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**From:** Columbia FSC Membership <cfscmembership@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 29, 2024 9:10 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** ColumbiaFSCBoard@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for Public Ice Rink Facility Project Proposal  
**Attachments:** Letter from CFSC to HC Council 2024.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

[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,

We, the Columbia Figure Skating Club Board of Directors, are writing this letter in support of a proposal for funding to initiate the public ice rink facility project as detailed in the capital improvement program (CIP) budget proposal. As you begin your FY25 budget work sessions on 1 May, particularly discussion of Non-Departmental capital expenses, we hope you will consider the benefits to be provided by an additional ice rink in Howard County.

Columbia Figure Skating Club (CFSC), a sanctioned club under US Figure Skating, is headquartered in Howard County. (US Figure Skating is the governing body representing figure skating to the US Olympic Committee.) With an active membership base of nearly 300 skaters and even more family members, as individuals and as a club we drive economic impact at rinks and nearby businesses.

Howard County has been losing a portion of our skater's money due to the lack of sufficient ice time within the county. Currently, Howard County's only ice rink is the Columbia Ice Rink. While the rink offers us as much ice time as possible based upon their customer demands, our demands far exceed the availability of ice. CFSC and its members currently buy ice (in excess of \$50K per year) while supporting businesses in Anne Arundel County (Piney Orchard Ice Rink) and in Prince George's County (Gardens Ice House.) In addition, due to the availability of only 1 ice surface, CFSC is unable to host competitions (with potential benefit of out of county and state revenue.)

In the 49 years of the club, we are seeing a growing demand for ice time. In fact, since the return to 'normal' post COVID, our club membership, and the need for ice has continuously increased with over 300 skaters participating in our shows, many exhibitions, and test sessions. With Columbia Ice Rink booked from 5:45 AM to 11 PM daily, growing demands for additional adult skating programs are unable to be met. While we are currently using the Columbia Ice Rink, it is worth noting that over 80% of our membership live outside Columbia, half of which live in Ellicott City and western parts of Howard County.

We highly recommend your support of this funding and can assure you that Columbia Figure Skating Club would be very interested in purchasing ice and supporting an additional ice rink along with nearby businesses.

*Respectfully,*

*Columbia Figure Skating Club  
Board of Directors  
P.O. Box 302  
Columbia, MD 21045*



P.O. Box 302  
Columbia, MD 21045

[www.Columbiafsc.com](http://www.Columbiafsc.com)

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Dear County Executive Ball,

We are writing this letter in support of a proposal for funding to initiate the public ice rink facility project as detailed in the capital improvement program (CIP) budget proposal. As you begin your FY25 budget work sessions on 1 May, particularly discussion of Non-Departmental capital expenses, we hope you will consider the benefits to be provided by an additional ice rink in Howard County.

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We highly recommend your support of this funding and can assure you that Columbia Figure Skating Club would be very interested in purchasing ice and supporting an additional ice rink along with nearby businesses.

Respectfully,  
CFSC

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**From:** Cathy Datz <cathydatz@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 16, 2024 10:59 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; BallBulletin; Yungmann, David  
**Subject:** Ice Rink

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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

Good morning,

I'm reaching out to request you fund the new Ice Rink for Howard county. The Columbia Rink needs extensive repairs and 30+ years ago it was a perfect size, but that is no longer the case. My son and many classmates play hockey and often have to go to the The Gardens Ice House (TGIH) for games, practice, and clinics. Many other families who have figure skaters also have to go to other counties.

Another Ice Rink especially in the north or Western part of the county would have a great financial benefit for Howard County as a whole. Most hockey and skating families not only pay team fees (which with more sheets of ice would mean more money to support the rink) but we eat and for tournaments stay near those rinks. On average our family of 5 spends over \$250 a week on food after practices and games. That supports Montgomery County businesses that are near TGIH.

Tournaments and Competitions would bring in large tourism money if Howard county had a facility with 3 full sheets and 2 training sheets like TGIH. An example of an area that utilizes this is in Plymouth Meeting PA. They have 4 multi-sheet rinks within 20 minutes of each other and host tournaments and competitions year round. The hotels, restaurants, kids activities, museums, and shops survive on the Thursday to Monday events.

Another rink with multiple sheets would also support HC high school players since currently all schools use TGIH since Columbia Ice Rink is often booked or closed (every summer)

An new ice facility that uses Green building and utility services could be built west of 32 or north of 99 and be able to cover its own costs.

Please support the many families, hockey players, ice skaters, business, restaurants, and hotels by approving the new rink.

