



**HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL  
AFFIDAVIT OF AUTHORIZATION  
TO TESTIFY ON BEHALF OF AN ORGANIZATION**

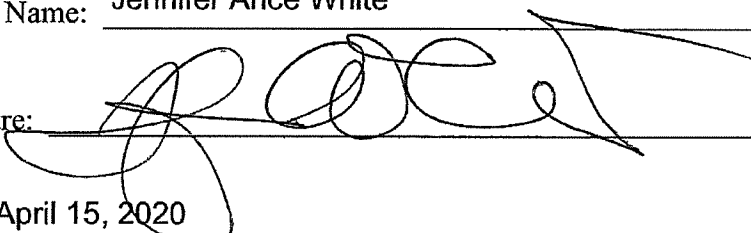
I, Jennifer Arice White, have been duly authorized by  
*(name of individual)*

Horizon Foundation to deliver testimony to the  
*(name of nonprofit organization or government board, commission, or task force)*

County Council regarding FY21 Capital Budget to express the organization's  
*(bill or resolution number)*

support for / opposition to / request to amend this legislation.  
*(Please circle one.)*

Printed Name: Jennifer Arice White

Signature: 

Date: April 15, 2020

Organization: Horizon Foundation

Organization Address: 10221 Wincopin Cir. #200 Columbia, MD 21044

10221 Wincopin Cir. #200 Columbia, MD 21044

Number of Members: 18

Name of Chair/President: Nikki Highsmith-Vernick

*This form can be submitted electronically via email to [councilmail@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:councilmail@howardcountymd.gov) no later than 5pm the day of the Public Hearing or delivered in person the night of the Public Hearing before testifying.*

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Jennifer White <jwhite@thehorizonfoundation.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 16, 2020 3:11 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** Glenn Schneider; Kerry Darragh  
**Subject:** Testimony - FY21 Capital Budget  
**Attachments:** Streets for All Sign-On Letter for County Council Budget Hearing\_Final\_Signed.pdf

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

Good Afternoon,

Attached you may find testimony for the FY21 capital budget.

Thank you,

**Jennifer Arice White, MSPH**

Senior Community Engagement Officer, Horizon Foundation  
Direct: 443-766-1223 | Mobile: 248-345-3030

[jwhite@thehorizonfoundation.org](mailto:jwhite@thehorizonfoundation.org)

[www.thehorizonfoundation.org](http://www.thehorizonfoundation.org)

10221 Wincopin Circle, Suite 200, Columbia, MD 21044



April 16, 2020

**FY 2021 Budget:** Funding for Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure Projects  
**Position:** SUPPORT

Dear Madam Chair and members of the County Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of vital projects within the FY 2021 capital budget. If funded, these projects will benefit our community both now and in the future.

This is a stressful time for all of us – but we are reminded of what we share in common. All of us are deeply concerned for the health and wellbeing of our loved ones and our community. In times like these, we learned that the best way for us to deal with fear and uncertainty is to lean in and take action. There is no time like the present to ensure we are building the active transportation infrastructure needed to make Howard County a more connected place where people can easily and safely walk, bike or access public transportation.

The undersigned members and partners of Streets for All, a coalition of community, business and faith groups that advocate for complete streets in Howard County, are thrilled that County Executive Calvin Ball designated \$7.38 million (not including grants) for projects that will make walking and biking in Howard County better, easier and safer. These projects, outlined in the Office of Transportation’s “Complete Streets Policy-Six Month Implementation Update” memorandum, include new and improved bike lanes, street lights, paths, bus stops, sidewalks and pedestrian crossings across Howard County.

With the passage of WalkHoward earlier this year, the proposed budget reflects significant investments in sidewalks, paths and other projects to improve pedestrian safety and connectivity.

The need for a better active transportation infrastructure has become even more apparent during the COVID-19 crisis. In the era of physical distancing, many of us are relying on sidewalks, paths and bike lanes for both physical activity and a mental reprieve from isolation. And while some of us have the ability to work from home, many members of our community work at essential businesses and still need to get around safely and easily as they work to keep our community operating.

The lack of active transportation infrastructure – like sidewalks, bike lanes, crosswalks, paths and bus stops – disproportionately affects communities of color, low-income families, older adults and people with disabilities. Consequently, the lack of connectivity limits their ability to access resources and services to sustain their health and wellbeing at this critical time. Because of these persistent gaps in our active transportation infrastructure, we urge Howard County to identify, study and complete projects with high vulnerable population index (VPI) scores as outlined in CR 120-2019. This will ensure all residents are able to bike, walk, take public transportation and get to where they need to go safely and easily.

