

**Sayers, Margery**

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**From:** Stacy Snell <snelly@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 3:09 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Opposition to Council Resolution 117-2021

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

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my concern over the prospective appointment of former Board of Education member Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees. Ms. Taj may have an impressive professional paper record to support this appointment, but looking beyond the paper record, her involvement in county affairs as both a public official and as a private citizen has been rife with controversy and concerning displays of unethical leadership and poor judgment.

Here are just a few examples that I can readily provide links to for more information:

1) Firsthand account of divisive leadership by Ms. Taj posted by a person who served with her on a PTA prior to her time as a BOE member:  
<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fgroups%2FHoCoNU%2Fposts%2F2544052569152118%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cmsayers%40howardcountymd.gov%7C293b1901fde140c4d05808d951320178%7C0538130803664bb7a95b95304bd11a58%7C1%7C0%7C637630097489087387%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=RxB3XtgpUlyMri%2FVfQlOgyky%2FRBeKr41hqsHRa4t3o%3D&reserved=0>

2) In November 2019, Ms. Taj led the HCPSS BOE to violate the Open Meetings Act:

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fgroups%2FHoCoNU%2Fposts%2F2676503365907037%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cmsayers%40howardcountymd.gov%7C293b1901fde140c4d05808d951320178%7C0538130803664bb7a95b95304bd11a58%7C1%7C0%7C637630097489087387%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=tQLAuy3z%2FcNmAmn7ZxMOC7gh546uEnwnxyoQ6pPgk%3D&reserved=0>

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3) Ms. Taj was a founding member of "The Rouse Project" --- an organization that brought significant dark money & unprecedented advertising into the 2021 Columbia Association Board of Directors elections --- unpaid volunteer positions. This organization was "outed" by one of the CA election candidates (Richard Bolton) as being a front company for developers (e.g. The Howard Hughes Corporation) interested in influencing the CA elections and placing CA Directors who would facilitate future land use deals & development projects:

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Ms. Taj also was involved in the PR wing of "The Rouse Project", which produced a very divisive mailer that denigrated former County Executive Liz Bobo and labeled all critics of "The Rouse Project" as "haters" --- going so far as to produce a "hate list" for the organization:

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This is just a small sampling of what Ms. Taj has brought to Howard County politics: controversies, division, violations, unethical political maneuvering, and probable conflicts-of-interest with her strong ties to special interest groups through The Rouse Project. As well-intentioned as her public service and civic engagement may be, these are the consistently concerning and unfortunate results when she is granted a position of power and influence. There are countless other Howard County residents who are able & willing to serve as a member of the HCLS Board of Directors, many of whom could do at least as competent of a job, if not more so, than Ms. Taj, and do so with minimal controversy and consistent respect for their fellow Directors and the community as a whole.

By the evidence above, as well as the many other examples that can be shared by other Howard County residents and public official colleagues who have recently worked with her, it is clear that appointing Ms. Taj to this position will bring significant risk of both future controversies & unneeded drama to HCLS and its leadership as well as obvious risks of conflict of interest when budget decisions related to library land use and development are decided (e.g. budget & policy decisions regarding the fate of the Central Library and The Howard Hughes Corporation's desire to relocate it and build what they deem as affordable housing in its place).

I urge you to vote no to Council Resolution 117-2021 ("A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees.") and to discuss with your Council colleagues to reach a majority decision of "no" on this matter.

The Howard County Library System is too precious to entrust to an individual with such an obvious list of recent ethics transgressions, controversies, and probable conflicts of interest. Please entrust this responsibility to another Howard County citizen who will bring respectful, steady leadership to this important position.

Thank you for your consideration of this request,

Stacy Snell

District 1 / Address 8414 church lane road ellicott city MD 21043

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Megan Benedict <megankbenedict@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 2:05 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Opposition to Council Resolution 117-2021 and the Appointment of Sabina Taj

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

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my concern over the prospective appointment of former Board of Education member Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees. Ms. Taj may have an impressive professional paper record to support this appointment, but looking beyond the paper record, her involvement in county affairs as both a public official and as a private citizen has been rife with controversy and concerning displays of unethical leadership and poor judgment.

