From:

Marshall, Maureen <mmarshall@howardcc.edu>

Sent:

Monday, May 24, 2021 8:53 AM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

FI do not support CB 34-2021 (Budget Bill) Amendments 5, 6, 8, 14, 17 and 18,

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

I support the \$5 million FY 2022 proposed budget appropriation that would fund the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund as recommended in the final Housing Opportunities Master Plan.

Please ensure there are no further delays in honoring County government's commitment to implement the Downtown Columbia Plan, which includes affordable housing projects as part of a new Banneker Fire Station and new Central Columbia Library.

I do not support CB 34-2021 (Budget Bill) Amendments 5, 6, 8, 14, 17 and 18, each of which would delay affordable housing initiatives.

It is a major hardship for families to get ahead when there is not enough affordable housing in Howard county.

Respectfully, Maureen Marshall Howard county resident since 2004

From:

Barbara McClayton <barbara.mcclayton@gmail.com>

Sent: To: Monday, May 24, 2021 12:15 AM Barbara McClayton; CouncilMail

Subject:

Fund the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund Now

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

May 23, 2021

Dear Council Members:

Now is the time to ensure that Howard County lives up to the residents' expectations. I urge you to support the legislation that will immediately fund the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund. Howard County needs to be a place where our entry level police, firefighters, teachers and healthcare workers can afford to live and raise their families. Where seniors can afford to age in the community they know. Where people with disabilities can learn to live independently.

Amendments 5, 6 and 8, gut the funding and will render the legislation useless. Amendment 14, 17 and 18, would strip funding for two multi-use government projects, the Banneker Fire Station and a new Central Library. Both these projects include affordable housing.

The Housing Opportunities Trust Fund would promote and support equitable, geographically disbursed and affordable rental and for-sale housing opportunities throughout the County. It will assist people of all ages by increasing the housing stock for moderate and low income residents by providing funding for rental housing development, preservation and rehabilitation, rental assistance, homeownership, home improvements and other affordable housing opportunities.

Please be forward thinking, compassionate and equitable. Create and fund a program that can support our community members now and in the future.

Thank you, bfm Barbara F. McClayton 6100 Striker Court Columbia

From:

Tina Horn <tinahorn_cae@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, May 23, 2021 8:37 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Save FY 2022 Affordable Housing Funding!

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

I support the \$5 million FY 2022 proposed budget appropriation that would fund the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund as recommended in the final Housing Opportunities Master Plan.

Please ensure no further delays in honoring County government's commitment to implement the Downtown Columbia Plan, which includes affordable housing projects as part of a new Banneker Fire Station and new Central Columbia Library.

I do not support CB 34-2021 (Budget Bill) Amendments 5, 6, 8, 14, 17 and 18, each of which would delay affordable housing initiatives.

Sincerely,

Tina Horn

From:

Elizabeth N. <enapoda@gmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, May 23, 2021 8:35 PM

To:

Jung, Deb; CouncilMail

Subject:

In support of the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund

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

Dear Ms. Jung and other Council members,

I live in District 4 represented by Council member Deb Jung. I support the \$5 million FY 2022 proposed budget allocated to fund the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund. Affordable housing should be available to people of ALL income levels. I believe safe, affordable, accessible housing to be one of the most, if not the most, important basic need.

I do NOT support CB-2021 Amendments 5, 6, 8, 14, 17, and 18 as they all just delay affordable housing initiatives.

I presume a record is being kept of citizens who are in favor or against this affordable housing funding allocation; please mark me down for IN SUPPORT. I would like to see my elected representative represent my vote, but I guess it will depend on other constituents views as well.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Napoda 5412 Morning Glory Ct. Columbia, MD 21044

From:

Rebecca Beall <rjbella358@gmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, May 23, 2021 7:49 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Housing Opportunities Trust Fund

[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 writing to you with great concern about housing in Howard County. I, as a very interested and involved life-long Howard County resident and voter, support the \$5 million FY 2022 proposed budget appropriation that would fund the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund as recommended in the final Housing Opportunities Master Plan. These initiatives are critical to the growth in Howard County by supporting people with lower to moderate incomes. We, in this county, MUST expand housing opportunities.

Please do not delay in honoring the County government's commitment to implement the Downtown Columbia Plan, which includes affordable housing projects as part of a new Banneker Fire Station and new Central Columbia Library.

I DO NOT support CB 34-2021 (Budget Bill) Amendments 5, 6, 8, 14, 17, and 18. Each of these amendments would delay affordable housing initiatives. Delaying affordable housing initiatives is just morally wrong for Howard County, as well as fiscally and socially short-sighted.

Thank you for your attention to this.

Rebecca Beall

From:

Julia McCready < jamccready@gmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, May 23, 2021 7:14 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Housing Trust Fund

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

Dear members of the County Council,

I strongly support the creation of a Housing Trust Fund in Howard County. Please do not vote for amendments that would take monies away from this fund.

I could not put this better than Bridges for Housing Stability:

The Housing Trust Fund will promote and support equitable, geographically disbursed and affordable rental and for-sale housing opportunities; will assist in alleviating the the difficulties of many low- and moderate-income households to obtain and maintain housing; and will meet these needs by providing funding for rental housing development, preservation and rehabilitation, rental assistance, homeownership, home improvements and other affordable housing opportunities.

I ask that you support the Housing Trust Fund as it was originally proposed in the budget. Thank you for all of your work on behalf of the county.

Sent from my iPad

From:

Marilyn Johnson <marilynjohnson@sewingdesignstudio.com>

Sent:

Sunday, May 23, 2021 5:18 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

funding for North Laurel pool

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

Good Day;

I have heard some disturbing news and altho I wish it wasn't true, I'm pretty sure it is.

Once again the County Council and Howard County government are treating the North Laurel area as the unwanted step-child of the County. And then you wonder why you are so resented and distrusted? Why Columbia is so ridiculed and resented? This is why. You collectively are so eager to cram housing density down our throats resulting in all sorts of issues you refuse to acknowledge and then hold out carrots like a pool to get us to go along. And then pull it away....why? Because you think Columbia and Ellicott City are better or more deserving or in a higher tax bracket, maybe they will make a bigger stink 'cause they've got lawyers?

You have packed more people down here than Columbia and EC combined and we have no pool; we have had to fight for everything we've gotten and waited years for each of them. I'm so sick of this and tired of being polite about it. Do the right thing and fund the pool for North Laurel.

Sincerely, Marilyn Johnson

From:

Katie Kirk <knapoda@gmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, May 23, 2021 5:16 PM

To:

CouncilMail; Jung, Deb

Cc:

Adam My Love; Williams, China; Gick, Ginnie

Subject:

Support of the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund

[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 D4 under Council member Deb Jung but not sure who will receive this in the councilmail email.

I am in full support in the \$5 million FY 2022 proposed budget to fund the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund. Affordable housing should be available at all income levels. I believe safe, affordable, accessible housing to be one of the most, if not the most, important basic need.

Furthermore- I am NOT in support of CB-2021 Amendments 5, 6, 8, 14, 17, & 18 as they all just delay affordable housing initiatives.

I write this as an incredibly privileged person, and my family- We have never struggled to pay rent or mortgage. We chose to stay in Howard County and this will be where we raise our child. I hope, and expect, that Howard County do right by those who cannot afford the outrageous prices of housing in this county.

I am a mental health social worker - who for years worked with people experiencing homelessness, and housing insecurity, in Montgomery County. Housing is a necessity for EVERYTHING- employment, school, family, health- the list could go on. After this past year of covid highlighting, and furthering, the extreme inequities we have in our county, now is certainly not the time to further delay funding for this trust fund as it is providing so much more than just rental assistance.

Thank you for your time and consideration in reading this and I truly hope you support and vote in support of this funding, without any of the above amendments.

Sincerly,

Kathleen & Adam Kirk 5439 Wooded Way Columbia, MD 21044

Katie Kirk , LMSW (she/ her/ hers) knapoda@gmail.com 201-306-8619

From:

Julie Raugh <julie.liles@gmail.com>

Sent:

Sunday, May 23, 2021 3:33 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

North Laurel pool defunded?

