

Sayers, Margery

From: Judy Brubaker <mhayres@ymail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 7:13 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Purchase of Camp Ilchester

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

Good Day,

I implore the council to full support the purchase of Camp Ilchester. This is an important part of our county history. Generations of girl scouts were taught about the environment, girl scout principles, and leadership skills here. This piece of land also serves as much needed green space for the community and helps preserve local ecosystems and water management for the Patapsco River watershed. This property would also be a good place to host recreational programs for kids during the summer and on "schools out" days since it has indoor space as well as outdoor space.

Sincerely,
Judy Brubaker
Girl Scout Troop 10447 Leader
4550 Vinter Way
Ellicott City, MD 21043

DTCS FY23

CAPITAL BUDGET

BUDGET SESSION - APRIL 20, 2022

FY22 HIGHLIGHTS

- Completed routine enhancements to provide a stable and reliable technology environment.
- Continued network infrastructure upgrades
- Remain focused on data transparency and data analytics
- Actively engaged in Public Safety technology initiatives, including the planned CAD/RMS upgrades
- Partnering with Finance and Human Resources on the implementation of a new Human Capital System
- Championed an up-to-date security program to address emerging security trends
- Expanded our fiber network to ensure we meet the growing needs of our community

C0301 – TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE

FY22 Highlights (by June 2022)

- Completed work on CAD/RMS servers and related storage/cloud needs
- Began modernization of the data center
- Upgrade Wireless access points: Meraki Phase 1
- Back-up Ransomware Protection: Rubrik Phase 1
- Procured and deployed IT equipment to the new Courthouse
- Continue to upgrade security infrastructure to provide a secure and stable environment
- Continue to upgrade and enhance technology based upon the need for remote work
- Procured end-of-life replacements
- Initiated camera upgrades

FY23 Plans

- Implement access controls in the data center to increase security
- Continue to modernize the data center
- Upgrade Wireless access points: Meraki Phases 2
- Back-up Ransomware Protection: Rubrik Phase 2
- Upgrade firewalls
- Roll out additional mobile telepresence units for Webex to support hybrid workforce needs
- End-of-life replacements

C0311 – PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS

FY22 Highlights (by June 2022)

- Replaced routers, servers and software for 800 MHz Radio system Network Core

FY23 Plans

- Fire station VHF paging system refresh
- OEM - antennas replacement
- Backup portable radio Vertex battery replacement

C0312 – ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PLANNING SYSTEM

FY22 Highlights (by June 2022)

- An RFP has been issued for the Human Capital System; the project will be underway this fiscal year
- Begin planning for upcoming SAP upgrade

FY23 Plans

- Implementation of Human Capital System Phase 1
- Continue planning SAP upgrade to improve performance, user experience and process flow
 - Current version of SAP reaches end of life in 2025; we are forming a strategic plan related to the upgrade

C0315 – PUBLIC SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS

FY22 Highlights (by June 2022)

- Continue to work on the implementation of the new Computer-Aided Dispatch System and related upgrades/interfaces
- Critical switch replacement
- Support the Police Department with various public safety related projects

FY23 Plans

- Finalize the implementation of a new Computer-Aided Dispatch System, as well as the related upgrades
- Finalize switch replacements
- Mobile Data Computer refresh

C0338 – BROADBAND INSTALLATIONS

- **Key Points**

- This project is for Howard County Government broadband services
- Howard County Government Tech Fund will pay \$750K for services annually
- All County government locations connected to fiber, except for small satellite locations where it is more economical to lease commercial services. Examples of these locations are the Ellicott City, B&O Museum, and small police satellite offices

- **The following locations were completed or are in progress:**

- 200Gbps of Upstream ISP bandwidth was added to support HCPSS needs
- Completed network backbone upgrade to 100Gpbs providing capacity for growth in data traffic
- Connectivity added for Red Branch Road, Harriet Tubman Buildings, Fire Station 12 (Waterloo)
- Upgraded Core routers to provide enhanced management of ISP traffic
- Upgraded primary network monitoring software suite

- **New Opportunities:**

- Rt 216 Pumping Station, Maple Lawn Pumping Station, Fulton Water Tank

C0339 – BROADBAND INSTALLATIONS NON-COUNTY GOVERNMENT

- **Key Points**

- “Non-County Government” include HCPSS, Libraries, Howard County Community College, and Non-profit organizations
- The revenue estimated for FY20 was \$820,000 due to HCPSS contract ending
- The revenue estimated for FY21 is \$824,000
- The revenue estimated for FY22 is \$1,391,929
- The revenue estimated for FY23 is \$1,484,089

- **The following locations were completed or in progress:**

- Doubling of available WAN network speed to HCPSS datacenters to 40Gbps each
- Upgraded ISP connection to each HCPSS datacenter to 100Gbps to support data requirements for in person learning environment.
- Upgraded network switches at all elementary schools.
- New HCPSS sites: HS13 and new Talbott Springs ES

- **New Opportunities:**

- ARL, Homewood School, and new HCPSS Stanford Blvd location

C0340 – BROADBAND INSTALLATIONS NON-GOVERNMENT

- **Key Points**

- This is the PRIVATE Sector
- The revenue estimate for FY20 was \$270,000
- The revenue estimate for FY21 is \$330,000
- The revenue estimate for FY22 is \$492,202
- The revenue estimate for FY23 is \$511,042

- **The following projects were completed:**

- CA Art Center and Teen Center

- **New Opportunities:**

- Western Howard County Broadband
- Enterprise Rental Car office

DTCS FY23 CAPITAL BUDGET

Project	Description	Projected FY23	Final FY23	Difference FY23	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026	FY2027	FY2028	Notes
C0301	Tech Infr Upgrades	1,800,000	1,000,000	(800,000)	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000	Implement access controls in the data center to increase security, upgrade Wireless access points and infrastructure upgrades
C0311	Radio Enhancements	0	600,000	600,000	0	0	0	0	0	Fire Station (VHF) Paging/Alert System and OEM antennas replacement
C0312	ERP	600,000	1,000,000	400,000	800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000	Prepare for SAP upgrade
C0315	Public Safety Sys Enh	700,000	750,000	50,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	MDCs, Alphine mobile, and additional storage
C0338	BBI County Govt	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	This will be revaluated based on future revenues and debt services
C0339	BBI Govt, Non County	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	This will be revaluated based on future revenues and debt services
C0340	BBI Private Sector	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	This will be revaluated based on future revenues and debt services
	GRAND TOTAL	3,100,000	3,350,000	250,000	3,100,000	3,100,000	3,100,000	3,100,000	3,100,000	



Budget increased by \$250K

Sayers, Margery

From: amrllcpa@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Angela Hayes
<amrllcpa@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 12:23 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Angela Hayes
508 Gladhill Rd Odenton, MD 21113-1911
amrllcpa@hotmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: Andrea Kodys <adkodys@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2022 9:44 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Walsh, Elizabeth
Subject: Support for the County Purchase of Camp Ilchester
Attachments: Who calls Camp Ilchester home .pdf

[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 express my support for the County purchase of the Camp Ilchester property from the Girl Scouts of Central Maryland, as proposed by Dr. Calvin Ball.

In keeping with the values of our community: Environmental stewardship; Community activities and wellness; and Youth programming and education, this valuable green space must be preserved.

Camp Ilchester is a unique and irreplaceable resource which provides tremendous value to the county. Losing Camp Ilchester would take away youth programming and camp space that would be difficult to replace. It would cause parking and safety concerns for the nearby schools. The loss of habitat and impact on the environment would be significant.

I support the County buying Camp Ilchester and preserving it as a green space.

Thank you,
Andrea Kodys
Community Member, Parent
Leader, Junior Girl Scout Troop 1890
(District 1)
4220 Eagles Wing Court
Ellicott City, MD 21042

An aerial photograph of a dense forest with a clearing in the center. The trees are lush green, and the clearing shows some structures and a path. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Question: Who calls Camp Ilchester home?

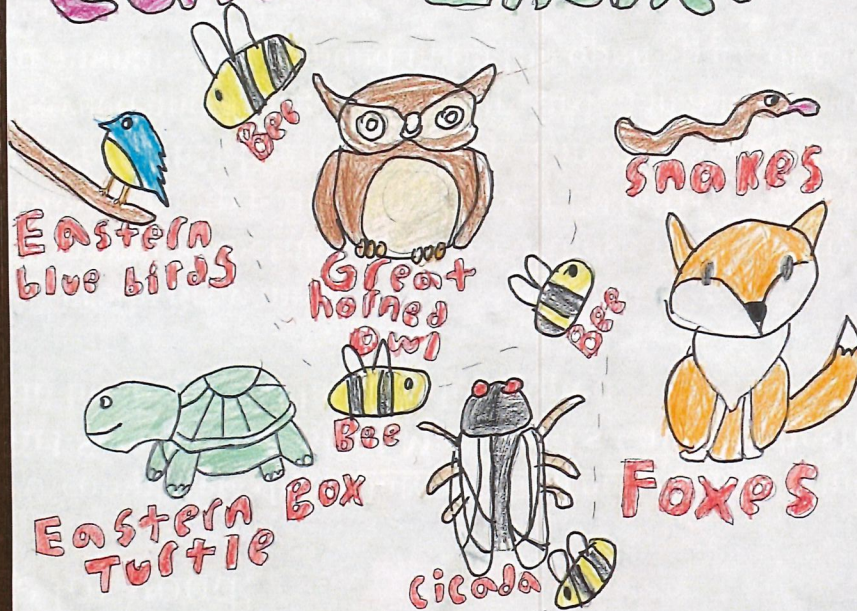
Answer: Many trees, birds, animals, plants, and kids. All of which are important to our community and our environment. Once their home is gone, it is gone for good!

Brownie Girl Scout Troop 1890 completed their Outdoor Journey by flying into action to **learn about the wildlife and habitat of the Girl Scouts of Central Maryland's Camp Ilchester (Ellicott City, MD) and to raise awareness of what would be lost if the land is developed.**

To complete their project, the 3rd grade Brownies:

- Learned about statistical sampling methods and used these methods to estimate the number of trees which will be lost if the 19-acre camp is developed (over 20,000 tree would be lost);
- Surveyed the plants and insects that live in the camp using the Seek (iNaturalist) and PictureThis apps (the camp is home to milkweed and a large pollinator garden in addition to many others);
- Researched the birds and animals that depend upon the open space of Camp Ilchester (bats, bees, owls, fox, and many others), and;
- **Created posters to share this information with the community to raise awareness of the habitat which will be lost if the area is developed and to call attention to the plants and animals which will be negatively impacted.**

Who lives at Camp Ilchester?



Eastern
blue birds

Great
horned
Owl

Snakes

Eastern
Turtle

Bee

Foxes

cicada

Keep Ilchester

Green

Butterfly

Butterfly

Who lives at camp Ilchester?

What grows at
Camp
Ilchester?

What grows at Camp Ilchester

milkweed



Buttercups



wineBar

Amaren
holly



A Green Ilchester protects the environment



Troop 1890 measuring off 100 sq. ft. box as part of tree count in Camp Ilchester

Troop 1890 exploring Camp Ilchester





Trees are important for kids too!

Troop 1890 identifying the plants and insects which call Camp Ilchester home



Troop 1890 working on posters to share the information they gathered on the habitat and wildlife of Camp Ilchester





Troop 1890 working on posters to share the information they gathered on the habitat and wildlife of Camp Ilchester



Reciting the Girl Scout Promise on the Bridge at Camp Ilchester. Pollinator garden in the background with lots of milkweed.



Camp Ilchester is home to many native birds.



Troop 1890 shared the information they had gathered at the Keep Ilchester Green Expo on June 13, 2021.



Troop 1890 shared the information they had gathered at the Keep Ilchester Green Expo on June 13, 2021.

Ilchester Green Expo - Scavenger Hunt

Keep Ilchester Green Expo - Scavenger Hunt

Tag us with your photos of your Nature Hunt @DoveCampIlchester

Camp History and Features

1. Find the 100th Anniversary tree carving. What animals are carved in



2. The net serve

3. Find

4. How

5. Fin

6. To

7. f

8.

9.



14. Many of the trees at Ilchester were planted by GVI Scouts when they bought the property. What types of trees can you find at Camp Ilchester?

15. Brownie Troop 1890 recently did a Take Action Project to estimate the number of trees at Camp Ilchester. How many trees do you think are on Camp Ilchester?

16. Along the nature trail you can learn how to determine a tree's age. How old is the tree in the example?

17. Why are trees so important?

Fun with Cicadas

18. Cicadas are the loudest insects. How loud would you guess the cicadas at Camp Ilchester are today?

Bonus: Use the Decibel Meter app to find out how loud they really are!

19. Pick a tree. How many cicada holes do you see around the tree?

20. Count as many cicadas as you can in a minute. How many did you count?

21. The male cicadas are singing in the trees. Find a male cicada.



Troop 1890's TAP even made it into the Keep Ilchester Green Expo scavenger hunt (Questions 14 & 15)!

