



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

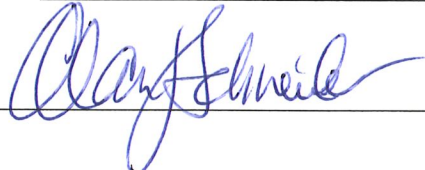
I, Alan Schneider, have been duly authorized by  
*(name of individual)*

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

County Council regarding CB 89 to express the organization's  
*(bill or resolution number)*

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

Printed Name: Alan Schneider

Signature: 

Date: 11/15/2021

Organization: Howard County Citizens Association

Organization Address: POB 89, Ellicott City, Md 21041

Number of Members: 500

Name of Chair/President: Stu Kohn

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

IN FAVOR OF CB 89 WITH AMENDMENTS, I am Alan Schneider testifying for Howard County Citizen's Association, HCCA. Council Member Yungmann's Look Back Bill, CB-89, follows up on Council Chair Walsh's proposals.

Changing 'may' to 'shall' for penalties is a key component. The auditor's report shows the need for penalties. During fiscal year 2020, eighty four (84) of one hundred thirty one (131) developer inspections FAILED. Of the 84 FAILURES, 40 yielded no fines. Penalties for noncompliance encourages forest conservation. Also, revenues from fines could help fund environmental incentives.

HOWEVER, CB-89 falls short. Amendments to CB-89 are necessary to achieve the goal. Our Goal is to improve and maintain the quality of our water, soil, and air, and to enrich our lives in Howard County. These are fundamental to Howard County's General Plan 2030.

RECOGNIZE the need for tree conservation compliance and enforcement. Trees provide benefits and add value to developments. Preserving trees increases aesthetic and functional values as well as adding monetary value. Preservation enhances a community. Also, it benefits developers reputations and profits. More information is on the attachment to this testimony.

COMPLIANCE CAN BE FURTHER ENABLED, if licensed professionals are immune from trespassing. Currently only DPZ inspectors may visit properties. Licensed professionals endanger their credentials if looking at property without owner's authorization. DPZ inspection staff is limited.

ENFORCEMENT CAN BE ENHANCED BY AN AMENDMENT THAT WOULD PERMIT STANDING BY ANY NON PROFIT ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP, such as Riverkeepers, to bring an action against violations. Adopt federal standing rules for environmental compliance.

HELP DEVELOPERS: REQUIRE DPZ TO FOLLOW A GUIDE TO PRESERVING TREES IN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, a PennState Extension Guide is attached.

Passage of CB 89 would be a good step, and a **great** step in the right direction with amendments. HCCA urges its passage with amendments. The preservation of mature trees is our greatest and least costly tool to fight climate change and to enhance life in Howard County.



# A Guide to Preserving Trees in Development Projects

This publication explains tree health and environmental considerations and details how to preserve trees.

 ARTICLES | UPDATED: SEPTEMBER 12, 2017



## Why Preserve Trees?

**By their very nature, trees and green space provide benefits and add value to developments. The ability of trees to improve and maintain the quality of water, soil, and air and to remove pollutants from the air is well known. Trees also provide shade and help lower temperatures during hot weather. Trees enrich people's**

**lives and beautify landscapes. Preserving trees has positive effects on the image and attractiveness of developments and enhances developers' reputations and profits.**

**Preserving trees in developments increases a project's attractiveness, monetary value, and marketability by providing aesthetic and functional values. Lots where trees are preserved can be sold more quickly and at higher prices.**

**Research has shown that mature trees increase the worth of a property up to 12 percent. Developers who understand these values realize that it is in their best interest to encourage the preservation of trees and green spaces.**

**Developers can take advantage of different opportunities when considering the preservation of trees. Individual historic, landmark, and ornamental trees are all good choices for preservation, as are native trees in groves and woodlots. Opportunities differ from one development to another, but many of the recommendations for preserving trees remain the same.**

Various people, such as arborists, engineers, architects, planners, and municipal officials, may become involved in preserving trees. Properly preserving trees in development takes time, good design, communication, and money. However, the results are worth the effort. This publication provides helpful information to those who want to preserve trees, but know little about tree preservation techniques. Tree preservation starts with a basic understanding of the health of trees and the soils that support trees.

## Tree Preservation Takes Place Over Time

### Preconstruction

- Tree inventory
- Planning, design, negotiations
- Removals
- Staking of construction footprints under trees—required limb pruning
- Insect control or other care
- Fencing preserved trees

### Construction

- Communication and education
- Protection zones
- Required root pruning
- Maintenance of fencing
- Monitoring tree health
- Tree care

### After Construction

- Communication and education
- Protecting
- Tree care

## Tree Health

Preserving trees is not very complicated if you understand how they function and what they need to grow. Trees are living organisms that respond to what is done to them and to the environment that they occupy. To stay healthy and vigorous, trees need air, water, and soil nutrients. They need a pollution-free and compaction-free soil that allows