

Howard County Housing Affordability Coalition

June 8, 2020

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

Re. Council Resolution 89-2019

Dear Ms. Jung:

The Howard County Housing Affordability Coalition strongly urges that, at the Council's July 6th Legislative Session, Council Resolution 89-2020 be removed from its tabled status for full Council consideration. This Resolution that seeks Council approval of County conveyance of 1.087 acres of County property to Dorsey Overlook, LLLP, is a critical next step in ensuring that the prescribed County development processes can proceed, ensuring a full and open discussion of this proposed housing project.

The need for affordable housing in Howard County is well documented. We believe that County government should therefore assertively consider any and all opportunities, including utilization of County-owned lands, to facilitate the creation of affordable housing. The proposed Dorsey Overlook project—with its proposed 82-unit housing project, comprised of 66 affordable housing units and 16 market rate units—offers such an opportunity.

There are many aspects of this project that need further consideration; but these are not the subject of CR 89 and are not sufficient reason to keep such consideration from moving forward. We simply ask that Council members address CR 89 and the issue of land conveyance on July 6th so that the next steps in the design, development and financing processes can be undertaken knowing with certainty the size of the parcel of land that can be developed.

We would be pleased to discuss the Coalition's CR 89 perspective at your convenience.

Respectfully,

Jackie Eng

Jackie Eng
Coalition Coordinator

Cc: County Council members
County Executive Dr. Calvin Ball