

Sayers, Margery

From: Greg Bissonette <bissonette@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 2, 2019 2:00 PM
To: CouncilMail; Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Jung, Deb
Subject: Re: Fire Tax increase? No, thank you.

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

Good Afternoon,

I must express my disappointment with your voting on the current Howard County budget with the increased taxes for its citizens. I strongly believe this is not the proper course of action, especially the increased fire tax when bonds could have been issued to build the requirement fire stations. You have added an increased burden on the residents of Howard County at a time when tax rates are already high.

I am also writing to express disappointment that, as representatives, none of you responded to my previous email. This is the minimum level of courtesy I expect from my representatives, even if it is a generic "I received your email and will consider your point". Several of you now have the unfortunate distinction of being the first politicians for whom I regret casting a ballot, and I suspect this will be my first and only ballot in your favor.

Sincerely,
Greg Bissonette

On Tue, May 28, 2019 at 2:02 PM Greg Bissonette <bissonette@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear all,

I have observed the proposed fire tax increase, as cited in the Baltimore sun and the Howard County 2020 operating budget, and strongly urge you to not support this.

Not only do we have the highest property taxes around (far surpassing even Montgomery county, when controlling for the same dollar value of property) but in the shadow of a gigantic federal tax increase, this is unsustainable. Losing federal deductions and rising local taxes is not within my family budget as we try to raise two young kids.

We have already had an unanticipated \$8500 federal and state tax bill which depleted our family savings and which will continue occurring for the foreseeable future. Do not put this family further in a bind by increasing the annual fire tax rate too.

We do not support this increase in the fire tax and hope you will join us in not supporting it as well.

Best,
Greg Bissonette

Sayers, Margery

From: Shyam Biswal <sbiswal@jhu.edu>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2019 7:37 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Fire tax

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

Dear Council members,

Clearly, overdevelopment needs to STOP. Is the council blind to see the traffic from 4 pm onwards. Shame that now inspite of adding more tax payer, they are proposing to increase taxes. Even the increase is very significant.

Please take this into consideration.

Sincerely,

Shyam Biswal
4449 stonecrest drive
Ellicott City
MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Georgette McLean <georgettemmc@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2019 12:26 AM
To: CouncilMail; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David; Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel
Subject: HC Fire tax

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

I hope it didn't pass!

As a long time resident and currently living in Taylor Village , Ellicott City I'm very much against a tax hike (and a huge one at that!) to build more fire stations . The hike proposed is careless and overreaching. The council needs to have intelligent thoughtful and creative thinkers . So hire more EMS crews during peak hours if Emergency calls are majority of what the Fire house staff is doing . Find another way people . Stop taxing us to death because the council members are too ignorant to develop a new or creative solution We the people don't need to build and pay for more fire stations . Stop digging into our pockets - the hardworking residents who own real estate . If fire stations get 1 fire call per day how does that translate into "must build more fire stations?" That's the lazy mans approach to solving a perceived issue. We must have have some very politically motivated and socialistic people on the council.

Georgette McLean

Sayers, Margery

From: Donna Smeins Howard <daeva77@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 6:48 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Fire tax increase

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

Good evening,

Please vote no on this tax increase. We're already overburdened and it doesn't make sense to raise taxes this much. The county needs to stay within a reasonable budget, prioritize, and make tough decisions, just like families do. Find the money within the budget. The taxes in this state and county are going to drive me out of it.

Thank you,

Donna Howard

Dayton, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Diron & Virginia Sine <dvsine99@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 3:07 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Vote no on increasing fire tax

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

This increase is too much, too fast. You are hurting your constituents. People will leave Howard County and Maryland. Our taxes are already through the roof. Where did all the money go that is coming from the new residences property taxes?!? Also look for wasteful spending. Things the government should NOT be funding as a whole.

Virginia Sine

Sayers, Margery

From: Walton, Douglas
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 2:49 PM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: Fire tax

Do you know of the fire tax bill passed?