I have personally dealt with Ms Taj during our overlapping tenure at our local PTA. My interactions with her are similar to these below - A great deal of division, calling people racists if they disagreed with her, and calling people racists if they did something different than she would have done. Her mode of operation would be to go into a committee meeting, ask for people to consider x,y,z and then provide no help to achieve the goals she wanted others to do. If those goals weren't met, it was because we were racist, not because we were simply unable to meet her, sometimes outlandish, requests. I am happy to provide more details and examples if the Council is so inclined.

Here are just a few examples that I can readily provide links to for more information:

1) Firsthand account of divisive leadership by Ms. Taj posted by a person who served with her on a PTA prior to her time as a BOE member: <https://www.facebook.com/.../HoCoNU/posts/2544052569152118/>

2) In November 2019, Ms. Taj led the HCPSS BOE to violate the Open Meetings Act:

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<https://www.facebook.com/.../permalink/2587065884850786/>

3) Ms. Taj was a founding member of "The Rouse Project" --- an organization that brought significant dark money & unprecedented advertising into the 2021 Columbia Association Board of Directors elections --- unpaid volunteer positions. This organization was "outed" by one of the CA election candidates (Richard Bolton) as being a front company for developers (e.g. The Howard Hughes Corporation) interested in influencing the CA elections and placing CA Directors who would facilitate future land use deals & development projects:

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Ms. Taj also was involved in the PR wing of "The Rouse Project", which produced a very divisive mailer that denigrated former County Executive Liz Bobo and labeled all critics of "The Rouse Project" as "haters" --- going so far as to produce a "hate list" for the organization: <https://scotteblog.com/.../email-from-the-rouse-project.../>

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Thank you for your consideration of this request,

Megan Benedict

10009 Whitworth Way



## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Surajit Sengupta <surajit@ntechworkforce.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 1:54 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Opposition to Council Resolution 117-2021" (or something similar).

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

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my concern over the prospective appointment of former Board of Education member Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees. Ms. Taj may have an impressive professional paper record to support this appointment, but looking beyond the paper record, her involvement in county affairs as both a public official and as a private citizen has been rife with controversy and concerning displays of unethical leadership and poor judgment.

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2481593048731404/permalink/2587065884850786/>

3) Ms. Taj was a founding member of "The Rouse Project" --- an organization that brought significant dark money & unprecedented advertising into the 2021 Columbia Association Board of Directors elections --- unpaid volunteer positions. This organization was "outed" by one of the CA election candidates (Richard Bolton) as being a front company for developers (e.g. The Howard Hughes Corporation) interested in influencing the CA elections and placing CA Directors who would facilitate future land use deals & development projects:

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Thank you for your consideration of this request,

Surajit Sengupta

[District 5/ 10937 white dahlia drive woodstock MD 21163]

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**Surajit Sengupta**  
President, Co-Founder  
nTech Workforce

**ISO 20000-1:2018 Certified**

**D:** 410-988-3828

**C:** 443-224-7556

**E:** [surajit@ntechworkforce.com](mailto:surajit@ntechworkforce.com)

**W:** [www.ntechworkforce.com](http://www.ntechworkforce.com)



## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** no-reply@howardcountymd.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 1:03 PM  
**To:** greengalmam@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Council - Sabina Taj & the library

**First Name:** M. Anastasia  
**Last Name:** MacDonald  
**Email:** [greengalmam@gmail.com](mailto:greengalmam@gmail.com)  
**Street Address:** 9489 Hickory Limb  
**City:** Columbia  
**Subject:** Sabina Taj & the library