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

Hello,

As a Howard County taxpayer living in North Laurel, I was extremely unhappy to hear word that the pool at the North Laurel community center might be defunded. This has been planned and promised since the center was being built. I'm tired of my part of the county getting the short shrift yet again. I heard the money will go to yet another 50+ center in East Columbia. This is ridiculous. We have a bunch of 50+ centers already (and I'm over 50) and East Columbia is already well served by other resources.

If I'm wrong, please let me know. If I'm not, please explain why a basic amenity that would bring North Laurel to parity with the rest of the county is being defunded.

I'm tired of feeling like I live in the red headed stepchild of the county. Please reconsider this terrible decision.

From:

Kaila Potts <kailaniece@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Sunday, May 23, 2021 8:22 AM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

North Laurel Pool

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

Dear Council,

I've just been informed that the NLCC pool has been defunded in favor of a senior center in East Columbia. I'm very disappointed that you would abandon a project that creates a pool in a place where there is none to fund something that already exists in abundance in Columbia. Don't break your promises. The kids who were excited about this won't be kids anymore once it finally happens and it's sad that the only community pool for us is all the way in Ellicott city. The Southeast deserves funds too. I could go into how the parks in Savage/Jessup also get no attention or updates like columbia and Ellicott city, but one thing at a time I guess. There's more to Howard County than Columbia.

With Gratitude,

Kai Potts-Smith

"Living Delicious AF, Unshakably YOU"

Vibrational Sound Healer

Wellness, Business, and Manifestations Coach Founder and Owner, YOUnison Yoga & Music by Kai, The VIOL∀ibrational Method and Therapy, and The Six-Figure Sound Academy Violist for Celine Dion CYT-500, RYT-200 Vinyasa, Hatha, YogaShred™, Spinal Reset™ Teacher, The Bridges Program Former Assistant Principal Viola Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, Santa Barbara Symphony, Sphinx Virtuosi, Soloist and TV/Film/Recording Artist

Pronoun: She/her

From:

Karen Jung <karen_0120@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Saturday, May 22, 2021 10:36 PM

To: Cc: Rigby, Christiana CouncilMail

Subject:

Defunding North Laurel Pool budget

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

Ms Crigby -

As a taxpayer of Maryland and the county of Howard County, I am writing this email with deep frustration and the sense of betrayal. The North Laurel Community Center Pool construction was one of your election promises, and was on budget for FY21. It just came to my understanding that the pool construction funding was removed and repurposed for other projects for Ellicott City.

The fact that the county council continues to support Columbia and Ellicott City over the South East Howard County concerns me. The disportion and inequality you place in certain areas of the county certainly makes us feel disgusted. I hope you keep your promise and advocate for North Laurel Pool construction in upcoming budget meeting.

V/R, Karen.

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Helen Ruther < Heruther@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, May 22, 2021 8:13 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Affordable Housing

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

Dear Deb,

I firmly believe Howard County needs a Housing Opportunity Trust Fund to support affordable housing in the County. I'm opposed to any amendments which would delete, decrease or restrict such a fund. I think the \$5 million in the budget should stay there. I'm also opposed to any delays in the affordable housing that is already planned above the the new fire station and new library.

Helen Ruther

From:

hbland3@verizon.net

Sent:

Saturday, May 22, 2021 3:33 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Your Broken Promise

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

It is with great disappointment that I have just learned that the pool promised to the North Laurel Rec/Senior Center has been defunded. I have lived and worked in Howard County for 50 years. I don't understand why we are being short changed on the facilities promised to us in North Laurel. The North Laurel area of Howard County is hit with taxes, but slighted in facilities. It does not look like we get our fair share of county services.

Sincerely. H. Bruce Land, III 9426 Northgate Road Laurel, MD 20723

From:

Reuben and Susan Stollman <rstollman@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, May 22, 2021 1:49 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Attn: Deb Jung

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

We ask that you support the \$5 million FY 2022 proposed budget appropriation that would fund the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund as recommended in the final Housing Opportunities Master Plan.

Please ensure that there are no further delays in honoring County government's commitment to implement the Downtown Columbia Plan, which includes affordable housing projects as part of a new Banneker Fire Station and new Central Columbia Library. We do NOT support CB 30-2 21 (Budge Bill amendments 5, 6, 18, 14., 17 and 18- each of which would delay affordable housing.

From:

Chris Riehl <chrisriehl125@gmail.com> on behalf of Chris Riehl <chris@rentatour.com>

Sent:

Saturday, May 22, 2021 12:54 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

FY 2022 Affordable Housing Funding

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

Good Morning,

One of the primary reasons my wife and I chose to move to Columbia is the community's ongoing commitment to affordable housing for all.

That's we're urging the council to support the \$5 million FY 2022 proposed budget appropriation that would fund the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund as recommended in the final Housing Opportunities Master Plan.

The Housing Opportunities Trust Fund would promote and support equitable, geographically disbursed and affordable rental and for-sale housing opportunities throughout the County; will assist in alleviating the difficulties of many low-and moderate-income households, including seniors and people with disabilities to obtain and maintain housing that meets their needs at costs that they can afford; and will meet these needs by providing funding for rental housing development, preservation and rehabilitation, rental assistance, homeownership, home improvements and other affordable housing opportunities.

There should be no further delays in honoring County government's commitment to implement the Downtown Columbia Plan, which includes affordable housing projects as part of a new Banneker Fire Station and new Central Columbia Library.

We're also asking that the council oppose CB 34-2021 (Budget Bill) Amendments 5, 6, 8, 14, 17 and 18, each of which would delay affordable housing initiatives.

With the backing of council, Howard County can continue to be a leader in affordable housing that fosters diverse and inclusive communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Chris and Jen Riehl Hickory Ridge, Columbia

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Jacqueline Shulik <shulikjp@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, May 22, 2021 12:45 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Fwd: Funding for affordable housing

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

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jacqueline Shulik <<u>shulikjp@gmail.com</u>>
Subject: Funding for affordable housing
Date: May 22, 2021 at 12:32:00 PM EDT
To: Councilmail@howardcountymd.gov

THE TIME IS NOW, THE CAUSE IS JUST!!

PLEASE RETHINK YOUR SPONSORSHIP/SUPPORT FOR COUNTY CB 34-2021 AMMENDMENTS, designed to deny funding to affordable & senior housing in Town Center (Merriweather District, Bannelker Fire Station, etc.)

To CM's Walsh, Jung & Yungmann:

I am voicing my opposition to the amendments you have proposed and/or voted for.

Bottom line:We need such housing for folks who work in Columbia. As Town Center residents at The Residences at Vantage Point, we personally contribuite to the Residence's Foundation that subsidizes rents for affordable housing for our workers. We put our \$\$ where our mouth is, and ask that our rep on the Council, D. Jung, do the same.

From:

Jacqueline Shulik <shulikjp@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, May 22, 2021 12:32 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Funding for affordable housing

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

THE TIME IS NOW, THE CAUSE IS JUST!!

PLEASE RETHINK YOUR SPONSORSHIP/SUPPORT FOR COUNTY CB 34-2021

AMMENDMENTS, designed to deny funding to affordable & senior housing in Town

Center (Merriweather District, Bannelker Fire Station, etc.)

To CM's Walsh, Jung & Yungmann:

I am voicing my opposition to the amendments you have proposed and/or voted for.

Bottom line:We need such housing for folks who work in Columbia. As Town Center residents at The Residences at Vantage Point, we personally contribuite to the Residence's Foundation that subsidizes rents for affordable housing for our workers. We put our \$\$ where our mouth is, and ask that our rep on the Council, D. Jung, do the same.

From:

Stephen Sternheimer <stephen.sternheimer6@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, May 22, 2021 11:54 AM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Re: REQUEST SUPPORT FOR AFFORDABLE & SENIOR HOUSING IN TOWN CENTER

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

On May 21, 2021, at 5:54 PM, Stephen Sternheimer < stephen.sternheimer6@gmail.com > wrote:

THE TIME IS NOW, THE CAUSE IS JUST!!