Images and/or links to images are for viewing purposes only. Please do not disseminate these photos publicly or otherwise until they have been vetted by HCDFRS personnel and have been posted on our official social media pages.

Sent from a mobile device, please forgive typos.

Doug Walton
Howard County, MD, Department of Fire and Rescue Services
Office of Community Outreach and Media Affairs
Media Affairs branch
Department Photographer
Office: (410) 313-5962
Cell and text: (443) 280-1934

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 11:33 AM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: fire tax hike

From: Valerie Lilly <vlilly@jandrroofing.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 11:20 AM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: fire tax hike

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

Good morning.

I'm writing to you today to perhaps persuade you to take another look at raising taxes here in Howard County.

As I understand, there is a *fire tax* hike on the table for Howard County with the idea of using the influx of funds to build two new fire stations.

The talk of fire stations in Howard County is near and dear to my heart, as I am an Active Duty Howard County Fire & Rescue Volunteer.

Albeit I am always in favor of assuring the community has needed resources to protect residents in emergencies, I am not in favor of burdening the residents with additional *fire taxes* in a tax structure already tipping unbearable.

I have lived and had a business in Howard County for many years and endured all of the exorbitant taxes (and hikes) along the way.

Yes, we have beautiful communities in Howard County and all the extras have a cost, but there has to be a point where we realize that we are pricing our communities out of reach for most.

My personal property taxes exceed \$10k/year for a Howard County home on < ¼ acre (this does not include the property taxes I pay to have a business/commercial property in Howard County). --- At this level, taxes already seem out of control here.

Even if I am able to pay off my home, and should I desire to stay in Howard County at retirement, on a fixed income I will have to continue to pay close to \$1k/month (at today's rate) in taxes for the privilege of being a Howard County resident.

Some years ago, Howard County (specifically the planned areas) had controls in place to assure we didn't get too big, too congested, too commercial... And it seems those days left with Rouse. – It's truly a shame that we are losing the appeal of Howard County's diverseness and greatness back in the day. Instead, we are slowly becoming a city-like community only for only those at the top of the food chain (who can afford to own property here).

I am no expert in municipality finances, however I am a finance/accounting professional, and it seems to me there are other ways to achieve the goal of two new fire stations and we should explore alternatives (bonds, fund raising, donations of materials/labor, volunteer, fed funds, temporary redistribution of tax funds, developer permit hikes, special tax on large acreage/farm land sold for development...).

Certainly a new *fire tax* hike will not go away after the two stations are built, so let's call it what it is – a straight “**tax hike**” in Howard County, which tips unbearable.

I hope you will read this knowing this is not only the words of one long-time Howard County residential property owner and commercial property owner, but the sediment of many other Howard County folks. Tax increases are pushing people out of Howard County, a deterrent to new residents, and a barrier for employers in Howard County to attract workers. Let's instead work to use resources smartly and look outside the “tax” box to achieve our goals in this great community.

Thank you for your time in reading my thoughts!

Valerie M. Lilly, CFO



(301)470-6260

Sayers, Margery

From: Valerie Lilly <vlilly@jandrroofing.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 11:19 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: fire tax hike

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

Good morning.

I'm writing to you today to perhaps persuade you to take another look at raising taxes here in Howard County.

As I understand, there is a *fire tax* hike on the table for Howard County with the idea of using the influx of funds to build two new fire stations.

The talk of fire stations in Howard County is near and dear to my heart, as I am an Active Duty Howard County Fire & Rescue Volunteer.

Albeit I am always in favor of assuring the community has needed resources to protect residents in emergencies, I am not in favor of burdening the residents with additional *fire taxes* in a tax structure already tipping unbearable.

I have lived and had a business in Howard County for many years and endured all of the exorbitant taxes (and hikes) along the way.

Yes, we have beautiful communities in Howard County and all the extras have a cost, but there has to be a point where we realize that we are pricing our communities out of reach for most.

