

Sayers, Margery

From: Joy Crossley <joymcrossley@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2022 7:17 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Camp Ilchester Funds

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

Dear Elected Officials,

Please include the funds for the purchase of Camp Ilchester in your final budget. I am a Girl Scout Leader, my daughter is a Girl Scout, and our family, and countless other families and children will benefit greatly for years to come with this investment. Thank you!

-Joy Crossley

Sayers, Margery

From: ICA Indian Cultural Association of Howard County <contact@icahoward.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 10:19 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David
Subject: Oppose the FY23 Operating Budget
Attachments: Oppose the FY23 Operating Budget.pdf; ICA Food Distribution May 21st, 2022.jpg

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

Dear County Council members,

Please see attached.

Thank you,

Niti Srivastava
Niti Srivastava, MA, PhD
Executive Director
Indian Cultural Association
<https://www.facebook.com/icahoward>
contact@icahoward.org
Ph. 410-567-6599



May 24, 2022

Via Email: Councilmail@howardcountymd.gov

**County Council Members
Howard County, MD**

Greetings Councilmembers Walsh, Jones, Rigby, Jung & Yungmann,

Please accept my testimony in opposition to the proposed FY23 Operating Budget.

The picture attached is from last Saturday, May 21st, when ICA distributed fresh and shelf stable food to Howard County residents in blazing hot 100 degrees F temperature. This is what hunger looks like in Howard County.

40% of food produced is wasted. With a salvage facility, everyone can eat. **THERE IS NO FOOD SALVAGE FACILITY IN HOWARD COUNTY.**

ICA's proposal for a food salvage facility has been sitting on your desk for about two years. It remains unfunded. My plea to you is a plea on behalf of the one-third of Howard County residents struggling to make ends meet. 63% of households led by seniors are forced to choose between food and medicine. Please reject this budget in its entirety and demand the County Executive fund this project to help the poorest among us.

Food is a basic human right. You have the power to effect change. The question is, what are you doing about it?

Regards,

Niti Srivastava

**Niti Srivastava, MA, PhD
Executive Director
Indian Cultural Association**



Sayers, Margery

From: Brooke Tyson <brooketysonphotography@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 8:13 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Please vote to include the necessary funds to purchase Camp Ilchester in the final budget

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

Dear Elected Officials,

As a lifelong Howard County resident, I support Howard County purchasing Camp Ilchester. As a Girl Scout for 13 years, Camp Ilchester shaped nearly all of my childhood summers. Summer truly began when Girl Scout camp at Camp Ilchester started, and spending the day exploring and learning about nature, singing songs, creating, and building friendships shaped some of my absolute favorite childhood memories. I am a mother and a Howard Community College professor now, and I am thankful that we have this incredible space in Howard County. I hope we can keep in that way. Thank you for stepping up to protect an important part of our county and an area that is so beneficial to children throughout Howard County.

Please vote to include the necessary funds in the final budget.

Thank you.
Brooke Tyson

Sayers, Margery

From: Sanjay <srivastava.hhcc@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 8:05 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: BUDGET TESTIMONY
Attachments: Chiara D. and Ball.jpg; Chiara D-Amore - D Operative.jpg; Chiara D-Amore - D Operativet.jpg; Nina Basu with Ball .jpg; Nina Basu with Ball.1.jpg; Pravin Ponnuri with Ball .jpg; Pravin Ponnuria D operative with Ball .jpg; Fy2023 Proposed Operating Budget Non-Departmental Expenses.pdf; lonHoCo resident agent Nina Basu.pdf

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

SANJAY SRIVASTAVA

May 24, 2022

Attn. Howard County Council members

Liz Walsh, Opal Jones, Christiana Rigby, Deb Jung, David Yungmann

Re. Proposed FY 2023 Budget

Dear County Council Members,

I, on behalf of my community, draw your attention to certain objectionable items contained in the proposed FY 2023 budget, hereinafter the “budget”. Below is the result of a cursory review and is by no means complete.

