

**COUNTY COUNCIL
OF
HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND**

2017 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 5

March 6, 2017

HOWARD COUNTY TO WIT:

The Chairperson called the legislative session to order at **7:02** p.m.

Chairperson Jon Weinstein, Vice Chairperson Calvin Ball, Council Member Greg Fox, Council Member Mary Kay Sigaty, and Council Member Jennifer Terrasa were present.

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council; Craig Glendenning, County Auditor; Theodore Wimberly, Legislative Analyst; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor; Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator; and Patricia Hammond, Administrative Support were also present.

APPROVE JOURNALS AND MINUTES

The Chairperson moved to approve the Journals for Legislative Session - February 6, 2017, Emergency Legislative Session - February 15, 2017, and Emergency Legislative Session – February 21, 2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve the Journals passed.

The Chairperson moved to approve the minutes for Monthly Meeting – February 13, 2017, Special Public Hearing – February 21, 2017, Closed Meeting – February 21, 2017, Public Hearing – February 21, 2017, and Work Session – February 27, 2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve the minutes passed.

LATE FILE

The Chairperson moved to suspend the rules to allow for introduction of legislation that was not prefiled [CB23-2017 (Sigaty); CB24-2017 (Weinstein & Fox)] The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to suspend the rules passed.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

The following legislation is introduced by the Chairperson at the request of the County Executive unless otherwise noted:

Appointments

Council Resolution 29-2017 - A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Erica B. Byrne to the Howard County Local Children's Board.

Council Resolution 30-2017 – A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Brian M. Dillard to the Public Transportation Board.

Council Resolution 31-2017 – A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Ayesha Bajwa Holmes to the Board to Promote Self-Sufficiency.

Council Resolution 32-2017 – A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Caroline Harper to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission.

Council Resolution 33-2017 - A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Jonah Hornum to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission.

General

SAO3-FY2017 – AN ACT transferring \$600,000 from the Grants Fund, Contingency Reserve to the Department of Public Works for a grant to assist in improving enhanced nutrient removal performance levels.

TAO3-FY2017 – AN ACT transferring a total of \$3,445,000 to Capital Project C0309, Land Acquisition Contingency Reserve, from various capital projects in the Fiscal Year 2017 Capital Budget including C0351, Harriet Tubman Remediation, C0352, Site Acquisition for School Sites, and F5973, Logistics Facility.

Council Bill 18-2017 - AN ACT for the purpose of authorizing and empowering Howard County, Maryland to borrow money an additional aggregate principal amount of up to \$945,000 on its full faith and credit, and issue and sell its bonds therefor, to be used to pay costs of various capital projects, more particularly described in the County's 2017 Capital Budget, and to pay costs of issuance of such bonds; authorizing the County to issue bond anticipation notes or to enter into

installment purchase agreements for payment of portions of such costs; and to levy taxes upon the assessable property within the County sufficient, together with other available funds, to pay the debt service on such obligations; and providing for and determining various matters in connection therewith.

Council Bill 19-2017 – AN ACT approving and providing for a multi-year Installment Purchase Agreement by Howard County, Maryland to acquire development rights in approximately 20.56 acres of agricultural land located at 1401 Woodbine Road, Woodbine, Howard County, Maryland, from Sharon Sachs or any other owner thereof for a maximum purchase price of \$536,500.00 or, if less, not more than \$26,093.60 per acre or portion thereof, rounded to the next highest \$100, plus interest on the deferred portion of such purchase price; providing that the County's obligation to pay such purchase price and interest on the deferred portion of such purchase price shall be a full faith and credit general obligation of the County; providing for the levying of taxes for such payments; authorizing the County Executive to modify such Agreement; and providing for and determining various matters in connection therewith.

Council Resolution 34-2017 – A RESOLUTION endorsing the provision of financing by the State Department of Commerce for two economic development projects in Howard County and certifying that the projects are consistent with the County's plan for economic development.

Council Bill 20-2017 - AN ACT amending the qualifications of the Administrator of the Office of Transportation; amending the duties of the Office of Transportation; amending the general powers and duties of members of the Public Transportation Board; adding the Office of Transportation to agencies serving on the Subdivision Review Committee; and generally relating to the Office of Transportation.

Council Bill 21-2017 – Introduced by: Chairperson at the request of the County executive and Cosponsored by Jon Weinstein; AN ACT repealing certain County licenses and inspections related to massage; defining certain terms; allowing certain entry into massage establishments; authorizing the right to request certain authorization; providing for certain penalties; and generally relating to massage establishments in Howard County.