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Certainly a new *fire tax* hike will not go away after the two stations are built, so let's call it what it is – a straight “**tax hike**” in Howard County, which tips unbearable.

I hope you will read this knowing this is not only the words of one long-time Howard County residential property owner and commercial property owner, but the sediment of many other Howard County folks. Tax increases are pushing people out of Howard County, a deterrent to new residents, and a barrier for employers in Howard County to attract workers. Let's instead work to use resources smartly and look outside the “tax” box to achieve our goals in this great community.

Thank you for your time in reading my thoughts!

Valerie M. Lilly, CFO



(301)470-6260

Valerie M. Lilly, CFO



(301)470-6260

Sayers, Margery

From: M. Djavani <djavani@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 9:41 AM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David
Subject: Subject: Concern about increase in fire tax for Howard county residents

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

Subject: Concern about increase in fire tax for Howard county residents

Dear Council,

I am writing to express my concern over the proposed 34% increase in fire tax for building two new fire stations. The current fire tax rate of \$0.176 is already much higher compared to the \$0.1065 in Montgomery County and \$0.064 in Charles County. Fire Tax increase occurs every year. Why do we have to pay such a high fire tax after the construction is completed? Such a big & permanent increase in fire tax is not justifiable in the context that the fire tax in Howard County is among the highest in Maryland. While building two new fire stations seems plausible, they should be and can be funded by Capital Budget or by bonds as all government capital projects are normally funded.

Furthermore, building the fire station is a one-time expenditure. Why should such a huge increase in fire tax become such a permanent burden for the county residents? If we really need to spend the money to build the fire stations, why can't we charge more developers' fees if the stations are for more developments in the areas?

I hope you will seriously reconsider your decision & stop putting additional burdens on your county residents.

Sincerely,

Azar Nouraky

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 9:36 AM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Proposed Fire Tax, concerned voter

From: Joel Prescott <joelprescott@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 7:40 PM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Proposed Fire Tax, concerned voter

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

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Joel Prescott <joelprescott@yahoo.com>
Date: May 28, 2019 at 6:57:11 PM EDT
To: ojones@howardcountygov.gov
Subject: Proposed Fire Tax, concerned voter

Dear Mr. Jones,

I just heard from another resident about a proposal to significantly increase the fire tax in Howard County.

I am a recently retired resident who has lived in Columbia for 34 years.

First, tax increases like this disproportionately affect Senior citizens trying to remain in their homes while living on a fixed income. This is an increasing percentage of the County population, and we vote!

In general, I disagree with the tactic of pulling services like this out as separate fees vs them being covered by the taxes we already pay for

County services.

This has also happened with trash fees and I consider this poor stewardship of our taxes.

I would appreciate you opposing this tax increase and would also appreciate hearing your views on the disturbing trend of “fee” increases!

Thank you,

Joel Prescott
Thunderhill
Mobile 410 707-1387

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 9:36 AM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Please don't increase taxes

From: mangino4@verizon.net <mangino4@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 8:44 PM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Please don't increase taxes

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

Please vote no on the fire tax increase. After the loss of the SALT deduction the last thing we need is more taxes. Developers should pay fair share of new infrastructure.

Thank you,
Mike and Gloria Mangino
Ellicott City

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail
Get the new AOL app: mail.mobile.aol.com

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 9:28 AM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Fire tax increase is too high

From: Ye Yan <yanye75@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 12:01 AM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Fire tax increase is too high

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

Dear Mr. Jones,

I've been living District #2 for 10 years and I voted for you last Nov. I understand funds are needed to build the two new fire stations. And the proposed fire tax increase is a shocking 34% increase. It is beyond what we can bear. However, there are different ways to fund this project to reduce the increase, for example, partially funded by Capital Budget, issue bonds. Further, the two fire stations don't need to be built at the same time. We should build them one at a time, therefore, the fire tax increase don't have to increase at once. Please work with other councilmen/women on this matter on our behalf.