Sayers, Margery

From: Joni Chen <joni.chen7000@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2022 7:38 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Support for the Purchase of Camp Ilchester

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

Dear Howard County Council Members --

I strongly support the purchase of Camp Ilchester by Howard County, as recently agreed upon between Girl Scouts of Central Maryland and County Executive Ball. I hope that the County Council approves the funding of this purchase to help retain the camp property as a wonderful green space that serves a high concentration of residents due to its unique location in a heavily developed part of the county. My family has used the facilities at Camp Ilchester for years through both Girl Scout and YMCA programs, and we hope that may continue for many years to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joni Chen
Elkridge, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Kevin Chen <kevin.chen7000@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2022 7:14 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Capital budget for the purchase of Camp Ilchester

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

Good evening County Council of Howard County. I am writing to express my support of Howard County purchasing Camp Ilchester. The camp has been an integral part of generations of Howard County youth and I am relieved that it will be preserved as green space for the County. I fully support the inclusion of the purchase in the County's capital budget.

Best wishes,
Kevin Chen
Elkridge resident since 2000

Sayers, Margery

From: Joanne Brazinski <jobrazinski@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2022 1:48 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: support for Camp Ilchester purchase

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

I'm writing to support the proposed purchase of Camp Ilchester. Undeveloped land is not something we will have in the future if we don't preserve it now. I'm encouraged that the county wants to preserve this valuable, irreplaceable resource.

I was pleased to hear the possibility of Girl Scouts continuing to meet at the camp and hold activities. I'm hoping this includes GS Howard County Day Camp (GSHCDC), which provides camp experience and leadership skills for so many girls in Howard County. We serve about 500 campers aged 5-13 (including some boys) and over 150 teens, ages 14-18. The real, hands-on leadership skills those teens get at camp is a rare opportunity; it would be a shame to lose this resource.

The preliminary search for another day camp site at existing state parks keeps coming back to the lack of an indoor refuge during thunderstorms, something Camp Ilchester has, and which I think would be valuable if you want to use the site for Outdoor Education.

GSHCDC also brings with it an army of trained adult and teen volunteers, ready to help maintain the camp. Previous to announcing the sale, GSCM discouraged volunteer help at Camp Ilchester, but has accepted help in the past and at other sites. No one works harder than someone with a love for the property!

Thank you for preserving this green space from development. Covid has taught us all that we still need the outdoors.

Joanne Brazinski
Girl Scout lifetime member
GSHCDC Program Director (volunteer)

8440 Horseshoe Rd
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Sayers, Margery

From: Carrie Koenig <carriekoenig7@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 18, 2022 8:59 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Camp Ilchester budget

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

Hello,

I love Howard County and have lived here for 14 years. As an Ellicott City resident, I saw a number of issues escalate to major concerns over these years, including overcrowded schools, flooding caused by watershed issues and overdevelopment, increased traffic, and reduced green space due to overdevelopment.

I was thrilled to hear of Howard County's commitment to purchase Camp Ilchester from the Girl Scouts of Central Maryland. This 20+ acres of green space is essential to the Ilchester community. If it is development into residences, the issues I noted above will be further exacerbated.

Please approve the \$6M budget to purchase this important land and preserve it as green space for the future.

Thanks,
Carrie Koenig

Sayers, Margery

From: Louisa Lombard <lombard.louisa@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 17, 2022 1:42 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Please vote yes to purchase Camp Ilchester. Thanks!

[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 am writing to voice my strong support for the purchase of Camp Ilchester. It is essential to keep this as a green space for people to enjoy, and that particular location and school area cannot handle more development. That area during school start and stop times is already very messy. I urge you to please vote to support this purchase from the Girl Scouts. Thank you so much for all that you do!

Warmly,

Louisa Lombard

5239 Harvey Lane
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Sayers, Margery

From: Barbara Laskowski <bslaskowski@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 16, 2022 7:46 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Camp Ilchester

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

The purchase of this campground is supporting our youth who need every bit of help during these stressful times. Please approve this expenditure.

Barbara Laskowski
8136 Sea Water Path
Columbia, MD 21045

Sent from my iPad

Sayers, Margery

From: Roman Culjat <rculjat@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2022 11:12 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Strong support for purchase of Camp Ilchester

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

Hello,

I am writing to voice my strong support for the purchase of Camp Ilchester. It is essential to keep this as a green space, and the area (right across the street from 2 schools) cannot handle more development. I urge you to vote to support this purchase from the Girl Scouts.

Sincerely,

Roman Culjat
5239 Harvey Ln, Ellicott City, MD 21043

Sayers, Margery

From: William Beck <william.a.beck@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2022 5:44 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Funding to purchase Camp Ilchester

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

I would like to express my support for the County proceeding with the purchase of Camp Ilchester from the Girl Scouts. I think preserving that open space is a worthwhile use of County funds. I urge you to support funding the purchase.

William Beck
17719 Foxmoor Dr, Woodbine, MD 21797

Sayers, Margery

From: caralyn wichers <caralyn27@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2022 4:03 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Camp Ilchester budget

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

Members of council

I am thrilled beyond belief that the girls made a difference and their voices were heard. The fact that Howard County members stepped up and listened to the many members of the Howard County community that desire more green space so people can enjoy nature is exceptional. Thank you so much especially during a worldwide pandemic and outdoor spaces to gather were necessary and shown to be extremely beneficial. I for one am truly grateful that Howard County is purchasing the Camp for generations of future children and that the GS organization made the correct decision to accept the offer.

Please continue to vote to allow for the funding to continue the purchase of Camp Ilchester. I am certain you will have lots of volunteers ready to help maintain the camp.

Caralyn Wichers.

Sent from my iPad

Sayers, Margery

From: chas.zielinski@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of CHARLES ZIELINSKI
<chas.zielinski@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 9:15 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
CHARLES ZIELINSKI
12077 Windsor Moss Ellicott City, MD 21042-7117 chas.zielinski@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: Justin Mullins <shadowx787@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 1:22 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Proposed Capital Budget Projects
Attachments: Screenshot_20220407-225852~2.png; Screenshot_20220407-225556~2.png; Screenshot_20220407-225252~2.png; Screenshot_20220407-230659~2.png; Screenshot_20220407-225346~2.png

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

Hi,

My name is Justin Mullins and I've lived in Maryland my whole life and in Columbia for the last 7 years where I am now starting a family. I live in the Owen Brown community off of Snowden River Pkwy near Lake Elkhorn and I just wanted to provide first hand insight into projects I believe would greatly benefit the community, Columbia, and Maryland as a whole.

I would love to see sidewalk on the westbound side of Snowden River Pkwy from the local shops (starting from existing pathway at Rustling Leaf) down to the intersection of Snowden River Pkwy and Broken Land Pkwy. This would provide walking access from everyone in Owen Brown and Lake Elkhorn to these local shops and restaurants which would be amazing for both the community and shop/restaurant owners.

Additionally, it would be nice for the Owen Brown community off of Carved Stone to have official paths near the Burger King and Ken's Auto Center as currently many have to cut through the woods and use unofficial paths. I know this would take working/coordinating with the property owner/BGE but I believe it would provide a good pay off for the community and store owners.

A crosswalk is currently underway from Carved Stone to Berger Rd. I would love to see sidewalk installed down Berger Rd to just past Gerwig Ln. This would provide easy and safe walking access to the stores off of Berger Rd to include a highly popular Columbia Brewery, Hysteria Brewing, as well as a Columbia Distillery, Lost Ark Distilling Company. This would provide safe access for walking pedestrians to enjoy local establishments without having to drive a motor vehicle which is good for safety, good for the environment, and good for the people.

See attached photos for proposed sidewalk installation.

I must say I'm happy to see more bike lanes/paths as well as my wife and I both enjoy the trails. Scenic trails are great and we should strive to make a connection with nature on all our roads and paths but we should also seek to be functional. Providing bike paths and walking paths from communities to grocery stores, shops, restaurants, etc. Encouraging communities to walk or bike rather than having to take their vehicles out just to drive somewhere less than a 15 min bike ride away. This helps keep more vehicles off the road which reduces traffic, road maintenance, accidents, environmental impact, etc.

Public transportation and Snowden River Pkwy widening personal view

Widening roads and additional spending on roads is only a gap measure and is not a green solution, if anything we should be trying to get more cars off the road not encourage more. The right answer is providing public transportation

that actually works. I wish the United States had train service like Japan and Europe and other countries. It's amazingly efficient, simple, modern, and can be executed in such a way to blend with nature which Columbia is all about. This is the long term answer and it should be in the design phase [now](#). It's a BIG investment and seems scary from a budget perspective I'm sure but it's the right answer. Connect to Ellicott City, Korea Town, Baltimore, Washington DC, Frederick, National Business Pkwy, as well as providing excellent local connections from communities to grocery stores, restaurants, shops, and downtown Columbia. It's a dream I hope comes to fruition some day. Rome wasn't built in a day as they say but I hope this topic is one that at minimum is being discussed. We should be leaning towards reducing our spending on road infrastructure and investing in GOOD public transportation that the community, the county, and Maryland want to use.

I know that last one is a big one that will take many years of planning and finding funding before coming to fruition but I just hope to see it discussed because it is the right answer in my opinion though I understand we need an interim phase. I just hope that interim isn't too long.

If you made it this far thank you for listening to my words, feelings, and dreams for the community and county and I hope you consider them.