**Message:** Hello, I steer clear of discussions of local politics on Facebook – they are too often contentious and unproductive. But I can't stay silent in the face of the Indian Cultural Association's public letter about Sabina Taj. I am writing as a private citizen, but I work for Clarksville Commons. When an email I sent two years ago is dredged up and twisted as farcical evidence for the character assassination of a friend of mine, I must speak up. Sabina Taj is an ethical, moral person who prioritizes inclusivity and making sure everyone feels welcome. She would be a wonderful addition to our library's leadership. The ICA's overreaction to her suggestions two years ago and this public attack now are uncalled for. If the real aim is the good of Howard County, so much more might've been accomplished by initiating true dialogue. I fully support Sabina Taj's being appointed to the library. Thank you. Anastasia MacDonald

**Sayers, Margery**

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**From:** RICK CAPINO < tara345@comcast.net >  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 1:01 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Opposition to Council Resolution 117-2021

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



## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** ruchita bagul <rdbagul@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 12:42 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** Yungmann, David; Jung, Deb; Rigby, Christiana; Jones, Opel; Walsh, Elizabeth  
**Subject:** Opposition to Council Resolution 117-2021

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Thank you for your consideration of this request,  
Ruchita Bagul  
[District 7/4532chews Vineyard, Ellicott City, MD

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Eric Greenberg <ermg78@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 12:30 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Opposition to CR117-2021

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

Council Members:

I am writing to urge you to vote AGAINST resolution 117-2021. The nominee to the Board of Library trustees recently served on the Board of Education in Howard County. However, while in that position she was found in violation of the open meetings act by texting another member during board proceedings (Reference 1). Such actions should not be tolerated in a county that values transparency and good governance. Therefore, please vote against Resolution 117.

Sincerely,

Eric Greenberg  
Columbia, MD

Reference 1: <https://scotteblog.com/2020/03/28/the-howard-county-board-of-education-violated-the-open-meetings-act-when-two-of-its-members-exchanged-electronic-messages-during-a-public-meeting/>

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Urvi Patel <patel.urvi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 12:27 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Opposition of Sabina Taj nomination

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

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my concern over the prospective appointment of former Board of Education member Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees. Ms. Taj may have an impressive professional paper record to support this appointment, but looking beyond the paper record, her involvement in county affairs as both a public official and as a private citizen has been rife with controversy and concerning displays of unethical leadership and poor judgment.

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This is just a small sampling of what Ms. Taj has brought to Howard County politics: controversies, division, violations, unethical political maneuvering, and probable conflicts-of-interest with her strong ties to special interest groups through The Rouse Project. As well-intentioned as her public service and civic engagement may be, these are the consistently concerning and unfortunate results when she is granted a position of power and influence. There are countless other Howard County residents who are able & willing to serve as a member of the HCLS Board of Directors, many of whom could do at least as competent of a job, if not more so, than Ms. Taj, and do so with minimal controversy and consistent respect for their fellow Directors and the community as a whole.

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Thank you for your consideration of this request,

U. Patel

11114 martha Way, Fulton, MD 20759

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Regards, Urvi Patel

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Regards, Urvi Patel

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Dawn Popp <dpmom23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 12:24 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** CR-117-2021 and CR-118-2021 - Please Vote YES

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

Dear Chair Walsh and Council Members,

I was very happy to learn of the pending appointments of Sabina Taj to the HC Library Board of Trustees, and Ainy Haider-Shah to the Compensation Review Commission. Both women are highly qualified, dedicated members of this community, and I am grateful for their willingness to serve - as I am to all of their fellow appointees on the agenda for tomorrow. (I know from personal experience that serving on County Boards and Commissions can be a time-consuming, yet often thankless job!)

I had not planned on submitting testimony regarding these appointments, because I assumed that they would sail through without controversy, as is typically the case for such appointments. However, I have since become aware of an ugly "whisper campaign" on social media, encouraging people to oppose these appointments, so I now feel compelled to speak up in support of these women.

It's important to note that none of the smears against these women have anything to do with their qualifications to serve in the roles to which they have been appointed. Instead, they seem to be rooted in wild anti-development conspiracy theories, with a healthy dose of misogyny and Islamophobia.

