

Sayers, Margery

From: Albert Lin <albertlin68@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 11:52 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 and to ask you to vote no to Council Resolution 117-2021 ("A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees."). Ms. Taj may have an impressive professional paper record to support this appointment, but looking beyond this, 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:

[Howard County Neighbors United : **Remember the time when two HCPSS Board of Education members \(Jen Mallo and Sabina Taj\) held a private text message conversation to discuss redistricting strategy during a public Board meeting** on November 18, 2019](#)





Howard County Neighbors United :
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Remember the time when two HCPSS Board of Education members (Jen Mallo and Sabina Taj) held a private text message conversation to discuss redistricting strategy during a public Board meeting on...

<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:

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

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/HoCoNU/posts/2993993794157991>

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: [Email from The Rouse Project outlines their haters and responses to the email from those mentioned in Howard County - Scott Es Blog](#)



Email from The Rouse Project outlines their haters and responses to the email from those mentioned in Howard County - Scott Es Blog

The Rouse Project (an entity that is weighing in on the upcoming Columbia Council races or better known as a position on the Columbia Association Board of Directors) sent out the following email yesterday:
It's time for a bit of truth-telling in Colu

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 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,

Albert Lin

District 4 Resident and Registered Voter at
11724 Trotter Crossing Ln
Clarksville, MD 21029

Sayers, Margery

From: Charlene Heinmuller <cheinmuller@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 7:24 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.]

Council Members of Howard County,

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 and to ask you to vote no to Council Resolution 117-2021 ("A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees."). Ms. Taj may have an impressive professional paper record to support this appointment, but looking beyond this, 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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2) In November 2019, Ms. Taj led the HCPSS BOE to violate the Open Meetings Act:
<https://www.facebook.com/.../HoCoNU/posts/2676503365907037/>
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I urge you to vote no to Council Resolution 117-2021 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,

Charlene Heinmuller
District 5 14116 Triadelphia Road, Glenelg MD 21737

Sayers, Margery

From: elizabeth moss <eliz.moss@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 5:31 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Yes on CR-117 and CR-118

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

I am writing to strongly support a YES vote on the appointment of Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider-Shah to their respective board/commission. Both women have dedicated countless hours to this County and provide an important perspective that will benefit this County. These women are being vilified by some because they asked complicated and difficult questions that will advance this County. Sabina and Ainy have also called individuals out on hypocritical behavior, or when individuals are acting in their self-interest. These same individuals are now leading the campaign to smear them purely as retribution. Sabina and Ainy are intelligent, hard working, dedicated individuals that are only looking to serve this County for the benefit of the citizens. Please vote YES for these women to demonstrate that smear tactics won't work in this County, and to allow Sabina's and Ainy's valuable input to assist the County to continue to advance and improve.

Elizabeth Moss
11097 Swansfield Road
Columbia, MD 21044

Sayers, Margery

From: Tanja Webber <tanja.webber@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 4:36 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 and to ask you to vote no to Council Resolution 117-2021 ("A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees."). Ms. Taj may have an impressive professional paper record to support this appointment, but looking beyond this, 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/.../HoCoNU/posts/2993993794157991>

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Thank you for your consideration of this request,

Tanja Brown Webber

District 1

5312 Tims Ct

Ellicott City, MD 21043

Sayers, Margery

From: Byron Macfarlane <byron.macfarlane@registers.maryland.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 4:20 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR-117-2021 and CR-118-2021 - SUPPORT

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

Good afternoon Chair Walsh and Members of the County Council,

I write to strongly urge your support of the nominations of Ms. Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees and Ms. Ainy Haider-Shah to the Compensation Review Commission. I have gotten to know both Ms. Taj and Ms. Haider-Shah over the years and believe they're precisely the kind of thoughtful, inclusive and forward-looking citizens whose voices belong at every decision-making table in our local government.

I respectfully urge you to approve these nominations so these two dedicated members of our community can get to work in these important roles.

Thank you for your time, attention, and your service to our great county.

Sincerely,

Byron E. Macfarlane
Register of Wills for Howard County
9250 Judicial Way, Suite 1100
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043
Phone: (410) 313-2133
<http://registers.maryland.gov/main/howard.html>

Sayers, Margery

From: James Walls <jvwalls4@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 2:33 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Mrs. Taj in Howard County

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

Council Members,

I found myself at a loss when I found out that anyone in Howard County would be considering Mrs. Taj for any government seat in Howard County. As an active resident of Howard County for over 35 years, I must beg you to reconsider her appointment. Her time spent on the Board of Education was a disgrace. She rarely paid attention to what was going on, and had to look to other member to know what way to vote. There were revotes taken because she misunderstood what way she was to vote. She voted against what the member of the community that she was to represent wanted on many occasions. It was clear she had no respect for what the people wanted. This could not have been made more clear when she could not get re-elected. Placing her on a board of Trustees would be a lack of understanding that the people of Howard County DO NOT TRUST her to make the best decisions for our community. I love Howard County because of its forward thinking inclusive nature. Mrs. Taj has not shown to share these values. I can not support any Council member who votes to confirm her possession.

