Introduced
Public Hearing —
Council Action
Executive Action
Effective Date

## County Council Of Howard County, Maryland

2015 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 13

## Bill No. 52 -2015

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive and Cosponsored by Greg Fox

AN ACT amending the existing Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee to include the rates in the Howard County Code; reducing the rates of the fee beginning on July 1, 2016; providing for the application of this Act; providing for the abrogation of certain provisions of the Howard County Code related to the fee, as of July 1, 2017; and generally relating to the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee.

Introduced and read first time, 2015. Ordered posted	and hearing scheduled.
By order	essica Feldmark, Administrator
	costea i ciomark, Administrator
Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having second time at a public hearing on, 2015.	been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a
By order	Jessica Feldmark, Administrator
This Bill was read the third time on, 2016 and Passed, Passe	ed with amendments, Failed
By order	Jessica Feldmark, Administrator
Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approva	al thisday of, 2016 at a.m./p.m.
By order	Jessica Feldmark, Administrator
Approved/Vetoed by the County Executive, 2016	
Ā	Allan H. Kittleman, County Executive
NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SM indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added	ALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out

1	WHEREAS, we, as a County, have a responsibility to preserve and protect the
2	Chesapeake Bay Watershed for future generations; and
3	
4	WHEREAS, Senate Bill 863, passed by the General Assembly in 2015, repealed the
5	requirement for jurisdictions to collect a Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee but continues
6	to require that jurisdictions have a Watershed Protection and Restoration fund and program; and
7	
8	WHEREAS, the County has a plan to maintain funding for the Watershed Protection and
9	Restoration program and is able to continue to finance the stormwater remediation work
10	required under our federally mandated National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
11	("NPDES") Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System ("MS4") Permit (the "Permit"); and
12	
13	WHEREAS, the County will continue to implement the numerous programs required by
14	the Permit, including the development of restoration plans that will identify projects to treat
15	untreated impervious acreage; and
16	
17	WHEREAS, the County Executive believes that the Watershed Protection and
18	Restoration Fee, as enacted by the County Council through passage of Council Bill No. 8-2013,
19	is an excessive burden on the residents and businesses, especially small businesses, of Howard
20	County; and
21	
22	WHEREAS, the County Executive is confident that the County will continue to exercise
23	fiscal prudence in selecting projects to pursue, as well as utilize innovative practices, in an
24	overarching strategy to address requirements that the federally mandated Permit has on the
25	County.
26	
27	NOW THEREFORE,
28	
29	Section 1. Be It Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that the Howard
30	County Code is amended as follows:
31	