Council Bill 22-2017 (ZRA-175) – AN ACT exempting farms in the Rural Conservation Zoning District and farms 20 acres or larger in the Rural Residential Zoning District from Animal Shelter and Riding Academy and Stable setback requirements from dwellings on future new residential lots; and generally relating to the Howard County Zoning Regulations.

Council Bill 23-2017 – Introduced by: Mary Kay Sigaty and Co-sponsored by Calvin Ball and Jon Weinstein; AN ACT amending the Howard County Code to clarify that parcels may be eligible for the County's Agricultural Land Preservation Program notwithstanding the effect of the Growth Tier designation of the parcel on the County's General Plan; and generally relating to the Howard County Agricultural Land Preservation Program.

Council Bill 24-2017 – Introduced by: Jon Weinstein and Greg Fox; AN ACT requiring that any on-site sewage disposal system installed within a major subdivision in the Rural Conservation (RC) zoning district utilize Best Available Technology for Nitrogen removal; and generally relating to on-site sewage disposal systems.

FINAL CONSIDERATION

The Chairperson moved to allow the reading of short titles for bills and resolutions for final approval. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to allow the reading of short titles for bills and resolutions for final approval passed.

Consent Agenda

Council Resolution 22-2017 – A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Mickey Day to the Agricultural Land Preservation Board.

Council Resolution 23-2017 – A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Elaine R. Ritchey to the Animal Matters Hearing Board.

Council Resolution 24-2017 – A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Paula M. Schultz to the Animal Matters Hearing Board.

The Chairperson moved to approve Council Resolution 22-2017, Council Resolution 23-2017, and Council Resolution 24-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Resolution 22-2017, Council Resolution 23-2017, and Council Resolution 24-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Council Resolution 22-2017, Council Resolution 23-2017, and Council Resolution 24-2017 passed.

Appointments

Council Resolution 18-2017 – A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Jessica Obiageli Epps to the Commission for Women.

The Chairperson moved to approve Council Resolution 18-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Resolution 18-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Council Resolution 18-2017 passed.

Council Resolution 19-2017 – A RESOLUTION approving a list of Howard County residents to be sent to the Governor, in accordance with State law, so that the Governor may choose one of the residents from the list to fill a vacancy on the Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board.

The Chairperson moved to approve Council Resolution 19-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Resolution 19-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Council Resolution 19-2017 passed.

Council Resolution 20-2017 – A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Kimberly Salazar to the Board to Promote Self-Sufficiency.

The Chairperson moved to approve Council Resolution 20-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Resolution 20-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Council Resolution 20-2017 passed.

Council Resolution 21-2017 – A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Jean Xu to the Public Ethics Commission.

The Chairperson moved to table Council Resolution 21-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to table Council Resolution 21-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein. Nay: Council Member Fox.

The motion to table Council Resolution 21-2017 passed.

General

SAO2-FY2017 - AN ACT transferring \$600,000 from the Grants Fund, Contingency Reserve to the Department of Planning and Zoning for the Strategic Demolition Fund Grant and the Façade Improvement Program Grant, both to be awarded from the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development; and amending the General Fund total for the Department of Planning and Zoning in order to have sufficient spending authority to fund a General Fund match requirement for the Strategic Demolition Fund Grant.

The Chairperson moved to approve SAO2-FY2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The Chairperson moved to approve Amendment 1. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment corrects an account number.)

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Amendment 1 was:
Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa, and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Amendment 1 passed.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve SAO2-FY2017 as amended was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve SAO2-FY2017 as amended passed.

Council Bill 10-2017 – AN ACT amending the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2017 in order to correct certain Department of Housing and Community Development funds that were mistakenly appropriated to the Grants Fund instead of the Program Revenue Fund; to correct certain Department of Planning and Zoning debt service appropriation in the Agricultural Land Preservation Fund mistakenly reduced by certain revenue sources; to increase the Water and Sewer Grants Fund appropriation in the Department of Public Works in order to have sufficient spending authority for an unanticipated grant received by the County; to reduce the Grants Fund for the Department of Housing and Community Development by \$550,000 and amend the total Grants Fund accordingly; to add a total of \$550,000 to the Program Revenue Fund of the Department of Housing and Community Development and amend the total Program Revenue Fund accordingly; to add a total of \$6,608,200 to the Agricultural Land Preservation Fund for the Department of Planning and Zoning and amend the total Agricultural Land Preservation Fund accordingly; and generally relating to the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2017.