Thank you,

Justin Mullins

10:58

16%

Deepage Dr

Starbucks

Mini U Storage

Carved Stone

Columbia

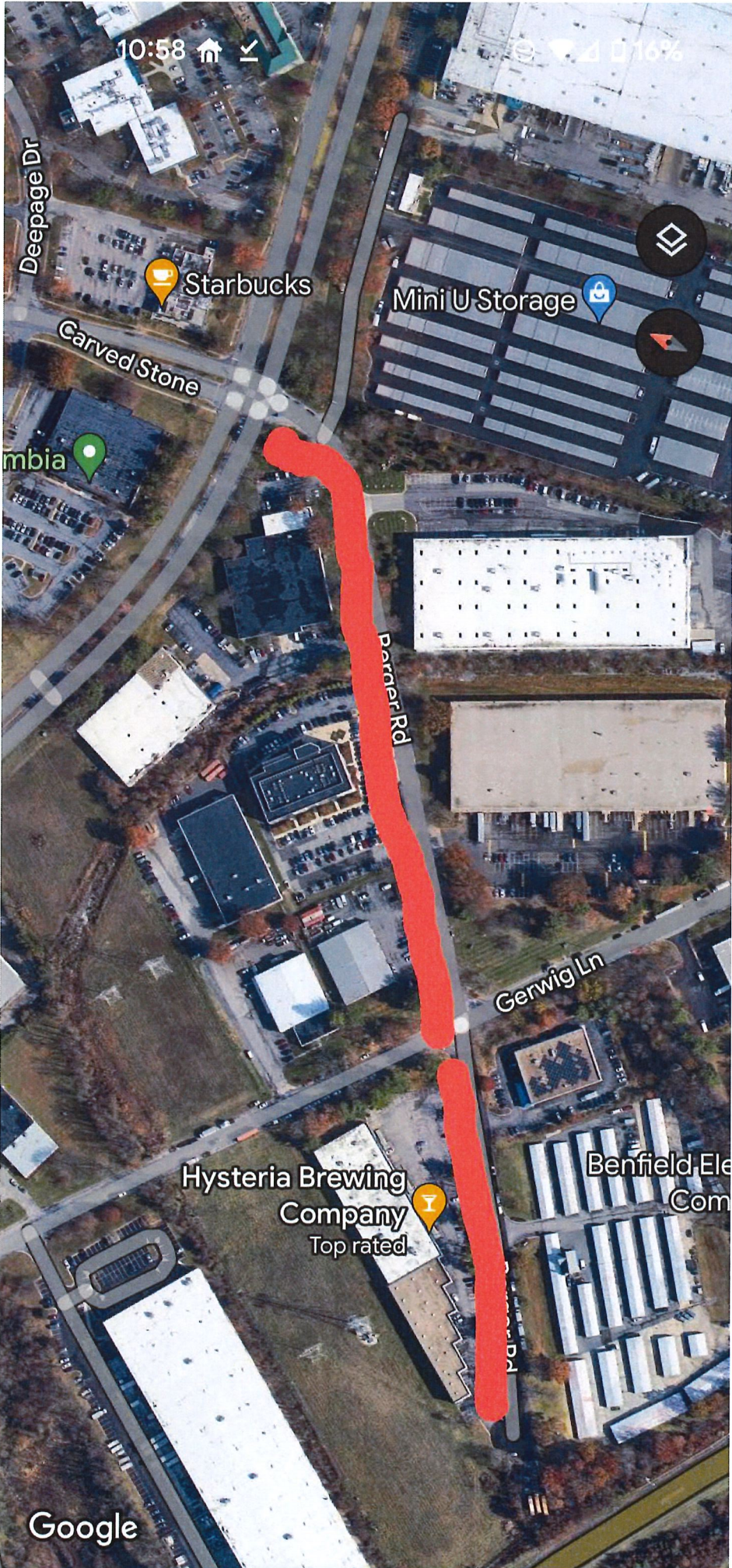
Parsons Rd

Gerwig Ln

Hysteria Brewing Company
Top rated

Benfield Ele
Com

Google



10:55

16%

Johns Pizza
Busier than usual

Homeslyce - Columbia
Pizza • \$\$

Lincoln College
of Technology

TCBY
Fro-Yo • \$

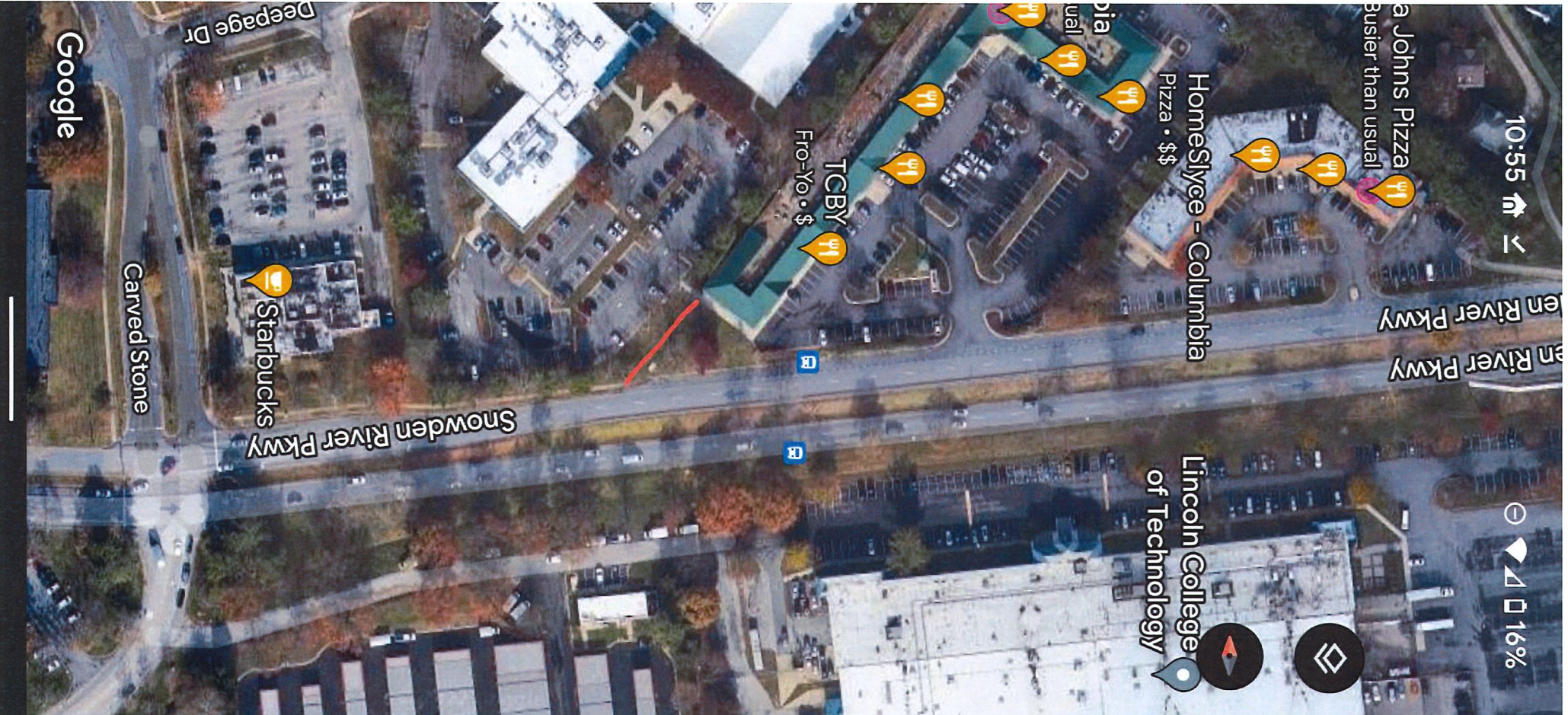
Starbucks

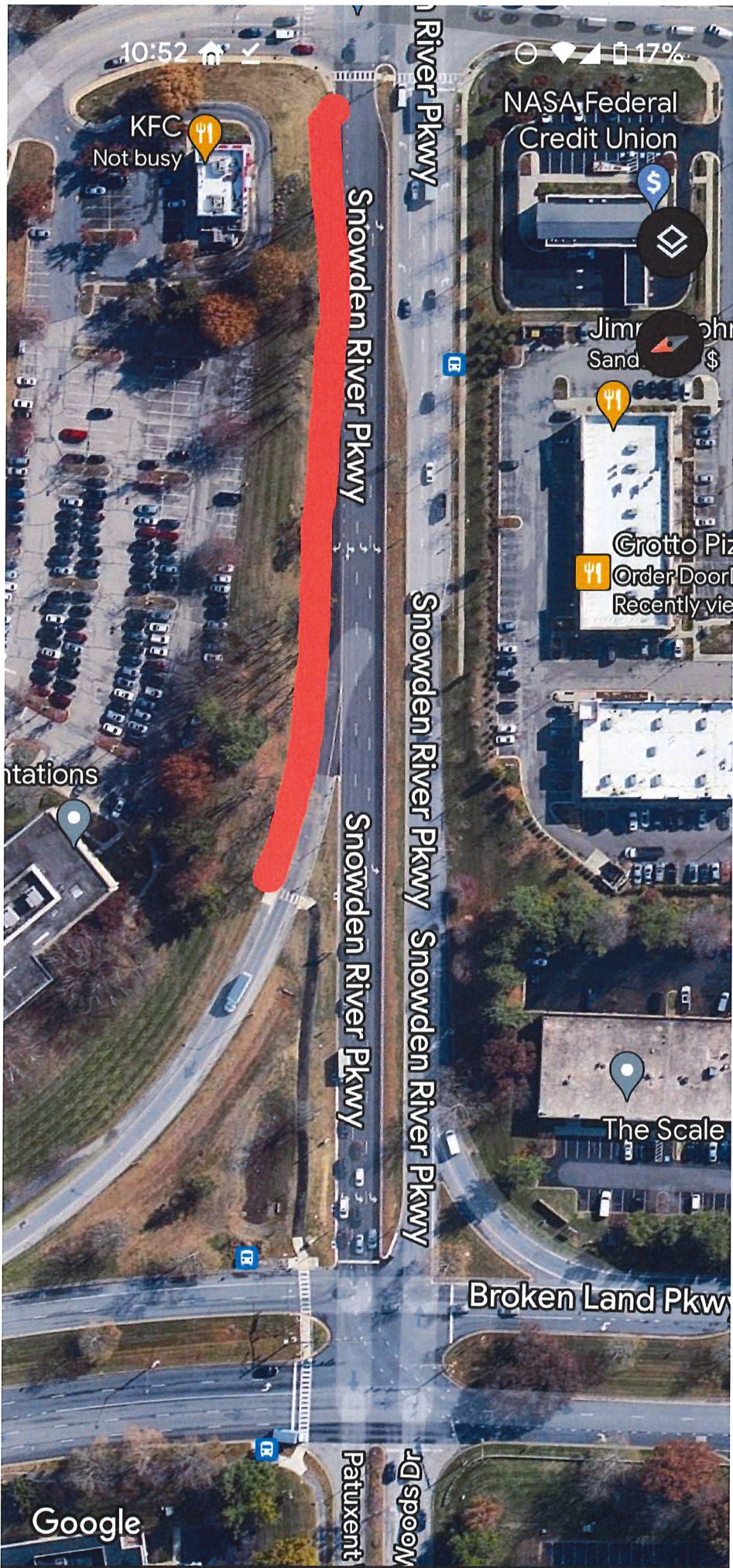
Snowden River Pkwy

Carved Stone

Deepage Dr

Google





10:52

17%

KFC
Not busy

NASA Federal
Credit Union

Jim's
Sandwiches

Grotto Pizzeria
Order Door
Recently viewed

The Scale

Broken Land Pkwy

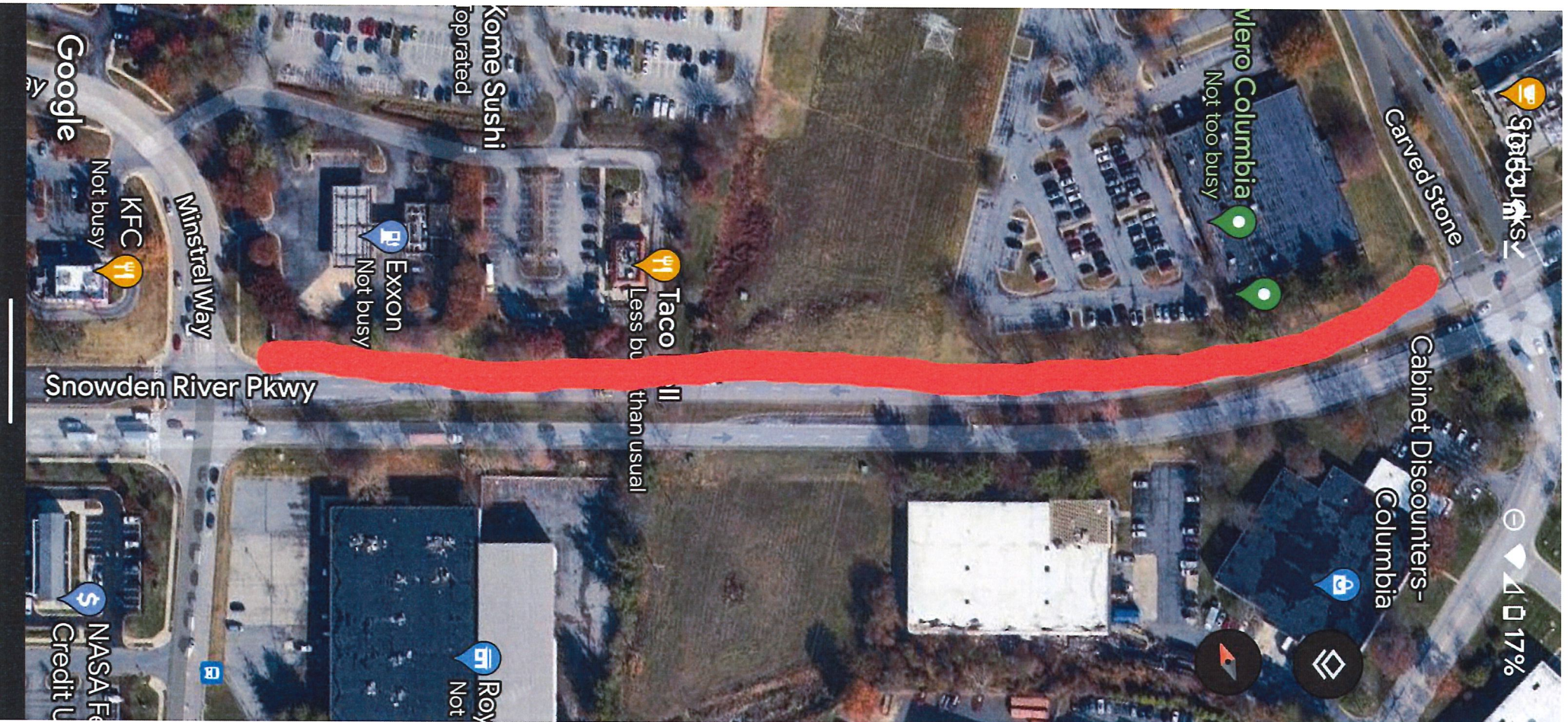
Google

Patuxent
Woodspoon

Snowden River Pkwy

Snowden River Pkwy
Snowden River Pkwy

River Pkwy



Starbucks

Carved Stone

Verco Columbia
Not too busy

Cabinet Discounters-
Columbia

17%

Taco Bell
Less busy than usual

Kome Sushi
toprated

Exxon
Not busy

Roy
Not

Minstrel Way

Snowden River Pkwy

KFC
Not busy

Google

NASA Federal
Credit Union

Sayers, Margery

From: dlbuczowski@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Debra Buczkowski
<dlbuczowski@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 9, 2022 11:46 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

I like to bike to work as frequently as I can, but I often don't feel safe doing so. This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Debra Buczkowski

7151 Peace Chimes Ct Columbia, MD 21045-5241 dlbuczowski@yahoo.com

Sayers, Margery

From: renegade_lxix@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jonathan Schultz
<renegade_lxix@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Friday, April 8, 2022 3:30 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am an Engineering manager at a major defense contractor, and my bike is my primary source of transportation. I look forward to being more safe while riding to work.