PLEASE RETHINK YOUR SPONSORSHIP/SUPPORT FOR COUNTY CB 34-2021 AMMENDMENTS, designed to deny funding to affordable & senior housing in Town Center (Merriweather District, Bannelker Fire Station, etc.)

To CM's Walsh, Jung & Yungmann:

Bottom line:We need such housing for folks who work in Columbia. As Town Center residents at Vantage Hse, we personally contribuite to the Residence's Foundation that subsidizes rents for affordable housing for our workers. We put our \$\$ where our mouth is, and ask that our rep on the Council, D. Jung, do the same.

We are sharing this with our 200 neighbors at R@VP and others in our Town Center and Hickory Ridge area. We are asking them to voice their opposition to tshe amendments you have proposed and/or voted for.

Steve & Sue Sternheimer Residences at Vantage Point

TO: Councilmail@howardcountymd.gov

From: nadine bernard < nadine.bernard@comcast.net>

Sent: Saturday, May 22, 2021 10:27 AM

To: CouncilMail

Subject: affordable housing

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

Good morning.

It seems often, and for years we have all had this hope for affordable housing. I feel a diverse community should include income diversity as well. I believe our families should have the capability to work and live in the community. Way.... In the past, builders were required to do set asides. It appears, from my understanding something changed where they could buy their way out of this, donating to a charity or cause in lieu of housing. Let me be clear, this is unacceptable. It pits charities and community organizations against those needing roofs over their heads. It is unsavory and surely wrong. I would like to see more building in the mid price range, of which there is none currently being built. Families can not afford to move up and prices have skyrocketed. Builders need to do what is required of them, set aside affordable housing. In regard to rents, all I see are volumes of high price rentals with amenities that are awesome, but simply not affordable. Let's look to create some innovative ways to incorporate affordable housing in these new rentals. Perhaps consider Seniors who have taken custody of their grandchildren for whatever reason. Multigenerational units. Let's get creative and do what we need to do to provide a balanced community and not become the New Rochelle of DC. (Shows my age....) Columbia is about being a place where all people grow, physically, mentally and socially. Let's keep our eye on the ball.

Thank you.

Nadine Bernard 301-490-9022 h 443-745-6845 c

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From:

Paula Seabright <psrh1995@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, May 22, 2021 7:58 AM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Fund Affordable Housing

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

Good morning,

A former coworker contacted me this week after he learned I was on the Affordable Housing Task force. He was an intern in my group for four years, fully employed upon graduation, and has an excellent job working for a defense contractor. And he can't afford to live in Howard County.

It is critical for the future of our county that we fund the housing opportunities trust fund. We must make sure that there is housing in our county for everyone. Our low wage workers would benefit from shorter commutes. Our early career young adults should be able to live in the community where they were raised.

Contrary to despicable folk tales, low income housing is not rife with crime. It doesn't drive housing prices down for the rest of the community. It isn't some kind of weird segregation (???). It's an important component of our housing infrastructure and it must be supported and funded.

Have you been shopping lately? Have you noticed longer waits at the cash register? Fewer people around to answer your questions? Why? Because in addition to there being limited affordable housing for retail and restaurant staff, there is almost no public transportation to help workers who are forced out of our county get to work here. Lowe's recently had a hiring fair and only filled 12 of 40 positions because of our terrible regional public transportation.

Housing is a human right. The housing opportunities trust fund must be fully funded.

Thanks.
Paula Seabright

D2

From:

Mike Clark <clarkmj1@verizon.net>

Sent:

Friday, May 21, 2021 8:50 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Affordable Housing

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

Howard County Council members:

We hope you will make funding affordable housing a priority, especially during a time of a pandemic that has had a dramatic impact on the economy and the job market.

Mike and Lois Clark 9000 Fathers Legacy Apt. 310 Ellicott City, MD 21042

clarkmj1@verizon.net lomclar@yahoo.com

From:

Pete Dinwoodie <dinwoodi@verizon.net>

Sent:

Friday, May 21, 2021 8:08 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Cc: Subject: Pete Dinwoodie Housing Opportunities Trust Fund - Urgent

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

I fully support the \$5 million FY2022 proposed budget appropriation that would fund the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund as recommended in the final Housing Opportunities Master Plan.

Please do not further delay our commitment to implement the Downtown Columbia Plan, which includes affordable housing projects as part of a new Banneker Fire Station and new Central Columbia Library.

I do not support CB 34-2021 (Budget Bill) Amendments 5,6, 8, 14, 17, and 18, each of which would delay affordable housing initiatives.

Thank you,

John P Dinwoodie 6633 Carlinda Ave Columbia, 21046

From:

Paul Verchinski < verchinski@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Friday, May 21, 2021 6:52 PM

To:

CouncilMail Paul L Verchinski

Cc: Subject:

Budget amendments

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

ALL, please support:

CB 34-2021 (Budget Bill) Amendments 5, 6, 8, 14, 17 and 18, each of which would delay affordable housing initiatives.

IMHO, Howard Hughes should be funding and not the County. To date, almost NO affordable housiong has been built by HH in downtown Columbia. Sad when HH has been the beneficiary of a TIF.

Paul Verchinski 5475 Sleeping Dog Lane Columbia

From:

Victoria Hathaway <victoria.hathaway@me.com>

Sent:

Friday, May 21, 2021 6:37 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Affordable Housing Funding, In Support

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

I support the \$5 million FY 2022 proposed budget appropriation that would fund the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund as recommended in the final Housing Opportunities Master Plan.

Please ensure no further delays in honoring County government's commitment to implement the Downtown Columbia Plan, which includes affordable housing projects as part of a new Banneker Fire Station and new Central Columbia Library.

I do not support CB 34-2021 (Budget Bill) Amendments 5, 6, 8, 14, 17 and 18, each of which would delay affordable housing initiatives.

Thanks for all you do in service to our county's residents, especially older adults.

Victoria Hathaway 410-979-4284 victoria.hathaway@me.com

From: Richard Freas <rafreas@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, May 21, 2021 4:03 PM

To: CouncilMail

Subject: Defunding of North Laurel Pool

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

I am disheartened and fed up to hear of the decision to totally defund the North Laurel Pool as promised in the budget. Many of us in North Laurel feel that we always play second fiddle to Columbia, Ellicott City, and much of the rest of Howard County. Defunding the North Laurel Pool in order to fund the NEW 50+ center in East Columbia certainly supports that feeling. How can the waste of millions of dollars already spent on the pool be justified? What about the promises made to fund the pool over the years?

I strongly support the position of Susan Garber in that the funds for both the pool and senior center be placed on hold if necessary but neither project is cut.

Richard Freas 9465 Glen Ridge Drive Laurel, MD 20723

From:

joel hurewitz <joelhurewitz@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, May 21, 2021 3:17 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

EC Safe and Sound WIFIA Program

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

Dear Council Members,

Having listened to the May 21, 2021 Work Session discussion on Ellicott City, I found that the EPA website is reporting \$83 million for the WIFIA Loan.

https://www.epa.gov/wifia/howard-county-ellicott-city-safe-and-sound-plan

https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2021-01/documents/howard county.pdf

Joel Hurewitz

From:

Christine Dietrich <leaderofdaisyscouts@yahoo.com>

Sent: To: Friday, May 21, 2021 2:40 PM CouncilMail; Rigby, Christiana

Subject:

Please fund a community pool at NLCC soon

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

Dear Councilmembers, including our own district 3 Councilwoman Rigby,

Out of respect for your time, I will be brief. Please re-fund a community pool at NLCC.