--

Thank you for listening,
James Walls

Hamond High Boosters President 2018-20

Atholton Elementary School Treasure 2012-14

Howard High
Class of 87

Sayers, Margery

From: Mark Newgent <marknewgent@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 6:45 AM
To: CouncilMail; Yungmann, David; Jung, Deb; Rigby, Christiana; Jones, Opel; Walsh, Elizabeth
Subject: Reject the nominations of 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.]

The Honorable Liz Walsh, Council District 1
The Honorable Opel Jones, Council District 2
The Honorable Christina Rigby, Council District 3
The Honorable Deb Jung Council, District 4
The Honorable David Yungman, Council District 5

I am writing to oppose the nomination of Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library Board of Trustees and the nomination of Ainy Haider-Shah Compensation Review Commission.

Their resumes notwithstanding, Ms. Taj and Ms. Haider Shah embrace and practice an illiberal brand of identity politics. It is an ideology that reduces individuals to mere avatars of the accident of their birth--a rejection of the very foundations of our liberal democratic values.

Through the PTA at my children's school, my wife had the unfortunate experience of being on the business end of Ms. Taj's illiberal political methods. Judging a person based solely on the color of their skin is discrimination, and Ms. Taj deployed it to perfection against my wife. As for Ms. Haider-Shah, her keyboard warring on social media has evinced a similar illiberal orientation and temperament as that of Ms. Taj. Again, my wife has the receipts. Does the council want a person with a track record of discrimination making decisions on compensation?

While positive discrimination appears to be all the rage among the denizens of Ms. Taj and Ms. Haider-Shah's political tribe, I would remind the council that non-discrimination is the official policy of the State of Maryland and Howard County, and backed by the full force of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Individuals with documented track records practicing and espousing racial discrimination should be disqualified from public service.

There is something about this brand of illiberal politics that attracts people like Ms. Taj and Ms. Haider-Shah because it gives cruelty the veneer of justice.

Howard County should not give its imprimatur to such illiberalism by appointing Ms. Taj and Ms. Haider-Shah to official county positions.

For the above-stated reasons I respectfully urge the council to reject their nominations.

Regards,

Mark Newgent
9940 Whitworth Way
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Sayers, Margery

From: Susan Defibaugh <susankdefibaugh@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 11:34 PM
To: CouncilMail

[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 am in full agreement with what Tim Lattimer said, "I believe Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider-Shah are dedicated to serving the public with integrity, intelligence, and compassion. I know them to be strong advocates for equity and inclusion. Howard County must have no tolerance for hate."

I urge you to approve the nomination of Sabina to the Board of Library Trustees and Ainy's appointment to the Compensation Review Commission.

Thank you,

Susan Defibaugh
7248 Riding Hood Cir, Columbia, MD 21045

Sayers, Margery

From: Royalty, Wendy
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 8:38 PM
To: Sayers, Margery
Cc: Baker, Kevin
Subject: Fwd: Vote NO to Sabina Taj & Ainy Haider-Shah Appointments

Please include in the record and the tally.

Also, Mathew Molyett who was listed in opposition, is in D1.

Ty!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Jake Burdett <jakeburdett11@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 26, 2021 8:41 AM
To: Royalty, Wendy
Subject: Vote NO to Sabina Taj & 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.]

Wendy,

I'm writing to you as a staffer of Liz Walsh's to express my wishes to see my Councilmember vote AGAINST the appointments of Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider-Shah to any County Commission or Board. I had the displeasure of working with both of these women on a Board of Education campaign, and found both of them to be extremely unethical and unscrupulous actors, who I would never trust with any position of real authority or responsibility. These people regularly bully and smear honest and hardworking community activists, and spread propaganda on behalf of their elected officials they've pledged loyalty to, including by propping up the developer donors and PR that keeps their people in office.

That, in addition to Sabina Taj's proximity to the development lobby (specifically Howard Hughes Corporation) through her recent position as a Board Member of the dark money group The Rouse Project that tried to take over the CA Board, should be enough grounds to reject these nominations. It is speculated that Howard Hughes would like to build housing at the Central Library location in Howard County, so having Sabina Taj sit on this Board/Commission would be a pretty obvious conflict of interest. Also, knowing the character of both of these women pretty well, I'm 100% sure they will both use these positions to further their own self interests, rather than the interests of the community.