We thank County Executive Ball for his leadership and we strongly support these designated investments to make Howard County a more bikeable and walkable community. We urge you to pass this budget that reflects this vision. These investments are critical to ensure our community is a healthy,

safe and connected place for all – now and in the future. We must provide tangible changes that people can see and use, creating healthier communities where all people can thrive, no matter who they are or where they live.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Hank Greenberg, State Director  
AARP Maryland

Nikki Highsmith Vernick, President and CEO  
Horizon Foundation

Laura Hale, Government Relations Director  
American Heart Association

Melissa Rosenberg, Executive Director  
Howard County Autism Society

Katherine Kraft, PhD, Executive Director  
America Walks

Tina Addo, Village Manager and Executive Director  
Long Reach Village Board

Brian O'Malley, President and CEO  
Central Maryland Transportation Alliance

Rev. Paige Getty & Rev. Tyrone Jones, IV, Co-Chairs  
People Acting Together in Howard (PATH)

Sheila Young, Director of Development,  
Howard County  
Gilchrist

Wilde Lake Community Association



HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL  
AFFIDAVIT OF AUTHORIZATION  
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I, Nelson Pollack, have been duly authorized by  
(name of individual)

New East Columbia 50+ Center Advocacy Committee to deliver testimony to the  
(name of nonprofit organization or government board, commission, or task force)

County Council regarding Capital Budget Project C0335-FY2014 to express the organization's  
(bill or resolution number)

support for  opposition to / request to amend this legislation.  
(Please circle one.)

Printed Name: Nelson Pollack

Signature: Pollack

Date: 9 APR 2020

Organization: New East Columbia 50+ Center Advocacy Committee

Organization Address: 6252 Golden Coin Ct  
Columbia, MD 21045

Number of Members: 210

Name of Chair/President: Ms. Fran LoPresti

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## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Nelson Pollack <npollack@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 16, 2020 1:15 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** New East Columbia 50+ Center Advisory Committee Capital Budget Testimony ( April 2020)  
**Attachments:** New East Columbia 50+ Center Advisory Committee Testimony Council Budget Hearing - 16 April 2020).docx

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

Please find attached the testimony of the New East Columbia 50+ Center Advisory Committee for today's Capital Budget Hearing.

Thanks

<<...>>

New East Columbia 50+ Center Advisory Committee Testimony  
16 April 2020

Good afternoon distinguished Council members.

My name is Nelson Pollack and I currently live at 6252 Golden Coin Ct in District 2 Columbia. I'm testifying this evening on my behalf – and on the behalf all the seniors represented by the New East Columbia 50+ Center Advocacy Committee. We deeply appreciate the \$16.2 million line item in the Executive's FY 2021 budget for the construction of a new Senior 50+ Center facility in East Columbia, under Construction Project CO335-FY2014. We are advocating that, even in the face of today's grim medical and health challenges, the funding be maintained so construction can begin as soon as possible. Delaying this project will only cost the county more money in the future as material costs escalate ... and, given the increasing Howard County senior population, scaling it back now will only cost the county additional money for future needed expansions.

The senior community of Howard County thanks the County Executive and Council for all its efforts making this county a quality place for all residents. We especially want to thank the County for embracing the goal of making Howard County an "AARP Age-Friendly Community to Live" ... a goal that will allow many more of us to age-in-place near our friends and relatives ... and remain a part of the County's tax base.

We are glad that, in line with these and other initiatives, the County has taken steps toward the construction of a new world-class East Columbia 50+ Center. We are grateful that the county has funded the generation of a detailed set of initial architectural design plans. We appreciate the hard work and transparency of the professional staff of the Department of Public Works and the Office of Aging and Independence.

It has been 8 long years since we first became aware of the initial concepts for a new East Columbia 50+ Center. During that time seniors from every one of Howard County's council districts have taken full advantage of the limited three small room capacity of the current facility with our many classes and other activities. We've also frequently testified, met with individual Council members, written letters, sent e-mails, met with your staffs, and generally made our voices politely - but firmly - heard. We also offer you an invitation to visit the present facility. If you do, you'll see that it is not a center- it's a corridor with three rooms.

Many of us are on fixed incomes and we are very aware of Howard County's many fiscal challenges – including those detailed by others at this and other Hearings.