The Chairperson moved to CB10-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The Chairperson moved to approve Amendment 1. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment removes a transfer to the Department of Public Works to account for a grant that was received. The transfer of funding has been proposed through SAO No. 3 Fiscal Year 2017. The amendment adds reference to Treasury Note Proceeds in the ordinance and declares the Act to be an emergency)

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Amendment 1 was:
Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa, and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Amendment 1 passed.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Bill 10-2017 as amended was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Council Bill 10-2017 as amended passed.

Council Bill 11-2017 – AN ACT pursuant to Section 612 of the Howard County Charter, approving a Multi-Year Tax-Exempt Lease/Purchase Agreement between Howard County and SunTrust Equipment Finance & Leasing Corp. for financing the acquisition of seven new buses to be used as part of the Regional Transit Agency’s fixed-route fleet; authorizing the Executive to make changes to the Agreement, under certain conditions; authorizing the County Executive to execute the Agreement; and generally relating to the Agreement.

The Chairperson moved to approve CB11-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The Chairperson moved to approve Amendment 1. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment clarifies language and substitutes a revised Exhibit B that incorporates the agreed-upon rate quote.)

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Amendment 1 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa, and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Amendment 1 passed.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Bill 11-2017 as amended was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Council Bill 11-2017 as amended passed.

Council Bill 12-2017 – AN ACT pursuant to Section 612 of the Howard County Charter, approving a Multi-Year Lease Agreement between the County and KSM Timbers, LLC, for the operation and maintenance of the Timbers at Troy Golf Course; authorizing the Executive to make changes to the Agreement, under certain conditions; authorizing the County Executive to execute the Agreement; and generally relating to the Agreement.

The Chairperson moved to withdraw Council Bill 12-2017 [At the request of the Administration]. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to withdraw Council Bill 12-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to withdraw Council Bill 12-2017 passed.

Council Bill 13-2017 – AN ACT pursuant to Section 612 of the Howard County Charter, approving a Seventh Amendment and Renewal of Lease between Howard County, Maryland and Symphony Woods, LLC, for the lease of approximately 1,653 square feet of space located at 5950 Symphony Woods Drive, Columbia, Maryland during a multi-year renewal term; authorizing the Executive to make changes to the Amendment, under certain conditions; authorizing the County Executive to execute the Amendment; and generally relating to the Amendment.

The Chairperson moved to approve Council Bill 13-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Bill 13-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Council Bill 13-2017 passed.

Council Bill 14-2017 – AN ACT pursuant to Section 612 of the Howard County Charter, approving a Planned and Scheduled Maintenance Agreement between Nixon Power Services, LLC d/b/a Nixon Energy Solutions and Howard County, Maryland that requires certain indemnification in future fiscal years.

The Chairperson moved to approve Council Bill 14-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Bill 14-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein. Recused: Council Member Fox

The motion to approve Council Bill 14-2017 passed.

Council Resolution 25-2017 – A RESOLUTION declaring that a total of approximately 7,930 square feet of real property owned by Howard County, Maryland known as a portion of Governors Run Open Space Lot 130 is no longer needed for a public purpose in exchange for the conveyance to the County of 13,000 square feet of land to be designated as Open Space; waiving the advertising and bidding requirements of Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code in order to convey the property to the owner of the adjacent property; and providing that the County Executive is not bound to convey the property if he finds that the land may have a further public use.

The Chairperson moved to approve Council Resolution 25-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Resolution 25-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Council Resolution 25-2017 passed.

Council Resolution 26-2017 – A RESOLUTION pursuant to Section 4.201(a) of the Howard County Code, declaring that a portion of a 20-foot Water Easement and a 20-foot Sewer Easement, comprising a total of approximately 0.2773 acres, is no longer needed by Howard County, Maryland for public purposes; authorizing the County Executive to terminate the property interest, vesting title to the underlying property owner, the Howard County Housing Commission; waiving the advertising and bidding requirements of Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code; and providing that the County Executive is not bound to abandon such portion of the easement if he finds that such portion of the easement may have a further public use.

The Chairperson moved to approve Council Resolution 26-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Resolution 26-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Council Resolution 26-2017 passed.

Council Resolution 27-2017 – A RESOLUTION indicating support by both the County Council and County Executive for a project to finance and construct a new courthouse.

The Chairperson moved to approve Council Resolution 27-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The Chairperson moved to approve Amendment 1. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment requests that any Request for Proposals be submitted to the County Council in advance and that the County Executive indicate his agreement.)

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Amendment 1 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa, and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Amendment 1 passed.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Resolution 27-2017 as amended was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Terrasa and Weinstein. Nay: Council Member Sigaty

The motion to approve Council Resolution 27-2017 as amended passed.

