

keep the storm water fee in Howard County

Wendel Dean Renner [WendelDRenner@comcast.net]

Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 8:24 PM

To: CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin B

I am in favor of keeping the storm water fee for Howard County to be able to clean up our run off and protect the Chesapeake Bay.

Wendel Dean Renner
5975 Gales Lane
Columbia, MD 21045

Vote NO on CB52-2015

Sander Zaben [Sander.Zaben@gmail.com]

Sent: Sunday, January 03, 2016 11:50 AM

To: CouncilMail

Dear County Executive Kittleman and Howard County Council:

I understand that CB52-2015 was recently introduced to repeal Howard County's Watershed Protection and Restoration fee.

I'm deeply concerned that removing the fee would undermine our county's Watershed Protection and Restoration Program and erode our ability to meet the requirements of our federal MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System) permit. Removing the fee is a bad choice that could jeopardize Howard County's water quality and a future of fishable, swimmable rivers and streams.

Several analyses done by the County over the past several years point to the need for this fee.

Our 2012 Phase II County Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) suggests that such a fee would be the most fiscally prudent and reliable way to fund our stormwater management program. This assessment predates the state mandate for a county fee that was removed in the last session of the Maryland General Assembly. State mandates aside, I still believe that the fee is the most reliable and fiscally prudent way to address our stormwater management needs and requirements.

Recent County budget shortfalls indicate that finding dollars in the County General Fund will not be as simple and painless as the County Executive's financial assurance plan suggests. The need to fulfill the requirements of our MS4 permit may mean that other county public services get short shrift, and that is not a choice that I as a citizen and voter want to see us make. Better to keep the dedicated funding provided by the fee in place so that clean-up efforts don't have to compete with other priorities for County funds.

I have not yet heard a compelling argument for CB52-2015 that overrides the significant tide of the County's own evidence in support of maintaining our Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee.

And, perhaps most significant for me as a citizen, since the advent of the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee, I'm seeing the money I've contributed going into the ground, getting important work done. The stream restorations, tree plantings, infrastructure repairs and upgrades, and other projects already being done using dedicated funds from the fee have put us on the path towards safe, fishable, swimmable water in our local rivers and streams. I want to see that critical work continue apace, without being put at risk by budget uncertainties.

I hope that you will see the fiscal prudence of having a dedicated stormwater remediation fee available to help fund the important work of cleaning up polluted runoff in our county.

Please vote "no" on CB52-2015, and keep our Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee in place.

Thank you.

Sander Zaben
8712 Haycarriage Ct
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Vote NO on CB52-2015

Maura Duffy [etrainridah23@comcast.net]

Sent: Saturday, December 19, 2015 12:55 PM

To: CouncilMail

Dear County Executive Kittleman and Howard County Council:

I understand that CB52-2015 was recently introduced to repeal Howard County's Watershed Protection and Restoration fee.

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Please vote "no" on CB52-2015, and keep our Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee in place.

Thank you.

Maura Duffy
9379 Tiller Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Vote NO on CB52-2015

Chiara D'Amore [chiaradamore@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 2:33 PM

To: CouncilMail

Dear County Executive Kittleman and Howard County Council:

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Please vote "no" on CB52-2015, and keep our Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee in place.

Thank you.

Chiara D'Amore
Endicott Lane
Columbia, MD 21044

Vote NO on CB52-2015

Robert Smith [smithatec@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 9:26 PM

To: CouncilMail

Dear County Executive Kittleman and Howard County Council:

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Please vote "no" on CB52-2015, and keep our Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee in place.

Thank you.

Robert Smith
4054 Crescent Rd.
Ellicott City, MD 21042