Thank you  
Cathy Datz  
District 5 resident

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

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**From:** bcpjbrady@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 16, 2024 1:55 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; BallBulletin  
**Subject:** More Ice in HoCo needed!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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

Hello,

My name is Cindy Benedek and am the former Ice Hockey Team Manager of the River Hill Ice Hawks and the parent of 4 hockey players. The biggest issue the team and my family had with ice hockey was the travel involved and games/practices at terrible times due to not having sufficient ice in Howard County. Figure Skaters, Club Teams and High School teams compete for ice time with these same out of county organizations. Ice is tough to come by and very expensive.

With additional sheets of ice in Howard County families and children as well as businesses could benefit:

1. HS hockey teams could practice in county instead of PG county.
2. Howard county could have a Special Needs hockey team instead of the families going to Montgomery County.
3. Local Businesses and restaurants would profit from tournaments, competitions, and even after practices.
4. The new facility could be environmentally responsible and use ways that cover the facilities utilities.
5. More children and adults would have an opportunity to Play, Compete, Social activity, and support our community.

Thank you for working on adding more sheets of ice to Howard County!

Cindy Benedek  
Sent from my iPhone

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**From:** Erin <breedlove.e@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 16, 2024 3:25 PM  
**To:** BallBulletin; CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Ice rink

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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

Our family would benefit greatly from a rink in Howard county. We have a son that is on Team Maryland. We have to drive for almost an hour to get him to private lessons or pickup games and trainings. Our daughter wants to have a place where she and her 8th grade school friends can go that is local for us and not a drive. When they were growing up I would have loved to have one of their parties at a rink but to rent one the other parents would have to drive too far.

This would be a huge draw to families and individuals. It would bring business to local restaurants and businesses.

Please vote yes for a rink in Howard County. The one in Columbia is not enough.

Erin Breedlove

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**From:** Jeff Schneider <roadrunner75.jeff@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 16, 2024 4:46 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** BallBulletin  
**Subject:** Proposed new ice hockey rink

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

Good Afternoon,

I am writing to express my support for a new ice rink facility in Howard County. Howard County families and children as well as businesses could benefit in the following ways:

1. HS hockey teams could practice in county instead of PG county.
2. Howard county could have a Special Needs hockey team instead of the families going to Montgomery County.
3. Local Businesses and restaurants would profit from tournaments, competitions, and even after practices.
4. The new facility could be environmentally responsible and use ways that cover the facilities utilities.
5. More children and adults would have an opportunity to Play, Compete, Social activity.

Thank you for your consideration

Jeff Schneider  
7925 Anfred Dr, Laurel, MD 20723

**From:** [Katherine Cunningham](#)  
**To:** [CouncilMail](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed New Ice Rink in Howard County  
**Date:** Friday, May 17, 2024 6:51:23 AM

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

Please approve the funding for a new ice rink in Howard County. Our youth will greatly benefit from having another ice rink in our county. Howard County's Parks and Rec does a great job in providing opportunities for so many sports but it falls short in providing accessibility for ice sports.

Thank you,

Kathy Cunningham

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Leslie Cale](#)  
**To:** [CouncilMail](#)  
**Subject:** proposed ice rink  
**Date:** Thursday, May 16, 2024 8:37:57 PM

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

I already can't afford my property taxes. Now you want to spend my money on an ice rink? What could you possibly be thinking? The government and my taxes are not supposed to pay for other people's entertainment.



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**From:** Rachael Siani <rachael.siani@live.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 16, 2024 1:15 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; BallBulletin  
**Subject:** Proposed Ice Rink

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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

Please do not approve the proposed ice rink. Our taxes are making HC unaffordable as it is, we simply do not have the money for a second ice rink. Put that money toward renovating our dilapidating schools. Could even go towards a new school to keep up with student numbers. An ice rink is not a priority right now and I urge you to vote against it at this time.

Thank You,

Rachael Siani  
443-694-7858

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**From:** wittesrj@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 16, 2024 11:39 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** ice rink---PLEASE APPROVE

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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

Please consider approving the ice rink in Howard County. As a resident, I would love to see a more local rink for kids to enjoy without parents having to transport them to another county. The rink would also boost local hotels and restaurants if they hold tournaments. I have managed hotels for years and see a huge benefit when we have tournaments nearby. The tournaments also provide exposure to the county from those travelling in to watch their teams play.

Thank you for your consideration.

Roberta Wittes  
7534 Morris St  
Unit 2  
Fulton, MD 20759

**From:** [Brian Stever](#)  
**To:** [CouncilMail](#)  
**Subject:** New ice Arena  
**Date:** Friday, May 17, 2024 1:30:16 AM

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[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 in support of the new proposed ice arena. Our family is big fans of the Columbia Ice Rink but very often have noted that our area could benefit greatly from another rink.

Ice time is in such high demand that a new rink would greatly help that cause while given new opportunities to so many families to learn and grow the game of hockey, as well as ice skating in general.