Best Regards,

Ye

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 9:19 AM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: No on fire tax build schools

-----Original Message-----

From: Dkarfonta@greenconnected.com <dkarfonta@greenconnected.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 8:16 AM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: No on fire tax build schools

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

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: Michael Mulcare <mulcarem@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 8:30 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Proposed Increase to Howard County Fire Tax

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

Howard County Council Members,

I see that the new budget proposed by the County Executive includes a significant increase to the fire tax to cover the cost of 2 new fire stations. As a Howard County resident **I do not support this increase**. Our current fire tax is higher than surrounding counties and there are alternative ways to fund the proposed fire houses that will not add to our annual property tax bill. Additionally my State income taxes increased substantially (17%) as changes to the Federal Income tax rules prevent me from itemizing deductions. Use some of that windfall to fund the fire stations and spread the proposed construction over several years.

Respectfully,
Michael Mulcare
Highland, Md 20777

P.S. Please distribute this email to all members of the County Council.

Sayers, Margery

From: sajit mathew kunnumkal <sajit.kunnumkal@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 6:58 AM
To: CouncilMail; Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David
Subject: Concern about increase in fire tax for howard county residents

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

Dear Council,

I am writing to express my concern over the proposed 34% increase in fire tax for building two new fire stations. The current fire tax rate of \$0.176 is already much higher compared to the \$0.1065 in Montgomery County and \$0.064 in Charles County. Fire Tax increase occurs every year. Why do we have to pay such a high fire tax after the construction is completed? Such a big & permanent increase in fire tax is not justifiable in the context that the fire tax in Howard County is among the highest in Maryland. While building two new fire stations seems plausible, they should be and can be funded by Capital Budget or by bonds as all government capital projects are normally funded.

Furthermore, building the fire station is a one-time expenditure. Why should such a huge increase in fire tax become such a permanent burden for the county residents? If we really need to spend the money to build the fire stations, why can't we charge more developers' fees if the stations are for more developments in the areas?

I hope you will seriously reconsider your decision & stop putting additional burdens on your county residents.

--
Sajit Mathew Kunnumkal

Sayers, Margery

From: Khaled Helmi <lead97@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 12:08 AM
To: CouncilMail; Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David
Subject: Tax Increase - Fire Tax Hike

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

Dear Howard County Representatives & Mr. Yungmann,

As a long-standing Howard County resident, I'm very concerned about this tax increase. We are already taxed enough, plus this seems a bit much considering its a one-time expense, yet a permanent increase - there are much better ways to fund this. Such a big & permanent increase in fire tax is not justifiable in the context that the fire tax in Howard County is among the highest in Maryland. In my opinion, the current fire tax rate of \$0.176 is already way too high compared to the \$0.1065 in Montgomery County and \$0.064 in Charles County.

We appreciate what you do for us, but one of the big responsibilities we entrust you with as our representatives is to be stewards of our money. **I dont feel like this tax increase is the appropriate stewardship as it is a significant burden on residents.**

Please reconsider this measure.

Sincerely,
Khaled Helmi
Clarksville, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Hongling Zhou <honglingz.jie@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2019 12:01 AM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Jung, Deb
Subject: Please vote NO to 34% fire tax increase

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

Dear County Council members,

I learned the County executive proposed a 6-cent fire tax increase to remodel the Waterloo Fire Station, and to design and construct a new fire station in North Columbia. I understand it is very important to improve our public safety and emergency response. However, I don't see that increasing the fire tax by 34% is the best or the only way to resolve the problem.

The 34% increase of fire tax causes current fire tax rate increase from \$0.176 to \$0.236 for every \$100 of assessed property value. In my opinion, the current fire tax rate of \$0.176 is already way too high compared to the \$0.1065 in Montgomery County and \$0.064 in Charles County. If there isn't a capital project for fire department every year for the following 5 to 10 years in the county, why should the fire tax be increased by 34% from now on? As you are aware that any tax increase will be permanent.