Howard County residents are profoundly affected by your fiscal priorities; **I ask you to reject this budget in its entirety.** Please take note of our advocacy in favor of transparency and good faith in the administration of our government. We stand against **back-room deals**, developer influence, and a pay-to-play transactional means of governance.

The “budget” seems to reward (gift) County Executive Ball’s political allies with payments - cash and in-kind, grants, awards, and or appointments to offices (political posts), including access to the levers of power in government, while it deprives deserving charities which have served Howard County and its residents.

The County appears to be run as a 'friend and family' network - see attached. The “budget” incentivizes organizations to give the County

Executive and his allies a political platform in order to advance CE Calvin Ball's election year goals. The proposed "budget" also appears to incentivize charities to engage in *political promotion and electioneering in a manner that may potentially be illegal*.

The Ball administration demonstrably rewards (his friends and family), the 'well connected' (charity operators and developers) financially and also with personal appointments to coveted official posts and commissions (*See Inner Arbor Trust \$850k (eight hundred fifty thousand dollars payment) and the appointment of Nina Basu (Inner Arbor Trust CEO) to the Human Rights Commission on April 21, 2022*).

Other unexplained expenditures include a 20k (twenty thousand dollars) payment to Ball's political allies - IONHOCO (Indian Origin Network of Howard County (see operating budget)), 375k (Three hundred and fifty thousand dollars) payment to CEI (Community Ecology Institute), and other examples, present in this budget (see non-departmental expense sheet of the budget). During inflationary times this is wasteful spending.

Please provide a clear explanation of these budget items - payments and/or political appointments and consider the following:

Interconnected political (hidden) challenges. Nina Basu, CEO of the Inner Arbor Trust AND the IONHOCO.

Ms. Basu is also one of the initial organizers of the **Indian Origin Network of Howard County (IONHOCO)**. She is IONHOCO's registered agent (see attached). Nina is or has been a member of the Board of Directors of IONHOCO over the years and is possibly its legal counsel, certainly informal counsel.

The **Inner Arbor Trust** is a registered 501 (c)(3) charity operated by Nina Basu. Nina and the Inner-Arbor Trust, in clear defiance of the law as well as their own rules and regulations, have afforded special treatment to IONHOCO (not a charity), including free use of its facilities, and other favorable consideration(s), terms which are not afforded to other community members, i.e., similar (non 501 (c)(3) charitable organizations, over the years. This conduct is extralegal at best and potentially illegal at worst.

Both, the Inner Arbor Trust and IONHOCO, receive large payments (850k and 20k respectively) in this "budget". Nina Basu was also *coincidentally* appointed to the Human Rights Commission on about 4/21/2022.

The Ball administration promotes this nexus with large payments in order to advance its political / election year objectives.

POLITICIZATION OF CHARITIES (a violation of their intended purpose):

BACKGROUND - Nina Basu and the Inner Arbor Trust intended to hold a Holi celebration at the Chrysalis on April 23, 2022, and desired the participation of community organizations including the Indian Cultural Association of Howard County (ICA) and whereas, the **Indian Cultural Association of Howard County (ICA)** - a 501(c)(3) charity (the largest cultural organization in the region with over 10,000 Facebook followers and over 30,000 members), and Nina Basu, with the Inner Arbor Trust, aka, together "Nina" came to an agreement for the development of the 4/23 - Holi program.

ICA's precondition for participation in Nina's program was that the program would be completely apolitical. It was clearly understood that without this, ICA would **NOT** participate.

"Nina" agreed to not politicize Holi, a distinctly Indian (Hindu) religious holiday, and to not allow any candidate for office in the upcoming elections in Howard County to take the stage at any time prior to, during, or after the program (it was agreed that there would be no speeches, no photo ops, no promotional or political activity of any sort) associated with the 4/23 Holi celebration.

This precondition was demanded by ICA and mutually agreed that the (April 23rd Holi) program at the Chrysalis would be completely apolitical. These conditions were agreed upon by "Nina" (as inducement) in order to secure ICA's participation in the program.