1	1.	By amending:
2		Title 20. Taxes, Charges and Fees.
3		Section 20.1102. Watershed protection and restoration fund.
4		
5	2.	By amending:
6		Title 20. Taxes, Charges and Fees.
7		Section 20.1103. Watershed protection and restoration fee.
8		
9	3.	By amending:
10		Title 20. Taxes, Charges and Fees.
11		Section 20.1104. Schedule of rates; regulations.
12		
13		Title 20. Taxes, Charges and Fees.
14		Subtitle 11 Watershed Protection And Restoration.
15		
16	Sectio	on 20.1102. Watershed protection and restoration fund.
17	(a) <i>L</i>	Dedicated Fund. In accordance with Title 4, Subtitle 2 of the Environment Article of the
17 18		Dedicated Fund. In accordance with Title 4, Subtitle 2 of the Environment Article of the tated Code of Maryland, the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund is hereby
	Annot	
18	Annot establ	tated Code of Maryland, the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund is hereby
18 19	Annot establ	tated Code of Maryland, the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund is hereby ished as a dedicated, non-lapsing, Enterprise Fund.
18 19 20	Annot establ	tated Code of Maryland, the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund is hereby ished as a dedicated, non-lapsing, Enterprise Fund. <i>evenue</i> . The following revenue shall be deposited into the fund:
18 19 20 21	Annot establ	<ul> <li>tated Code of Maryland, the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund is hereby ished as a dedicated, non-lapsing, Enterprise Fund.</li> <li><i>evenue</i>. The following revenue shall be deposited into the fund: <ol> <li>Monetary contributions to meet the provisions of Title 18, Subtitle 9 of this Code</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
18 19 20 21 22	Annot establ	<ul> <li>tated Code of Maryland, the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund is hereby ished as a dedicated, non-lapsing, Enterprise Fund.</li> <li>evenue. The following revenue shall be deposited into the fund: <ul> <li>(1) Monetary contributions to meet the provisions of Title 18, Subtitle 9 of this Code regarding stormwater management alternatives;</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
18 19 20 21 22 23	Annot establ	<ul> <li>tated Code of Maryland, the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund is hereby ished as a dedicated, non-lapsing, Enterprise Fund.</li> <li>evenue. The following revenue shall be deposited into the fund: <ol> <li>Monetary contributions to meet the provisions of Title 18, Subtitle 9 of this Code regarding stormwater management alternatives;</li> <li>All monetary fines, penalties, and costs associated with violations of Title 18,</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
18 19 20 21 22 23 24	Annot establ	<ul> <li>tated Code of Maryland, the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund is hereby ished as a dedicated, non-lapsing, Enterprise Fund.</li> <li>evenue. The following revenue shall be deposited into the fund: <ol> <li>Monetary contributions to meet the provisions of Title 18, Subtitle 9 of this Code regarding stormwater management alternatives;</li> <li>All monetary fines, penalties, and costs associated with violations of Title 18, Subtitle 3 and Subtitle 9 of this Code;</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	Annot establ	<ul> <li>tated Code of Maryland, the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund is hereby ished as a dedicated, non-lapsing, Enterprise Fund.</li> <li>evenue. The following revenue shall be deposited into the fund: <ol> <li>Monetary contributions to meet the provisions of Title 18, Subtitle 9 of this Code regarding stormwater management alternatives;</li> <li>All monetary fines, penalties, and costs associated with violations of Title 18, Subtitle 3 and Subtitle 9 of this Code;</li> <li>All money collected ON BILLINGS DONE PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2017 from the imposition</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	Annot establ	<ul> <li>tated Code of Maryland, the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund is hereby ished as a dedicated, non-lapsing, Enterprise Fund.</li> <li>evenue. The following revenue shall be deposited into the fund: <ol> <li>Monetary contributions to meet the provisions of Title 18, Subtitle 9 of this Code regarding stormwater management alternatives;</li> <li>All monetary fines, penalties, and costs associated with violations of Title 18, Subtitle 3 and Subtitle 9 of this Code;</li> <li>All money collected ON BILLINGS DONE PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2017 from the imposition of the WATERSHED PROTECTION AND RESTORATION FEE [[fee]], AS THAT FEE</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	Annot establ	<ul> <li>tated Code of Maryland, the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund is hereby ished as a dedicated, non-lapsing, Enterprise Fund.</li> <li>evenue. The following revenue shall be deposited into the fund: <ol> <li>Monetary contributions to meet the provisions of Title 18, Subtitle 9 of this Code regarding stormwater management alternatives;</li> <li>All monetary fines, penalties, and costs associated with violations of Title 18, Subtitle 3 and Subtitle 9 of this Code;</li> <li>All money collected ON BILLINGS DONE PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2017 from the imposition of the WATERSHED PROTECTION AND RESTORATION FEE [[fee]], AS THAT FEE EXISTED PRIOR TO JULY 1, 2017;</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

(c) Expenses. In accordance with Title 2, Subtitle 4 of the Environment Article of the Annotated 1 2 Code of Maryland and subject to subsection (d) of this section, the fund shall only be used for the following expenses: 3 (1)Capital improvements for stormwater management including stream and wetland 4 restoration projects; 5 (2)Operation and maintenance of stormwater management systems and facilities; 6 (3) Public education and outreach relating to stormwater management or stream and 7 wetland restoration; 8 (4)Stormwater management planning, including: 9 (i) Mapping and assessment of impervious surfaces; and 10 Monitoring, inspection, and enforcement activities to carry out the purposes of the 11 (ii) 12 fund; (5)To the extent that fees imposed under Section 4-204 of the Environment Article 13 of the Annotated Code of Maryland are deposited into the fund, review of 14 stormwater management plans and permit applications for new development; 15 (6) Grants to nonprofit organizations for up to 100 percent of a project's costs for 16 watershed restoration and rehabilitation projects relating to: 17 (i) Planning, design, and construction of stormwater management practices; 18 (ii) Stream and wetland restoration; and 19 (iii) Public education and outreach related to stormwater management or 20 stream and wetland restoration; and 21 (7)Reasonable costs necessary to administer the fund. 22 23 (d) *Expenditure Priority*. Subject to the County Executive's budget authority under the Charter, 24 the first priority for expenditure of revenue from the watershed protection and restoration fee 25 collected under this subtitle shall be to pay the debt service on bonds, notes, and other

27 with stormwater management systems and facilities.

