

Sayers, Margery

From: Gelwicks, Colette
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 9:30 AM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Veto override request

From: Hannah Vogel <hannahevogel@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 8:38 AM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Cc: Walsh, Elizabeth <ewalsh@howardcountymd.gov>; Rigby, Christiana <crigby@howardcountymd.gov>; Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>; Yungmann, David <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Veto override request

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Council Member Jones (and the entire County Council),

Thank you for representing Howard County admirably already in your first months on the Council. Since I first met you, when I was interning with the Brown campaign (I was the college math student back then), I looked forward to your taking a leadership position in the place where I grew up and we both call home.

I'm also pleased with Dr. Ball's leadership as county executive, but I am writing you today to urge you to override his recent veto of a bill to expand the Howard County scenic roads buffer from 35 to 100 feet. I strongly favor the expansion for a variety of reasons, including improving quality of life for people who enjoy the rural character of part of our county. Each year, more development takes over former farmland, leaving fewer places where county residents can find respite from dense development and associated stresses. A healthy county needs both urban and rural land use, and also pleasant routes between them. The expanded buffers would help protect the rural atmosphere of areas that are being converted to suburban tracts. Such balance protects property values as well as reducing stress and protecting historic value and local community integrity.

Even more significantly, Howard County is part of a global community, which needs to act in recognition of two deepening crises: loss of biological diversity, and climate disruption. Mathematically, the difference between a 35 foot buffer and a 100 foot buffer, on scenic roads throughout the county, would be tremendous for both wildlife habitat and carbon sequestration. Removing 65 feet more of trees along every mile of scenic highway, replacing old oaks and wild trillium with lawn grass and driveways would harm our wildlife, our ecosystems, our collective carbon footprint, and our climate resilience. We can no longer accept the careless destruction of forest environments when we need those spaces more than ever. There are solutions to biodiversity loss and climate chaos; all we lack is a political will.

Please take a stand for quality of life today and especially for a thriving future in Howard county and everywhere. Please vote to override Dr. Ball's veto.

Thank you. Sincerely, Hannah Vogel

Sayers, Margery

From: Walsh, Elizabeth
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2019 9:40 AM
To: Matthew Molyett; CouncilMail
Subject: Re: CB 11 - Scenic Road Buffer

Hi Matthew: I love and need your optimism, thank you for that. I do also need your help, though, understanding and so resolving that concern of yours about leniency/strict enforcement. Is there a particular concept or provision in that amendment that worries you? Maybe a quick call in the next few days to discuss? Thanks so much.

Liz Walsh, Council Member
Howard County Council
Serving District 1

3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
410.313.2001

From: Matthew Molyett <matthew@molyett.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2019 1:32 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB 11 - Scenic Road Buffer

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To the Council members, and my representative Council member Walsh,

After reading over the veto letter, I believe that County Executive Ball is your ally in protecting the scenic roads. I urge you to work with the CE and draft a bill that meets the protection needs while following a process and timeline that does not set off red flags to a veteran County legislator.

Regarding the CE's objection to amendments to Amendment 2, he cites the level of interpretation by the County. That speaks to a governing philosophy that I support. I ask you to write bills which have leniency built into them, but are able to be enforced strictly instead of bills which are strict and expect leniency and interpretation by the enforcers. I believe that the second philosophy opens the public up to arbitrary, and potentially malicious, enforcement practices.

Thank you,
Matthew Molyett
443-598-2441

Sayers, Margery

From: Matthew Molyett <matthew@molyett.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 11, 2019 1:31 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB 11 - Scenic Road Buffer

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To the Council members, and my representative Council member Walsh,

After reading over the veto letter, I believe that County Executive Ball is your ally in protecting the scenic roads. I urge you to work with the CE and draft a bill that meets the protection needs while following a process and timeline that does not set off red flags to a veteran County legislator.

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Thank you,
Matthew Molyett
443-598-2441

Sayers, Margery

From: Russ Swatek <swatek1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2019 12:30 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Please Override Veto of CB11-2019

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Council Members,

Please override County Executive Ball's Veto of CB11-2019. Howard County has few scenic roads. Let's make the few we still have meaningful. As Howard County's beauty steadily diminishes it is very important to try to preserve what we have.

Russ Swatek
8141 Tamar Drive
Columbia, MD 21045
swatek1@yahoo.com

Sayers, Margery

From: stukohn@verizon.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 8:47 PM
To: Ball, Calvin; CouncilMail; howard-citizen@yahogroups.com
Subject: HCCA Very Disappointed in Outcome of Scenic Road Bill

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

FYI,

Just wanted to report to you the Scenic Road Bill was Vetoed by County Executive Calvin Ball. This was very disappointing especially because Councilpersons Jung, Rigby and Walsh voted in Favor of a Bill which really showed they care about whatever scenic view we still have left in Howard County. Please see the article in the Baltimore Sun

<https://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/howard/ph-ho-cf-veto-scenic-0409-story.html>. The quotes by Councilpersons Jung and Walsh in the article are the feeling of the Howard County Citizens Association, HCCA. We testified <http://howardcountyhcca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/HCCA-Testimony-CB11-2019-Scenic-Roads.pdf> on this passed Bill and were taken back by the Veto by the County Executive.

Stu Kohn
HCCA President

Sayers, Margery

From: Paul Marzin <paul.marzin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 1:25 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Gregory Care
Subject: scenic road bill

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Howard County Council Members,

I am extremely disappointed to hear the news about the Scenic Road Bill being vetoed. Reading the press release, I think there was a case for the exact opposite argument in getting something in place now and could have worked out other concerns at a later date. The main problem is that the current regulations around scenic roads are currently not being enforced and waivers are being used to get around them (ie. Oak Hill Manor).

In District 1, we have already expressed our District's concerns through multiple people's testimonies and dialogue with our Council member Liz Walsh. If this is the process, then we followed it.

Meanwhile, our few District 1 scenic roads are going to be impacted yet again. We are not going to let this happen.

If not, can there be a moratorium on any project in our District with extreme scenic road characteristics? I think Liz Walsh's testimony on the specimen trees and the root ball system is valid and should be acknowledged by DPZ and truly understood. This can impact the setbacks. Also, creeks and streams need to be factored in to setbacks.

I am not against development. Smart development and smarter regulations around the same scenic attributes that we have been talking about in this bill would work: steep slopes, scenic road, streams & creeks, extreme topology, historic structures and landmarks.

We are not looking at stopping a development somewhere in Laurel as the news release says. It's about balance and protecting our scenic landscapes where we can and have little of them like in the Eastern part of the County.

I'm also noticing a lot of Zoning signs all over our area all of the sudden in District 1. College Avenue, Landing Road, Beechwood Road, and I'm sure developers are going to take advantage of this veto decision unless you guys can reverse and override it.

My thoughts...

Thanks,

Paul Marzin

