Dear County Council Member:

It is our understanding that County Executive Marc Elrich will be introducing a resolution asking Mr. Snyder to change the name of the professional Washington football team. The name of the team is a dictionary-defined racial slur that perpetuates stereotypes and demeans Native Americans.

In 2005, the American Psychological Association (APA) passed a resolution calling for the immediate retirement of Native American mascots in schools and athletics in part because the APA determined that such mascots were detrimental to the learning environment of both non-Native and Native youth. Over 2,000 high schools have dropped Native American names and mascots and 28 have dropped the name R-skins.

The District of Columbia and Arlington County, Virginia have passed resolutions.

If Montgomery County also adopts a resolution, local governments would be sending a strong signal to Mr. Snyder that it is time to change the team’s name. A resolution would also serve as a valuable educational tool, increasing awareness in Montgomery County about the harms caused by the name and logo of the football team.

Persecution against Jews have been aided and abetted by the use of stereotypes and name calling. It is with this perspective that I call on Mr. Snyder to change the name of the team. Please pass a resolution asking Mr. Snyder to change the name of his team.

Sincerely,