Nina Basu and the Trust, in complete disregard of the "agreement" with ICA, possibly in exchange for money and other consideration received (\$850,000 - eight hundred fifty thousand dollars), and Nina Basu's appointment to the Human Rights Commission, on April 21, 2022),

two days prior to the Holi celebration at the Chrysalis, transformed Holi into a promotional program for CE Ball and his delegation - the Ball reelection campaign at the Chrysalis. This has the appearance of impropriety in the least.

This is inexcusable and is potentially a misuse of their 501(c)(3) status.

If true, the Inner Arbor Trust, a 501(c)(3) charity, in violation of its charter, IRS rules, and Federal Election Commission regulations has been politicized by its operators.

It appears as if Nina and the "Trust", were rewarded (with cash and in-kind inducement) to take sides in the upcoming election, not only giving the County Executive and his delegation a political platform, but potentially a) representing an attempt to hand one side a political advantage over the other, and b) constitutes a political endorsement by the Trust and Nina Basu, of Calvin Ball for Howard County Executive. 501(c)(3) charities are prohibited from endorsing candidates for elected office and engaging in political promotion of candidates.

The Council must work to preserve the separation of the State from charitable activity. These expenditures represent a corruption of the public good.

The work of each charity and funding thereof should be assessed based on their performance, their programming, the number of Howard County residents impacted, and the cost associated with each.

Organizations that are not bonafide 501(c)3 charities are funded in this budget potentially for their support of the administration in upcoming elections. These groups collude to work together to create a political nexus to advance the political agenda of the Ball administration and its candidate(s) for office.

*Please examine the interlinkages between IonHoCo, Inner Arbor Trust, and Nina Basu, above **and provide a clear justification of payments to both of these entities.** We would like you to quantify how many people each charity funded serves "free" of cost to justify such large payments from the County. **Kindly include a cost per person impacted by their programming.** Furthermore, according to Nina Basu, she charges for the majority of her events and makes money from liquor sales*.*

We have initiated a PIA request under the Freedom of Information Act provisions of the law to ascertain the facts. We are also initiating complaints with the Howard County Office of Ethics and Law, the Federal Election Commission, other regulatory bodies, and are considering other legal action to remedy this situation and for the recovery of the damages caused to us. I remain committed to the well-being of the "poor" and those considered the working poor in Howard County. These families lack representation.

One-third (1/3rd) of Howard County families struggle with hunger. One in Four (1/4) children in Howard County are hungry. Twenty-three (23%) of kids in Howard County are enrolled in the FARM - Federal Free and Reduced Meals) program. Please also take note that 40% of the food produced is wasted.

ICA has distributed over 2.5 million pounds of food to struggling families in our community (without County support) and remains committed to solving the problem of hunger in our community. With over 200 pop-up food distributions, it is a shame that Calvin Ball has not visited once or had a single conversation with ICA to find out about the state of hunger in Howard County given the fact that ICA has become one of the key food distribution channels in Howard County. The last time he reached out to me was when he needed money for his campaign.

The County's refusal to solve the problem of hunger perpetuates a cycle of poverty and lifelong struggle. A hungry child cannot learn. I am advocating for the 1/3rd of Howard County which is poor and is forgotten, the segment of our society which **does not have a voice in this administration.**

Kindly also provide an explanation for the following:

Blue Star families received only \$2,000 (two thousand dollars). This group appears to be underfunded. Blue Star families need our support and unwavering gratitude. \$2,000 can't buy baby formula for families in need. Please consider increasing this funding.

CEI (Community Ecology Institute) - Community Ecology Institute is slated to receive \$375,000 in the County's operating budget for the purchase of land.

Two questions arise - 1) purchase of land is not an operating expense. Why is this (375k) expenditure a part of the operating budget?
And

*(2) in a time of national crisis when families can't afford food, baby formula and gasoline to get to/from work, **why are we buying land for a CE Ball's political ally?***

Additional item of concern - IonHoCo was one of the principal organizers of the debate held on Saturday, May 14, 2022 afternoon between candidates for office in Howard County, including County Executive Ball. *Twenty thousand (\$20,000) dollars seems to be a large payment to one of the organizers. This is profoundly unethical and warrants a thorough investigation.*

Central LIBRARY - Expenditures for a new library

It is our understanding the current library is to be torn down despite recent renovations at a cost of millions of dollars. At a time of national crisis - out of control inflation (overall rise in prices) and inability of a substantial portion of our population to afford basic necessities, such wasteful spending must be STOPPED.