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Schultz
3784 College Ave Ellicott City, MD 21043-4662 renegade_lxix@hotmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: edwarner@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of ed warner
<edwarner@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 2:24 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members. I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

I especially urge that some of this funding be used to add sidewalks along Snowden as it approaches Broken Land. Too often, I see people waiting for the bus on a piece of inclined grass at the roadside or trying to walk on Snowden -- in the street. (I've seen this twice!). I'm a cyclist but I see the need to fix this safety problem as far more urgent than expanded bicycle lanes -- it's a matter of safety for those too low income to afford a car.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
ed warner
7161 Harp String Columbia, MD 21045-5247 edwarner@hotmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: jtnader@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of John Nader
<jtnader@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 10:40 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget. As an avid bicyclist, I can tell you how important it is to have a bike infrastructure that allows for safe bicycle riding. Safety is paramount, and allows more people to comfortably venture out on their bicycles.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
John Nader
4017 Willow Bend Ct Ellicott City, MD 21042-5012 jtnader@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: bobsadj@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Bob and Sadj Bartolo
<bobsadj@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 4:23 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Please don't stop now! Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Bob and Sadj Bartolo
9570 Long Look Ln Columbia, MD 21045-3241 bobsadj@aol.com

Sayers, Margery

From: opse@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joseph Esposito
<opse@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 10:56 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Joseph Esposito
6912 Magnolia Ave Elkridge, MD 21075-6333 opse@comcast.net

Sayers, Margery

From: davefreesland@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of David Freesland
<davefreesland@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 10:29 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
David Freesland
10346 Globe Dr Ellicott City, MD 21042-2148 davefreesland@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: yesenia.salgado@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Yesenia Salgado
<yesenia.salgado@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 8:16 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Yesenia Salgado
6048 Charles Edward Ter Columbia, MD 21045-5096 yesenia.salgado@audacy.com

Sayers, Margery

From: carlasteinberg@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Carla Steinberg
<carlasteinberg@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 8:02 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Carla Steinberg
4560 Hemlock Cone Way Ellicott City, MD 21042-5936 carlasteinberg@yahoo.com

Sayers, Margery

From: ecclesiastes911@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joseph Decker <ecclesiastes911@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 6, 2022 5:32 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Joseph Decker
6414 Beechwood Dr Columbia, MD 21046-1011 ecclesiastes911@mac.com

Sayers, Margery

From: ftlombardi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Frank Lombardi
<ftlombardi@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 8:13 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Frank Lombardi
11726 Lightfall Ct Columbia, MD 21044-4351 ftlombardi@aol.com

Sayers, Margery

From: btmargerum@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Teresa Margerum
<btmargerum@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 8:04 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Teresa Margerum
6425 Woodburn Ave Elkridge, MD 21075-5836 btmargerum@msn.com

Sayers, Margery

From: rachellallred@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rachel Allred
<rachellallred@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 8:01 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Rachel Allred
9525 N Laurel Rd Unit B Laurel, MD 20723-1967 rachellallred@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: marctolson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Marc Tolson
<marctolson@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 7:50 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Marc Tolson
9541 Pamplona Rd Columbia, MD 21045-3920 marctolson@ymail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: mbyrns@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Melinda Byrns
<mbyrns@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 7:21 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Melinda Byrns
10673 Glen Hannah Dr Laurel, MD 20723-1264 mbyrns@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: indyx86@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Eric Miller <indyx86@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 7:18 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Eric Miller
4906 Columbia Rd Apt 1 Columbia, MD 21044-2159 indyx86@alumni.american.edu

Sayers, Margery

From: terik.daly@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ronald Daly
<terik.daly@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 6:24 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Ronald Daly
10603 Delfield Ct Laurel, MD 20723-1270 terik.daly@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: marciac31@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Marcia Cohen <marciac31@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 6:13 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Marcia Cohen
8866 Blue Sea Dr Columbia, MD 21046-1413 marciac31@comcast.net

Sayers, Margery

From: bednarzr@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Robert Bednarzik
<bednarzr@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 5:57 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Robert Bednarzik
6875 Happyheart Ln Columbia, MD 21045-4618 bednarzr@georgetown.edu

Sayers, Margery

From: Linda@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Linda Odum
<Linda@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 5:55 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Linda Odum
10129 Hyla Brook Rd Columbia, MD 21044-1706 Linda@odumrealestate.com

Sayers, Margery

From: s.huttel13@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sarah Chao <s.huttel13@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 5:40 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Sarah Chao
5166 Ilchester Rd Ellicott City, MD 21043-7006 s.huttel13@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: stephanie.blades@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Stephanie Blades
<stephanie.blades@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 4:33 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Blades
7506 Red Cravat Ct Columbia, MD 21046-2450 stephanie.blades@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: kampers1259@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Patrick Piet <kampers1259@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 4:08 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for pedestrian and bike infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Patrick Piet
6178 Campfire Columbia, MD 21045-4050
kampers1259@yahoo.com

Sayers, Margery

From: swansonmcginnis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Greta Swanson
<swansonmcginnis@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 4:02 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Greta Swanson
4277 Red Bandana Way Ellicott City, MD 21042-5913 swansonmcginnis@verizon.net

Sayers, Margery

From: karynwilcox90@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Karyn Wilcox <karynwilcox90@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 3:49 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Karyn Wilcox
9606 Clocktower Ln Columbia, MD 21046-1897 karynwilcox90@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: jbrandt@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of John Brandt
<jbrandt@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 3:38 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
John Brandt
2453 Sophia Chase Dr Marriottsville, MD 21104-1496 jbrandt@umd.edu

Sayers, Margery

From: bratlisa2001@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Onalisa Tanner <bratlisa2001@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 3:35 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Onalisa Tanner
10159 High Ridge Rd Laurel, MD 20723-1783 bratlisa2001@yahoo.com

Sayers, Margery

From: Bair.hm@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Heather Griffin
<Bair.hm@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 3:29 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Heather Griffin
9433 Falling Waters Ct Laurel, MD 20723-5973 Bair.hm@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: annalisse.daly@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Annalisse Daly
<annalisse.daly@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 3:13 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

First, thank you so much for all the work that you have been doing over the last few years regarding bike and pedestrian infrastructure. It has been a delight to see progress in several areas around the county, including the addition of sidewalks, the reduction of the slip turn lanes, and the addition of the light at Guilford and Oakland Mills Roads. Our former HOA president, a resident of that area, cynically told us that the county had been promising sidewalks there since the early 2000's and that nothing was ever going to change. You've proved his cynicism wrong and ignited a little hope into that neighborhood, where a significant portion of the residents either have no car or else share it with other housemates. Thank you so much for all the behind the scenes work that made that happen.

I am writing to urge you to please continue that momentum and protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

Along with those benefits, we know that the two largest line items in most households' budgets are housing and transportation. When my family was poor and struggling, we made it through because we lived in an area where we could take the bus, walk, or bike. We took the plunge, sold our car entirely, and found that even though we had never had car payments, we still saved an average of \$350 per month in operating costs-- and that was even after buying everyone monthly bus passes and budgeting for a monthly rental car. It would have been over \$750/month in savings if we had had car payments! The Howard County Council can't necessarily control rising gas prices or skyrocketing housing prices, but providing a viable option for people to travel without owning a personal vehicle can take an enormous pinch out of the household budgets of those struggling most.

Even though my family is now doing much better financially, we still use bikes and ebikes to travel to work and errands wherever possible so we can save for our kids' college funds and share one car instead of having two. We still benefit from the financial savings, but also enjoy the enormous mental health benefits of having exercise naturally built into our daily routines. In other words, this is an investment that benefits people from all income brackets.

I urge you to please protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Annalisse Daly
10603 Delfield Ct Laurel, MD 20723-1270 annalisse.daly@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: lmthorpe1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Laura Thorpe <lmthorpe1@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 2:55 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Laura Thorpe
708 Conservatory Dr Eldersburg, MD 21784-8979 lmthorpe1@netzero.com

Sayers, Margery

From: worley.john@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of john worley
<worley.john@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 2:52 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
john worley
6041 Watch Chain Way Columbia, MD 21044-4714 worley.john@ail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: spamjunkbox@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lisa Vojta
<spamjunkbox@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 2:52 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Lisa Vojta
6321 Soft Thunder Trl Columbia, MD 21045-7410 spamjunkbox@outlook.com

Sayers, Margery

From: kmac53@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kevin McIntosh <kmac53@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 2:46 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Kevin McIntosh
4225 Blue Barrow Ride Ellicott City, MD 21042-5951 kmac53@verizon.net

Sayers, Margery

From: superhughman8709@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Hugh Thompson
<superhughman8709@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 2:45 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Hugh Thompson
8709 Sicklebar Way Ellicott City, MD 21043-6569 superhughman8709@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: savikraina2006@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of VIKAS RAINA <savikraina2006@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 2:39 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
VIKAS RAINA
6310 Mary Theresa Ct Hanover, MD 21076-1039 savikraina2006@yahoo.com

Sayers, Margery

From: lisavmarini@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lisa Marini
<lisavmarini@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 2:19 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Lisa Marini
11445 Iager Blvd Fulton, MD 20759-2508
lisavmarini@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: steve@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Steve Ashurst
<steve@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 2:10 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

As an employee in Howard County, I frequently attempt to commute into the county, but unfortunately, instead of the 7 mile direct route, I must take a safer and LONGER 11 mile route. This may not sound like much if you drive a car, but it's a serious problem that includes extra hills and doubling the time of my commute. Even so, the route available to me is on roads, sometimes shared with aggressive intersections (such as horrible-for-cyclists traffic circles along MD-216 and Johns Hopkins Rd) and 2-3 lanes of traffic with dedicated bike lanes.

Even before the pandemic, all these lanes are never filled (even in rush hour time frames) and it would be appropriate to begin road diets (re-appropriating a lane dedicated and protected for people using bicycles) on the many roads serving the areas south of Columbia such as Cedar Ln, Johns Hopkins Rd., and MD-216, to start. Worse, the zone around Reservoir High school is seriously inappropriately designed on steroids with extra turn lanes, multiple thru lanes and a tiny 4-5 ft "painted" bike lane (which we all know is the bottom of the barrel for safety) and you want children to safely cross this MD-216?

All this needs to be fixed and at a minimum \$8 million needs to be balanced against fixing this poor infrastructure -- and I would hope that on the state maintained roads you will be able to get funds from the state to fix those issues.

I agree this record level of funding and will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services if used wisely (no more adding paint to roads and calling a project done) - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Steve Ashurst
14401 Hollyhock Way Burtonsville, MD 20866-1752 steve@makeitbikeable.com

Sayers, Margery

From: sstockwell@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Stephanie Stockwell
<sstockwell@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 2:09 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Stockwell
8720 Cedar Post Ellicott City, MD 21043-6571 sstockwell@outlook.com

Sayers, Margery

From: Iscoltri@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Laurie Coltri
<Iscoltri@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 1:59 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

We moved to Columbia in 1996, in large part because of its system of paths. However, the County is not "walkable" or "bikeable" in the sense of allowing safe travel to grocery stores and other necessities. In this era of global climate change, every time we get into a car is a soil on the casket of our Earth, and a lost opportunity for us to stay healthy as we age.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Laurie Coltri
5223 Patriot Ln Columbia, MD 21045-1902 Iscoltri@verizon.net

Sayers, Margery

From: lochlannboyle@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lochlann Boyle
<lochlannboyle@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 1:57 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

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I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Lochlann Boyle
10652 Glass Tumbler Path Columbia, MD 21044-4146 lochlannboyle@hotmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: sigurd@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sigurd Knippenberg
<sigurd@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 1:54 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

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I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Sigurd Knippenberg
8014 High Castle Rd Ellicott City, MD 21043-5516 sigurd@knippenberg.com

Sayers, Margery

From: justin.raabe@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Justin Raabe
<justin.raabe@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 1:52 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

As a bicycle commuter in Howard County, this is especially important to me!

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Justin Raabe
5936 Avalon Dr Elkridge, MD 21075-5978
justin.raabe@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: beertrekker@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of William Nichols
<beertrekker@everyactioncustom.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 1:52 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Protect \$8+ Million in County Funds for Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects in FY 2023 Budget

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

Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to urge you to protect the \$8+ million in funding for bike and pedestrian infrastructure projects in the proposed FY 2023 capital budget.

This record level of funding will make our roads, intersections, sidewalks and paths safer for our community members to walk, bike and access important services - as well as move the County closer to achieving its complete streets vision. Howard County has made great progress in funding and implementing complete streets in our community, and we must continue that progress. Now is the time to invest in projects that will improve our public health, as well as safety and accessibility.

I urge you to protect this funding in the final budget to improve our bike and pedestrian infrastructure for everyone in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
William Nichols
10387 Cavey Ln Woodstock, MD 21163-1322 beertrekker@hotmail.com



SPATIAL SYSTEMS ASSOCIATES, INC.
GIS & FMIS IMPLEMENTATION & SUPPORT SERVICES
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS | FACILITIES MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

March 31, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Larry Newman. I own a small business located in Columbia, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for inclusion in the county's operating budget. I am a member of the Rotary Club of Columbia-Patuxent (RCCP), based in Columbia and my firm, Spatial Systems Associates, Inc. is a corporate member of that club. Rotary is the largest service organization in the world. There are currently seven Rotary clubs in Howard County, and a number of them are involved in supporting the CEI mission through volunteer activities. RCCP is Howard County's largest Rotary club with approximately 50 members. I became involved with CEI a couple of years ago through my relationship with Rotary. Our club supports CEI's mission with hands-on volunteer service projects. Our club also sponsors the Howard County Interact Club, a group of young adults that share the Rotary mission of service.

As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and is making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health. From providing place where gardening volunteers can come together to grow locally produced vegetables and eggs for use by the community's less fortunate population, to providing educational opportunities to individuals of all ages, to building a Columbia-based location where culture and history can be shared with the broad community; CEI provides a unique blend of volunteer, educational and environmentally supportive activities open to everyone.

I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you for your consideration.

Larry E. Newman, P.E.
President
Spatial Systems Associates, Inc.

