29 and major east/west connections such as 650, 200, and Cherry Hill Road
- Protecting and enhancing ecological corridors
- Supporting dense, mixed-use developments proximate to major transit hubs
- Identifying additional east-west BRT lines



**College Expansion in East  
Montgomery County is an idea that  
has matured over many years.**

**COVID-19 response presents an  
opportunity to act.**

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# Next Steps

## Next Steps of Feasibility Study

### **April-June**

- Complete real estate analysis for potential long-term presence
- Complete pro forma operating and capital budgets
- Draft potential Facilities Master Plan amendment regarding a fourth campus

### **June**

- Present final Feasibility Study to Board of Trustees

## Future Possible Steps for Board of Trustees

### **May or Later**

- Potential Board action on Educational Center lease

### **June or Later**

- Potential Board action to update Facilities Master Plan