Sincerely,
Jake Burdett, a D1 Constituent

5824 Timberview Drive
Elkridge, MD 21075

Sayers, Margery

From: Dan Kramer <dan@veterinary-health.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 6:55 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Opposition to Sabina Taj Appointment

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

Dear Howard County Board,

I am writing to vigorously oppose the nomination of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees. Ms. Taj's previous actions have clearly demonstrated her complete lack of any objectivity when representing the interests of Howard County residents. Her nomination clearly signals political appointments at their lowest denominator and casts serious concerns of a political quid pro quo for such disruptive, myopic and deleterious performance. If you want this body to have any credibility, you will promptly reject this nomination.

Sincerely,
Dan Kramer
Ellicott City, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: DEEBA Jafri <deebajafri@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 10:06 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR117 and CR118

[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 am writing in support of both Sabina Taj's appointment to the Howard County Public Library Board of Trustees and Ainy Haider-Shah's appointment to the Compensation Review Commission.

I have known both of these women for a number of years and know that they both want the best for everyone in Howard County.

I urge you to vote yes on their appointments.

Kind regards

Deeba Jafri
Elkridge MD (District 2)

Sayers, Margery

From: luo wenbo <luowenbo@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 10:01 AM
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:

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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,

Wenbo Luo
5728 Whistling Winds Walk
Clarksville MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Jung, Deb
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 9:21 AM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: In Opposition to Council Resolution 117-2021

From: Kevin Bruening <klbruening@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 11:18 PM
To: Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: In 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.]

Ms Jung,

I urge you to vote NO in the matter of Sabina Taj in her appointment to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees. Sabina is a divisive figure and has engaged in unfair practices. She is not qualified to hold a position in Howard County government as a Trustee of the Howard County Library System.

To me the biggest infraction is Ms Taj becoming involved in the campaign of one of the candidates for Student Member of the Board. It seems petty and childish to attempt to influence students to vote for one student candidate over another, and even more so for a former member of the Board. Nearly every adult would exercise strict discretion in becoming involved in a student election - but not Sabina Taj. Her lack of discretion in this matter is not the first. The culmination of many public facts about Ms Taj as well as her mediocre performance as a board member should be enough to disqualify her as a nominee for the Board of Trustees.

Additionally, I believe Ms Taj presents a significant conflict of interest as she already sits on a number of other Boards in the county. She does not, for the sake of the county, need to be rewarded with another appointment.

[https://www.facebook.com/groups/HoCoNU/posts/2544052569152118/?_cft__\[0\]=AZV-uoNVZWtKndXQ20xcOBw319LjexVovhNVSFs-j56f5ybuAv_mGwke0gHOBSylrbD-eH6fneF8vbROIaj97xxfnAPDE5ZiHYXh4K48u2uK1tTZu51OjmFtjzrF7RYLX3PC_uRcbPWvvyuNtb9_PmcAFgs7hnW-pMfl7z8SPzRSzg&tn=-UK-R](https://www.facebook.com/groups/HoCoNU/posts/2544052569152118/?_cft__[0]=AZV-uoNVZWtKndXQ20xcOBw319LjexVovhNVSFs-j56f5ybuAv_mGwke0gHOBSylrbD-eH6fneF8vbROIaj97xxfnAPDE5ZiHYXh4K48u2uK1tTZu51OjmFtjzrF7RYLX3PC_uRcbPWvvyuNtb9_PmcAFgs7hnW-pMfl7z8SPzRSzg&tn=-UK-R)

<https://scotteblog.com/.../email-from-the-rouse-project.../>

Sincerely

Kevin L Bruening
Columbia, Maryland

Sayers, Margery

From: Jung, Deb
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 9:21 AM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Opposition to Council Resolution 117-2021

From: Debbie Bures-Walker <debbiebw@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 11:21 PM
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 Council Member Jung,

I am writing to you about the proposed appointment of Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees. I strongly recommend you reject her appointment to this important position.

When Ms. Taj served on the Board of Education (BOE) during contentious redistricting hearings, I watched her often scrolling on her phone while citizens and officials were testifying rather than listening to them. When the BOE members were supposed to give constructive advice on school redistricting, Ms. Taj had no advice to offer and repeatedly asked the redistricting/school planning experts for their opinion. They told her they had already given their opinion and it was now the BOE's responsibility to evaluate the plan, listen to the citizens, and create their own plan. Ms. Taj offered nothing in reply.

In short, when Ms. Taj was supposed to be working for the people (children and adults) of Howard County, Ms. Taj was unable and unwilling to do her job or lacked understanding of what her role was as a School Board elected official.

Our Howard County Library System is highly respected throughout the country, in fact, it is recognized as one of the finest public libraries in America. Appointing a person who is unable or unwilling to serve our community as a BOE member will not do justice for our Library System. Given her indifferent performance on the School Board during redistricting, it is unlikely that she will represent the county well on this board or will be able to advocate for our citizens.