Sayers, Margery

From: Brandyn Geist <bgeist1@students.towson.edu>
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2022 2:00 PM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Cc: Chiara D'Amore
Subject: Community Ecology Institute Testimony

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

To the Reviewers of the County Budget Testimony,

I have written below an important testimony representing my personal and professional gratitude and passion for the impact the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) and Freetown Farm have had on my educational and life journey. Please see below:

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Brandyn Geist, I live in Laurel, MD, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI is as an intern from Towson University's Doctorate of Occupational Therapy program. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

I have been fortunate enough to have extensive experience and connections with CEI, Freetown Farm, and Howard County as a whole. Within the first page, I will emphasize the most pertinent details of my positive outcomes due to my experience with CEI and Freetown Farm. I will further detail the tremendous family history and connection to this community, paralleling the mission and quality of life numerous generations of my family have pursued.

As a clinical occupational therapy student who seeks out nature in all capacities (growing herbs and vegetables, barefoot hiking, camping, swimming, etc.), I have aspired to integrate nature into rehabilitation programs for individuals facing diverse and unique disabilities from the beginning of my graduate education. Assigned to CEI in Spring of 2020, I had the opportunity to work with Chiara D'Amore and students in the Howard County Public School system to cultivate sustainable and nature-based engagement opportunities that develop job skill training and life skill programs within the county to increase performance capacities and autonomy in daily living for the neurodiverse students. Freetown Farm served as a space for not only job skill training for neurodiverse students, but for myself as well.

Since Spring of 2020, I have completed my capstone research analyzing the impact nature has on individual elements of health, well-being, and quality of life as well as holistic support to engagement, performance capacities, and sense of purpose. As increasing research evidences the positive correlation between exposure to nature and health, wellbeing, and quality of life, I am now interning with CEI and Freetown Farm and focused on developing an evidence-based proposal to expand the ADA compliant and accessible nature-based spaces within the community. In conjunction with a grant application to AARP supporting Aging Friendly Community Howard County, the ADA compliant pathway and planting patio I have proposed provides opportunities for sensory exploration,

community engagement, social space, leisure activity, intergenerational teamwork, and nature-based occupations addressing fine and gross motor skills, stability, endurance, cognitive function, task sequencing, visual perceptual functioning, and more.

Living in Laurel, MD since the start of my doctorate degree, I have been seeking out nature-based opportunities myself when not caregiving for my 89 year old grandfather. Sometimes these activities include driving my grandfather to Freetown Farm, which provides him comfort as he fled from Queens, NY city life to Laurel, MD over 60 years ago. He was the buyer of a similar sized, 6-acre plot where he hand-built a home and barn, raised a family, and stewarded the land in a sustainable and community-based manner. Grandpa planned, prepared, planted, harvested, and transformed home grown food through family and friend workdays. My mom to this day shares the different roles and jobs people completed; the number of family members and friends who were welcomed, educated, and incorporated into the process; and the many types of foods freshly prepared and shared at the end of the days. This intergenerationally-valued, sustainable lifestyle my grandfather led has significantly expanded the health, wellbeing, quality of life, knowledge, and life skills of numbers generations following him. As my family and I provide full-time care to him, enabling him to age in place, we value and integrate sensory input, nature-based engagements, and community oriented activities to assist in sustaining functional capacities and quality of life.

CEI's ability to provide the foundational skills I am so fortunate to have been raised by to the community at large is critical and positively impactful for the people lacking access to nature-based activity across the lifespan. Freetown Farm directly correlates to developing children's skills of imaginative play, sensory development, social skills, problem solving capacities, and so much more. Furthermore, it allows for high schoolers within the community to expand practical language, motor skills, and academic knowledge into a transferable environment strengthening the autonomy and job/college readiness. Adults are able to learn new skills and their impact on the earth and future generations. They are able to meet diverse peers and develop stronger community relationships, and they serve as active, engaged demonstrators of healthy living (physically, socially, emotionally, cognitively, leisurely, etc.). Lastly, aging citizens serve as beacons of information, sharing the valuable knowledge and experiences of their lifetime resulting in opportunities for our youth, adolescents, and adults. Aging residents benefit from this social, occupational, health oriented environment rather than being excluded from engagement opportunities limiting health and wellbeing. CEI's community programs and Freetown Farm's endeavors serve the entirety of our diverse community, bringing about unity, strength, and health in a sustainable fashion.

From my family, personal life, leisure priorities, professional studies and research, I recognize the pertinent and health-supporting work in the community for both our people and our planet. CEI's work is unique and in direct alignment with the county's priorities of having thriving and healthy residents, including residents aging in home, and a clean and sustainable environment. I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Brandyn Geist

Sincerely,
Brandyn Geist
Occupational Therapy Doctoral Student



Community Ecology Institute

March 21, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Michael Gonzales, I live in Highland MD, and I am providing a testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI is a volunteer expanding my research from Howard Community College into observational studies at Freetown Farm. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity, and health.

With my work through CEI over the past 7 months, I have seen the leadership create a learning and growing platform for volunteers and participants alike. Through the many education and service opportunities that they provide, people of every background and experience can shine and meet other action-motivated people. One individual comes to mind named Zion. As I just started my volunteer journey with Freetown Farm, I met Zion, a high school student with special needs, while he was helping mulch with his fellow students. He came up to me and started that kind of conversation that makes you feel welcomed and like you belong. It was nothing more than "how are you?" and "what's your favorite food?" but in the context of me, a new volunteer, entering this community for the first time, it changed my attitude and perspective on the type of social environment this community creates. From then on, it was no different with leaders making sure I was feeling supported and invited into their space while being challenged enough with responsibilities and new terrain to learn more about the projects that they are working on. And believe me, they never seem to have enough new projects. From creating a bioretention pond/meadow in the front of their property to expanding their many flourishing gardens, there is always something to help with around the farm.

In addition to facilitating a safe and welcoming space for volunteers, they also offer extensive education opportunities such as the pollinator garden where I see elementary schoolers run around and explore during each visit, a children's garden where kids can harvest vegetables and learn about wildlife, and many other gardens with information surrounding them about ways to appreciate nature and how to garden at home. I see volunteers continuously learning environmentally conscious practices from the other volunteers and leaders at the farm. Every time I volunteer, I feel like I am connecting more with nature and appreciating new ways to appreciate the beauty within it.

With summer approaching and as I look for job opportunities, I do not hesitate to continue my work as a student intern or take a position on the staff with more responsibilities because I believe in the mission of the Community Ecology Institute, and I desire more opportunities to learn from and grow with their leaders. They truly make



Community Ecology Institute

conscious efforts to enhance the Columbia community through opportunities and education with the kind of love and passion people search their whole lives for. I fully believe in this organization, and I passionately and respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level so that they can have larger impacts on our community.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Michael Gonzales

March 31, 2022

To: Howard County Executive, Council Members, and Fiscal Leaders

From: Michael D. Wagner
5426 Hesperus Drive
Columbia, MD 21044
Phone: 301-332-3387

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Mike Wagner and I live in the Longfellow neighborhood of Columbia, MD. I am providing testimony in strong support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) request for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. I am a regular donor, volunteer, and frequent participant in CEI's programs at Freetown Farm and throughout Howard County. CEI is a unique local success story, making immense strides in growing and fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity, and health.

My visits to Freetown Farm give me renewed hope for our County, our Nation, and The World. At the farm, and at CEI events throughout the county, I experience a wildly diverse community – young, old and in between; traditional and non-traditional families as well as individuals; the prosperous and the not yet prosperous; highly skilled and differently-abled; PhDs, those just beginning their formal education, and those who have learned mostly from the school of life; of all colors and ethnicities – all learning together and working together to build a thriving, healthy, sustainable world. I see gardeners sharing tips on growing, harvesting, and preparing foods that reflect their unique cultural heritage with other gardeners from completely different traditions. I see multi-generational families working together to pull weeds, plant seeds, and carry water to the gardens. I see children learning responsibility for others by tending the farm's chickens. And I see children of all ages exploring the natural world around them, and making connections through shared play, shared labor, and a growing love of the land.

CEI's work in the community is unique. CEI makes a tangible difference for residents, communities and the environment every day. And CEI's work is in direct alignment with the county's priorities of having thriving and healthy residents, building diverse communities that honor and support all residents, and creating and preserving a clean and sustainable environment. I respectfully request that the county continue to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support!



Sayers, Margery

From: Lisa Otero <lisa.m.otero@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 6:25 PM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: In Support of CEI

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

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Lisa Otero. I live in Laurel, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI has several facets. I have participated as a volunteer at the farm, taken several topic-specific classes, my children have taken classes through Roots and Wings, I have completed the Nourishing Gardens training, and my family recently joined Community of Families in Nature (CFIN). I am sure you're familiar, but CEI is such an amazing organization, working to cultivate community in so many amazing ways. I have been impressed with all the different programs that I or my children have been involved with. I love hearing and seeing how CEI is not only providing amazing opportunities directly through their own programs, but providing space for other organizations that are serving our community to reach their goals and mission. I have been able to see first hand how they have supported organizations such as Hope Works, the Howard County chapter of the NAACP, Howard County EcoWorks, UpCycled, and the Indian Origin Network to reach their individual missions of supporting our community. There are many other organizations that they partner with that bring value to our community, which I'm sure you're familiar with, but those are the ones I've been able to observe firsthand during my time on the farm. I love how they are not solely focused on their own mission and goals to the exclusion of others but strive to partner with organizations that have tangential goals and look to see how they can work together for more benefits to our community.

I have loved being able to see how individuals in our community are affected by the atmosphere on the farm. We live in such a busy area where it's easy to stay inside and only venture out to get in a car to travel to a destination where you immediately return inside. The farm is such an amazing place that gives people the space to breathe more freely and experience nature in a new way. There are so many ways to get involved at the farm: some as simple as dropping off your plastic recycling that might otherwise not actually be recycled, and some as engaged as volunteering multiple days per week and leading the development of a particular section on the farm.

Personally, my family and I have benefitted from our time on the farm. Roots and Wings was so wonderful to provide my children with a place to go during the height of the pandemic where they could learn and socialize in a safe environment. I have also learned so much through my involvement with the Nourishing Gardens program. I learned a lot of the environmental and health benefits of growing my own food. I also was given a more comprehensive understanding of the complete process of gardening and being able to provide what the plants need so that they and my family can thrive through my efforts. I am looking forward to producing a lot more of our own food this growing season! Besides the tangible benefits like those, I was pleasantly surprised by the connections that I made through my participation in the Nourishing Gardens program. I developed friendships with others in the community and that has been such a blessing in this pandemic time with all the disconnection and challenges that have come along with that.

We also had our first CFIN event this weekend. We were planting trees and shrubs in a recently restored stream area on CA property to help stabilize and prevent erosion. My 10 year old left there feeling empowered and energized with how she had been able to participate to protect the environment in our community. I feel like that is the CEI story--empowering and equipping people, no matter what age, to connect with nature so that they can be engaged in shifting

our community's trajectory to one that loves nature and protects the Earth, this valuable and finite resource that we've been given to care for.

CEI is truly an asset to our county and community. CEI's work in the community is unique and in direct alignment with the county's priorities of having thriving and healthy residents and a clean and sustainable environment. I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you for considering,

Lisa Otero
Hammond Village, Laurel



Community Ecology Institute

March 21, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Lauren Villa, I live in Baltimore, Maryland, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in Howard County's operating budget. I currently intern at CEI as an occupational therapy graduate student, leading a group of neurodiverse high schoolers to gain vocational skills, social-emotional strategies, and opportunities to lead and collaborate with their peers to prepare for nature-inspired careers. The staff and environment at CEI lay an exceptional foundation for collaborative learning, fostering community change in education, the environment, public health, and social equity.

The Community Ecology Institute is an accepting and creative environment for all families, older adults, and youth at the farm. The Howard County high school vocational program, which I currently help run, helps advance student understanding regarding sustainable living, physical and mental health, vocational skills, and equitable work opportunities. It is wonderful to witness the students' motivation and curiosity to develop their skills when stepping on the farm each day. Many even requested to continue their work throughout the year! Unfortunately, the lack of indoor space limits opportunities for growth and year-round programming. Support from Howard County will be far-reaching for our unique family, youth, and adolescent programs at CEI.

Howard County's priorities of fostering community growth, resident health, and sustainable living are strongly reflected in CEI's programs. Our mission is centered in providing opportunities for diverse individuals to create meaningful connections in nature, educating locals about the ecosystem and its relation to our health, and developing sustainable food and work opportunities for community members. Our organization would benefit tremendously with the county's continuous support for CEI's 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support!

Sincerely,

Lauren Villa

Sayers, Margery

From: Edwin Gould <pottergouldeeee@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 6:36 AM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: Fwd: Budget: Community Ecology Institute (CEI) at Freetown Farm

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

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members and County Leadership:

My name is Edwin Gould. I have lived in Howard County since 1980. I am providing a second commentary in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for significant inclusion in the county's operating budget. Having written in strong support of the Howard County budget to support CEI I did not comment on the administration that underlies the progress of CEI. The quality of leadership, enthusiasm and creative, loving energy of the Executive Director, Chiara D'Amore is like none I have encountered in my 88 years of life. That contagious energy shows up in The Board of Trustees and the support staff/volunteers to make CEI the productive outfit that so enriches the County's diverse community.