When the county makes a decision that impacts each resident, such as a permanent tax increase, I think the elected county officials owe it to voters to provide reasonable explanations. Otherwise, there should be no tax increase of any type.

Thanks for your attention.

Regards,
Hongling Zhou
7065 River Oak Court
Clarksville, MD 21029

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: Ye Yan <yanye75@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 11:57 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: please vote against the fire tax increase

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

Dear County Council Members,

As a resident in District #2, I'm writing to express my opposition to the fire increase. Maryland is already one of the heavily taxed states in the country and Howard county residents are carry extreme high property taxes due to high home prices. Please vote against the fire tax increase!

Best Regards,
Ye

Sayers, Margery

From: Bill Bird <bill@olddbirds.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 10:12 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Please Vote Against Fire Tax Increase

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

This is indeed an egregious burden on tax payers...especially on top of the windfall tax revenue the county received as a result of the 2018 federal tax rule changes. (For me the tax rule changes resulted in a 25% increase in my effective tax rate...an extra ~\$700 from me alone to Howard County!!.) And now you want to heap this 34% increase in fire tax. Unbelievable!

In, my opinion you need to control spending better or if you really want more money have the courage to propose an justify an straight up increase in general property tax rate or actual income tax rate and see how that goes over.

https://nextdoor.com/news_feed/?post=112506142&ct=dPtWSUYWo9B8Bmf6gsy3pUy0WTHXrw2jWoLmboHvwkkgE59KY4dlNaf-c5VoD7G4&ec=iD9EVf8Fqz_GipY9I9G7ig%3D%3D&lc=14569&is=npe



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Sayers, Margery

From: Dongyi(Tony) Du <pu_yu@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 8:51 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Fire tax

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

Dear county council members,

First, I'd like to say thank you for your service.

I have some concerns regarding the proposed fire tax. As we all know the county is facing some financial deficits, such as budget for education. At one time, the BOE even proposed to lay off teachers, reduce art teachers, increase classroom size etc.

I understand the need of new fire stations. With current county revenue, I don't understand why we need to build two new ones at the same time. Building fire station is one time budget and maintain them is long time. Building them cost a lot more than maintain them. I am wondering how we will spend the extra tax dollars after we build the two fire stations. Have you thought about other better options for this kind of one time task? I would rather we increase a little more tax for education and smaller increase the fire tax for one time project.

Sincerely,

Dongyi(Tony) Du

Sayers, Margery

From: Tracie Doyle <theresedoyle@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 6:42 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: howard county fire tax

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

PLEASE do not raise the fire tax in Howard County.

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 5:20 PM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Fire Property Tax Increase

Importance: High

From: Bob Derby3 <bderby3@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 9:55 AM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Fire Property Tax Increase
Importance: High

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

Dear Sir...

Do the right thing and **VOTE NO!**

The adoption of a tax increase to fund the building of new fire houses is unacceptable. This expansion should be funded either via Bonds or by the builders who are financially benefitting from new construction in Howard County.

The tax would remain long after the new fire houses are built....

Thank you...

Bob Derby
4910 Harrogate Road
21043

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 4:57 PM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Fire tax increase

From: Bijo Thomas <bijothomas1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 10:37 AM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Fire tax increase

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

Dear County Councilman,

As a resident in Howard county, I'm writing to express my opposition to the fire tax increase. Maryland is already one of the heavily taxed states in the country and Howard county residents are carry extreme high property taxes due to high home prices. Please vote against the fire tax increase!

Regards,
Thomas

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 4:49 PM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Oppose to fire tax increase

From: Hui Jiang <hjiang71@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 10:45 AM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Oppose to fire tax increase

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

Dear County Council Members,

As a resident in Howard County, I'm writing to express my opposition to the fire increase. Maryland is already one of the heavily taxed states in the country and Howard county residents are carry extreme high property taxes due to high home prices. Please vote against the fire tax increase!