Not to mention this would also provide a new opportunity for jobs and income to the area.

Our family greatly supports the installation of a new ice rink!

Thank you,

Brian Stever  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Karey Thesing](#)  
**To:** [CouncilMail](#)  
**Subject:** Ice Rink  
**Date:** Friday, May 17, 2024 7:40:59 AM

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

Please consider adding an ice rink facility to the budget. Kids in our area need a safe and convenient place to practice and learn ice skating and hockey. These are two growing sports and help keep the kids out of trouble. Karey Thesing--

**KAREY THESING**, REALTOR® & Partner

c: 410-491-0491 | o: 410.465.6900

KareyThesing.[BobLucidoTeam.com](#) | [KareyThesing@BobLucidoTeam](mailto:KareyThesing@BobLucidoTeam)

9251 Baltimore National Pike, Suite D | Ellicott City, MD 21042



**THE #1 TEAM IN THE NATION ACROSS ALL BROKERAGES.  
THE #1 KELLER WILLIAMS TEAM IN THE WORLD.**

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**BEWARE OF CYBER-FRAUD** – Before wiring any funds, call the intended recipient at a number you know is valid to confirm the instructions – and be very wary of any request to change wire instructions you already received. This email may be confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify us immediately and delete this copy from your system.

**From:** [Stephen DiCocco](#)  
**To:** [CouncilMail](#); [BallBulletin](#)  
**Subject:** Please support approval for a new ice rink in Howard County  
**Date:** Friday, May 17, 2024 7:49:09 AM

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

Hello

I am a howard county resident and both of my children 7 & 11 play ice hockey for the Howard Huskies. We would be extremely excited to have additional ice available to us in Howard County. Currently we travel and pay to do most of our practices and games in PG county because we have the fewer ice rinks than every surrounding county.

With a new Ice facility HC families and children as well as businesses could benefit:

1. HS hockey teams could practice in county instead of PG county.
2. Howard county could have a Special Needs hockey team instead of the families going to Montgomery County.
3. Local Businesses and restaurants would profit from tournaments, competitions, and even after practices.
4. The new facility could be environmentally responsible and use ways that cover the facilities utilities.
5. More children and adults would have an opportunity to Play, Compete, Social activity, and support our community.

Thank you for your consideration

Stephen DiCocco  
11120 Dorsch Farm Rd  
Ellicott City, MD 21042  
cell: (443) 226-1359

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**From:** Duncan Brooks <dunk12@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 21, 2024 2:42 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; BallBulletin  
**Subject:** New Ice Hockey Rink

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

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

Dear Esteemed Council Members and County Executive;

Please count me in favor for proceeding with the budgeting and building of a world class ice rink facility in Howard County. This is an opportunity to create much employment directly and indirectly. Hockey families are accustomed to traveling to attend weekend-long tournaments, many of which are currently be held at the 3 sheet ice rink in PG Laurel. Local hotels and restaurants would benefit greatly. Further, we are and have been lagging significantly behind other counties as it pertains to available ice. <https://data.imap.maryland.gov/datasets/maryland::maryland-sport-venues-ice-hockey/explore?showTable=true> Many of the rinks listed have more than one sheet of ice, while Columbia only has one. In fact, most of the hockey players and figure skaters in Howard County have to go outside the county in order to find ice.



Maryland Sport Venues - Ice Hockey

Maryland Sport Venues - Ice Hockey

[data.imap.maryland.gov](https://data.imap.maryland.gov)

I very much appreciate your consideration. Should you have any questions, I am more than willing to help.

Respectfully submitted,  
Duncan Brooks  
Born in Columbia  
Resident of Howard County

**From:** [Adam Ormond](#)  
**To:** [CouncilMail](#)  
**Subject:** Howard County FY25 Budget: Ice Rink  
**Date:** Friday, May 17, 2024 8:30:03 AM

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

I am a home owner in NW Howard County and recently read the FY25 budget. Within it, I saw a new project described for the construction of a county-owned ice rink. I'm excited about this project and would love to learn more.

Can you provide any additional information about this project?

Thank you for your time!

Adam Ormond, MBA, CISSP  
e: [adam@ormond.us](mailto:adam@ormond.us)  
m: 410.688.3364

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**From:** Amy Bulcavage <aeschimmel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 22, 2024 10:47 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; BallBulletin  
**Subject:** Support for Howard County Ice Rink

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

Dear Council Members and County Executive -

I hope this email finds you well. As you are getting ready to vote on the future funding of an Ice Rink in Howard County, I would like to voice my support for such a venue. I have two children who participate on the Howard Huskies hockey teams, and with limited facilities, we are constantly driving to other counties, and supporting those local restaurants, hotels, and other business establishments. As a Howard County resident, it would be great to be able to support our local community and provide facilities that would be an attraction for other ice sport programs across Maryland and even the east coast.