Edwin Gould Ph.D.

6505 Carlinda Av.
Columbia Maryland 21046
Until my retirement I did research and taught
as an ecologist and Professor at the
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health for 18y
and then Head Curator, National Zoo, Smithsonian Institution for 16y.



Community Ecology Institute

March 21, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Charlie Goedeke. I live in the Scaggsville area, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI includes serving as the project leader for its evolving Maker Space, and creating a permanent home for the Transition Howard County Repair Café activities. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards healthy, equitable, and sustainable communities. I am very proud to be a part of that effort.

Despite its difficult start at the very beginning of the COVID pandemic, we have continued to build the Maker Space at Freetown Farm through the efforts of many volunteers and donors. As the integral shop for Farm, it has provided essential support for other activities, providing a venue where people, young and old, can gather, learn new skills, and share ideas, literally building a better environment for all. It has become a sustainability hub in its own right, keeping items out of our landfills, and encouraging people to explore building and repairing on their own. In 2022, we will start offering classes and workshops on a wide variety of topics, including special workshops on repurposing "trash".

By supporting and teaching the more traditional crafts, such as woodworking, pottery, and fiber arts, and providing access to tools, space, and materials, we feel that we fill an important niche in our community, complementing the Maker Spaces in the Howard County Public Library System, and the offerings of the Department of Recreation & Parks

CEI's work in the community is unique and in direct alignment with the county's priorities of having thriving and healthy residents and a clean and sustainable environment. I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Respectfully,

Charlie Goedeke

10544 Patuxent Ridge Way, Laurel, MD 20723

Sayers, Margery

From: Connie Dvorak <conniedvorak33@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 29, 2022 10:50 AM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: Letter of Support for the Community Ecology Institute

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

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Connie Dvorak and I live in Western Howard County. I am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI includes extensive volunteer work and involvement in the high school internship program for the past two years. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

Over the pandemic, CEI continued to safely be a community hub where people from many different backgrounds could gather to work on their aligned interests. As a high school student and a person deeply passionate about environmental topics and community building, this space has been vital to my growth as an individual and helped me figure out how I want to spend my life. From vegetable planting and harvesting to invasive species identification and removal to building infrastructure that will go on to help educate our local community, CEI has taught me how important it is to invest in local efforts and invest in the future.

CEI's work in the community is unique and in direct alignment with the county's priorities of having thriving and healthy residents and a clean and sustainable environment. I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Connie Dvorak



Community Ecology Institute

March 21, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Sandra Price, I live in Columbia, part of Howard County Maryland, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI is as both a community member, as a participant in the Nourishing Gardens Program, and community partner, through my position at HopeWorks of Howard County. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

CEI has provided a garden space for HopeWorks, where our clients, volunteers, and staff can meditate, write poetry, tend the garden, and heal from the trauma of childhood or intimate partner violence. This past year, with the help of the CEI Nourishing Gardens Trainees, we installed herbs and leafy greens, which will support our clients in shelter. This planting season, we will be installing a Three Sisters Garden, to not only recognize that we are on Indigenous Lands, but to show how CEI, HopeWorks, and HopeWorks clients support and care for each other, represented by the corn, squash, and beans. CEI will also be hosting our Annual Self-Care Day for Survivors, where we will utilize the forest and other parts of Freetown Farm, as a healing space. As a member of the first cohort of the Nourishing Gardens Program, I gained valuable life skills – planning for, planting, caring for, and harvesting food – that I can now share with my community and my children and grandchildren.

CEI's work in the community is unique and in direct alignment with the county's priorities of having thriving and healthy residents and a clean and sustainable environment. They are also in alignment with our goals of Social Justice, caring for the Earth, and Food Sovereignty. I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Sandra Price

Community Education Coordinator

HopeWorks of Howard County



Community Ecology Institute

March 21, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Sandra Price, I live in Columbia, part of Howard County Maryland, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI is as both a community member, as a participant in the Nourishing Gardens Program, and community partner, through my position at HopeWorks of Howard County. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

CEI has provided a garden space for HopeWorks, where our clients, volunteers, and staff can meditate, write poetry, tend the garden, and heal from the trauma of childhood or intimate partner violence. This past year, with the help of the CEI Nourishing Gardens Trainees, we installed herbs and leafy greens, which will support our clients in shelter. This planting season, we will be installing a Three Sisters Garden, to not only recognize that we are on Indigenous Lands, but to show how CEI, HopeWorks, and HopeWorks clients support and care for each other, represented by the corn, squash, and beans. CEI will also be hosting our Annual Self-Care Day for Survivors, where we will utilize the forest and other parts of Freetown Farm, as a healing space. As a member of the first cohort of the Nourishing Gardens Program, I gained valuable life skills – planning for, planting, caring for, and harvesting food – that I can now share with my community and my children and grandchildren.

CEI's work in the community is unique and in direct alignment with the county's priorities of having thriving and healthy residents and a clean and sustainable environment. They are also in alignment with our goals of Social Justice, caring for the Earth, and Food Sovereignty. I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Sandra Price

Community Education Coordinator

HopeWorks of Howard County



Community Ecology Institute

March 28, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Christopher Roscoe, I live in Columbia, and I am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI is as a long-time family community member, volunteer, and donor. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

My spouse, Caitlin, and my children, William (7) and Mackenzie (1), have learned and grown so much with support from CEI and their variety of programs. Our first interaction with this wonderful organization was with their Families in Nature program, CFIN, which we joined when William was an infant. As parents, we have learned to slow down and to notice nature together, while at the same time making an impact in our community. Our children have learned about how the watershed where we live is connected to the Chesapeake Bay through hands-on activities cleaning up local streams. One day when William was 4 or 5, he approached a neighbor who he noticed pouring paint down a storm drain and said: "You know, this drain is connected to the Chesapeake Bay." CFIN and CEI have a unique strategy of combining engaging activities with service to our communities. Just in the last few weeks, we have participated in CFIN events to clean up and restore open spaces in Columbia, while searching for signs up spring with a themed scavenger hunt. My spouse, Caitlin, also volunteers with the Repair Café at Freetown Farm to keep waste out of our landfills.

We have been so impressed with how efficiently and effectively CEI has used a small amount of money to make a huge impact in our community that we have donated for the last several years to help them make an even bigger impact. CEI's work in the community aligns with our values of having thriving and healthy active families and individuals and a clean and sustainable environment. I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Christopher Roscoe



Community Ecology Institute

March 28, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Christopher Roscoe, I live in Columbia, and I am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI is as a long-time family community member, volunteer, and donor. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

My spouse, Caitlin, and my children, William (7) and Mackenzie (1), have learned and grown so much with support from CEI and their variety of programs. Our first interaction with this wonderful organization was with their Families in Nature program, CFIN, which we joined when William was an infant. As parents, we have learned to slow down and to notice nature together, while at the same time making an impact in our community. Our children have learned about how the watershed where we live is connected to the Chesapeake Bay through hands-on activities cleaning up local streams. One day when William was 4 or 5, he approached a neighbor who he noticed pouring paint down a storm drain and said: "You know, this drain is connected to the Chesapeake Bay." CFIN and CEI have a unique strategy of combining engaging activities with service to our communities. Just in the last few weeks, we have participated in CFIN events to clean up and restore open spaces in Columbia, while searching for signs up spring with a themed scavenger hunt. My spouse, Caitlin, also volunteers with the Repair Café at Freetown Farm to keep waste out of our landfills.

We have been so impressed with how efficiently and effectively CEI has used a small amount of money to make a huge impact in our community that we have donated for the last several years to help them make an even bigger impact. CEI's work in the community aligns with our values of having thriving and healthy active families and individuals and a clean and sustainable environment. I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Christopher Roscoe

Sayers, Margery

From: Chelsea Clark <chelsea.n.clark@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 6:25 AM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: Budget Testimony

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

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Chelsea Clark. I live in Baltimore County and work in Howard County. I am submitting testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for inclusion in the county's 2023 operating budget. I am the secretary of CEI, an event leader for our family nature club, and nature educator for our homeschool cooperative. I am so proud to be a part of this non-profit where we strive to provide opportunities for all local families to enjoy, connect with, and reap the benefits of nature.

Our family nature club, A Community of Families in Nature (CFIN) has been able to start up again after a long COVID-related hiatus. We have a new membership platform and families sign up for a season of events at a time. Something new about our membership is the ability for families to donate a membership to a family who wouldn't otherwise be able to join due to financial constraints. Our community has shown up tremendously and the support for one another has been phenomenal. We truly believe that nature opportunities can benefit all-emotionally, physically, mentally- and strive to continue this important work in and around Howard County, connecting with as many families as we can. As a result, I request that the county continues to support CEI in our mission, at the requested funding level in your 2023 operational budget.

Respectfully,

Chelsea Clark

--
Board Secretary, [The Community Ecology Institute](#)
Educator, [Roots & Wings Learning Community](#)

Sayers, Margery

From: Edwin Gould <pottergouldeee@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2022 3:35 PM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: Budget: Community Ecology Institute (CEI) at Freetown Farm

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

March 27, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members and County Leadership

My name is Edwin Gould. I have lived in Howard County since 1980. I am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for significant inclusion in the county's operating budget.

My relationship with CEI is two fold: I teach children about birds and nature at CEI and I am a member of the CEI advisory committee.

I am a firm believer in all the activities, messages and environmental spirit that CEI provides to the community at Freetown Farm. On a regular basis I witness the unbelievable numbers of Howard and nearby county residents participating in multiple constructive activities that connect them to the land. People of ALL ages ethnic groups come to the Farm: men, women and children learn about and personally plant crops, repair household goods, sit around the campfire together and share knowledge and concerns about life. Children care for and glow over the chickens; they plant vegetable seeds, learn about pollination, flowers, birds, ecology and how to be together in nature. CEI fosters an extraordinary wealth of fellowship and positive energy in nature the likes of which are absent in most of my life experience.

CEI at Freetown farm attracts families of all colors and backgrounds and provides a place of meaning and beauty to share and to nourish their collective lives.

In my life time, I'm 88y, I have never seen a community collectively working with such zest and enthusiasm in behalf of an environmental cause of such enormous worth! I tell my neighbors about Freetown; they visit and find ways to participate and volunteer. CEI at Freetown Farm is becoming a beacon of learning to the world.

I urge you to seriously consider continuing to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Edwin Gould Ph.D.

6505 Carlinda Av.

Columbia Maryland 21046

Until my retirement I did research and taught

as an ecologist and Professor at the

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health for 18y

and then Head Curator, National Zoo,

Smithsonian Institution for 16y.

Sayers, Margery

From: Monica Lewis <m.mialewis7@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2022 11:24 AM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: Operating Budget Request

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

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,
My name is Monica Lewis, I live in the southeastern part of Howard County. I am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI is that of a Board member. This position gives me great joy in being able to help advance the mission and ensure that CEI has the resources needed in order to continue to develop programs and infrastructures that benefit all of Howard County and its residents.

As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

The Community Ecology Institute is well positioned to have a major impact on the overall health and well being for all people in the county and beyond. This was evidenced by the number of families and community partners that participated in our targeted programs during the pandemic. Many people were drawn from their homes and into open spaces in order to feel connected and engaged. Research shows that these activities improve mental health and increase community cohesion. CEI is looking forward to expanding programming thus increasing our reach and impact.

I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support!

Monica Lewis

Sayers, Margery

From: Akil Cole <akilcole22@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 26, 2022 4:23 PM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: Akil Cole Howard County Budget Testimony for CEI

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

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Akil Cole, I attend Georgetown University, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI is as a former college intern and current member of the Board of Directors. I produce CEI's podcast, Community Blooms, and spent last summer guiding a cohort of 15 Howard County high school students through our Summer Internship Program. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making incredible progress towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

Between my work with our podcast and with our interns in the summer of 2021, I have been honored to personally experience the enhanced hope for the future, connection with nature, and education of the self that CEI facilitates, especially for Howard County's young people. A lot of people in my age range (college and high school) want to get involved with environmentalism, but don't quite know where to start. Furthermore, given the doom-based news cycle inundating today's youth, CEI serves as a tangible source of hope and empowerment. At CEI, young people learn, have high degrees of agency, and cultivate lifelong skills that improve their health, connect them to nature, and open a whole new world of career opportunities.