Best Regards,
Hui

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 4:39 PM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Please OPPOSE fire tax increase

From: Shu Li <ritalala.sl@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 12:08 PM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Please OPPOSE fire tax increase

[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 Member Jones,

As a long-time resident in HC District 2, I'm writing to express my opposition to the fire increase. Maryland is already one of the heavily taxed states in the nation and Howard county residents are carry extreme high property taxes due to high home prices. Please vote against the fire tax increase!

Best Regards,

Shu Li
4905 Alice Ave
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 4:37 PM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Please vote AGAINST fire tax increase

From: Paul H <myoldsmoky@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 12:04 PM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Please vote AGAINST fire tax increase

[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 Member Jones,

As a long-time resident in HC District 2, I'm writing to express my opposition to the fire increase. Maryland is already one of the heavily taxed states in the nation and Howard county residents are carry extreme high property taxes due to high home prices. Please vote against the fire tax increase!

Best Regards,

Paul Huang
4905 Alice Ave
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 4:37 PM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Please don't raise my property taxes in HoCo!

From: Emily Ziemer <egziemer@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 12:58 PM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Please don't raise my property taxes in HoCo!

[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,

Please do not raise my property taxes tomorrow for two fire stations. If this is needed, please fund it with the capital budget or bonds. But this permanent increase in the fire tax is ridiculous. Please vote no to raising taxes.

Thanks,
Emily Ziemer

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 4:36 PM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: fire tax

From: Valerie <valerieleonard@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 1:50 PM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: fire tax

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

Councilman Jones,

As your constituent I am writing to log my protest against the proposed 34% increase in the fire tax. Who are they kidding? This is one of the most absurd proposed tax hikes ever! I grew up in Northern California...was there to care for my mother during the Tubbs fire...and her county hasn't proposed such a ridiculous hike. Howard County is not likely to be devastated by wildfires...or even home fires...stop this ridiculous and laughable 34% "fire" tax.

Valerie Leonard
Thunder Hill

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 4:36 PM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Please don't raise my property taxes in HoCo!

From: Barbara Ziemer <bziemer184@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 2:02 PM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Please don't raise my property taxes in HoCo!

[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,

Please do not raise my property taxes tomorrow for two fire stations. If this is needed, please fund it with the capital budget or bonds. But this permanent increase in the fire tax is ridiculous. Please vote no to raising taxes.

Thanks,
Barbara Ziemer

Sayers, Margery

From: Mr Bob <mrmunson01@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 3:48 PM
To: CouncilMail; Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David
Subject: Fire Tax Increase

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

I strongly oppose this increase and feel that more of the financial burden imposed by increased development should be borne by the developers themselves.

Bob Munson
3929 Chatham Rd
Ellicott City, MD 21042
443.928.4217

Sayers, Margery

From: Hui Jiang <huijiang2010@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 3:13 PM
To: CouncilMail; Yungmann, David; Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb
Subject: Oppose to too high fire tax increase

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

Dear County Council Members,

As a resident in District 5, I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed fire tax increase. Maryland is already one of the most heavily taxed states, and many Howard County residents are already paying extremely high property taxes. Please vote against this proposed too high fire tax increase! There should be better ways to solve this problem, and increasing too much taxes won't be smartest one.

Best regards,

Hui Jiang
14448 Dorsey Mill Rd, Glenwood

Sayers, Margery

From: Valerie <valerieleonard@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 2:08 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: "fire" tax

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

Councilpersons,

As a Howard County resident for the last 15 years, I am writing to log my protest against the proposed 34% increase in the fire tax. Who are you kidding? This is one of the most absurd proposed tax hikes ever! I grew up in Northern California...was there to care for my mother during the Tubbs fire in 2017...and her county hasn't proposed such a ridiculous hike. Building firehouses are a one time expenditure. Howard County is not likely to be devastated by wildfires...or even home fires...stop this ridiculous and laughable 34% "fire" tax.

