

Sayers, Margery

From: Kimberly Golden Brandt <kbrandt@presmd.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 9:57 AM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; dyungmann@howardcountymd.org; CouncilMail
Cc: Ball, Calvin; Gowan, Amy
Subject: SGABC Support for CR1-2020, School Capacity Testing
Attachments: SGABC Support for CR1-2020, School Capacity Testing.pdf

[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 see the attached letter of support for CR1-2020, which concerns school capacity testing, from HARP, Howard County Citizens Association, Howard County Sierra Club, Preservation Maryland, Safe Skies Maryland, Savage Community Association, The People's Voice, and Transition Howard County.

Sincerely,
Kimberly

Kimberly Golden Brandt
Director of Smart Growth Maryland
PRESERVATION MARYLAND
3600 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 248
Baltimore, Maryland 21211
o. 410-685-2886 x305 c. 410-598-9026

Smarter Growth Alliance for Howard County

January 21, 2020

The Honorable Howard County Council
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

RE: CB1-2020, School Capacity Testing – Support

Dear Council Members:

The Smarter Growth Alliance for Howard County is an alliance of local and state organizations working together to foster healthy, equitable and sustainable communities through smarter development and transportation decisions and improved protections for the county's natural, historic and cultural resources.

We support CB1-2020 to increase from four years to seven years the time period that a project must be retested if it fails one or more components of the school capacity test of the Adequate Public Facilities Act of Howard County.

Many Maryland jurisdictions face the same growth management issues as Howard County and employ Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances to control the pace of growth so schools and other infrastructure are not overburdened. The ordinances in both Carroll and Anne Arundel counties allow projects that fail school capacity tests to proceed only after six years. In Calvert County, such projects are allowed to proceed after seven years. These six- and seven-year periods give the local government the necessary time to assess capacity issues system-wide and address the issues with redistricting, a capital project like a school addition or construction of a new school, or a combination thereof. It is important to consider that in cases where a new school is needed, obtaining project funding, selecting and acquiring a site, and planning for construction is often a multi-year process.

Additionally, in Howard County the maximum waiting period is actually sometimes less than four years. The school capacity test is first conducted when allocations are issued and annually thereafter when the new capacity charts are released. If a project is tested twice in the first year – first with the allocation and second when the new capacity charts are released – the wait could be closer to three years than four years. This should be kept in mind as the Council considers CB1-2020.

*Audubon MD-DC • Audubon Society of Central Maryland • Clean Water Action • Coalition for Smarter Growth
Community Ecology Institute • Earth Forum of Howard County • HARP • Horizon Foundation
Howard County Citizens Association • Howard County Conservancy • Howard County Sierra Club
Maryland Conservation Council • Maryland League of Conservation Voters • Maryland Ornithological Society
Patapsco Heritage Greenway • Preservation Maryland • Safe Skies Maryland • Savage Community Association
The People's Voice • Transition Howard County*

January 21, 2020
The Honorable Howard County Council
Page 2

We ask that you vote in favor of CB1-2020 to provide the necessary time to better align school capacity with residential development and avoid unnecessary crowding that diminishes the educational experience for our youth. Thank you for your kind consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

HARP
Lisa Soto
Chair

Safe Skies Maryland
Mark Southerland, Ph.D.
Legislative Director

Howard County Citizens Association
Stu Kohn
President

Savage Community Association
Susan Garber
Board Chair

Howard County Sierra Club
Carolyn Parsa
Chair

The People's Voice, LLC
Lisa M. Markovitz
President

Preservation Maryland
Kimberly Golden Brandt
Director of Smart Growth Maryland

Transition Howard County
Margo Duesterhaus
President

cc: The Honorable Calvin Ball, County Executive

Sayers, Margery

From: Matthew Molyett <matthew@molyett.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 9:24 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB-1

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

Please support my representative from District 1 in extending (or ideally eliminating) the AFPO waiting period.

Allowing development to exceed the public facilities and infrastructure of a location damages everybody in the long term. Were developers unable to just delay construction for a handful of years then they would use their resources in partnership with the communities to make adequate facilities and infrastructure available.

Matthew Molyett
Howard County resident
District 1, 21042
(443) 598-2441

Sayers, Margery

From: Alexis M. McKenzie <amlaske@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 9:17 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB1

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

Dear Council Members,

I am in support of CB1. Please consider the effects over development continues to have on our children in the HCPSS.

