

Testimony in Support of Council Resolution 109-2019

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Honorable County Council Members,

My name is Mark Thompson and I am a Senior Vice President of Development for The Stronach Group. My address is 198 Laurel Race Track Road, Laurel Maryland 20725. I am here to testify in favor of Council Resolution 109-2019.

The Stronach Group is the owner of Laurel Park Race Track and developer of the Transit Oriented Development, Laurel Park Station in Howard County. We have been working with the County for many years on this project and in particular have partnered with the Department of Public Works to develop a mutually beneficial solution to the flooding which currently occurs from the Davis Avenue Stormwater Management Pond.

The new storm drain which will be constructed through our property will provide an appropriately sized pipe to enable stormwater to effectively bypass the properties which are now subject to periodic flooding due to a lack of capacity in the current design. Our engineer, Vogel Engineering has worked closely with DPW staff in developing a design for the system. We have also solicited three bids for the work and reviewed these bids with County staff. The bidders were all reputable firms which have also done work for the County directly or are very well known to County DPW staff. The selected bidder, SEH was based on price and quality and was the low bidder on this component of the overall project. During construction, the County shall have the right to regulate and inspect all work in accordance with all agreements and codes.

By working together on this project, significant savings in time and money have been achieved. The County has saved costs in design/engineering, easement acquisition, and staff time for procurement and administration. In addition to solving a flooding problem outside of our property, the storm drain will serve to manage water flow within our development and therefore we view this project as a “win-win-win” for the County, our neighbors, and Laurel Park Station.

Thank you for your consideration and I request your support for CR 109-2019.