I encourage you to vote in favor of this funding!

Kind Regards,  
Amy Bulcavage  
Howard County Resident and Hockey Mom



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**From:** Dana Craft-Parker <danacraftdesign@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 22, 2024 11:42 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** New Ice Rink

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

To whom it may concern,

This email address was passed along to me through my connection with the Adult Figure Skating Community in Howard County. I reside in Columbia. We have been following the progress of the newly proposed ice rink that was reportedly coming in the future. I do not have any firsthand information on its current status, but I was asked to email and send along my request that it be approved to show my community support.

I am a recreational competitive adult skater that resides in Columbia and heavily uses the Columbia Association Ice Rink, the Gardens Ice House facilities in Laurel, and Piney Orchard ice rink. Another rink in Howard County would be awesome and I can easily see its need with the crowded evening figure skating sessions in Columbia along with their popular Learn to Skate classes, and hockey team support.

Thank you for your time and consideration, Dana Craft-Parker

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**From:** Dave Barry <djb2181@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 22, 2024 10:43 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; CouncilMail; BallBulletin; BallBulletin  
**Subject:** New Howard Ice Rink

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

Dear Esteemed Council Members and County Executive;

Please count me in favor for proceeding with the budgeting and building of a world class ice rink facility in Howard County. This is an opportunity to create much employment directly and indirectly. Hockey families are accustomed to traveling to attend weekend-long tournaments, many of which are currently held at the 3 sheet ice rink in Prince George's County, Laurel. Local hotels and restaurants would benefit greatly. Further, we are and have been lagging significantly behind other counties as it pertains to available ice. <https://data.imap.maryland.gov/datasets/maryland::maryland-sport-venues-ice-hockey/explore?showTable=true> Many of the rinks listed have more than one sheet of ice, while Columbia only has one. In fact, most of the hockey players and figure skaters in Howard County have to go outside the county in order to find ice.

## Maryland Sport Venues - Ice Hockey

Maryland Sport Venues - Ice Hockey

[data.imap.maryland.gov](https://data.imap.maryland.gov)

I very much appreciate your consideration. Should you have any questions, I am more than willing to help.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Barry  
Howard County Resident  
Hockey Dad

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [ehoover5801@gmail.com](mailto:ehoover5801@gmail.com)  
**To:** [CouncilMail](#)  
**Subject:** [SUSPECTED SPAM] New Ice Rink Status  
**Date:** Friday, May 17, 2024 6:49:14 AM

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

Greetings,

I am looking for a POC that can provide an update on the new ice rink that was earlier planned for Howard County. Or feel free to direct me to that information that if it has already been posted somewhere in the public domain.

Thank you  
Eric  
HoCo Resident

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**From:** Peter Bulcavage <pbulcavage@buch.us.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 22, 2024 11:16 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; BallBulletin  
**Subject:** Re: Ice Rink

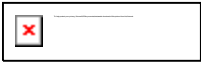
[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am writing to express my desire for another ice rink to be built in Howard County. Howard County severely trails all surrounding counties when it comes to facilities catering to the continued growth of ice sports in this region. Howard County is currently missing out on opportunities to attract and host weekend long events that will boost local businesses. Instead, many Howard County residents take our money elsewhere. This can, and should, change.

Please approve funding.

Thanks,  
Peter Bulcavage  
Howard County resident

**PETER BULCAVAGE**  
Executive Vice President  
D 240 581 9664 | C 240 375 0614  
[pbulcavage@buch.us.com](mailto:pbulcavage@buch.us.com)



8155 Westside Blvd | Fulton, MD 20759  
301 369 3500 | [www.buch.us.com](http://www.buch.us.com)

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**From:** shannon adler <shannonmarie414@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 22, 2024 10:39 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; BallBulletin  
**Subject:** New Hockey Rink

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

Dear Esteemed Council Members and County Executive;

Please count me in favor of proceeding with the budgeting and building of a world class ice rink facility in Howard County. This is an opportunity to create much employment directly and indirectly.

Both of my sons play travel hockey and we spend SO MUCH money not just at the rinks, but at restaurants and hotels in the areas that we visit. I think this would be a great way to get more people and money coming into our county. . Howard County has been lagging significantly behind other counties like Montgomery, PG, and Anne Arundel as it pertains to available ice. Hockey families are accustomed to traveling to attend weekend-long tournaments, many of which are currently held at the 3 sheets of ice found in Montgomery and PG. In the past few years I have seen many of our howard county hockey players and figure skaters travel to go outside the county in order to find ice. Please help us build a new rink so that the kids and families that live in Howard County can stay/play in Howard County.

Sincerely,  
Shannon Adler  
Howard County Resident: Highland, MD