

Sayers, Margery

From: Debbie Bures-Walker <debbiebw@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 8:46 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Support CB 6-2022

[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 Howard County.

I would like you to vote to support CB 6-2022.

I would like you to vote to properly fix the Citizens' Election Fund so that people can use matched money in addition to money donated from small contributors.

I don't understand why elected officials can be against this. It appears that people who oppose properly fixing the CEF are playing politics with this money.

Please vote to support CB 6-2022.

Thank you,

Debbie Bures-Walker
4574 Rolling Meadows, Ellicott City, MD 21043

Sayers, Margery

From: Kim P <glissando77@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 1:19 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Emergency legislation to address the citizens election fund

[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 in favor of an emergency fix to remedy the technicality that is currently preventing Deb Jung from accessing the funds which she has qualified to receive. We need to encourage MORE of our politicians to use this fund so that we may significantly reduce the influence developers have on political decision makers in the county. No more huge donations from developers. Please fix this ASAP!!!

Thank you.
Kim Pelech

Sayers, Margery

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Thank you.
Kim Pelech

Sayers, Margery

From: M. W. Smith <manfredsmith@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 12:54 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Release funds

[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 release the funds from the CEF by removing the August date. Qualifying council members deserve access to this money. A technical error should not penalize candidates.

Sincerely,
Manfred Smith,
Locust Park, Long Reach

January 24, 2022



RE: CB6-2022

POSITION: Support as Emergency Legislation

Howard County Council Members:

The Sierra Club strongly supports passing CB6-2022 as emergency legislation. It is Sierra Club policy to support the public financing of campaigns. And, importantly, the Citizens Election Fund was voted on by the people and should be fixed immediately so that it fills the role that it is designed to do. Candidates who choose not to take developer and corporate funding are now being harmed by their decision by not allowing the distribution of the matching funds. This is a matter of integrity and fairness. This fund was the choice of the people and should be honored.

The expectation according to the code 10.306b3 is that matching funds be made available three days after the state authorizes the public fund be released. Candidates have requested funds and been approved to receive them as early as October, but have not received these funds because of the unintended interpretation of the code. This has produced a hardship onto those candidates that were counting on the matching funds to run their campaigns and could influence the outcome of the elections.

A lot of work went into this bill with the goal of improving opportunities for candidates and making our democratic process more equitable. Please process this correction so that the intention of the law can be realized. It was designed to be used for the primary and the general elections both. As the first year of its implementation, it is understandable that there might be problems, but we rely on the administration and legislators to fix these problems for the current year and years to come. Howard County holds itself to a high standard for equity and inclusion, please restore the process that encourages a people funded campaign.

Vote yes on CB6-2022 as an emergency bill to release the funding as soon as possible.

Patricia Soffen
Vice Chair, Howard County Sierra Club

Sayers, Margery

From: Abby Hendrix <abby.hendrix@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 11:13 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Emergency Legislation - Citizens Election Fund

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

Council Members,

I wanted to share my support for the emergency legislation regarding a technical fix to the Citizens Election Fund. As a person that worked tirelessly to get the fund approved in Howard County, I feel the integrity of this program falls on this vote. If we do not support this, future candidates are going to be weary in the future of what other technicality someone might come up that could impact them at the last minute. The people of Howard County voted for the Citizens Election Fund based on what what was the perceived distribution of money, the candidates joined the Fund because of the perceived distribution of money, the residents of Howard County donated to these candidate under the same expectation. The candidates followed everything they were supposed to do and they deserve the outcome that was intended from the beginning.

I know that each and every one of you know that this needs to be fixed but differ on the timeline. That is where morality comes into play, because now it become personal. Council members are currently in control of this money. That puts morality at the forefront of this decision. I have heard concerns that the candidates should have known. Meanwhile, the actual program training provided incorrect information. That is where you come in, your job is to support the people of Howard County and fix this. The same people that voted for this. Some of the same people that voted for you. The same people that donated to these candidates, the same people that may donate in the future.

When I hear that Councilmembers Rigby and Jung should abstain because of person gain/interest, I also find that this is not acceptable. Your job is to do what is right for the people - even if it impacts embers that are candidates. It is your job to give the people/residents of Howard County the right to participate in the public process in the way they intended to.

Many people have talked about January 6 and the participation and support of the insurrection breaks down our most fundamental belief of participating in the democratic process. By not releasing these funds, you are also denying many Howard County residents to participate in the democratic process.

I hope that this is a 5-0 vote and that each of you does the right thing to ensure that integrity of the Citizens Election Fund along with protecting the democratic process of our elections in Howard County.

Thanks,
Abby Hendrix

Sayers, Margery

From: Jeanne Smith <jeannelsmith@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 10:34 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Request

[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 release the funds from the CEF by removing the August date. Qualifying council members deserve access to this money. A technical error should not penalize candidates.