Valerie Leonard
Thunder Hill

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Sayers, Margery

From: Greg Bissonette <bissonette@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 2:03 PM
To: CouncilMail; Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David
Subject: Fire Tax increase? No, thank you.

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

Dear all,

I have observed the proposed fire tax increase, as cited in the Baltimore sun and the Howard County 2020 operating budget, and strongly urge you to not support this.

Not only do we have the highest property taxes around (far surpassing even Montgomery county, when controlling for the same dollar value of property) but in the shadow of a gigantic federal tax increase, this is unsustainable. Losing federal deductions and rising local taxes is not within my family budget as we try to raise two young kids.

We have already had an unanticipated \$8500 federal and state tax bill which depleted our family savings and which will continue occurring for the foreseeable future. Do not put this family further in a bind by increasing the annual fire tax rate too.

We do not support this increase in the fire tax and hope you will join us in not supporting it as well.

Best,
Greg Bissonette

Sayers, Margery

From: Barbara Ziemer <bziemer184@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 2:00 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Please don't raise the Fire Tax in HoCo

[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 do not raise my property taxes tomorrow for two fire stations. If these are actually needed, please fund it with the capital budget or bonds. This permanent increase in the fire tax is ridiculous. Please vote 'no' to raising taxes.

Thanks,
Barbara Ziemer

Sayers, Margery

From: cc.rac@verizon.net
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 1:37 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Fire Tax

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

Dear Sir or Mesdame

What are you thinking?? The residents and basically everyone I know elected you to fight for the people. This Fire Tax should not be another burden on Howard Counties Residents. Our taxes are higher. then most and everytime you turn around Howard County Gov.wants to squeeze more out of us. You are making it impossible for residents to afford our homes and live in Howard County. Where and how does the Howard County Government show is citizens they are working for OUR BEST INTEREST? The trust is broken in all Government. ..Take all you can from your citizens and you slowly own them!!

Shame on all of you.!!!

Why don't you put the tax on developers as they are making money hand over fist and getting all the tax breaks . Or is the Government miss managing our tax dollars? Explain yourselves. Not everyone in Howard County has unlimited means.

Very Concerned. Resident

Clg

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Tablet

Sayers, Margery

From: Emily Ziemer <egziemer@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 1:15 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Please don't raise the Fire Tax in HoCo

[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 do not raise my property taxes tomorrow for two fire stations. If these are actually needed, please fund it with the capital budget or bonds. This permanent increase in the fire tax is ridiculous. Please vote 'no' to raising taxes.

Thanks,
Emily Ziemer

Sayers, Margery

From: Nancy Shih <shih4500-nancy@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 12:16 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Oppose raising fire tax

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

Dear HoCo Council members,

I strongly oppose the proposed fire tax hike. I fully support building 2 new fire stations. However, such one-time capital expenditure should be funded by other means such as issuing government bond rather than increasing property tax permanently. It's totally not justifiable.

Please vote No to fire tax increase.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Nancy Shih

Sayers, Margery

From: Hui Jiang <hjiang71@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 10:36 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: SUBJECT: Oppose to fire tax increase

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

Dear County Council Members,

As a resident in District #5, I'm writing to express my opposition to the fire increase. Maryland is already one of the heavily taxed states in the country and Howard county residents are carry extreme high property taxes due to high home prices. Please vote against the fire tax increase!

Best Regards,
Hui

Taylor Farm Rd.
Woodstock, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Bijo Thomas <bijothomas1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 28, 2019 10:32 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Fire tax increase is too high

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

Dear County Council Members, As a resident in Howard county, I'm writing to express my opposition to the fire tax increase. Maryland is already one of the heavily taxed states in the country and Howard county residents are carry extreme high property taxes due to high home prices. Please vote against the fire tax increase!

Regards,
Thomas