

Sayers, Margery

From: James Miller <jamesmiller2@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, June 19, 2017 10:59 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Columbia Gardeners Support for County Resolution 95

Columbia Gardeners supports Council Resolution 95 to adopt the 2017 County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan because it recommends additional community garden sites in Howard County and recognizes the benefits of gardening to public health and well-being. Our organization's vision is to create an environment where people of all ages and cultural backgrounds share knowledge and experience in community gardening to enhance quality of life, cultivate a spirit of community and promote sustainable ways of living. This Resolution is consistent with these goals.

Columbia Gardeners has managed three community garden sites for over forty years in collaboration with Howard County Recreation and Parks. With increased interest in locally grown food and the growing population in Howard County, all our garden plots are rented and we have a waiting list. We expect demand for community garden sites in Howard County to continue to grow with the increased density in downtown Columbia and the Route 40 and Route 1 corridors. Columbia Gardeners is ready to continue working with the County to help meet the increasing demand for public gardens.

Betty Miller

President Columbia Gardeners