It is the taxpayers' money you are spending. Please consider a tax rebate for Howard County taxpayers.
ALL unnecessary expenditures must be curtailed.

ICA'S BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE COLUMBIA FLIER BUILDING

ICA offered \$1,000,000 (one million dollars) for the purchase of the Columbia Flier building. The project included a commercial kitchen (to help feed hungry children), educational services (to improve academic performance of the underprivileged), equity and diversity programming, and other, for the benefit of the community.

*It is our understanding that our proposal for the purchase of the Columbia Flier Building (1 of 5 proposals which included a gas station, retail space, Chick-Fil-A, etc.), was **never presented** by County Executive Ball to the County Council for consideration.*

I am troubled that the Columbia Flier building was potentially gifted to a political ally, in addition to massive funding over the years. CCC - Columbia Community Care is due to get \$30,000 in the FY23 budget.

We would like full transparency and the terms of any transactions related to the Columbia Flier building and the other budget items.

ICA has worked tirelessly to bring positive change in Howard County. The budget under consideration promotes division, racism, and nepotism in an attempt to buy votes, and is not in the interest of Howard County. This budget rewards the rich and connected while penalizing the poor (majority-minority) of Howard County.

THIS BUDGET MUST BE REJECTED AND SENT BACK FOR REVISIONS.

I also wanted to share with you that we are forming a PAC - political action committee. I hope to share more with you in the days and weeks to come.

Respectfully,



Sanjay Srivastava

cc. County Executive
Encl. As stated

Sayers, Margery

From: Kathryn Schutz <katrob07@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 7:58 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: I support Howard County purchasing Camp Ilchester.

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

Dear Elected Officials,

Reaching out as a resident of Ellicott City to say I support Howard County purchasing Camp Ilchester. Please include the necessary funds in the final budget.

Thank you,
Kat Schutz

Sayers, Margery

From: Barbara McClayton <barbara.mcclayton@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 3:27 PM
To: Barbara McClayton; CouncilMail
Subject: Camp Illchester funding

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

May 24, 2022

Howard County Council
Ellicott City, Maryland

Dear Council Members:

I was an Illchester Camper. Our children attended as campers, tag-a-longs, and gained leadership experience as program assistants. As an adult volunteer, I pulled my storytelling materials from unit to unit. Illchester provided a place for our suburban youth to learn about the natural wonders of our County.

One book I chose to share was Once There Was a Wood by Denise Fleming.
<https://us.macmillan.com/books/9780805064827/whereoncetherewasawood>

I chose this book, because I wanted the campers to understand that all of us have the individual and collective responsibility to preserve the natural resources in our community for the current and subsequent generations. This is your opportunity to send that message to your constituents.

Fund the Camp Illchester agreement.

Thank you for your consideration.

Barbara
Barbara F. McClayton
6100 Striker Court
Columbia, MD 21044

Sayers, Margery

From: Tony Johnson <Tony@Power52.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 25, 2022 8:07 AM
To: Jung, Deb; Walsh, Elizabeth; Yungmann, David; CouncilMail
Subject: Howard County's FY23 Budget

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

Please do not cut the allocated funding allotted for Power52. Power52's impact on the community has such a positive effect. The monies allocated are used support Howard County's underserved communities.

Anthony Johnson

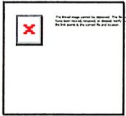
Craft Instructor

Power52 Foundation

Office: 410-777-9677 / 410-858-2980

tony@power52.org |

Click [HERE](#) to see what's new at Power52!



CB 34-2022

Sayers, Margery

From: Trista Plunkett <tristaplunkett@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 1:16 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Please fund Camp Ilchester

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

Dear Elected Officials,

I support Howard County purchasing Camp Ilchester. Please include the necessary funds in the final budget.