Council Bill 15-2017 – Introduced by the Chairperson at the request of the County Executive and cosponsored by Greg Fox; AN ACT further stating the purpose of the Howard County Right-To-Farm Act; recommending certain legal fees under certain conditions; and generally related to the Howard county Right-To-Farm Act.

The Chairperson moved to approve Council Bill 15-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

Ms. Sigaty moved to approve Amendment 1. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment would add the Howard Soil Conservation District as an additional opinion for the Health Department to consider in determining whether a nuisance condition exists in connection with an agricultural operation)

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Amendment 1 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa, and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Amendment 1 passed.

The Chairperson moved to approve Amendment 2. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fox.

Amendment No. 2

(This amendment clarifies that certain expenses and fees must be reasonable.)

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Amendment 2 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa, and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Amendment 2 passed.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Bill 15-2017 as amended was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Council Bill 15-2017 as amended passed.

Council Bill 16-2017 – Introduced by the Chairperson at the request of the County Executive and cosponsored by Greg Fox; AN ACT amending PlanHoward 2030, the general plan for Howard County, in order to amend Growth Tiers, as required by the Maryland Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act of 2012; revising certain maps to reflect changes in Growth Tiers; amending text to describe Growth Tiers; and generally relating to planning, zoning and land use in Howard County.

The Chairperson moved to approve Council Bill 16-2017. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fox.

The Chairperson moved to approve Amendment 1. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fox.

Amendment No. 1

(This amendment would revise the Tier descriptions found in the General Plan)

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Amendment 1 was: Yea: Council Members Fox, Sigaty, and Weinstein; Nay: Council Members Ball and Terrasa

The motion to approve Amendment 1 passed.

The Chairperson moved to table Council Bill 16-2017 as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fox.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to table Council Bill 16-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Fox and Weinstein; Nay: Council Members Ball, Sigaty, and Terrasa

The motion to table Council Bill 16-2017 failed.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Bill 16-2017 as amended was: Yea: Council Members Fox and Weinstein; Nay: Council Members Ball, Sigaty, and Terrasa

The motion to approve Council Bill 16-2017 as amended failed.

Council Resolution 2-2017 - A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Kenneth M. Barnes to the Pension Oversight Commission. (tabled 2/6/17)

The Chairperson moved to remove Council Resolution 2-2017 from the table. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to remove Council Resolution 2-2017 from the table was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to remove Council Resolution 2-2017 from table passed.

The Chairperson moved to approve Council Resolution 2-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Resolution 2-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Council Resolution 2-2017 passed.

Council Resolution 7-2017 – A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Leslie P. Salgado-Tamayo to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission. (tabled 2/6/17)

The Chairperson moved to remove Council Resolution 7-2017 from the table. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to remove Council Resolution 7-2017 from table was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa, and Weinstein.

The motion to remove Council 7-2017 from table passed.

The Chairperson moved to approve Council Resolution 7-2017. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Resolution 7-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to approve Council Resolution 7-2017 passed.

Council Resolution 171-2016 – A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of John F. Tenerowicz to the Board to Promote Self-Sufficiency. (tabled 12/05/16)

The Chairperson moved to remove Council Resolution 171-2017 from the table. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to remove Council Resolution 171-2017 from table was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa, and Weinstein.

The motion to remove Council 171-2017 from table passed.

The Chairperson moved to withdraw Council Resolution 171-2017 [At the request of the Administration]. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ball.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to withdraw Council Resolution 171-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Fox, Sigaty, Terrasa and Weinstein.

The motion to withdraw Council Resolution 171-2017 passed.

Council Bill 9-2017 – Introduced by Calvin Ball and Jennifer Terrasa; AN ACT providing that certain individuals shall take, or refrain from taking, specified actions with respect to the immigration status of specified individuals; prohibiting certain discrimination based on citizenship status; requiring that certain information related to citizenship status be kept confidential; providing a procedure whenever specified provisions may be preempted by other law; requiring specified officials to take actions under certain circumstances; and generally relating to human rights in Howard County.

The County Executive has returned Council Bill 9 -2017 with the following veto message:

*February 9, 2017
The Honorable Jan Weinstein, Chairperson
Howard County Council
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043*

Re: Howard County Council Bill No. 9-2017

Dear Chairperson Weinstein:

In accordance with Section 209(g) of the Howard County Charter, I have today vetoed Howard County Council Bill No. 9-2017 (“CB9”). As a lifelong resident of Howard County, I know first-hand that we are an inclusive and diverse county. I was raised by a man who fought for civil rights and who taught me to respect everyone. And I know that employees in county government treat everyone who lives and visits the county with respect and dignity.