- 1) We have been promised a pool in the N. Laurel/Savage area for decades (I recall 2007 community meetings, hearing my elderly neighbors complain that they had been promised a pool in the area for years to no fruition). We are LONG overdue!
- 2) Going without a pool is just another example of residential growth spiraling out of control with no maintenance of resources. A community pool should be a high priority for the enjoyment of all ages. We have had had countless large developments in just the past 10 years (Emerson, Stone Lake, Annapolis Junction, Wincopia, Housing directly around NLCC, etc., etc., etc.), not to mention the developments from 20+ years that were promised a pool (Bowling Brook Farms, Whisky Bottom/Kings Grant, etc.). According to worldpopulationreview.com, Savage and North Laurel have over 30,000 residents, so I think the taxpayer money coming from this population is enough to warrant getting a community pool without a lifetime of delays. Thank you.

Sincerely, Christine Dietrich leaderofdaisyscouts@yahoo.com

From:

Lisa Zilka <zilkafamily@verizon.net>

Sent:

Friday, May 21, 2021 12:05 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

North Laurel Pool

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

Dear Council Members,

North Laurel needs a recreational pool for the community.

When we moved to North Laurel 30 years ago we received a questionnaire about what North Laurel needs for recreational purposes. One of the choices was a pool and 30 years later we still don't have a pool for our community.

It's bad enough that the gym at North Laurel Community center is too small and there isn't enough machines for our population but to give Columbia another pool and take away the North Laurel pool isn't right. We pay the same amount of taxes just like everyone else.

Thank you for your time, Lisa Zilka

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Linda Kgasi <kgasirn@hotmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, May 21, 2021 11:57 AM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

North Laurel Community Center Pool

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

Good day to you all,

I am writing to add my voice to a significant item on your upcoming agenda regarding plans to defer the construction of the long awaited indoor pool at the NLCC. Along with the information below I propose in the interim of any completed construction that a negotiating is made with Montgomery County, Md for Laurel residents of Howard be alloted in county rates just as Laurel PG county residents usinf the Fairland Aquatics Center.

I agree with the posed suggestion that the money being allocated for the EC 50+ Center be shared across both projects since they are both in the same budget category. Both projects will be delayed, rather than one defunded. Defunding the NLCC pool is a WASTE OF TAXPAYER MONEY since, depending on which source you read, one to six million dollars has already been spent on planning and design.

Respectfull submitted,

Linda Kgasi

Howard County Resident- and Senior

Laurel, Md - 20723

301 362-2470

Get Outlook for Android

From: PATF HoCo <patf.hoco@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, May 21, 2021 10:53 AM

To: CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin

Cc: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David; Hiruy

Hadgu; Jacqueline Akinpelu; Jim Gormley; Faye Page

Subject: Community Demands Full Implentation of BWC Program Now

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

Howard County Executive Calvin Ball

Howard County Council Members

On March 24, County Executive Ball invited the Police Accountability Task Force – Howard County to participate in an historic announcement to fully fund the implementation of police body-worn cameras for the HoCo Police and Sheriff's Departments in the fiscal year 2022 budget. We participated in good faith, understanding that this was a commitment made by county leadership to prioritize police accountability and transparency.

During the past week, we were outraged to learn that the County Executive has reneged on his commitment to fully implement this program in FY2022. As we write this, the County Council is considering two amendments (the Ball and Walsh amendments) that would gut funding for this critically important program and seriously delay its implementation.

This is totally unacceptable! We want the program fully implemented this year as promised. Neither the Ball amendment nor the Walsh amendment is acceptable.

We are demanding that you fully reinstate the \$3.2M funding to ensure that there is no delay in implementation. The time to implement this program is **NOW**, not next year. Our community is depending on our elected officials to do the right thing. Meanwhile, we will be going to the media to get this message out to the Howard County community.

Ted Stewart

On Behalf of Police Accountability Task Force – Howard County

BWC Coalition Partners

ACLU Maryland | HoCo Coalition for Immigrant Justice | Howard County Citizens
Association | IndivisibleHoCoMD | Our Revolution Howard County | Progressive Maryland | The African
American Community Roundtable of Howard County | Chinese American Network for Diversity and
Opportunity (CAN-DO) | Columbia Democratic Club | African American Coalition of Howard
County | Maryland Poor People's Campaign

From:

Heather Medina < heathermedina 513@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, May 21, 2021 9:59 AM

To:

Rigby, Christiana

Cc:

CouncilMail

Subject:

North Laurel Community Center

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

To the Howard County Council,

I am disappointed to learn that the County Council is proposing to defund the indoor pool that was slated to be built at the North Laurel Community Center. This area is growing quickly and families here should have easier access to the same amenities as those living on the northern side of the county. Much has been discussed on how to improve this district and defunding a wonderful amenity is in direct opposition to those efforts.

I am disappointed that a senior center - which only is an amenity for a portion of the population - is prioritized over the construction over the addition of a pool that can be used by families and all individuals regardless of age year-round.

Please reconsider this budget item.

Heather Medina Laurel 20723

From:

Andre Hudson <andrechudson@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, May 21, 2021 9:07 AM

To: Subject: CouncilMail

North Laurel Pool

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

Is it true that the North Laurel Community Center pool is being defunded? If so, I have to urge you all to reconsider. That pool would be a great addition to the park; and there are a lot of families who would be appreciative of another option to keep their children entertained, or a place to learn how to swim. Would you be able to explain to me why this is no longer a possibility? Thanks for your time, have a good day everyone.

From:

JD Slack <jdslack414@gmail.com>

Sent:

Friday, May 21, 2021 5:59 AM

To: Subject: CouncilMail EC 250 Funding

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

Dear Councilmembers:

I wish to offer my support for EC250's one-time request of \$100,000 in the FY2022 budget to help fund the upcoming 250th Anniversary celebration for Ellicott City. As an Ellicott City business owner, I believe this will bring a much-needed economic boost to the town in 2022. I encourage you to include these funds in the 2022 operating budget to enable us to mark this historic milestone in a way that befits the town's truly significant place in the story of America.

John Dallas Slack, President Slack Funeral Home, P.A. Ellicott City, MD 21043

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Abiola Abodunrin <aabiola2@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, May 20, 2021 9:05 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

RE: North Laurel Community Center (NLCC)

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

Please do not defund the NLCC swimming project.

My community has been looking forward to this project since it was announced. Please use money being allocated for the EC 50+ Center be shared across both projects since they are both in the same budget category. Both projects will be delayed, rather than one defunded.

Thanks, Abiola

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

From:

Nurat Quadri < nurat 04@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, May 20, 2021 9:00 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

North Laurel Community Center (NLCC)

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

Please do not defund the NLCC swimming project.

My community has been looking forward to this project since it was announced. Please use money being allocated for the EC 50+ Center be shared across both projects since they are both in the same budget category. Both projects will be delayed, rather than one defunded.

Thanks!

Nurat

From:

Jamie Trimble <jamie.trimble@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, May 20, 2021 8:59 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

North Laurel Pool a broken promise?

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

To all whom this concerns,

I urge you to reimplant monies for the North Laurel Pool. This community needs it, and frankly deserves it. It is disheartening and bad practice to waist the money and time resources in study and planning, and doubly so when going back on what sounded like a sincere promise to fund the pool for a great community. A community here now. Not a planned future community.