Please vote against the proposed appointment of Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees.

Thank you,
Debbie Bures-Walker

4574 Rolling Meadows
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(443) 454-7301

Sayers, Margery

From: Jung, Deb
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 9:12 AM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: Support for Sabina Taj to the HCLS Board of Trustees

From: Razia Kosi <raziachai@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 4:54 PM
To: Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Support for Sabina Taj to the HCLS Board of Trustees

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

Date: 7/27/21

To: Deb Jung

Re: Support for Appointment of Sabina Taj to Howard County Library System Board of Trustees

Dear Ms. Jung,

I am writing to share my support for Sabina Taj to the HCLS Board of Trustees. Ms. Taj's experience in education, leadership, and commitment to serving the people of Howard County has been demonstrated through her extensive work in various educational settings. Her commitment to equity helped the Howard County Public School System actualize their policy for educational equity, and codify policies and practices to ensure every student is given the opportunity to attain their goals towards their future. In addition, Ms. Taj's work at the mail Howard County Community College, and passion for strengthening community bonds will further support the HCLS mission to deliver high-quality education for all. Her experience in working with different community groups, individuals, and students will be valuable to the HCLS third pillar, Instructive & Enlightening Experiences, to enhance and further the library's initiatives. For all of the stated reasons, I encourage the county council to approve Ms. Taj's appointment to the HCLS Board of Trustees.

Sincerely,

Razia F. Kosi

Razia F. Kosi

Howard County Resident

Sayers, Margery

From: Jason Booms <jasonabooms@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 8:48 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: A more complete version of my testimony re: CR117 and CR118

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

I wasn't planning on writing anything further on the topic(s), beyond the social media posts I have already made.

However, after seeing the disparagement and invectives hurled in the direction of Ms. Sabina Taj and Ms. Ainy Haider-Shah, I felt compelled to pen this article.

Let me approach this from a couple angles.

On a personal level, I believe that Ms. Haider-Shah and Ms. Taj are honorable, ethical, and civic-minded residents of Howard County; each with a genuine interest in furthering the common good through public service.

On a political level, I don't agree with either of them on multiple issues. However, when I see baseless claims that these women are part of some nefarious schemes, claims that are simultaneously risible and infuriating, I can't leave those wild-eyed statements unaddressed.

We live in a time when the spectre of creeping authoritarianism is just an "election" or two away. Of course, how valid will many elections be in states adopting truly draconian voter suppression laws or engaging in practices which have the same effect? Within that environment, we need people of the caliber of Ms. Taj and Ms. Haider-Shah, people who are willing to step up and, through their public service, help restore integrity to a damaged society.

For having opinions, they are called "divisive." For being willing to spend hours upon hours on local boards and commissions that serve as linkages between local government and the governed, time away from their families and professional obligations, their motives are impugned.

Many of the attacks are coming from those who supposedly share their values in terms of how government can best serve the people. I would call upon these "cut-and-paste" testimony scribblers operating in the dark, especially those who call themselves Democrats, to reflect upon their words and actions. Yes, I know these are non-partisan boards and commissions, and yes, I know some will be all too eager to point this out or twist my words. And yes, I will be accused of carrying water for the "Establishment" but in a time when the Big Crunch threatens our small d-democracy, I want folks – even neoliberals – who I can trust and who I know put the people's interests first and foremost in such (relatively) small yet important roles.

I wholeheartedly support the confirmations of Ms. Haider-Shah to the Compensation Review Commission and Ms. Taj to the Board of Library Trustees.

In solidarity.

Jason Booms 10363 Cullen Terrace Columbia, MD County Council District 4

Sayers, Margery

From: Robert Wagner <rwags02@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 8:38 AM
To: CouncilMail

[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 sending this email asking the Council to vote against 117-2021 to appoint Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees, AND to vote against 118-2021 to appoint Ainy Haider-Shah to the Compensation Review Commission.

Both of these appointments are ethically and racially inappropriate to hold any positions in our system. Rewarding their disgusting behavior and inappropriate conduct would be a black eye on our community.

Thank you.

Bob Wagner

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: no-reply@howardcountymd.gov
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 8:32 AM
To: fishmansd@gmail.com
Subject: Council - 117-2121

First Name: Diane
Last Name: Fishman
Email: fishmansd@gmail.com
Street Address: 9233 Sealed Message Rd
City: Columbia
Subject: 117-2121

Message: I have read with interest the heated discussion concerning Sabina Jones. She has an excellent resume and I share many of her values. However, the library system is known for promoting civility and it sounds like Ms. Taj can be very divisive. I would prefer a candidate who has no agenda and works well with others in a collaborative manner. The library system has many important challenges to work through in the next few years. Therefore, I hope you will consider voting against 117-2021. Diane Fishman 9233 Sealed Message Rd. Columbia