Throughout this process, I have said that CB 9, which the County Council amended and passed on Monday, February 6, 2017, is a bad solution to a problem that does not exist in Howard County. It is little more than a hollow political statement. It unnecessarily divided our foreign-born community and caused rifts in our county. The bill offers a false sense of security to undocumented immigrants, compromises public safety efforts and puts us at risk of losing critical federal funding for community services and law enforcement.

For these reasons, I have vetoed CB9.

It was irresponsible to hastily file this legislation. Responsible leadership calls for due diligence. Unfortunately, in this case, there was none. I agree with you when you said, when voting against this bill, that this issue deserved a thorough, inclusive and deliberative process prior to its introduction.

I appreciate you and Council member Fox for your bipartisan opposition to this bill.

If the sponsors had reached out to key stakeholders prior to filing it, they would have learned this was unnecessary legislation. They would have heard from the Police Department, other government agencies, and organizations supporting immigrants that in Howard County, we do not have a problem with this issue.

They would have learned why codifying this language creates problems. And they would have understood why no other county in Maryland nor Baltimore City has passed a similar law.

Instead, Council members Ball and Terrasa filed this legislation without consulting and without notice to key stakeholders. They filed legislation that unfairly and inaccurately created the perception that there is a problem in Howard County with the way our Police Department and county employees interact with our foreign-born population.

Let me be clear, nothing could be further from the truth. There are no known instances - not a single one - in which a member of our community has indicated they were harassed or mistreated based on their immigration status by the Police Department or county government employees.

The mission of our Police Department - to ensure that everyone who lives, works or visits Howard County is safe - has never changed. Their focus is on protecting our community and not on enforcing federal immigration law. In fact, they have gone above and beyond to work with people of all nationalities – creating partnerships with FIRN, HopeWorks and others so that our police officers have adequate training and understanding of different cultures and religions.

We've hired multicultural liaisons to help with outreach and to strengthen relationships. This dedication to inclusiveness runs through the fabric of county government. And we have a county government that represents our community's diversity, working every day to make sure our services are comprehensive and accessible. To imply otherwise is insulting.

Our priorities and policies are driven by shared values of inclusion, collaboration and opportunity. These are the guiding principles that led to efforts like our #OneHoward campaign and Congressman Elijah Cummings' Stand Up, Speak Up Howard. In the face of acts of hatred and bigotry, responsible leaders on the local, state and federal level have engaged the community/ promoted dialogue and sought solutions that are impactful, without causing greater anxiety in the community.

At the end of the day, we know we are a stronger, more prosperous county because we welcome new people, new ideas and new opportunities.

We recognize that local government can and should continue its efforts to strengthen interactions with the foreign-born community. And so we will continue to work with FIRN, HopeWorks, Maryland Legal Aid and engage our law enforcement partners - the State's Attorney and the Sheriff - to strengthen our joint outreach and training efforts.

I know there is some uncertainty right now on the federal level that has caused concern. But there should be no uncertainty in Howard County. My administration will continue to champion and preserve our values and treat every resident with dignity and respect. My promise, as County Executive, is that Howard County will continue to be a welcoming and inclusive community where we celebrate our diversity.

Sincerely,

*Allan H. Kittleman
County Executive*

The Vice Chairperson moved to reconsider the enactment of Council Bill 9-2017. The motion was seconded by Ms. Terrasa.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to reconsider the enactment of Council Bill 9-2017 was: Yea: Council Members Ball, Sigaty, and Terrasa. Nay: Council Member Fox and Weinstein.

The motion to reconsider the enactment of Council Bill 9-2017 failed.

Adjourned **7:43** p.m.

Tabled

Council Resolution 1-2017 – Introduced by the Chairperson at the request of Windsor Forest Fox Chasing HOA, Inc. and Gaither Hunt Homeowners Association, Inc.; A RESOLUTION to close all of Winter Thicket Road, as shown in Exhibits A and B, in accordance with Section 18.204 of the Howard County Code. (tabled 2/6/17)

Council Resolution 179-2016 – Introduced by Calvin Ball and Jennifer Terrasa; A RESOLUTION calling on the Maryland State Department of Education to contract for a performance audit of the Howard County Public School System and specifying the issues requested to be studied. (tabled 12/05/16)

Council Resolution 104-2016 – A RESOLUTION pursuant to Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code, authorizing the County Executive’s sale of certain real property known as the “Flier Building” owned by Howard County, Maryland, containing approximately 2.159 acres, and located at 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway, Maryland; waiving the advertising and bidding requirements of Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code; and providing that the County Executive is not bound to sell the property if he finds that it may have a further public use. (tabled 7/29/16)