

**Sayers, Margery**

---

**From:** Susan Garber <buzysusan23@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 17, 2019 5:13 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** CB-17-2019 In favor

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

Council members,  
As you continue to consider CB-17, the Savage Community association wishes to repeat their position for your consideration.

CB-17 Susan Garber on behalf of the Savage Community Assn, speaking in favor of CB-17.

As the Council considers this bill you will no doubt receive a lot of pressure from the development community, especially those who contributed generously to campaigns. But we remind you that you are here to protect the public interest, not developers' profits.

This will indeed represent a significant change for developers. They are used to paying impact fees that don't even cover the debt service on new school construction. They are used to getting the go-ahead to build after 4 years no matter how ridiculously overcapacity the schools may be by spreading the fear of lawsuits for 'takings'. If developing in Howard County didn't have so many perks--- wasn't such a sweetheart deal--the developers would go elsewhere. Yet they stay and continue to develop every last piece of land.

Despite the negative comments from the development community on this bill, let's be clear. This is *not* a bill that says developers *must* wait 7 years to build. They only face that long of a wait when schools do not have the reasonable capacity (even with Pods of nine trailers). If the new APFO chart shows lots of closures.... that is simply the reflection of a lack of action for a long time.

According to a recent article in the Sun, Howard County has been the fastest-growing jurisdiction in MD for the past 8 years. No, that has not been the misconception of NIMBYs. That is the hard facts. Clearly that unrestrained growth is what has put our schools into the condition in which we find ourselves.

This bill makes so much sense. It is so logical. It is so mathematically sound. Given that our Board of Education tells us that it takes at least 2 years to locate and secure land and another 5 years to build, then clearly waiting 7 years simply faces the reality of the situation. (5+2=7)

Keep in mind schools could still be over capacity when that potential 7 year wait is up—providing predictability for developers, if not parents. Let's look at what other counties are doing in response to Developers cries of Doom. Yes 7 capacity tests are more than we have currently and are more than the 6 tests which Anne Arundel and Carroll Counties have had in effect since at least 2012. However, Calvert County has had seven years of testing since at least 2012. AND since that 2012 time, Montgomery has increased theirs from 5 years of tests and Harford has increased theirs from 3 **while Howard remained the same**. The new overcrowding solution in those two counties is that while over 120% of capacity, the developer can never proceed. Never, ever. No capacity, No new development!

I know that Howard County loves to be first in numerous categories but do we really want to be the first to be bankrupted by barely charging enough to cover the debt service on our schools and by allowing development to continue to proceed regardless of how ridiculously overcrowded our schools become?

I urge every council member to get behind supporting this bill. Now is the time to end the mythology of 'taking.' If our neighboring Counties have not been admonished by the courts for their longer wait times, there is no reason to believe it will apply here.

## Sayers, Margery

---

**From:** Alice Marschner <dragonmama@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 20, 2019 11:07 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Council Bill 17-2019

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

To the members of the Howard County Council;

I would like to encourage the members to endorse CB 17-2019.

Since it takes a very (very) long time for the various departments of the Howard County government to find the funds, land and momentum to enlarge or build schools, it would be in the public's best interest to require a more rigorous standard and testing of the Adequate Public Facilities Act before allowing more homes to be built. The failed redistricting effort of two years ago and now the beginning of yet another redistricting plan cause a great deal of upset and stress to the entire population. Allowing a longer lead time to find true room in the schools, instead of putting up more portable classrooms in desperation, will benefit everyone and help to preserve the quality of life for everyone in the county.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Alice Marschner