Jamie Trimble

From:

Jennifer White < jwhite@thehorizonfoundation.org >

Sent:

Thursday, May 20, 2021 5:27 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Cc:

Glenn Schneider

Subject:

Budget Testimony - Updated FY22 Complete Streets Capital Budget Projects

Attachments:

Howard County Complete Streets Capital Budget Projects - Updated.pdf

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

Good Evening,

As the County Council makes preparations to finalize the budget, we ask you to protect the \$5.375M in County funds for bicycle and pedestrian projects in the FY22 proposed capital budget. As a reminder, you may find an updated table that includes projects that we are tracking that are critical to expanding and upgrading our biking and walking infrastructure. The expansion of this infrastructure positions our community to advance Complete Streets, prioritizing the needs of pedestrians, transit users and bicyclists. This table also includes an updated grants column, that includes amounts stemming from Amendment 1 to Council Bill No. 34-2021.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jennifer Arice White, MSPH

Senior Policy and Community Engagement Officer, Horizon Foundation

Office: 443-766-1223 | Mobile: 248-345-3030

<u>jwhite@thehorizonfoundation.org</u> www.thehorizonfoundation.org

Follow us on social media: Twitter | Facebook | LinkedIn | Instagram

10221 Wincopin Circle, Suite 200, Columbia, MD 21044

Table 1. Howard County Complete Streets Capital Budget Projects

Line Item	FY22 HoCo (Proposed)	FY22 Grants (Proposed)
C0332 - FY2014 Bus Stop Improvements	0	0
J4170 - FY2004 Roger's Avenue Improvements	0	0
J4219-FY2015 Engineering Study Program	100	0
J4230 –Sanner Rd Improvements	0	0
J4248 – Savage Area Complete Streets	775	0
K5035 - FY1998 School Route Pathways or Sidewalks	400	0
K5036-FY1998 Routine Sidewalk Walkway Extensions	0	0
K5040 – Guilford Rd Pedestrian/Bike Improvement	0	0
K5043-Sidewalk Repair Program	1000	0
K5054-FY2003 Roadside Improvement Program	0	0
K5061-FY2007 Pedestrian Plan Projects	650	150
K5062-FY2009 State Roads Sidewalk Retrofit Program	0	0
K5063-FY2017 North Laurel Road Sidewalk	25	0
K5064-FY2017 Mission Road Sidewalk	0	0
K5065-FY2018 Doncaster Drive Sidewalk	0	0
K5066 – Bicycle Plan Projects	825	259
K5068-ADA Ramps Upgrade Program	1200	0
K5069 Bituminous Curb Replacement Program	400	0
T7088-FY2001 School Crosswalk Improvements	0	-135
T7107 – Downtown Columbia Patuxent Branch Trail	0	0
Total (\$K)	\$5,375	\$274

_		
	rom:	
1	i Oill.	

Randy Marriner <Randy@victoriarestaurantgroup.com>

Sent:

Thursday, May 20, 2021 5:05 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

CB 34-2021

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

Council Members,

I write you today to share my concerns with Amendment 13 of the above referenced Bill.

If adopted, this amendment could seriously jeopardize the WIFIA funding that is sorely needed for this imperative project.

We business, property owners, and employers in Historic Ellicott City desperately need projection from floods. We can't wait any further.

I don't need to loose another employee.

Please reject Amendment 13 and let's get on with protecting our citizens.

Thank you.

Randy

E. Randolph Marriner Chairman & Founder Victoria Restaurant Group Manor Hill Brewing Manor Hill Productions 4411 Manor Lane Ellicott City, MD 21042 Cell 410-215-4001

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Nicholas Johnson < nick@esucasa.com>

Sent:

Thursday, May 20, 2021 4:53 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Regarding Council Bill 34-2021

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

Esteemed Council members:

I am writing in opposition of amendment 13 to the Council Bill regarding the transfer of wifia funding to contingency.

I believe that the funds are certainly necessary for the execution of the Safe and Sound plan. I would hate to see more confusion surrounding the plan and its implementation.

Even today, almost 3 years after the 2018 flood, I still encounter customers who are unsure of the state of Ellicott City and whether or not it is safe to visit. It's a common point of discussion when I am in our other locations. As we've put a tremendous amount of energy and investment into our Ellicott City location, driving traffic to that location is critical to survival and success there.

Any confusion to the public over whether EC is beyond the beginning stages and on the path to recovery would be detrimental. Any further delays would only serve to lengthen the path we residents and business owners are taking toward recovery and robust existences.

I urge you to consider the future impact of delaying or diverting funding from any Safe and Sound mitigation strategy on the impact both real and perceived to the progress made to date and the possibility for a bright future.

I thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Nicholas Johnson Owner, Su Casa Furniture 8307 Main St Ellicott City

From:

HoCo Climate Action <hococlimateaction@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, May 20, 2021 3:59 PM

To:

CouncilMail; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Jones, Opel; Walsh, Elizabeth; Yungmann,

David; HoCo Climate Action

Subject:

Re: Howard County Budget: Funding Green Initiatives

Attachments:

2022 Budget - Funding Green Initiatives.pdf

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

Dear Howard County Council Members,

Please accept the attached updated letter with additional signatures collected since the original letter was sent on May 13. It has been signed by 13 local organizations and 50 individuals requesting the funding of several green initiatives related to the Clean and Sustainable Environment priority areas of the 2022 budget.

Respectfully submitted,

HoCo Climate Action Steering and Advocacy Team www.HoCoClimateAction.org hococlimateaction@gmail.com

On Thu, May 13, 2021 at 3:00 PM HoCo Climate Action < hococlimateaction@gmail.com > wrote: Dear Howard County Council Members,

Please accept the attached letter that was signed by 10 local organizations and 43 individuals requesting the funding of several green initiatives related to the Clean and Sustainable Environment priority areas of the 2022 budget. These signatures were collected in just 3 days.

Respectfully submitted,

HoCo Climate Action Steering and Advocacy Team www.HoCoClimateAction.org hococlimateaction@gmail.com Dear Howard County Council Members,

We, the 13 undersigned organizations and 50 individuals, strongly encourage you to approve the green initiative items for a clean and sustainable environment in the 2022 proposed operating budget. We were thrilled to see that a Clean and Sustainable Environment was a priority area in the proposed budget. These items will help in the fight against climate change by promoting green infrastructure and decreasing emissions.

We urge you to fund the following in the final 2022 operating budget:

- \$90,000 in PAYGO to enhance the <u>County Climate Action Plan</u>, providing a comprehensive greenhouse gas inventory to measure the success of mitigation and community adaptation strategies compared to the prior plan.
- \$52,000 to modernize the <u>Green Infrastructure Network</u>, evaluating and updating the existing map. In addition, an acre or more of forest would be planted to build on the existing green infrastructure network, especially in communities that lack access to the current network.

Previously, we urged the county executive to include funding in the fiscal 2022 budget to update Howard County's Climate Action Plan, which was last updated in 2015. In light of the most recent IPCC report and alarming data, it is evident that the 2015 county plan is outdated and inadequate. HoCo Climate Action developed and circulated a letter calling for this critical funding to update the Climate Action Plan. In less than a week, 15 local organizations and faith communities as well as 29 individuals signed on to the group letter.

The state recently released a <u>new climate plan</u>. Montgomery and Frederick counties have passed Climate Emergency bills. Additionally, <u>Montgomery</u>, <u>Frederick</u> and <u>Prince George's</u> counties are developing new county level county actions plans that include avenues for community involvement. Howard County needs to take on this challenge, too.

In addition, we support funding for the Green Infrastructure Network, which sup-ports native plant and ani-mal species while help-ing to clean the air and water, main-tain nat-ural eco-log-i-cal processes, and con-tribute to quality of life. Modernizing the Green Infrastructure Network is crucial to improving our air and water along with identifying communities that lack access to these ecological benefits.

Both of these items are included in the <u>Howard County Racial Equity Task Force's draft</u> recommendations from the Public Health and Environmental Policy subgroup, page 22. Funding these critical projects will help ensure that Howard County develops policies to address environmental racism.

Finally, we support a capital budget item that was proposed but not funded last year: **C0329 - Energy Management/Improvements - \$300,000**. This project supports the county's commitment to energy savings and energy efficiency, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

While we are pleased with the county executive's new Green Fleet Policy to reduce petroleum fuel consumption in county vehicles by 20% by 2024, we also support a more rapid transition to electric vehicles.

We have delayed big steps for too long. We see evidence around the world and in our backyard of the danger of inaction. The 2016 and 2018 Ellicott City floods tragically demonstrated the county's need to address the cumulative threat from a changing climate. Funding these priority projects will help make all Howard County communities more resilient to the threats from climate change. We need these critical tools to advance climate mitigation while also focusing on vulnerable and marginalized communities.

