

**Sayers, Margery**

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**From:** Katie Collins-Ihrke <kihrke@arinow.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2022 9:37 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Oppose CB9

[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:

Accessible Resources for Independence is a disability resource and advocacy agency run by people with disabilities for people with disabilities. As such, we have been assisting disabled Howard County residents since 2010 with a variety of supports and services to assist them in being full-fledged, contributing members of the community. Housing that is affordable and accessible is the number one need that we see, and Howard County has a very small stock of this kind of housing. I am writing to oppose CB 9 because the bill's intended goal can already be accomplished within the DPZ/land use and zoning processes, thereby avoiding instituting an unnecessary codified hurdle that could make developing housing for fair housing protected disabled persons even more difficult to achieve. Please don't support this piece of legislation that puts additional barriers to obtaining affordable, accessible housing.

I thank you for your consideration.  
Katie

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***Are you a person with a disability in Howard or Anne Arundel County?***

***Want to get connected to resources to promote your wellbeing? Contact Accessible Resources for Independence!  
The Maryland Tobacco Quitline is a FREE service. Call 1-800-QUIT-NOW. Paid for by the Cigarette Restitution Fund Program.***

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Jenny Solpietro <jsolpietro@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 6:22 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Testimony for CB9-2022

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

Dear Councilmembers –

I write to you in opposition to CB9-2022, which would modify the criteria for a housing development to receive an Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) waiver.

CB9's requirement for affordable housing developers to meet with HCPSS prior to applying for grants or Low-Income Housing Tax Credits in order to qualify for an APFO waiver creates a pretense that ensuring adequate school capacity is the developer's responsibility. It is not; it is yours.

A constellation of bad decisions by Howard County's elected leaders past and present have led to our current school capacity issues, and those issues are the government's responsibility to solve. APFO does not add school capacity – building schools does. And it is wrong to allow our government's continued failure to build schools, and its adoption of policies that make it harder to build even affordable housing, to exacerbate a housing crisis that impacts our lowest-income residents the most.

As I write this testimony, I am reminded of Anne, a resident of Roslyn Rise to whom I spoke when the APFO waiver for its redevelopment was under consideration. Anne lives alone, is disabled, and cannot work. She waited six years on a housing waitlist before being placed at Roslyn Rise seven years ago. Folks like Anne don't have the luxury of choice when it comes to housing. Imagine the indignity of having so little agency over your housing situation because policymakers have decided that affordable housing should take a backseat to other infrastructure.

Affordable housing and school capacity are not an either/or proposition. There are families with HCPSS students who need affordable housing, and there are adults like Anne, who have no school-aged children, who also need affordable housing. We can solve both; it just takes political will.

I would rather we use our political will to build schools and affirmatively further fair housing, rather than use it on bills that will build neither housing nor schools. It is long past time for "adequate public facilities" to *include* affordable housing.

Thank you,  
Jennifer Solpietro  
District 4 Resident