I humbly request that the county maintains support for CEI within the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Akil Cole

Board Member, Community Ecology Institute

Founder and Visionary, Your Better Four

--

Akil Cole

Georgetown University, COL '24

Founder and Visionary, [Your Better Four](#)

Board Member, [Community Ecology Institute](#)



Community Ecology Institute

March 21, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Cecilia Ituarte, I live in Ellicott City, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. I collaborate as a teacher at Roots and Wings Learning Community, a homeschool community part of CEI. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

- The Community Ecology Institute, through Roots and Wings Learning Community, has had an enormous impact in the lives of many families in Howard County. I have had the opportunity to experience, witness and be part of the powerful connections that have been fostered through this community that comes together to provide a holistic education to our children. Through a nature and art-based program we strive to provide a safe creative space for the kids to find themselves and their connection with nature, then they are more sensitive to the different problems we face socially and ecologically and are excited to be part of the solution by coming up with creative ways to participate and interact with the community.
- I honestly believe that we as species all want to make a difference and feel the urgency to make changes to ensure a better world for our children and our children's children. At the Community Ecology Institute, I have found not only kindred spirits with the same goals and visions as mine, but with the energy and the determination to make them happen today. We need to empower communities like this if we want to generate effective change on time: educating people on sustainable ways of doing life, facilitating spaces to do so, emboldening connections and relationships that continue having a ripple effect in the community, for our families, our friends, for Howard County and our country. Simply put, our world depends on communities like the Community Ecology Institute.
- The best resource I have to offer is to give my time and talents to Roots and Wings Learning Community and to the Community Ecology Institute, I would feel so empowered if we got the financial support to continue our journey towards an educated, well informed, inspired community that will stop at nothing until we see the impact of our actions towards a better world.

CEI's work in the community is unique and in direct alignment with the county's priorities of having thriving and healthy residents and a clean and sustainable environment. I



Community Ecology Institute

respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Cecilia Ituarte

Sayers, Margery

From: Erica Jones <ejones@cei.earth>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 10:35 PM
To: Budget Testimony
Cc: CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: Testimony for 2023 Funding Support for Community Ecology Institute

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

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

I am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for programming into the 2023 budget. I serve on the Board of Directors of the organization and play an instrumental role at Freetown Farm as a farmer and educator. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity, and health. We are committed to expanding our community open spaces, protecting, and restoring our watersheds, providing tangible solutions on how to address climate change in our community, and educating on the value of locally grown food and increasing self-sufficiency.

We were honored to partner with the administration in the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Culture of Health Award (and WIN!) and seek to continue our partnership in supporting the holistic wellness of our community for years to come. I ask for your continued partnership of us to make Howard County a place where our residents thrive. Your support will help us reach our highest priority goal to have adequate facilities to support our staff and community visitors and for hiring additional operational staff so our programming can be offered at the levels we seek for measurable impact to our community. I respectfully request that you continue to support CEI and our budget request for in the 2023 budget cycle.

A sincere thank you!

Erica Jones
Boardmember
[The Community Ecology Institute](#)

CEI humbly acknowledges the Indigenous people immemorial who were wrongfully removed from their ancestral lands where we live and work today. We offer our deepest respect to the [Piscataway Conoy Tribe](#), and all other tribes Indigenous to the central Maryland region where our organization is based. To learn more about the Indigenous people where you live, visit [Native-Land.ca](#).

Sayers, Margery

From: Amanda Pincheira <apincheira78@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 5:25 PM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: [Possible Scam Fraud]Hello

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

WARNING: Your email security system has determined the message below may be a potential threat.

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March 21, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership, My name is Amanda Pincheira and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI is of a graduate of the Nourishing Gardens program as you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

I applied for the Nourishing Gardens co-hort last year from the recommendation of a co worker. My experience with the program has been wonderful and since graduating I have used my enterprise in numerous ways. I have help put in a pollinator and food garden at Running Brook ES and am excited to show the school and the community how to grow delicious food and eat it. I have also used my training as a springboard to join the Master Gardener cohort with Howard County Master Gardeners. I have chosen to volunteer with the "Grow It Eat It" garden at Freedomtown Farm, which helps the public with growing their own food either in backyards, containers or community gardens. I also informally share my knowledge with my neighbors and friends and am working on making my own yard into a pollinator/food garden for nourishment and environmental protection as an example on how to change your lawn to wildlife habitat. In addition to the practical garden knowledge I have acquired, I have also made many friendly relationships with people outside my race and age group which has given me a different perspective then the one I am used to. Many times, in Howard County people tend to self-segregate in regards to age, race and class. I find Freedom town Farm to be one of the rare places where everyone has a chance to interact with people outside their immediate bubble. While I think their environmental stewardship is paramount in importance, I do want to draw attention to the importance of community relationships and how Fredowntown Farm is instrumental with exposing people to other groups.

I can't say enough good things about Freedowntown farm other than to invite you to see it for yourself. When you drive on the property you will experience the peaceful calm and contagious excitement of the people who volunteer.

I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level. Thank you so much for your support.

Amanda Pincheira

Sayers, Margery

From: Dana Belanger <belanger.d525@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 1:03 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: County Budget Testimony - Community Ecology Institute

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

March 25, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Dana Belanger, and I am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the country's operating budget. I have been a member of the CEI staff for a year now, working as an Educator for the Root & Wings Learning Community at the farm. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity, and health.

I'd like to focus my testimony on CEI's future story - the work I see happening each and every day, rooted in the human desire to leave the world a better place. As a nature educator, I believe my job is to nurture a care, respect, and reverie for the environment and its wonders so that our children grow into proud stewards of the land who will be able to care for and advocate for the environment in ways that are pivotal to our future. This work is happening at CEI and with support, CEI's success and achievements in this regard and beyond can be amplified to create meaningful impact in this community for its community members. I have no doubt that from this programming future leaders are emerging who will use their intimate knowledge of nature, their hands, their hearts, and their voices to instill powerful change. It is also my job as a nature educator to imprint in young minds the role of nature in our personal healing and development. The younger that we can learn how important nature is to our physical and mental health, the more likely youth will engage with nature proactively and receive the benefits of its preventative health measures, thereby interrupting the alarming rise in mental health issues seen across this country. We can start here at CEI and we can make a critical impact. The support of Howard County in this mission is so greatly valued and manifests at CEI as truly meaningful, community-level impact.

Thank you for reading and I hope the return of spring is bringing you joy.

Dana Belanger

Dana Belanger
508.272.8170
[LinkedIn](#)

Sayers, Margery

From: Jean Silver-Isenstadt <jean@cei.earth>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 12:07 PM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute

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

Dear County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership:

My name is Jean Silver-Isenstadt and I live in Howard County. As president of the board of directors of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI), I am submitting testimony in support of CEI's robust inclusion in the County's operating budget.

CEI is working tirelessly to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together. Every day, our talented, passion-driven, part-time staff members field more requests from the community for greater engagement and new partnerships. It is critical that we expand our staff to meet the increasing desire for our offerings.

In the past two years, CEI welcomed more than 1,500 people to Freetown Farm and grew more than 8,000 pounds of food for the community. Through our home-school co-op, high-school internship program, and partnerships with area universities, CEI is helping to develop the next generation of engaged climate leaders. Simultaneously, CEI is fostering synergistic work with a broad range of local organizations, including the Rotary of Club of Columbia/Patuxent, the Howard County Branch of the NAACP, UpCycled, HopeWorks, OhanaHC, VolunTeens, Scouts, The Third, and many others.

CEI was honored to receive the Howard County Changemaker Challenge Community Choice Award in November, endorsing our Nourishing Gardens Initiative. There is great excitement in the community for education and support in converting lawns to habitat-friendly gardens—a joyful activity that energizes people to enhance food security, strengthen practical skills and ecological knowledge, improve soil health, and steward our watersheds more responsibly.

Individuals are most able to thrive in healthy, connected communities. CEI's collaborative efforts to protect the Middle Patuxent Watershed took several forms last year, including the completion of stormwater management installations at Freetown Farm that showcase best practices for visitors to the farm. Proposals for future enhancements to watershed protection and community connectivity can be found in our [Freetown Walkable Watershed Report](#), developed with support from Howard County Watershed Stewards Academy. CEI has transformed a local stormwater problem into an organizing and educational opportunity, resulting in collective care for the woods and river.

Operating support from the County this year will enable CEI to maximize Freetown Farm's myriad benefits to the community as we complete the renovation of our unfinished barn into a new Community Engagement Center and as we develop our Maker Space for outdoor education. CEI's ability to expand revenue-generating programs depends on these infrastructure investments; operating support will enable us to sustain and strengthen our diverse program offerings during this period of competing capital demands.

In sum, CEI's work in the community is in direct alignment with the County's health, environmental, and equity priorities and we are excited to contribute all we can to sustaining Howard County's reputation as a national model of social and ecological resilience.

Thank you,

Jean Silver-Isenstadt



Community Ecology Institute

March 25, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Jason Van Kirk, I live in Clarksville, MD, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI is as a Board Member and with my Community Impact Project for Leadership Howard County Class of 2019. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

I am amazed at the progress and impact CEI has had on Howard County in such a short period of time. Since our Leadership Howard County engagement with CEI, the organization has acquired a Howard County location and expanded its impact on the County. I see CEI (and Freetown Farm) bumper stickers all over the place. I constantly surprised/excited to have discussions with my network of acquaintances that have had a positive impacted on their lives because of CEI. The experience leaves me with an additional, deep connection to someone I know from somewhere else.....actively fulfilling one of CEI's missions to provide connections to the community.

I want to do everything I can to help foster an organization with a mission of connecting the community through environmental education, equity, health, etc. I greatly support all of the contributions Howard County has made to help CEI these past few years. I highly encourage the County to continue its support of one of the best organizations in the County having an impact on so many lives. I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Jason Van Kirk

Leadership Howard County 2019

Board Member, CEI

Sayers, Margery

From: Patrick Curtis <PCurtis@rubino.com>
Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 8:55 AM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: Budget testimony

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

March 25, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Patrick Curtis, I live in Glenelg, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI is that of a Board Member. I was introduced to CEI through Leadership Howard County as part of my Community Impact Project. My CIP Team assisted CEI with the acquisition of Freetown Farm. With help from the County, CEI has become a unique local success story and it is making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

CEI's has embraced the role of a steward of this piece of land for other community organizations to utilize to achieve their respective missions. To date, CEI has risen to this task as Freetown Farm has quickly become a gathering place for numerous organizations. We are constantly engaging with the community, and we look forward to continuing this work.

CEI's work in the community is unique and in direct alignment with the county's priorities of having thriving and healthy residents and a clean and sustainable environment. I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Patrick Curtis



RUBINO

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

ASSURANCE | TAX | ADVISORY

Patrick J. Curtis, CPA
Shareholder

6903 Rockledge Drive
Suite 300
Bethesda, MD 20817

d: 301-214-4177 | cell: 240-338-1708 | o: 301-564-3636 | fax: 301-564-2994
pcurtis@rubino.com | www.rubino.com

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Sayers, Margery

From: Margo Duesterhaus <margommd@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2022 8:27 PM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: Budget Testimony for CEI

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

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, CountyCouncil Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Margo Duesterhaus and I live in Ellicott City. I am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI is as a Board Member.

As you know, CEI is working to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health. CEI has made significant progress in developing the Freetown Farm property to support the important need for local sustainability.

This development includes the creation of a Maker Space to enable members of our Howard County community to learn the skills needed to become more resilient. The Maker Space provides a place for experts to share knowledge, skills and hands-on training fundamental to community sustainability. For example, it will be a collaboration space for the Chesapeake Fibershed, which is creating a regional network of fiber producers, mills, dyers, and artisans in our area. Workshops and events related to all aspects of local fiber support both community sustainability and the growth of our local economy. The Freetown Farm Maker Space has also become the permanent home of the very popular Transition Howard County Repair Cafe, where volunteers help people repair broken items instead of sending them to the landfill.

The County's ongoing support will enable CEI to grow into its full potential and to offer an exciting range of unique programs that are in direct alignment with the county's priority for having a thriving community and sustainable environment. I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you for your support!

Margo Duesterhaus

Sayers, Margery

From: Colleen Vernon <cmvernon80@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2022 6:13 PM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: Budget Testimony

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

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Colleen Vernon, I live in Columbia, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My children attend the Roots and Wings Homeschool program at CEI. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health.

My children have participated in Christian schools, private schools, coop preschools, public schools, and various homeschool programs, but none comes close to the quality of Roots and Wings. This is the first educational community where my children have truly flourished. The staff members are extremely qualified and diverse in their skill sets, genuinely caring, and amazingly creative.

My oldest son struggles with depression and ADHD, and the unique outdoor environment and hands-on practical activities have been incredibly beneficial for him. The program's focus on educating the WHOLE person has helped my son to feel confident, comfortable, and successful for the first time in his school career.

Walking on to the farm campus for morning check in is a joyful occasion. All the kids are happy to be there and bubbling with excitement. Picking them up is much the same, everyone is happy, muddy, windblown, and tired, but in a good way. It is amazing to me how much the farm has grown, changed, and improved even in just the short time we've been there. Chiara has a clear vision for the future, and knows how to get people energized and excited about realizing this vision. We are so proud to be part of this organization, and I want everyone to be able to experience the joy and connection we've found there.

CEI's work in the community is unique and in direct alignment with the county's priorities of having thriving and healthy residents and a clean and sustainable environment. I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Colleen Vernon

Sayers, Margery

From: Lindsay Kreisher <rootsandwings@cei.earth>
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2022 12:50 PM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: Budget: Community Ecology Institute

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



March 24, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Lindsay Kreisher. I live in Sykesville MD, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI is as the program director for the Roots and Wings Learning Community, which is a homeschool experiential educational program.

Having been with CEI from its birth, I have served on the Board of Directors, and have had the unique opportunity to see this organization place roots and grow. The journey that CEI has taken over the past 4 years is one of true inspiration. CEI is at the forefront of prioritizing community health, inclusivity, climate action, environmentalism, gardening, and education. Their programs offer a diverse community, meaningful opportunities to grow and learn. These assets are in direct alignment with the county's priorities of having a thriving, healthy and clean community.