Regards,

Organizations

Audubon Society of Central Maryland
HoCo Climate Action
Howard Legacy Leadership Institute for the Environment
Indivisible Howard County
Less Plastic Please
Our Revolution Howard County
Progressive Democrats of Howard County
Safe Skies Maryland
Howard County Sierra Club
Transition Howard County
Howard County NAACP
Sunrise Movement Howard County
Emmanuel UMC Green Team

Individuals

Lisa Versteeg Wanda Prather Wendy Alberg Julie Dunlap Anne Sellers Margarita Hurtado Kim Drake Kurt R. Schwarz Ryan Gardner Cynthia A Williams Jennifer Barto Robert Krasnansky Natasha Shangold Andrea Morris Gruhl Ruth Alice White Eric Miller Ellis Woodward

Individuals con't Charlie Goedeke

Bruce Eberle Barbara Schmeckpeper Barbara Siddle Matheson Carla Tevelow Tracev Manning RoseMarie Meservey Ron Meservey Jim Seewagen Claudia Koenig Daniel Helfrich Pat Hersey Dina Boogaard Elizabeth A. Fixsen Patricia Hooker Andrew Monian Kimberley Delmar Lisa L Krausz Ryan Williams Albert Victor Holm Patricia Heidel Michael Cornell Shari Glenn Patricia Soffen Carolyn Parsa Liz Feighner John Sacchetti **Betsy Singer** Peter Alexander Andrea Fortman Kevin Grant **Bonnie Cornell** Johanna Wermers

From:

Julia Sanger < sangerj22@gmail.com>

Sent:

Thursday, May 20, 2021 3:15 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject: CB 34-2021

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

Good afternoon,

I am writing to express my opposition to Amendment 13 to CB 34-2021.

Moving the \$75 million in WIFIA funding currently in the budget into contingency, thus requiring Council approval before the County can spend the funds, would cause unnecessary delays in the crucial tunnel flood mitigation project.

Main Street, it's residents and businesses, need all the efficiency and urgency it can get when it comes to flood mitigation. Our fate should not rest in the hands of political maneuvering or power struggles.

Thank you for your tine and consideration.

Sincerely,

Julia Sanger
Park Ridge Creamery
Park Ridge Trading Company

From:

Theresa Ballinger <tballinger@howard-autism.org>

Sent:

Thursday, May 20, 2021 2:38 PM

To:

CouncilMail; Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann,

David

Cc:

howard@mih-inc.org; Melissa Rosenberg; Patrick Boxall; Mark Dunham

Subject:

Howard County FY22 Operating Budget Testimony

Attachments:

TestimonytoHowardCountyCouncil(5-2021).pdf

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

Dear Members of the Howard County Council.

Attached please find testimony regarding the FY22 Operating budget.

Theresa Ballinger HCAS Board



May 18, 2021

Members of the Howard County Council 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Chair Liz Walsh, Co-Chair Opel Jones and Council Members Deb Jung, Christiana Rigby and David Yungmann:

County Council FY2022 Operations Budget

Like many grassroots organizations, the Howard County Autism Society identifies needs and takes action. We're motivated by our personal experiences as well as the basic facts. Access to affordable housing is a genuine crisis for people with disabilities. In Howard County alone, over the next five years, over 900 high school students with various disabilities will transition out of Howard County schools. Where will they live? Where will they able to afford to live? What will their lives be like when their parents are not here? Parents of children with disabilities often recognize needs early and begin planning well in advance for the requirements. The Howard County Autism Society has been actively exploring strategies to address this growing crisis for quite a few years. We established a Housing Subcommittee in 2014 and undertook a feasibility study in 2016. In early 2018, we created a Task Force made up a diverse group of community leaders, which has driven early planning for an innovative project we have named Patuxent Commons.

The Howard County Autism Society urges you to establish the Howard County Housing Opportunities Trust Fund and include the proposed \$5 million to get it started.

We understand that the purpose of this fund is to promote and support affordable housing broadly within Howard County. We are also aware that in 2019, 21,801 individuals with at least one disability lived in the county and 1,655 of those were 18-64 years old living in poverty. In January 2021, 140 County residents were on the Weinberg Apartments waitlist, and there is a significant lack of accessible housing in the County with much of the newer accessible units having rents unaffordable to those who need the accessibility.

People with disabilities like autism desperately need the availability of additional affordable housing and the establishment and the funding of the Housing Trust Fund would be a step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Melissa Rosenberg Executive Director

Providing Support • Promoting Awareness • Advocating for Change

From:

Cynthia Parr <cparr@archoward.org>

Sent:

Wednesday, May 19, 2021 3:59 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Letter of Support

Attachments:

MIH Letter.pdf

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

Dear Members of the Howard County Council:

Please see our attached Letter of Support favoring the establishment of the Maryland Inclusive Housing Opportunities Trust Fund. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Best regards,
Cindy Parr
Cindy Parr
Executive Director
cparr@archoward.org
The Arc of Howard County
410-730-0638, x225

Achieving full community life for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities - one person at a time.







May 19, 2021

Members of the Howard County Council 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Council Chairperson Liz Walsh, Co-Chairperson Opel Jones and Council Members Deb Jung, Christiana Rigby and David Yungmann:

The Arc of Howard County is writing you in regards to the County Council FY2022 Operations Budget.

The Arc of Howard County, as a member of the Maryland Inclusive Housing Corporation (MIH)-Howard County Committee is writing to urge you to establish the Howard County Housing Opportunities Trust Fund and include the proposed \$5 million in the county budget to begin the investment for accessible, inclusive and affordable housing for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

We understand that the purpose of this fund is to promote and support affordable housing broadly within Howard County. We are also aware that in 2019, 21,801 individuals with at least one disability lived in the county and 1,655 of those were 18-64 years old living in poverty. In January 2021, 140 County residents were on the Weinberg Apartments waitlist. There is a significant lack of accessible housing in the County with much of the newer accessible units having rents unaffordable to those who need the accessibility.

The Maryland Inclusive Housing Corporation (MIH) was established to help people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) successfully access and maintain inclusive, affordable, and accessible housing of their choice. The Howard County Committee was established to work on these issues within our own communities.

The people who the Arc of Howard County supports desperately need the availability of additional affordable housing and the establishment and the funding of the Housing Trust Fund would be a step to support this goal.

Regards,

Cindy Parr

Executive Director

From:

Sarah P Adams <sarahpadams@yahoo.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, May 19, 2021 2:49 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Cedar Lane Park

[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,

I recently learned that Howard Country is considered closing part of Cedar Lane Park for development. I was shocked and appalled. I have 4 daughters who each play 3 sports so as a family we spend the better part of our every week day evenings and weekends at practices and games at our county parks. The parks are all in near constant use. Sometimes there are lines of cars getting in and out of the parks because they are so well used. For tournaments and competition the parks draw athletes and spectators from all over the east coast. If we reduce the number of parks, we reduce our ability to host these sort of events and draw business to our county. Every time I visit one of our wonderful county parks, children on the playground or are playing sports, being active and getting exercise, learning values such as perseverance, determination, and sportsmanship. Adults are socializing, spectating, exercising, relaxing in the beautiful nature. Our county parks bring people together in so many essential ways. We can not afford to shut even one down even one of these treasures. Please help keep Howard County active, healthy and beautiful and do not close Cedar Lane Park.

Sarah Adams



May 19, 2021

Dear Howard County Council,

We are writing in support of the \$5.375 million in funding for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure projects included in County Executive Calvin Ball's proposed FY 2022 capital budget. As organizations committed to the county's complete streets vision and improving the public health of all of our residents, we urge you to preserve this funding in the final budget.

As we continue to move through the COVID-19 pandemic, the importance of investing in our public health has never been clearer. We must continue to make progress in our biking and walking infrastructure to build and improve sidewalks, bike lanes, paths, crosswalks and more so everyone in our community has opportunities to bike, walk and access important services. Developing this infrastructure is critical for Howard County to fulfill its vision for complete streets. These proposed infrastructure projects that prioritize the needs of pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users, along with the new design manual, are critical pieces to reimagining how our roads will be designed moving forward, which is exactly what complete streets is all about.