Sincerely,
Jeanne Smith,
Locust Park, Long Reach

Sayers, Margery

From: ROBERT SCHWEISS <bobschweiss@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 9:51 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Citizens' Election Fund

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

Honorable Council Members:

It is clear that Council Member Deb Jung has followed all the rules to qualify for matching funds for her reelection campaign under the Citizens' Election Fund. It is also clear that, as a practical matter, the matching funds she qualifies for will benefit her campaign only if released early enough to support her candidacy in the primary election. Withholding the CEF funds until after they can have practical value to her campaign would be an injustice not only to Ms. Jung, but also to her supporters who have made financial contributions with the expectation that their monies would be matched.

Please pass CB 6-22 expeditiously to remove any potential ambiguity in county policy and to enable Council Member Jung and her supporters the effective benefit of the CEF program.

Sincerely,
Nancy Schweiss
6201 Woodleigh Drive
Columbia, MD 21044

Sayers, Margery

From: Steve Shapero <s.shapero7@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 9:50 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Our election laws need integrity

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

Please release the emergency funds to fix the technical glitch in our county's election system to qualify Deb Jung.

Thanks,
Steve Shapero
County Resident

Sayers, Margery

From: chellerg@verizon.net
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 9:38 AM
To: CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: PLEASE FIX THE CITIZENS ELECTION FUND TECHNICALITY

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

It's so unfair that Deb Jung's campaign can't get the funding she needs. Howard County should have ethical election practices. Please fix the law!!!

Rochelle Ginsburg, Thunder Hill

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail

Sayers, Margery

From: Sue CAMARDESE <scamardese@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 9:04 AM
To: Jones, Opel; CouncilMail
Cc: Rigby, Christiana; Yungmann, David; Jung, Deb; Walsh, Elizabeth
Subject: Support CB 6-22

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

Hello Council Member Jones,

I am a constituent of yours here in Long Reach.

We need you to vote "yes" and **support CB 6-22** to correct the technical error in the Citizens' Election Fund and allow disbursements immediately to candidates that have qualified for this tax payer funded program.

I am concerned by your comments at the Jan. 18th hearing which make it appear that you don't support correcting the CEF. Many members of the council actually supported those efforts before you were elected...and I think it's because like many of those voters they all knew that special interests, *specifically developers* in this case, had too much influence over the decisions being made in the county, impacting everyone's lives...and that the CEF was a great alternative that allowed many more residents to be able to run campaigns powered by people with the money that they need to run competitive races both in the primary and in the general election.

For you not to support CB 6-22 smacks of special interests and undue influence you've personally received from developers. This is a conflict of interest for you!

It is time to do the right things for the people of Howard County and your constituents especially.

Fix the Fund!

Susan Camardese
8788 ENDLESS OCEAN WAY
Columbia, MD 21045

Sayers, Margery

From: Robert Hartranft <robert.hartranft@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 8:34 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Release CEF funds

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

Please support the emergency legislation to correct the issue with releasing funds prior to August.

We want to keep Howard County from making this error a weapon to hurt our democracy.

Thanks,
Robert Hartranft

Sayers, Margery

From: Dave Krueger <kruhog@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 7:39 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Citizens Election Fund

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

PLEASE take whatever action is necessary to release these funds. It is unconscionable that the County Executive is impeding the process!

Dave Krueger
kruhog@gmail.com
410.340.0864

Sayers, Margery

From: Bonnie Sorak <bssorak@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 6:36 AM
To: CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin
Subject: Release the Funds

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

To County Executive Ball and All County Council Representatives,

Plain and simple. Please pass the emergency legislation to address a technical fix to the citizens election fund in order to get funds dispersed to qualifying candidate Deb Jung.

Bonnie Sorak
bssorak@yahoo.com
10226 Shirley Meadow Court
Ellicott City, MD 21042
410-465-0427 Home
443-799-0349 Cell

Sayers, Margery

From: Pearl STEWART <pastewart4@verizon.net>
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 3:49 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Election Fund

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

Too many candidates become compromised to Developers and other special interest groups due to funding campaigns. I applaud those who chose to use the proposed public funding.

Please proceed to vote to amend the legislation. If the Office of Law delay the advice, please vote for it anyway. I know you will do the right thing. I want you to know that I support you.

Pearl Atkinson-Stewart
Sent from my iPad

Sayers, Margery

From: nanhud@comcast.net
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 11:33 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Support the emergency legislation for CB6-22

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

It's the right thing to do. Period! Do the right thing.

Nancy Hudson, 2675 Legends Way, Ellicott City, Md 21042

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: Marg Goodlin <goodfamily4@verizon.net>
Sent: Saturday, January 22, 2022 10:25 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Fix the citizens election fund

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

It is terribly unfair to Deb Jung that she is ineligible for the citizens' election fund funding just because of a technical glitch.
Please amend this unfair rule.
Margaret Goodlin