Thank you,

Trista Plunkett

7810 Breakstone Ct, Ellicott City, MD 21043

District 2

Sayers, Margery

From: Julia Kyle <jmkkyle@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 1:14 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Support Of Purchasing The Property Known as "Girls Scout Camp Ilchester"

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

I wanted to voice my opinion and encourage the purchase of this property on Ilchester Road in Ellicott City.

Pre, during and post COVID, more and more people are discovering their desire to be outside. Our parks are over crowded and residential building continues to grow. We need to conserve our green space.

Thank you for reading and I hope you will consider providing funding for this purchase.

Julia Kyle
5295 Grovemont Drive
Elkridge, MD 21075

Sayers, Margery

From: salganik2@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 12:33 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Jones, Opel
Subject: Oppose CB34 Amendments 3, 20 and 23

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

Council Chair Jones and Council members Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann,

We strongly oppose budget amendments 3, 20, and 23 to CB34-2022, the Administration's FY2023 Operations Budget Plan. To make any progress on affordable housing, The Housing Opportunities Trust Fund needs to be funded, and the New Cultural Center and new Central Branch Library need to be built. This progress can't be made if the County Council continues to put up barriers to the funding. There is no reason to put these funds into contingency that outweighs the need to move forward.

Laura and Bill Salganik
District 4
10386 Eclipse Way

Sayers, Margery

From: Dana Sohr <Dana@bridges2hs.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2022 10:39 AM
To: CouncilMail; Jones, Opel
Subject: AGAINST CB 34-2022 Amendments 3, 20, 23

[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 have lived in Howard County for most of the past 40 years. And in my role at Bridges to Housing Stability, I work every day helping County residents find and maintain stable, affordable housing. **This work is getting more difficult by the day** due to the acute shortage of housing for people who earn moderate to lower incomes. The data is clear:

- Our County has a 6,500-unit shortage for households earning below \$60,000 (source: HoCo Rental Survey)
- We have a 3,500-unit shortage for seniors earning below \$50,000 (source: HoCo Rental Survey)
- Housing construction has fallen far short of job growth over many years (source: RCLCO Market Research)
- Most new housing isn't affordable for households earning below \$145,000 (source: RCLCO Market Research)
- In our work with private landlords and apartment communities, we see that rents are rising fast – sometimes as much as \$400 more each month. The forthcoming Rental Survey update should corroborate our experience.

As a result of the acute housing shortage, families are being destabilized due to undue housing cost burdens – or are being driven from the county entirely.

Our community's failure to respond to our **housing crisis** continues to constrain the supply, which will drive housing costs up further. Howard County is certainly on the path to becoming a closed community, increasingly accessible only to people with large incomes and sizeable assets who can afford high housing costs. What happens to those less fortunate -- often people of color? The para-educators, the nursing assistants, the social service workers, the retail and restaurant workers – the working poor – what happens to them?

Surely the County Council doesn't intend to create a **more segregated, less inclusive, more unjust community**. But that is the consequence of continued inaction on meaningful housing solutions.

Council Members, we need to get serious about adding housing for the many people who so desperately need it. That work is long overdue and we need your leadership desperately. Let's get moving. I urge you to vote NO on these three amendments.

Sincerely,
Dana Sohr
Deputy Director
Bridges to Housing Stability

From: Jackie Eng <jleng1747@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 6:05 PM

To: councilmail@howardcountymd.gov; Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>

Cc: Kathleen Casey <caseyfam@comcast.net>; Pat Sylvester <psylvester@ats2.org>; Paul Revelle <paul.revelle@gmail.com>; Peter Engel <pengel@househoward.org>; Vonda Orders <Vonda.Orders@yahoo.com>; Rich Pardoe <r_pardoe@hotmail.com>; Sedlacko, Jean <jsedlacko@enterprisecommunity.org>; Joe Willmott <jwillmott@verizon.net>; Phyllis Zolotorow <cjz1984@aol.com>; Joan Driessen <joan.driessen@acshoco.org>; Dana Sohr <Dana@bridges2hs.org>; Tom Coale <tcoale@gmail.com>; gmorris <gmorris@hhpcorp.org>; Grace kubofcik <gracekub8@gmail.com>

Subject: CB 34-2022 Amendments-- Housing Coalition Comments

May 23, 2020

Re: Howard County Housing Affordability Coalition CB 34-2022 Amendment 3, 20, 23 Comments

Council Chair Jones and Council members Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann,

The Howard County Housing Affordability Coalition strongly opposes proposed Amendments 3, 20 and 23 to CB 34-2022.

