

Testimony for County Council resolution # 49, June 15, 2015

Dear Howard County Council members,

I support County Executive's appointment of Susan Garber to the Planning Board. I have made up my mind not because I agree with Susan on everything, I do disagree with her sometimes, but because I believe her strong qualifications and long time involvement in the County and community affairs, her extraordinary dedication to the common good as a volunteer are much more important than her imperfection."

Susan is a distinguished educator, leader, and pioneer in special education and rehabilitation with a focus to help the disabled and the senior. She devoted her career life to help the disadvantaged over the decades. After retirement, she has contributed numerous hours as president of Savage Association, and served in many other County and community committees. She has a special interest in protecting the environment such as the Patuxent Rivers, parklands, and maintaining historical sites. *She has been working tirelessly to make Howard County a better place to live.*

I attended many meetings with Susan and was impressed with her selfless dedication and character of an independent thinker, who is never bent to any politics, but truth and facts. She is a person you can argue with, disagree with because she does independent analysis, asks challenging questions, and is never afraid of speaking out what she believes is right, but at the same time, she is great to work with because she listens carefully, very reasonable and helpful.

I support Susan's appointment. I think it reflects an important approach of our County leadership to work inclusively, more attention to the community voice, and great effort to a more transparent government.

Please consider an approval for the appointment of Susan Garber. Thank you for your consideration!

Shun Lu

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