In particular, we especially support projects in communities with significant need and that have a history of disinvestment. For example, project K5035 in Elkridge will improve safety and connectivity for pedestrians and children trying to walk or bike to school along Montgomery Road, and project K5066 will build Howard County's first-ever protected bike lane along Oakland Mills Road serving the communities of Owen Brown and Oakland Mills. Residents in these communities — and across Howard County — deserve to have these projects fully funded and completed in a timely fashion so they have the opportunity to get around safely and easily. Capital projects connected to the complete streets vision are listed in table 1 on page three. Ultimately, improving opportunities to bike, walk and access public transit will help the county reach its complete streets goals and build a healthier and more multi-modal society.

We understand that the county is facing tough budget decisions due to the economic impacts of the pandemic. But now is NOT the time to cut funding for projects that would protect and improve public health. Many of us are now relying on safe and accessible sidewalks, bike lanes, paths and crosswalks now more than ever for physical activity, a mental reprieve from isolation and an important way for essential workers to get to their jobs. With more opportunities for biking and walking, we can both improve public health in our community for the future and also help the county realize its complete streets vision.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Laura Hale American Heart Association

Tiffani Peguese B. FLY Collective

Jack Guarneri Bicycling Advocates of Howard County

Chiara D'Amore The Community Ecology Institute

Sheila Young Gilchrist

Nikki Highsmith Vernick The Horizon Foundation

Kevin McAliley Wilde Lake Community Association



Table 1. Howard County Complete Streets Capital Budget Projects

Line Item	FY22 HoCo (Proposed)	FY22 Grants (Proposed)
C0332 - FY2014 Bus Stop Improvements	0	0
J4219-FY2015 Engineering Study Program	100	0
J4230 –Sanner Rd Improvements	0	0
J4248 – Savage Area Complete Streets	775	0
K5035 - FY1998 School Route Pathways or Sidewalks	400	0
K5036-FY1998 Routine Sidewalk Walkway Extensions	0	0
K5040 – Guilford Rd Pedestrian/Bike Improvement	0	0
K5043-Sidewalk Repair Program	1000	0
K5054-FY2003 Roadside Improvement Program	0	0
K5061-FY2007 Pedestrian Plan Projects	650	0
K5062-FY2009 State Roads Sidewalk Retrofit Program	0	0
K5063-FY2017 North Laurel Road Sidewalk	25	0
K5064-FY2017 Mission Road Sidewalk	0	0
K5065-FY2018 Doncaster Drive Sidewalk	0	0
K5066 – Bicycle Plan Projects	825	9
K5068-ADA Ramps Upgrade Program	1200	0
K5069 Bituminous Curb Replacement Program	400	0
T7088-FY2001 School Crosswalk Improvements	0	-135
T7107 – Downtown Columbia Patuxent Branch Trail	0	0
		aban sa
Total (\$K)	\$5,375	-\$126

From:

Dr. Chao Wu <chaowu2016@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, May 19, 2021 11:16 AM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Please pilot the body camera program

[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 pilot the body camera program in this budget. We should start with a small scale and adjust it in the future.

Thanks.

Chao

......

Chao Wu, PhD

Board Member of Howard County Board of Education

website: https://www.chaowu.org

Note: The opinion in the email does not represent the opinion of the Howard County Board of Education unless it is clearly stated.

From:

PATF HoCo <patf.hoco@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, May 19, 2021 10:30 AM

To:

CouncilMail; Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann,

David

Cc:

Ball, Calvin; Jim Gormley; Hiruy Hadgu; Jacqueline Akinpelu; Faye Page; Gibson, Richard; Harris, Marcus; Campbell, Roberta; Brown@aclu-md.org; Tammy424@icloud.com; Stu

Kohn; E Kato; paul.baicich; Kendall@progressivemaryland.org; Larry Walker;

YMatties@hotmail.com; FikesFavors@gmail.com; SHowell@comcast.net; Joann MOORE;

Rev. Angela B. Martin

Subject:

Please Don't Delay Implementation of HoCo's BWC Program

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

Dear Council Members...

On behalf of the Police Accountability Task Force - Howard County (PATF-HoCo) steering committee and our coalition supporters, we are urgently contacting you to ask for your support.

Based on a report we read in the Baltimore Sun on Monday, Dr. Calvin Ball sent an unexpected letter to the Board of Education proposing re-allocation of money in his proposed fiscal 2022 budget to give an additional \$4 million to the Howard County Public School System. As a result of giving more money to the school system, we were disappointed to learn that Dr. Ball will not be keeping his March 24th commitment to the community for \$3.2M to fully fund a final and comprehensive implementation of a Body Worn Camera (BWC) program by the end of 2021. Based on this proposed re-allocation of funding, there may be as much as a yearlong delay in the implementation of this important and long-overdue program.

Honestly, we don't have an issue with additional funding for the Board of Education (BOE). HoCo's \$1.9 Billion budget is inclusive of hundreds of programs and it should not be an insurmountable task to find \$3.2 Million without reducing funds intended for education. The proposed funding for the BWC program is less than 0.2% of the entire budget. Reapportioning this amount relative to the entire budget (\$1.9 Billion) shouldn't have a detrimental impact on the entirety of the elements included in the budget.

This is a time-sensitive issue. It is our understanding that there is a Budget Amendment Prefile requirement today, Wednesday, May 19th, at 2pm and there is a final budget confirmation process next week.

In the wake of George Floyd's murder and, more recently, the fatal police shooting of Andrew Brown, Jr. in North Carolina, a well-implemented BWC program is a fundamental "first step" towards ensuring accountability and transparency in community policing. Jurisdictions in Maryland, many far less prosperous than Howard County, have mustered the ability to fund their BWC programs - including Montgomery County, Harford County, Baltimore County, Queen Anne's County, Wicomico County and the cities of Baltimore, Frederick and Salisbury. Even small communities like Berlin and Fruitland have funded BWC programs for their police departments. We believe Howard County should be leading the movement for increased accountability, not lagging behind.

We contacted Dr. Ball yesterday to urge him to reconsider his decision and we hope we can count on your support to do so as well. Also, if Dr. Ball does reconsider his decision, we request that **all Council** members fully support his decision to reinstate \$3.2M funding for the BWC program to ensure there is no delay in implementation. The time to install this critical program is now... not next year. The community is watching and we depend on all our representatives to do the right thing!

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Regards, Ted Stewart

On behalf of PATF-HoCo

BWC Coalition Partners

ACLU Maryland | HoCo Coalition for Immigrant Justice | Howard County Citizens Association | IndivisibleHoCoMD | Our Revolution Howard County | Progressive Maryland | The African American Community Roundtable of Howard County | Chinese American Network for Diversity and Opportunity (CANDO) | Columbia Democratic Club | African American Coalition of Howard County | Maryland Poor People's Campaign

From:

Lisa Schlossnagle < lisabmrss@gmail.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, May 18, 2021 3:31 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

protect funding for housing

[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,

I urge you to fully fund the housing portion of the proposed FY 2022 budget. People need homes. Housing in Howard County has become more and more out of reach for people who work here, wish to retire here, already live here, or want to return to their hometowns here. This funding is just one tool in the kit for providing for our people, yet it must be used.

Thank you, Lisa Schlossnagle Fulton, MD District 4

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Lisa Schlossnagle < lisabmrss@gmail.com>

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Thank you, Lisa Schlossnagle Fulton, MD District 4

From:

LINDA Wengel < lwengel@msn.com>

Sent:

Tuesday, May 18, 2021 1:17 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

LWVHC SUPPORTS HOUSING TRUST FUND

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

The League of Women Voters of Howard County enthusiastically supports the establishment and funding of the Proposed Housing Trust Fund.

The League conducted a study of housing needs in the county in 2018 and among its conclusions was the recognition that a dedicated public funding source was necessary to meaningfully involve the county in meeting the housing needs of all Howard County residents and its workforce.

Housing is as essential a public responsibility as education, public works, safety and health.

