



## **Patapsco Heritage Greenway**

**P. O. Box 96  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043  
410-480-0824**

April 27, 2015

Mr. Allan Kittleman  
Office of the County Executive  
3430 Courthouse Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

RE: Matching funds for the Patapsco Heritage Greenway- FY2016 Operating Budget

Dear Mr. Kittleman,

On behalf of the Patapsco Heritage Greenway, I respectfully request that Howard County provide \$100,000 in funds to match our Maryland Heritage Areas Authority grant fund request.

These funds will immediately allow us to leverage \$100,000 in state funds to promote the Patapsco Heritage Area. We cannot access these Maryland State funds without a County match.

There are only 13 Heritage Areas in Maryland and just one in Howard County. As a Certified Heritage Area, Howard County now has access to additional Maryland State funds earmarked for Heritage Areas including operating, project and capital funds. This year there is over \$3 million available to Heritage Areas. In addition to our grant request for \$100,000 in State funding, we have \$22,000 in pending project grant requests for Howard County Tourism, the Historic Ellicott City Partnership and the Patapsco Heritage Greenway. These funds will support projects that will bring visitors to Ellicott City, Elkridge and the Patapsco Heritage Area. They will promote visitors and boost our Main Street businesses in Ellicott City and Elkridge. In addition, we will have access to over \$10,000 for mini-grants to support our local partners in their efforts to promote the Heritage Area.

As a Heritage Area we are supported and encouraged to apply for additional Maryland State and federal grant requests. In the past week we learned of two new opportunities. The National Park Service has \$500,000 in grant funds that will provide up to \$75,000 in match-free funds to support underrepresented communities equal access to the National Register and, thus, additional federal funding. Specifically, these funds cover sites that have played a role in our African American, Hispanic and LGBT history.

Last week we were apprised of funding from the Maryland State Highway Administration of approximately \$17 million for design and construction of non-traditional transportation projects such as bicycle and pedestrian facilities, restoration of historic transportation buildings (think B&O Railroad Station) and creation of trailheads. Up to 80% of an approved project can be funded with these grants.

In addition to partners and stakeholders, Senators Kasemeyer and Bates as well as Delegates Lam and Hill, and the entire Howard County Council supported our FY2016 grant request to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority.

The Patapsco Heritage Greenway has worked hard for this certification that will bring money to Howard County in the form of Maryland State and federal grants, tax credits, and tourism dollars, but we need your continued support to move our goals for Howard County forward and maintain our certification.

Please amend the FY2016 budget to include this critical funding. It's an investment that will grow our future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Slater".

John Slater, FASLA  
President, Patapsco Heritage Greenway

cc:

Mary Kay Sigaty, Howard County Council Chair

Jon Weinstein, Howard County Council Member

Raj Kudchadkar, Department of Planning and Zoning Director of Special Projects