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February 16, 2022

Casey Anderson, Chair
Montgomery County Planning Board
2425 Reddie Drive, 14th Floor
Wheaton, MD 20902

Dear Mr. Anderson,

I write to you today in support of the resolution to rename Montrose Parkway in honor of Reverend Josiah Henson introduced by Montgomery County Councilmember Hans Riemer. The Montgomery County Parks Department recently opened Josiah Henson Museum & Park to recognize and memorialize Rev. Henson's life and his work as a renowned abolitionist activist who helped foment the Civil War and end slavery, and it is only right that we continue to bring awareness to his incredible actions by renaming the parkway that travels through the property where he was once enslaved.

Renaming Montrose Parkway will indelibly honor Rev. Henson and his life of perseverance and determination; providing him the public recognition he justifiably deserves while reminding our community of our unique history and the role of African American leaders in Montgomery County since its earliest days. It will give the County's residents and children a localized sense of ownership of the fight for freedom that Josiah Henson embodies. This recognition of his work would also provide cause for celebration of the work for all our County's civil rights heroes.

I fully support this resolution introduced by Councilmember Riemer and urge the Montgomery County Planning Board to give this resolution all due consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Trone".

David Trone
Member of Congress