Alexis McKenzie
5945 Meadow Rose, Elkridge, MD 21075

Sayers, Margery

From: Aaron Smalls <aaron.smalls@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 1:30 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Elkridge Families Support CB-1 2020

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

Overcrowding in Howard County Schools is a major problem. It is unfathomable that the county council accepts as normal schools at over 100% capacity at any time.

Howard county families expect the council to take measures that alleviate overcrowding in our schools. New development should not be approved in any area with overcrowding without the necessary public works to support that housing. Automatically approving new development after 4 years is simply not adequate given the current state of our schools and the constant redistricting taking place in this county.

Thank you for supporting and approving cb 1 2020.

Sayers, Margery

From: Shawna Faro <shawna.faro@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 9:31 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: I support CB1

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

I live in Ellicott City and I support CB1. Something needs to be done so that we aren't continually addressing overcrowding without any real solution.

Sayers, Margery

From: Hello Dawn <hello.dawn0608@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 8:40 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Support for CB1

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

Hi,

My name is Dawn Lambros (of 7964 Brightmeadow Ct, Ellicott City, MD 21043) and I support CB1. Please consider supporting CB1. Thank you.

Warmly,
Dawn Lambros

Sayers, Margery

From: Heather Ordoñez <heather.lordonez@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 7:43 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB1

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

Hello,

I live in West Elkridge and support CB1.

Thank you,
Heather Ordoñez

Sayers, Margery

From: Terri Marcus <terri.marcus@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 4:07 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB 1-2020

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

Dear Council Members:

I live in the Elkridge/Hanover area of District 1. My children attend Elkridge Elementary School and Howard High School, two of the most overcrowded schools in the County. Over the course of my seven years in this part of the county, I have seen two elementary schools open up within a few miles of Elkridge Elementary -Duckett's Lane and Hanover Hills. Despite these additional seats, the population at the elementary school keeps climbing, from about 760 to well over 900 now. As a former PTA president and regular volunteer, I have seen the changes at the elementary school caused by the overcrowding – none of them are positive.

The ninety (90) or so students redistricted out of Elkridge Elementary by this latest round of redistricting will barely make an impact at the school. Just one development of forty (40) new single family homes that is currently being built off Hanover Road will alone likely fill those seats with 90 new students.

The overcrowding at Howard High is well documented.

CB 1-2020 is a move in the right direction. The County needs more time to get schools on-line. The County cannot keep up with the population growth and the number of students at its current pace. Please vote to approve CB 1.

Kind regards,

Terri Marcus
6226 Mill River Court
Hanover, MD 21076
District 1

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Sayers, Margery

From: Leonardo McClarty <lmclarty@howardchamber.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 2:58 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB1-2020 Letter of Opposition
Attachments: CB1-2020_01.21.20.docx

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

Councilmembers,

Please find attached a letter from the Chamber stating our opposition to CB1-2020.

Thanks

Leonardo McClarty, CCE
President/CEO, Howard County Chamber
410-730-4111; 107

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6240 Old Dobbin Lane ■ Suite 110 ■ Columbia, MD 21045

January 21, 2020

Ms. Deb Jung
Chairperson, Howard County Council
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

RE: Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) – CB1-2020

Dear Councilman Jung:

For over three years, the Chamber has watched intently the APFO debate and the subsequent recommendations and policies from various elected officials. Throughout this debate, the Chamber has consistently been concerned that a lower school capacity and high school test would effectively create an immediate moratorium on new home construction in most or all of the County. Last year, legislation was proposed to place additional restrictions on the school's test by lengthening the duration one must wait should they not pass the schools test. While we understand the desire to balance development with school capacity and infrastructure improvements, creating a more difficult development process will not solve our school facility challenges.

In opposing the legislation last year, we were concerned a more stringent policy would also exacerbate issues pertaining to the County's budget, economic development, road infrastructure, and affordable housing. Moreover, the Department of Finance with support of Planning conducted a study on the fiscal implications of the APFO legislation. That study ultimately determined that new development in Howard County "pays for itself" and generates net surplus to the County. The study also adds that land use decisions by policy makers have consequential short and long term economic and fiscal implications to the County.