I am certain that you are all well aware of the rising toxicity in the political climate in recent years - not only on the national level, but sadly on the local level as well. Local elected officials, candidates, and even private citizens *and their families*, are routinely targeted with personal attacks, "doxxing," weaponized MPIA requests, and outright lies about their views and actions. (Again, I speak from personal experience.) This toxic local climate has become so ugly, it has already begun deterring people from running for office or seeking to serve the community in other ways, for fear of being targeted. If these tactics are perceived to be successful, they will only increase. How much harder will it become to find qualified people willing to serve on Boards and Commissions? (As you know, the County Charter was recently amended to shorten the terms of most Boards and Commissions - precisely because it's *already* difficult to find qualified people who are willing and able to serve.)

I urge you to ignore the smear campaign against Ms. Taj and Ms. Haider-Shah, and instead focus only on their experience, dedication to our community, and their qualifications for the roles they have been appointed for. If you do so, I have no doubt that you will unanimously approve both appointments.

Sincerely,  
Dawn Popp  
Elkridge, D1



## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Jung, Deb  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 12:08 PM  
**To:** Sayers, Margery  
**Subject:** FW: Resolution 117-2021

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**From:** Eric Greenberg <ermg78@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 26, 2021 9:54 PM  
**To:** Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** Resolution 117-2021

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

Council Member Jung:

I am writing to urge you to vote AGAINST resolution 117-2021. The nominee to the Board of Library trustees recently served on the Board of Education in Howard County. However, while in that position she was found in violation of the open meetings act by texting another member during board proceedings (Reference 1). Such actions should not be tolerated in a county that values transparency and good governance. Therefore, please vote against Resolution 117.

Sincerely,

Eric Greenberg  
Columbia, MD

Reference 1: <https://scotteblog.com/2020/03/28/the-howard-county-board-of-education-violated-the-open-meetings-act-when-two-of-its-members-exchanged-electronic-messages-during-a-public-meeting/>

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Jung, Deb  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 12:08 PM  
**To:** Sayers, Margery  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Council Resolution 117-2021

**From:** Steven Keller <steven.keller17@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 1:13 AM  
**To:** Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** Opposition to Council Resolution 117-2021

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

Dear Ms. Jung,

I hope you are doing well and having a fantastic summer so far! Thank you very much for all that you've done and continue to do to improve Howard County for all who live here.

As a District 4 resident, I am writing to express my concern over the prospective appointment of former Board of Education member Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees. Ms. Taj may have an impressive professional paper record to support this appointment, but looking beyond the paper record, her involvement in county affairs as both a public official and as a private citizen has been rife with controversy and concerning displays of unethical leadership and poor judgment.

Here are just a few examples that I can readily provide links to for more information:

1) Firsthand account of divisive leadership by Ms. Taj posted by a person who served with her on a PTA prior to her time as a BOE member:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HoCoNU/posts/2544052569152118/>

2) In November 2019, Ms. Taj led the HCPSS BOE to violate the Open Meetings Act:

<https://www.hoconu.com/blog-20200327-2/>

<https://www.hoconu.com/blog-20191219/>

3) Ms. Taj was a founding member of "The Rouse Project" --- an organization that brought significant dark money & unprecedented advertising into the 2021 Columbia Association Board of Directors elections --- unpaid volunteer positions. This organization was "outed" by one of the CA election candidates (Richard Bolton) as being a front company for developers (e.g. The Howard Hughes Corporation) interested in influencing the CA elections and placing CA Directors who would facilitate future land use deals & development projects:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HoCoNU/posts/2996809760543061>

<https://www.hoconu.com/blog-20210414/>

Ms. Taj also was involved in the PR wing of "The Rouse Project", which produced a very divisive mailer that denigrated former County Executive Liz Bobo and labeled all critics of "The Rouse Project" as "haters" --- going so far as to produce a "hate list" for the organization: <https://scottblog.com/2021/03/23/email-from-the-rouse-project-outlines-their-haters-and-responses-to-the-email-from-those-mentioned-in-howard-county/>