Amendment 3

Amendment 3 recognizes the importance of public input and the transparency that such a process provides as a critical element for the governance procedures of the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund. We contend therefore that without such community input it would be premature for the Department of Housing and Community Development to establish a spending plan and to establish the FY 2023 limits and percentages that the amendment would require for the release of the \$5M appropriation from contingency reserve.

Amendments 20 and 23

The Coalition opposes shifting a combined \$7.7M for the NCC and Central Library projects to contingency reserve. We ask that the Council continue to keep the 237 affordable housing units required by the Downtown Columbia Plan on track and on the established timetable. We suggest that the additional planning, information and documentation that would be required for the Council to release these project funds from contingency reserve can be achieved as efficiently and effectively through collaborative discussions among the Administration, Council and project principles. The information requested in Amendment 20 has already been provided. In connection with Amendment 23, the developer in question has already put \$3 million into the project while the County has contributed \$0. It is hard to doubt their commitment to the development.

We appreciate your consideration of these comments.

Respectfully,

Jackie Eng

Coalition Coordinator

Howa

Sayers, Margery

From: S Brown <sbrown707@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 11:59 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Oppose CB34 Amendments 3, 20 and 23

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

Good Evening

I am writing to ask you to please vote against CB34 Amendments 3, 20 and 23. There is an affordable housing crisis in Howard County. We need more moderately priced homes that make living here possible for people who wish to raise their children, work, or retire here. By placing funds in contingency, these amendments add barriers to an already complicated, bureaucratic process of approval. Our communities need affordable housing solutions and support, not additional bureaucratic hoops to jump through. I hope that you will show your commitment to help solve this problem by voting against the above named amendments. Thank you.

Sandra Brown
District 4 Homeowner

Sayers, Margery

From: RiceARonE3 <RiceARonE3@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 10:44 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Oppose CB34 Amendments 3, 20 and 23

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

We would like to voice our opposition to CB24 amendments 3, 20, and 23.

Very Respectfully

Ron Martin

President

Zeta Alpha Sigma Alumni Chapter

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated

443-310-1300

RiceARonE3@comcast.net

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S22 5G, an AT&T 5G smartphone



Howard County Board of Health
8930 Stanford Blvd | Columbia, MD 21045
410.313.6363 - Voice/Relay
410.313.6303 - Fax
1.866.313.6300 - Toll Free

Maura J. Rossman, M.D., Health Officer

Howard County Council
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

May 23, 2022

Dear Councilmembers:

On behalf of the Howard County Board of Health, I am proud to offer this letter of support for the proposed budget as submitted by Dr. Calvin Ball, Howard County Executive.

As stated in the recent report released by the Bipartisan Policy Center “The nation’s resilience to current and future public health threats is largely dependent upon a modern U.S. public health system of state and local health departments that have the resources, capacities, and workforce to protect and promote health for all Americans.”¹

As the backbone of public health serving our 325,000+ residents of Howard County, our Health Department’s fiscal needs should be a considered a risk-based, prevention-focused priority in order to be able to not only retain and train our dedicated local public health professionals, but also allowing for necessary public health protecting equipment and resources needed to be able to safely complete their work.

