

COUNCIL BILL 66 Establishing Tax Credit

October 17, 2016

My name is Fred Dorsey and I live at 10774 Judy Lane, Columbia. I am President of Preservation Howard County.

I appreciate the work you, Dr. Ball and Jon Weinstein, have done to create CB 66. I support the intent of CB 66 in recognizing the need of providing financial relief to residential property owners affected by the storm of July 30, 2016. This storm delivered a massive amount of water and those in its path have suffered damages far beyond other storm waters.

But there is a concern as to the use of the Ellicott City Historic District to identify those property owners who would be eligible. This boundary restricts so many residential property owners beyond the boundary who have been affected by the same storm water excluding such as communities of Valley Meade and St. Johns among others.

There is a concern the Department of Finance has the knowledge to evaluate the requested repairs adhering to the Ellicott City District Design Guideline insuring the integrity of Main Street buildings.

Another concern is about the property owner's application, the required information, how the requested work and its expense stated in the application will be validated.

Finally, a concern in using the word "redevelop" related to the Historic District and how it could be freely interpreted. Will fees and/or charges associated with permits and licenses be waived?

I ask that these concerns and possibly others expressed in this hearing would be considered in a Work Session that could result in amendments to strengthen this bill.

I appreciate the time to express these concerns and would be available for a Work Session.

October 17,2016

Re: CB 66-2016
Tax Credit: flood damaged residential properties

Chairman Ball and members of the County Council:

Council Bill 66 is in need of amendments but the essential intent which is to provide County tax credit to residential property owners impacted by the floods of July 30 2016 should be supported. I appreciate the work of the sponsors of the legislation Chairman Ball and Councilmember Weinstein.

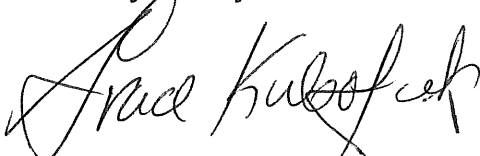
An addition to the area covered by the legislation should be the Ellicott City Sustainable Community defined area (pgs 1&2 lines 29-6). This designated area includes properties outside of the Historic District and properties impacted by the July 30 2016 event. (Map attached)

Proposed amendments include: the tax credit years, which should include tax years 2017, 2018 and 2019. (pg 2 line 12) and deletion of the word redevelop on line 9 page 1.

The proposed Annual Limit needs to be clarified to reflect it is up to \$100,000 per residential credit. As many of us who read the legislation interpreted the \$100,000 it was the total available for each tax year. (Pg 2 lines 26 and 27)

The Department of Finance needs to coordinate with the Department of Planning and the Preservation Commission regarding documentation for eligibility of the credit and that work was completed. This will also help the applicant who has submit information to these entities for other eligible tax credits.

Thank you for your attention.



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