This is just a small sampling of what Ms. Taj has brought to Howard County politics: controversies, division, violations, unethical political maneuvering, and probable conflicts-of-interest with her strong ties to special interest groups through The Rouse Project. As well-intentioned as her public service and civic engagement may be, these are the consistently concerning and unfortunate results when she is granted a position of power and influence. There are countless other Howard County residents who are able & willing to serve as a member of the HCLS Board of Directors, many of whom could do at least as competent of a job, if not more so, than Ms. Taj, and do so with minimal controversy and consistent respect for their fellow Directors and the community as a whole.

By the evidence above, as well as the many other examples that can be shared by other Howard County residents and public official colleagues who have recently worked with her, it is clear that appointing Ms. Taj to this position will bring significant risk of both future controversies & unneeded drama to HCLS and its leadership as well as obvious risks of conflict of interest when budget decisions related to library land use and development are decided (e.g. budget & policy decisions regarding the fate of the Central Library and The Howard Hughes Corporation's desire to relocate it and build what they deem as affordable housing in its place).

I urge you to vote no to Council Resolution 117-2021 ("A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees.") and to discuss with your Council colleagues to reach a majority decision of "no" on this matter.

The Howard County Library System is too precious to entrust to an individual with such an obvious list of recent ethics transgressions, violations, controversies, and probable conflicts of interest. Please entrust this responsibility to another Howard County citizen who will bring respectful, steady leadership to this important position.

Thank you for your consideration of this request,

Steven Keller

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Jung, Deb  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 12:08 PM  
**To:** Sayers, Margery  
**Subject:** FW: Council Resolutions 117 -2021 and 118-2021

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**From:** Jason Booms <jasonabooms@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 7:27 AM  
**To:** Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Cc:** Williams, China <ccwilliams@howardcountymd.gov>; csamayoa@howardscountymd.gov  
**Subject:** Council Resolutions 117 -2021 and 118-2021

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

Councilperson Jung,

I strongly support the confirmations of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees and Ainy Haider-Shah to the Compensation Review Commission.

Jason Booms

Council Resolution 117-2021 - A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees. (No expiration date)

Council Resolution 118-2021 – Introduced by the Chairperson - A RESOLUTION appointing the members of the Compensation Review Commission; providing that the Commission shall recommend the compensation and allowances of the County Council to be elected in November 2022 by Resolution not later than December 21, 2021; providing that the Commission shall make a recommendation concerning compensation and allowances of the County Executive to be elected in November 2022; and providing that the Commission shall terminate on April 30, 2022. (No expiration date).

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Jung, Deb  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 12:07 PM  
**To:** Sayers, Margery  
**Subject:** FW: July 28: opposition to appointments of both Ms Taj and Ms Haider

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**From:** Beth Lawson <bethlawson3735@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 8:05 AM  
**To:** Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** July 28: opposition to appointments of both Ms Taj and Ms Haider

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

All honorable Howard County Council people:

I urge you to NOT appoint BOTH Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider to both/either Council Resolutions: 117-2021 AND 118-202.

Being appointed to either position is a great honor. There are far better candidates in Howard County than these!

Regards,  
Beth Lawson



## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Jung, Deb  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 12:07 PM  
**To:** Sayers, Margery  
**Subject:** FW: Board appointments

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

From: Kelly Lee <kellyklinefelterlee@icloud.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 10:51 AM  
To: Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>  
Subject: Board appointments

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

Dear Councilwoman Jung,

I am writing in support of Sabina Taj's appointment to the Library Board of Trustees (CR-117-2021) and in support of Ainy Haider-Shah's appointment to the Compensation Review Board (CR-118-2021).

These two women have dedicated so much of their time and efforts to improve the county to be MORE inclusive and progressive. I have personally worked with these two women on a number of projects that serve our neediest and most vulnerable residents. They work to benefit others, not themselves. Howard County is a better place because of their contributions.