Housing Trust Funds have been used successfully in many jurisdictions. Its flexibility would enable the county to maximize access to a variety of affordable housing programs, and participate in public-private partnerships. The Housing Trust Fund was a recommendation of the Housing Opportunities Task Force and we applaud County Executive Ball for including it in the 2022:budget. We ask that this Council approve it. The League appreciates your continuing support.

Linda Wengel Action Chair LWVHC



Members of the Howard County Council 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043 May 18, 2021

Dear Chair Liz Walsh, Co-Chair Opel Jones and Council Members Deb Jung, Christiana Rigby and David Yungmann,

County Council FY2022 Operations Budget

Maryland Inclusive Housing Corporation (MIH) was established to help people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (IDD) successfully access and maintain inclusive, affordable, and accessible housing of their choice. To this end, MIH has established Housing Committees around the state, including one in Howard County to work at these issues.

On behalf of MIH and our Howard County Committee, whose members are listed at the end of this letter, we urge you to establish the Howard County Housing Opportunities Trust Fund and include the proposed \$5 million to get it started.

We understand that the purpose of this fund is to promote and support affordable housing broadly within Howard County. We are also aware that in 2019, 21,801 individuals with at least one disability lived in the county and 1,655 of those were 18-64 years old living in poverty. In January 2021, 140 County residents were on the Weinberg Apartments waitlist, and there is a significant lack of accessible housing in the County with much of the newer accessible units having rents unaffordable to those who need the accessibility.

The people who we support desperately need the availability of additional affordable housing and the establishment and the funding of the Housing Trust Fund would be a step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

Tim Wiens

Executive Director

Maryland Inclusive Housing

Tim Wears

MIH Howard County Housing Committee Members:

Judi Olinger - Vice President, Humanim

Cindy Parr – Executive Director, Arc/Howard County

Patricia Sylvester – President, Columbia Downtown Housing Corp

Grace Morris – Executive Director, Heritage Housing Partners

Mark Dunham – Consultant, Kindred Strategies

Melissa Rosenberg – Executive Director, Howard County Autism Society

Katie Collins-Ihrke – Executive Director, Accessible Resources for Independence

Dorothy Plantz – Parent and former Arc/Howard County Board Member

Theresa Ballinger - Parent and Board Member of Howard County Autism Society & Arc/Howard County

Nannette Livadas – Deputy Director, Howard County Housing Commission

Diane Dressler - Consultant, MIH

From:

larcar4@comcast.net

Sent:

Monday, May 17, 2021 3:14 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Fwd: East Columbia Senior Center

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

Dear Council members,

Last week I sent the e-mail below to my councilwoman, Deb Jung, but I thought that all of you should know how much the timely funding of the East Columbia Senior Center is a priority for all Howard Countians. I urge ALL of you to please vote yes for the full funding of the center this year.

Sincerely, Carolyn Arena 5033 Broken Oak Lane Columbia, MD 21044

----- Original Message -----

From: larcar4@comcast.net

To: "djung@howardcountymd.gov" <djung@howardcountymd.gov>

Date: 05/12/2021 8:39 PM

Subject: East Columbia Senior Center

Dear Councilwoman Deb Jung,

I'm writing as a long-time Harper's Choice resident who wholeheartedly supports the full funding for the East Columbia Senior Center. I am quite disturbed that to date you have not voted for this construction, and I'm requesting that you change your vote to a "yes." It is imperative that the center proceeds this year.

If you were able to catch the streaming of the rally on June 30, you heard many people speak from the perspective of equity for East Columbians. I wholeheartedly agree. But I want to tell you that the full funding for the center is also very important to me, who lives in your district, not East Columbia. I have used the center for many years while taking an art class for seniors. I know there are other Harper's Choice residents in my class, and many of us were talking at the rally and agree we totally back full funding this year. The facilities are woefully inadequate for the number of people using the facility. I don't understand why that senior center has been overlooked for so long.

As a Harper's Choice resident, I can report that the center is very important to many, many people from all over Howard County. Perhaps you haven't voted yes

so far because you thought that the center wasn't important to your constituents. But let me tell you that it is very much in <u>my</u> interest to have you change your vote. The whole tenor of the April 30 event was that postponing the new senior center was inequitable to the East Columbia residents. But it really is inequitable to <u>all Howard County</u> seniors too.

Please vote Yes.

Sincerely, Carolyn Arena 5033 Broken Oak Lane Columbia, MD 21044

From:

Diane and Steven Fishman <fishmansd@gmail.com>

Sent:

Monday, May 17, 2021 2:34 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

East Columbia Senior Center

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

My husband and I have lived and paid taxes at our current address in East Columbia for over 45 years. We were very dismayed when the East Columbia Senior Center was originally built with inadequate space and facilities. I hope you will vote to fully support the proposed expanded center to give our aging, densely populated area equal amenities to the rest of the county.

Diane Fishman 9233 Sealed Message Rd.

From:

Nancy Hostetler <nhostetler@me.com>

Sent:

Monday, May 17, 2021 2:16 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Please save Cedar Ln Park

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

Dear Dr. Ball and Council Members,

I am writing to oppose the building of a fire station and the proposed park changes in Cedar Lane Park East. This park provides tremendous value to Columbia, MD and all Howard County residents. Not only will placing a fire station cause increased traffic and danger to those that live directly off of this section of Rt. 108, but also negatively impact your constituents that live in the surrounding communities. This plan goes against Dr. Ball's words stated during the most recent environmental town hall held on April 29th, 2021, "Prioritize protecting green and open space". Not only is the County proposing to place a fire station in such a congested & unideal location, it is proposing to take away 2 natural fields, replace one with ARTIFICIAL turf, and place a significant amount of impervious surface in that area. Overdevelopment throughout Howard County, including the replacement of natural areas with impervious services, is a serious concern and the loss of habitat and impact on the environment would be significant. I do not support these changes and would hope that you would stand by your words and commitment to protect green, open space in Howard County. Let's place an emphasis on environmental stewardship.

Thank you,

Nancy Hostetler 11036 Gaither Farm Road Ellicott City Maryland 21042 443-250-3184 Sent from my iPhone

From:

Judy Goldfarb <judygoldfarb8@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, May 15, 2021 1:13 PM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Fully Fund the East Columbia 50+ Center Project

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

RE: "

I am a Howard County senior resident for 36 years and have paid taxes and truly believe in the Columbia concept. I feel strongly that as seniors we want East Columbia to have the same services and facilities as every other location in Columbia. Please vote to fully fund the 50+ Center Project in East Columbia.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Judy Goldfarb 10205 Wincopin Cir, #409 Columbia, MD 21044 410 461-9916

From:

Fran Dummett <frandummett@gmail.com>

Sent:

Saturday, May 15, 2021 11:14 AM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Fully Fund the 50+ Center Project

[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 a member of The Village in Howard, which is a member-based COMMUNITY of Howard County residents 55 and older who want to continue to live independently in the homes and neighborhoods they know. I have lived in Howard County in most of the villages for 51 years and have paid taxes and truly believe in the Columbia concept. I feel strongly that as seniors we want East Columbia to have the same services and facilities as every other location in Columbia. Please vote to fully fund the 50+ Center Project in East Columbia.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Fran Dummett The Village in Howard **Board Member** Address: Dorsey Hall

Tel: 410 707 9697

From:

Mary Pat Donelan <marypatd@verizon.net>

Sent:

Saturday, May 15, 2021 9:08 AM

To:

CouncilMail

Subject:

Funding for East Columbia 50+ Center

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

I am a member of The Village in Howard, which is a member-based COMMUNITY of Howard County residents 55 and older who want to continue to live independently in the homes and neighborhoods they know. I have lived in Howard County in most of the villages for 42 years have paid taxes and truly believe in the Columbia concept. I feel strongly that as seniors we want East Columbia to have the same services and facilities as every other location in Columbia. Please vote to fully fund the 50+ Center Project in East Columbia.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Mary Pat Donelan
Director of Operations
The Village in Howard
Address: Long Reach
Tel: 410 730-9294