For the reasons outlined above, the Chamber is opposed to this legislation and would request a "No" vote. Should there be any questions concerning the Chamber's position, I can be reached at 410-730-4111.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leonardo McClarty". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Leonardo McClarty, CCE
President/CEO, Howard County Chamber

CC: Howard County Council
Howard County Executive
Howard County Chamber Board of Directors
Howard County Chamber Legislative Affairs Committee

Sayers, Margery

From: Brian Lynch <blynch1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 1:34 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB1-2020
Attachments: CB1-2020.doc

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

Councilmembers,
Please see attached testimony regarding CB 1.

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to express my support for CB 1.

Increasing the new construction wait period Howard County from four to seven years is an essential first step toward getting the necessary infrastructure in place for further building.

For a county that is considered one of the richest in the state, many of our schools, roads, and public facilities are overcrowded and outdated. This situation requires significant changes in order to catch up with the additional growth, so the county can support current and future residents of the area.

Thank you,
Brian Lynch
Elkridge, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Karen Lynch <karen.elkridge@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 12:26 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB1-2020
Attachments: CB1-2020.doc

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

Councilmembers,
Please see attached testimony regarding CB 1.

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to express my support for CB 1.

Increasing the new construction wait period Howard County from four to seven years is an essential first step toward getting the necessary infrastructure in place for further building.

For a county that is considered one of the richest in the state, many of our schools, roads, and public facilities are overcrowded and outdated. This situation requires significant changes in order to catch up with the additional growth, so the county can support current and future residents of the area.

Thank you,
Karen Lynch
Elkridge, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Marisa McCurdy <marisahiggins@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 12:16 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Support for CB1

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

All,

I live in District 1 (in Elkridge, MD) and I am writing to express my support for CB1. I would also support a stronger change to the law so that there is a moratorium on building new housing in any district that is overcrowded in Howard County, rather than imposing a waiting period.

Marisa McCurdy
6802 Norris Lane
Elkridge MD 21075

Sayers, Margery

From: Joanna Ramos-Romero <jramosromero0409@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 20, 2020 12:36 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB1

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

Dear Council Members,

I live in District 5, and I support Council Bill 1-2020. At the present, a new development can move forward to build homes in an overcrowded school district after only four years, regardless of the student capacity. After the adopted board redistricting plan has been implemented, the population of my daughter's school, West Friendship Elementary, is projected to reach 103% for the enrollment period of September 2020-21, 109% for the enrollment period of September 2021-22, and 112% for the enrollment period of September 2022-2023. HCPSS is the fastest growing school system in Maryland. This bill will help our schools keep pace with ever-increasing student enrollment, and it will allow the County more time to fund, site, and build schools' capacity. I commend Councilwoman Liz Walsh for introducing this bill, and I call on all council members to vote to pass it.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joanna Ramos-Romero
District 5
Mother of WFES and MRHS Students

Sayers, Margery

From: Vicky Ch <vchiei@outlook.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 19, 2020 12:08 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Support for CB1

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

My name is Vicky Chiei and I have 4 children. Two have graduated from the HC school system with excellent educations and college preparedness. Two others are currently students at Dunloggin Middle, Mount Hebron High and previously Veterans Elementary.

I am writing in strong support of CB1-2020.

School overcrowding resulted in one child receiving small group instruction under a stairwell and all of my children attending classes in portables that often lack reasonable temperature controls and virtually no security/entrance measures.

Our schools have been redistricted and we still do not have enough seats to accommodate all of our current students in a brick and mortar building. CB1 provides essential additional time for our school infrastructure to catch up with the increase to student population from new development. Please vote to approve CB1.

Sincerely,

Vicky Chiei

Ellicott City, Howard County, MD.

Sayers, Margery

From: Lili Shippe <lili.shippe@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 18, 2020 1:55 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Yes for CB-1

[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,

Howard County needs to slow down house development. Our schools need more attention and the current issues need to be fixed before taking in new residents in mass. Please vote yes on CB-1.

Thanks,
Lili Shippe

Sayers, Margery

From: Niki McGuigan <mcniki1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 17, 2020 10:39 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB-1 Support

[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,

Please vote in support of CB-1 to increase the APFO wait time from 4 to 7 years. This was needed years ago! It's common sense.

Sincerely,

Niki McGuigan
Hanover
District 1