They are now being attacked due to the rise in Islamophobia in this county. It is notable that only these two women, who happen to be of South Asian decent and are Muslim, have been singled out among all the appointees.

The attacks are baseless and deplorable. I ask that you reject this attempt to exclude supremely qualified Muslim women of color from having a seat at the table and vote to approve their appointments.

Respectfully,

Kelly Klinefelter Lee  
11810 Snow Patch Way  
Columbia

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Jessica Moreno <jessicalterrazas@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 10:20 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** CR-117-2021 and CR-118-2021

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

Hello County Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to please vote in favor of the county resolutions listed in the subject line. I've had the pleasure of knowing Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider-Shah for about 3 years and in my time knowing them I have been overwhelmed by their knowledge and passion. Sabina's passion and drive for education makes her an excellent candidate for the Library Board of Trustees. There is no one I trust more than Ainy Haider-Shah to hold a commission accountable, especially one as important as Compensation Review.

Thank you for your time,

Jessica L. Moreno

Dear Councilman Jones,

July 27, 2021

I am writing to urge you and your fellow council members to support Council Resolution 118-2021 to appoint Ainy Haider to the Compensation Review Commission and to support Council Resolution 117-2021 to confirm the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees.

I am deeply disappointed by the attacks on social media against these women who I know to work very hard to better our community. I am appalled and disheartened that some have tried to smear them with meritless accusations. They will both continue to be thoughtful, dedicated, and inclusive in their service and will be an asset on these bodies.

Judith Birnbaum  
Elkridge

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Khaleda Hasan <shahidkhaleda@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 9:25 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Board appointments

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

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing in support of Sabina Taj's appointment to the Library Board of Trustees (CR-117-2021) and in support of Ainy Haider-Shah's appointment to the Compensation Review Board (CR-118-2021).

These two women have dedicated so much of their time and efforts to improve the county to be MORE inclusive and progressive. I am thankful for their continued contributions. Howard County is a better place because of their respective contributions.

They are now being attacked due to the rise in Islamophobia in this county. It is notable that only these two women, who happen to be of South Asian decent and are Muslim, have been singled out among all the appointees.

The attacks are baseless and deplorable. I ask that you reject this attempt to exclude supremely qualified Muslim women of color from having a seat at the table and vote to approve their appointments.

Respectfully,  
Dr. Khaleda Hasan  
District 3

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Jennifer Solpietro <jennygrrlrocks@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 9:07 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Please confirm Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider-Shah

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

Good morning,

I am writing to express my support for CR-117-2021 and CR-118-2021, nominating Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees and Ainy Haider-Shah to the Compensation Review Commission. Both of these women have dedicated their lives to public service and governance with a commitment to equity underpinning everything they do.

Please confirm Ms. Taj and Ms. Haider-Shah to these positions.

Thank you,  
Jennifer Solpietro

Sent from my iPhone



**Sayers, Margery**

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**From:** Katherine Berland <berlandk@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 9:05 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Support for Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider-Shah appointments

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

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing today to express my strong support of the appointments of Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library Board of Trustees and Ainy Haider-Shah to the County Compensation Review Commission. These two women have demonstrated a long-standing commitment to public service and upholding the same values that I embrace as a Howard County resident of equality, inclusivity, and opportunity for all. I urge you to confirm their respective appointments.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Katherine Berland  
D4

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Patti Gonzalez <pattigonzalez1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 27, 2021 8:20 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** CR-117-2021

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

I support Sabina Taj for Library Board of Trustees.  
PattiGonzalez

Sent from my iPhone

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Matthew Molyett <matthew@molyett.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 26, 2021 8:52 PM  
**To:** Walsh, Elizabeth  
**Cc:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Support for appointments

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

Council Chair Walsh,

I am writing to you in support of the appointments being decided by:

- \* Resolution No. 118 - 2021
- \* Resolution No. 117 - 2021

Thank you,

Matthew Molyett  
443-598-2441