However, enough time has passed. No one in is getting any younger. Now is the time to finish the journey ... Now is the time to drive those shovels into the Earth and turn promises and paper blueprints into the multi-function meeting rooms, lounges, corridors, office spaces, etc., of a world-class, state-of-the art, "jewel in the crown", 50+ Senior facility that all Howard County residents can all be proud of ... and more, importantly, actually enjoy.

New East Columbia 50+ Center Advisory Committee Testimony  
16 April 2020

The senior community of Howard County is more than eager to help start with the construction ... so, as strong, independent, politically-active seniors, to help jump start the process we're more than willing to go out today and start digging the foundations ... we even have our own shovels ... we only ask that you blow the whistle ... and finalize the funding ... we'll be there in a heartbeat ... Thankyou





HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL  
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I, Susan Garber, have been duly authorized by  
*(name of individual)*

Savage Community Association to deliver testimony to the  
*(name of nonprofit organization or government board, commission, or task force)*

County Council regarding FY2021 Budget to express the organization's  
*(bill or resolution number)*

support for / opposition to / request to amend this legislation.  
*(Please circle one.)*

Printed Name: Susan Garber

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: April 16, 2020

Organization: Savage Community Association

Organization Address: P.O. Box 222, Savage 20763

P.O. Box 222, Savage 20763

Number of Members: 350

Name of Chair/President: Susan Garber

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HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL  
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I, Lori Lilly, have been duly authorized by  
*(name of individual)*

Howard EcoWorks to deliver testimony to the  
*(name of nonprofit organization or government board, commission, or task force)*

County Council regarding D1164 to express the organization's  
*(bill or resolution number)*

support for /  opposition to /  request to amend this legislation.  
*(Please circle one.)*

Printed Name: Lori Lilly

Signature: Lori Lilly

Date: 4/16/20

Organization: Howard EcoWorks

Organization Address: 9770 Patuxent Woods Dr.

Columbia, MD 21046

Number of Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Chair/President: Bill Withers and Dick Hesse

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## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Alan Schneider <ajs333@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 17, 2020 2:27 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Testimony on Capital Budget – New Fire Station. Proposed Location on Rt. 108 Violates Expense Requirements and Fire Station Standards.

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

Honorable Council Members:

Thank you for requesting my written information after my oral testimony on the Fire Department Capital Budget item.

Request that you deny the Planning Board recommendation for adding to the capital budget a Route 108 fire station. The Planning Board met on Thursday evening, April 9, 2020.

The \$13 million capital budget expense was not properly, nor fully disclosed. National Standards for fire station location were not followed.

### **A. Required \$13 million project costs and details were not available to the Public.**

#### **1. Missing Information and Inadequate Public Notice.**

- a. **Missing Expense information.** “Greater detail” of the capital project is required to be available to the public. Code § 22.402 and 22.403. Total estimate is \$13 million.
- b. **Missing Funding information.** Current and five year plan not included as required by Code § 22.402 and 22.403
- c. **Missing Required Notification.**
  - i. **Meeting time and location** was not posted at the sign at the East Area of Cedar Lane Park. The posted time and place was April 9, 7 PM at the “George Howard Building”.
  - ii. **NO required sign was posted** at the location where the displaced ball fields were to be relocated.
  - iii. **Mailings and meetings with the several affected communities** did not occur.
  - iv. **Planning Board website Information** did not provide a link to details. Initially it provided a link to a site location off Snowden River Parkway.

### **B. Public Input was not considered.** Section 22.403(c) **requires** that public input be considered. At the Planning Board public meeting on April 9 a member of the Planning Board stated, “**We are told you cannot take their input. We are told you cannot rely on Community input.**”

### **C. Vital Information was not considered by the Planning Board.**

1. **Response Time.** No fire engine response times were provided to the Planning Board.
2. **Density.** Fire station was needed for “density”, but current and forecast density was not provided.
3. **Dense traffic on Route 108.** No study of delayed response times due to Route 108 congestion and limited road shoulders.

### **D. National Standards for Fire Station Location were not provided.**

- a. Three National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards contain response time requirements. **See:** GIS for Fire Station Locations, January 2007. None provided.

- E. Open space/parkland is diminished.** No analysis of loss of open space, nor analysis of relocation of soccer fields, and no public input on that subject.
- F. Planning Board Decision was not “Planning”.** Comment after testimony and before deciding was “We are just approving funding. We don’t recommend on planning, just on funding.” “Our job is to make a recommendation for funding, and priority.”
- a. Definition of “planning”. Planning consists of service to the public in an efficient and fair manner, to ensure consistency with the General Plan, and to provide accurate information, creative and effective planning recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Schneider  
Route 108  
Clarksville, Md.