While the COVID-19 pandemic was raging globally, our county public health officials continued, persevered daily in performing their tasks - in the face of adversity and uncertainty, as well as being subject to harassment – as Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Scientist Beth Resnick stated, “*Taking care of the workforce needs to be a fundamental component of the public health infrastructure that doesn’t end when the pandemic does.*”²

We urge you to not only take care of our county public health workforce through the budgeting process, but to show them that you’re thinking about healthier, more promising tomorrows through fully funding the Health Department’s budget needs in the future.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully yours,

Jason P. Bashura, MPH, RS
Board of Health, Chair
Howard County Board of Health

cc: Dr. Rossman, Executive Secy., Board of Health
Howard County Board of Health members
Maryland Secretary of Health, Dennis R. Shrader

¹ <https://bipartisanpolicy.org/event/public-health-forward-modernizing-the-u-s-public-health-system/>

² <https://publichealth.jhu.edu/2022/harassment-of-public-health-officials-widespread-during-the-initial-phase-of-the-covid-19-pandemic>

Sayers, Margery

From: Harriet Bachman <hlbachfam@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 9:47 PM
To: CouncilMail; Jones, Opel
Subject: please OPPOSE the amendments to place funds from the needed affordable housing bills into contingency

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

To County Council Chair, Mr. Jones, and all members of the County Council:

More affordable housing is urgently needed in this county. Moving funds into contingency that are necessary to provide more affordable housing will complicate and delay providing this needed service.

Therefore, I am requesting that on Wednesday, May 25, you OPPOSE the amendments to place funds from CB34-2022 into contingency so that the funds for the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund, the new Downtown Columbia Library and the New Cultural Center, can be used more expeditiously.

Thank you.

Harriet and Larry Bachman
9426 North Penfield Road
Columbia, MD 21045

Sayers, Margery

From: Jackie Eng <jleng1747@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 6:05 PM
To: CouncilMail; Jones, Opel
Cc: Kathleen Casey; Pat Sylvester; Paul Revelle; Peter Engel; Vonda Orders; Rich Pardoe; Sedlacko, Jean; Joe Willmott; Phyllis Zolotorow; Joan Driessen; Dana Sohr; Tom Coale; Grace Morris; Grace kubofcik
Subject: CB 34-2022 Amendments-- Housing Coalition Comments

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

May 23, 2020

Re: Howard County Housing Affordability Coalition CB 34-2022 Amendment 3, 20, 23 Comments

Council Chair Jones and Council members Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann,

The Howard County Housing Affordability Coalition strongly opposes proposed Amendments 3, 20 and 23 to CB 34-2022.

Amendment 3

Amendment 3 recognizes the importance of public input and the transparency that such a process provides as a critical element for the governance procedures of the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund. We contend therefore that without such community input it would be premature for the Department of Housing and Community Development to establish a spending plan and to establish the FY 2023 limits and percentages that the amendment would require for the release of the \$5M appropriation from contingency reserve.

Amendments 20 and 23

The Coalition opposes shifting a combined \$7.7M for the NCC and Central Library projects to contingency reserve. We ask that the Council continue to keep the 237 affordable housing units required by the Downtown Columbia Plan on track and on the established timetable. We suggest that the additional planning, information and documentation that would be required for the Council to release these project funds from contingency reserve can be achieved as efficiently and effectively through collaborative discussions among the Administration, Council and project principles. The information requested in Amendment 20 has already been provided. In connection with Amendment 23, the developer in question has already put \$3 million into the project while the County has contributed \$0. It is hard to doubt their commitment to the development.

We appreciate your consideration of these comments.

Respectfully,
Jackie Eng
Coalition Coordinator

Howa

Sayers, Margery

From: Kristy Castonguay <kristycastonguay@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 12:41 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: better funding for Howard County Schools

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

Dear Howard County Councilmembers:

My name is Kristy Castonguay, a Howard County PTA member and resident from Reservoir High School, Murray Hill Middle School and Laurel Woods Elementary School. I value the Howard County educational system. I am in support of full funding the proposed fiscal year 2023 operating and capital budgets provided by the Howard County Public School System Board of Education. Please make every effort to restore the difference from the proposed executive budget.

**Thank you,
Kristy Castonguay**

Sayers, Margery

From: Richard Alexander <ralexander31@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 11:26 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Oppose CB34 Amendments 3, 20 and 23

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

I oppose CB34 Amendments 3, 20, and 23.