Please make every effort to fulfill the institute's request in the county budget planning.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Lindsay J Kreisher

Lindsay McIlwraith Kreisher
Program Director, *Roots and Wings Learning Community*
[The Community Ecology Institute](#)
P: 443-472-7108
E: rootsandwings@cei.earth
Pronouns: *she/her/hers*

Please note: I work for CEI in a part time capacity. I do my best to respond to messages within 48 hours. If you need immediate assistance please call or text: 443-472-7108.

CEI humbly acknowledges the Indigenous people immemorial who were wrongfully removed from their ancestral lands where we live and work today. We offer our deepest respect to the Piscataway Conoy Tribe, and all other tribes Indigenous to the central Maryland region where our organization is based. To learn more about the Indigenous people where you live, visit Native-Land.ca.



Community Ecology Institute

March 22, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Theresa Taylor, I live in Columbia, MD, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. I joined CEI as a staff member in June 2021, as the Nourishing Gardens Program Director. As you know, CEI is perhaps best defined by our collaborative, community-based approach towards creating real-world advancements towards social, economic, and environmental health and wellbeing. We are making rapid strides towards fulfilling our mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity, and health.

In 2019, CEI purchased what once was Shaw Farms, an institution in organic community supported agriculture here in Columbia, MD. Protecting the property from development and conserving it as a place for environmental education and exploration, CEI has systemically transformed Freetown Farm into a place where community members can work collaboratively, design and offer educational programming that improves people's connection to nature and their local food systems, and practice the skills needed to transform our relationship between our daily lives and the environment in which we live.

Since then, the farm has become a gathering place. A place where artists, gardeners, environmental enthusiasts, children, retirees, and neighbors come together for a shared common goal to create healthy and reciprocal relationships among each other, and with the land we live and work on. They come to volunteer. They come to participate in experiential education workshops. They come to contribute to a vibrant, nutritious, locally-grown food system. They come to share in fellowship, to build relationships, and to repair them.

In 2021, CEI launched the Nourishing Gardens program. Its efforts are two-fold, to transform lawns, that provide little by way of benefit to our local ecology or food system, into gardens that nourish ourselves, our community, and the environment. In doing this, the program trains community members with the skills needed to design and install food and pollinator gardens. Trainees are then qualified to become a part of paid installation teams – expanding CEI's opportunity to provide green infrastructure jobs that support our local economy and contribute to economic mobility.

This program brings the experiences and benefits of Freetown Farm, directly to our neighbors' doorsteps, increasing the biodiversity of our communities, providing access to locally-grown nutritious fruits and vegetables, and providing very real opportunities for community members to connect, work together towards a common goal, and protect the environment.



Community Ecology Institute

In 2022, 2023, and beyond, we look forward to the grand opening of our indoor community engagement center. We are preparing to significantly expand our workshop offerings from gardening and climate action, to lost arts such as fabric dyeing, to cheesemaking, and printmaking. We are committed to expanding Nourishing Gardens to install at least 13 school gardens, continue to support nearly 10 community-based gardens, and begin providing essential garden installation services to individual community members.

Last year alone, we trained 15 team members through Nourishing Gardens, who by the end of the training reported improved personal health and wellbeing, a greater feeling of connection to our community, and significantly increased skills and knowledge about gardening, our local food systems, and protecting the environment. These 15 team members contributed more than 450 combined hours of service to the community caring for and installing gardens in open spaces in Columbia. This year, we look forward to welcoming a new cohort of 20 trainees, and seeing all they will accomplish during their time with us.

We see Freetown Farm as a catalyst for community members to envision a community in which we see ourselves as an integral part of our ecosystem, worth nourishing. This sustainable future requires investment both social and economic to ensure it has the foundation to define and support its growth. CEI's work in the community is one-of-a-kind and in direct alignment with the county's priorities of having thriving and healthy residents and a clean and sustainable environment. I respectfully request that the county continues to support CEI in the 2023 operational budget at the requested funding level.

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Theresa Taylor

Sayers, Margery

From: Shiren Tehrani <sinola@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 11:25 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CEI

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

March 21, 2022

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Shiren Tehrani, I live in Columbia **part of Howard County**, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for robust inclusion in the county's operating budget. My relationship with CEI **is staff and parent of students that attend**. As you know, CEI is a unique local success story and making rapid strides towards fulfilling its mission to cultivate communities where people and nature thrive together by working towards tangible, community-level change at the many intersections of environment, education, equity and health. **CEI has been a foundation for where my children and I have grown and built a community of peers who desire to make a positive impact on the community around us. We have been with CEI from the beginning and it has impacted our life's in the very best of ways. We desire to continue to grow members and connection with everyone who joins our community.**

-
-
- **The Community Ecology Institute, is (A DEFINED OFFERING) to help (A DEFINED AUDIENCE) in Howard County (SOLVE A PROBLEM) by/through (NONPROFITS UNIQUENESS).**
-

-
-
- **The future story. Rooted in the human desire to leave the world a better place, this story will convey what could be if CEI succeeds and achieves its goals. This will impress upon your audience CEI's vital importance in bettering the world.**
-

-
-
- **The beneficiary story. Indicate who CEI is helping and how their lives are**

- changed because of CEI's efforts. This will put a name or a face on the beneficiaries of our efforts and increase the likelihood of your audience forming an emotional bond with our cause.
-

Thank you so much for your support and happy spring!

Shiren Tehrani.

Sayers, Margery

From: Sophie Silver-Isenstadt <ssilver-isenstadt@cei.earth>
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 9:21 PM
To: Budget Testimony; CouncilMail; Hira, Safa
Subject: Testimony on behalf of the Community Ecology Institute

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

Dear Howard County Executive Ball, County Council Members, and County Leadership,

My name is Sophie Silver-Isenstadt, I live in Columbia, Maryland, and am providing testimony in support of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI) for significant inclusion in the county's operating budget. I am the volunteer coordinator, and have been a volunteer since CEI got started at Freetown Farm. CEI is unlike any place I've volunteered with or worked for in the past. It truly is creating the space it promotes, one that brings community members from all walks of life together. Our senior volunteers work side by side with our high school interns, forming meaningful relationships. I get daily emails from new community members looking to volunteer, frequently referencing their friend/family member/co-worker/etc. who recommended plugging in at CEI because of how meaningful their experiences had been.

I respectfully request that CEI be included in the 2023 budget.

Thank you very much!

Sophie Silver-Isenstadt



**Comments to Howard County Council from the Howard County Autism Society
March 14, 2022
In support of Full Funding for the Howard County Department of Recreation
Operating and Capital Budget**

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic the Howard County Recreation and Parks Department (HCRPD) was a shining light for organizations such as the Howard County Autism Society (HCAS) that serve the disability community. Their Therapeutic Recreation team called on every resource and all their creative mojo to deliver programming that kept our youth, young adults and families socially engaged during some very trying days with everything from DJ dance parties and summer clubs to trivia sessions and BINGO...you name it and they thought of it. With their partnership and support, we were able to offer programming that our organization alone could not have put forth, at an affordable price that worked for both us and our community.

At HCRPD, affordability and accessibility go hand-in-hand. A fully funded operating budget is absolutely essential so that they can maintain and expand programs and services to meet the needs of the community as we continue to recover from the pandemic and face the current inflation challenge.

Expanding operational funding would allow for the development of additional outdoor programming opportunities such as festivals in the park, movie nights, fitness and much more. The Autism in the Park event on April 2nd is a perfect example. HCAS is partnering with HCRPD on this amazing new event at Laura's Place Playground in Blandair Park to celebrate World Autism Acceptance Day featuring children's activities, music, ice cream and space to play together. This free public event will uplift the Autism community in Howard County while celebrating this amazing inclusive play space HCRPD has brought to our county, one that draws families from across the state to experience an accessible and inclusive play space. It is an example for every county and every state.

Expanded funding will also ensure that HCRPD can attract a high caliber of talent to work on their programs, facilities and parks. Fully funding the operation budget will help them attract and keep employees who can deliver the kind of quality programs and services Howard County is known for.

At the same time, we must ensure that HCRPD's capital budget must also be fully funded and, preferably, increased. The department has added many facilities that compete with funding for maintenance and replacements. Laura's Place Playground, mentioned previously, is a perfect example. Its popularity since opening in June 2021 means heavy use and maintenance requirements and the playground is already showing signs of wear. It is critical that HCRPD have the resource to fund these systematic repairs and maintenance.



The addition of adult changing tables in public facilities – now a law in Maryland – is so important to the disability community. It's about dignity, ensuring that individuals with personal care needs have a safe, clean area. Let's ensure these renovations happen in a timely manner.

Finally, HCAS was honored to be part of a movement to add augmented Communication Boards to playgrounds here in Howard County. These allow for individuals with low or limited communication to play inclusively with peers on the playground without having to carry a bulky device. Together with HCDRP, we added two of these boards to Laura's Place Playground, with pictures and braille characters that tear down barriers and make space for new friendships. Capital funding will ensure that more of these boards can live on playgrounds throughout Howard County, joining those found now on every elementary school playground, and three HCRPD inclusive play spaces.

Please support one of the greatest treasures in Howard County, the Howard County Recreation and Parks Department, with high level operating and capital funding. Thank you!





March 14, 2022



County Executive, Calvin Ball
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

RE: FY23 Budget

County Executive Calvin Ball,

The Sierra Club supports a transportation policy that provides safe means of multimodal transportation including: walking, biking as well as connectivity and accessibility that a complete streets project would provide.

We as the Sierra Club Howard County Group support the North Laurel Complete Streets and K5066 (Dobbin Road) initiatives, affirming that the accesses to bicycle, pedestrian, and multimodal facilities they will provide are in the best interests of public health and reductions of transportation emissions.

Further, we applaud the efforts Councilwoman Christiana Rigby and District Aide Felix Facchine have invested in these funding requests.

We ask that you fund these two important initiatives in the fiscal year 2023 budget.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Kepler
Transportation Chair
Howard County Sierra Club

CC Howard County Council

Sayers, Margery

From: Steve Miller <steve@scottomiller.com>
Sent: Friday, March 4, 2022 12:33 PM
To: Budget Testimony; Feldmark, Joshua; Meunier, Thomas; DeLuca, Mark; Sidh, Sameer
Cc: CouncilMail; Jones, Opel; Yungmann, David; Walsh, Elizabeth; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb
Subject: Budget testimony in support of Howard EcoWorks Funding, FY23

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

Good afternoon Dr Ball, Members of the County Council, and distinguished members of Howard County Government-

I am writing this letter of support as a private citizen on behalf of Howard EcoWorks FY23 budget request of \$450,000 to Howard County Government.

Howard EcoWorks has a high impact in our community through the administration of green jobs programming, support services for the county's Safe and Sound Plan, maintenance of public infrastructure and leadership for achieving environmental sustainability within the County.

Furthermore, Howard EcoWorks is a valuable asset to further rehabilitation programming at the Corrections Department and assist in the focus on equity and inclusion among Howard County's most vulnerable and historically disadvantaged communities.

These efforts have clear and direct benefits to our community as a whole and represent a cost-effective investment in our local natural resources, career readiness for young adults and disadvantaged populations as well as overall economic development.

In short: Howard EcoWorks is an integral part on multiple levels of the county's prerogatives to deal with climate change, storm water run off, and building a better future for Howard County residents and businesses; funding them adequately to ensure their future operation is vitally important.

Sincerely and best regards,

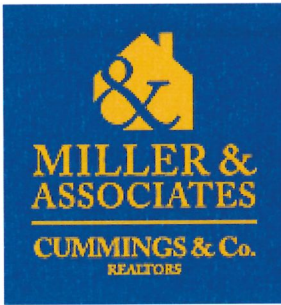
Steve

Steve Miller, GRI, C2EX
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Licensed Salesperson
2022 Chair, Howard County Association of REALTORS® Legislative Committee

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WEB Page: www.owenbrownvillage.org

January 10, 2022

The Honorable Dr. Calvin Ball
County Executive
Howard County Maryland
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Subject: **Howard County FY23 Budget**

Dear Executive Ball,

The Owen Brown Village Board respectfully submits the following input for your consideration and incorporation in ongoing county budget deliberations. We understand that there are many priorities and that the county must make difficult decisions in allocating limited resources, especially after this Fiscal Year. We understand that certain cuts are going to be necessary, but we do want to highlight some specific areas of high priority to the over 10,000 residents of Owen Brown:

1. Funding to continue police gator/bike/horse patrols on our pathways throughout Columbia.
2. Funding for programs that combat stream erosion in the Lake Elkhorn watershed as well as address environmental degradation.
3. Funding for tree replacement along residential roads and parkways.
4. Funding for street repairs, renovations, and upgrades; particularly the complete streets projects planned for Dobbin Road, Oakland Mills Road, and Robert Fulton.
5. Funding the police community liaison program for Owen Brown.

Additionally, we would like to thank you for helping secure the funding for the new East Columbia 50+ Center.

Thank you for your service to the community and for considering our input.

Sincerely,
Owen Brown Village Board

cc: Howard County Council