Richard Alexander
9508 White Spring Way
Columbia, MD. 21046
Cell: 240-988-7241
email: ralexander31@verizon.net

Sayers, Margery

From: Supreet and Stephanie <secacchair@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 11:09 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Thank you so much for your hard work to find additional funding

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

Good morning Councilmembers,

I am sure a lot of work goes into the budget every year and that each budget season presents unique challenges. This budget season was no different. I just wanted to take a moment to thank each of you for the time and effort devoted to find additional funding for the school system. These additional funds will help HCPSS and the Board of Education to fund positions in special education and in many other support positions that are essential to help all of our students succeed. Thank you so much for all of your collaborative work to find a path forward to avoid the anticipated cuts.

We're happy to continue the dialogue, as Councilmember Rigby mentioned after my testimony, so that we can ensure our students with disabilities especially are well supported.

Thanks again,
Stephanie Mummert & Supreet Anand
Co-chairs Howard County SECAC

--

Thank you,

Supreet Anand and Stephanie Mummert
SECAC Co-Chairs 2021-2023

Sayers, Margery

From: ldorsey12@verizon.net
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 10:40 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Oppose CB34 Amendments 3, 20 and 23

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

I oppose the followinf 3 admnedments.

Linda Dorsey,

Sayers, Margery

From: Jo M. Glasco <jg500f@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 10:37 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Oppose CB34 Amendments 3, 20 and 23

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

I oppose the above amendments . Jo Glasco

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device
Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Sayers, Margery

From: Tom Williams <twillia435@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 10:18 AM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Vivianne Williams; bilmar012@aol.com
Subject: Oppose CB34 Amendments 3, 20 and 23

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

Dear County Council/Howard County:

My wife n' I want to add our voices in opposition to the County Council CB34Amendments; 3, 20,n' 23. As long time residents of the County n' St.Johns Baptist Church n' Unity Baptist Church members, our review of the proposed amendments would have a negative effect on housing, the central library system n' the new cultural center all, if funding is re-directed, would diminish the quality of life for all residents in Howard County. We urge that the proposed CB34 amendments (3, 20, & 23) not proceed forward with the re-directions of funds.

Sent from my iPhone

Thomas H. Williams
4958 Ilchester Point Court
21043

Sayers, Margery

From: Marter, Kimberly <kmarter@umm.edu>
Sent: Monday, May 23, 2022 8:18 AM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: kimjmarter@comcast.net
Subject: Affordable Housing Vote

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

Good morning,

I am a longtime resident of Howard county and have seen such growth and development. I have also witnessed many who work hard in our county but are unable to live and enjoy all that the county has to offer. This is VERY unfortunate as Rouse's dream was for diversity and equality. This means persons of all races, creeds and economical means could live and prosper in the city of Columbia and surrounding areas within Howard County.

To say I am dismayed to hear the funding that many have worked tirelessly to create is being considered less important- a contingency fund. This is disheartening, in fact one must question the thought process especially in these times of economic stress and inflation. Having a home gives one confidence and security. Having a home in Howard County means great education, access to art and culture, diversity and inclusion , most importantly a sense of safety and security.

As a tax paying citizen of this county, I am writing to remind all of the members who they represent, to remind them of the vast number of persons who perform the very services that make this county an awesome place to live, and to remind them of how important affordable housing is. As the classes are blending due to the rising prices, one never knows when the benefit of affordable housing may hit home. There are also many young people in Howard county government, teachers, public works, college graduates who are our future- let's give them an opportunity to call this their home!

I implore you to vote NO on moving the designated funds for affordable housing into a contingency fund!

Kimberley J. Marter CMD M.S. (R) (T) (R)

Dept of Radition Oncology
University of Maryland Medical Center
Baltimore, Md 21201
410-328-3883
kmarter@umm.edu

This e-mail and any accompanying attachments may be privileged, confidential, contain protected health information about an identified patient or be otherwise protected from disclosure. State and federal law protect the confidentiality of this information. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient; you are prohibited from using, disclosing, reproducing or distributing this information; you should immediately notify the sender by telephone or e-mail and delete this e-mail.