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26

## 29 Section 20.1103. Watershed protection and restoration fee.

30 (a) The County shall charge and a property owner shall pay an annual Watershed Protection and

31 Restoration Fee.

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obligations issued to finance or refinance capital improvements or related expenses in connection

[[(b) The fee shall be adopted by resolution of the County Council. 1

(c) Setting the Rate. The County Council shall adopt by resolution a schedule of impervious unit 2 rates and a schedule of rates for residential properties.]] 3

- (B) RATE FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017. FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017, 4 5 BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2016, THE RATES FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES ARE AS FOLLOWS:
- TOWNHOUSE OR CONDOMINIUM UNITS \$7.50 (1)6
- SINGLE FAMILY DETACHED 7 (2)

(I)

- 8

- 9
- PROPERTIES LARGER THAN.25 ACRES \$45 (II)

(C) IMPERVIOUS UNIT RATE FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017. FOR FISCAL 10

PROPERTIES UP TO AND INCLUDING .25 ACRES - \$22.50

- YEAR 2017, BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2016, THE RATES FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES ARE AS 11 12 FOLLOWS:
- 13 14

\$7.50 PER APARTMENT FOR APARTMENT BUILDINGS THAT ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE (1)SCHEDULE OF RATES FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES; AND

- (2)\$7.50 PER IMPERVIOUS UNIT FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES. 15
- (d) Method of Calculation. FOR NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES, THE [[The]] fee based on the 16 amount of impervious surface shall be calculated as follows: 17
- Determine the impervious surface measurement in square feet for the property, (1)18 rounded to the nearest whole impervious unit. 19
- Multiply the property's impervious units by the Impervious Unit Rate. (2)20

(e) Determining What Constitutes Impervious Area. The County shall determine the impervious 21

surface measurement for a NON-RESIDENTIAL property based on: 22

- Analysis of aerial photography; 23 (1)
- Measurement from approved engineering drawings including, without limitation, (2)24 as-built drawings or site plans; 25
- Field surveys signed and sealed by a Professional Engineer or Professional Land 26 (3) Surveyor licensed in the State of Maryland; or 27
- Inspections conducted by the Department. (4)28

(f) Agricultural Properties. If a property has an agricultural use assessment as determined by the 29

State Department of Assessments and Taxation, the fee shall be: 30

The residential rate if: (1)31

1		(i) The property has a fully implemented Soil Conservation and Water			
2		Quality Plan that has been approved by the Soil Conservation District or a			
3		forest conservation and management agreement with the Maryland			
4		Department of Natural Resources; or			
5		(ii) The property owner has agreed to enter into, and is in the process of			
6		implementing, a soil conservation and water quality plan; or			
7	(2)	Computed based on the impervious surface measurement calculated for the entire			
8		property, if the property has not implemented a Soil Conservation and Water			
9		Quality Plan approved by the Soil Conservation District.			
10					
11	Section 20.1	104. Schedule of rates; regulations.			
12	(a) The Cour	nty Council shall adopt by resolution a schedule of rates that shall include:			
13	[[(1)	The impervious unit rate that may be based on certain variables relative to a			
14		property's characteristics;			
15	(2)	Rates for residential properties;]]			
16	([[3]]1)Rates for credits awarded under section 20.1105 of this subtitle;				
17	([[4]]2	2)Rates for reimbursements awarded under section 20.1106 of this subtitle; and			
18		3)Rates for reimbursements awarded under the Watershed Protection and			
19		Restoration Fee Assistance Program.			
20	(b) Regulatio	ons. The County may adopt regulations to administer the provisions of this subtitle.			
21					
22	Section 2. A	nd Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland			
23	that, at the e	nd of July 1, 2017, with no further action required by the County Council, the			
24	following sect	ions of the County Code shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect:			
25	1.	Section 18.901(tt);			
26	2.	Section 18.907;			
27	3.	Section 18.909(e);			
28	4.	Section 20.1100;			
29	5.	Section 20.1101;			
30	6.	Section 20.1103;			
31	7.	Section 20.1104;			

1	8.	Section 20.1105;
2	9.	Section 20.1106;
3	10.	Section 20.1108;
4	11.	Section 20.1109;
5	12.	Section 20.1110; and
6	13.	Section 20.1111.
7		
8	Section 3. A	nd Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that
9	Section 1 of	this Act shall apply beginning on July 1, 2016.
10		
11	Section 4. A	nd Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland that
12	this Act shal	l become effective 61 days after its enactment.



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Dear County Council members,

As a leader with PATH, I am asking you to **please vote against CB 52**, the Stormwater Fee Repeal Bill. The current stormwater fee is a progressive way to address harmful runoff into the Chesapeake Bay, and is not an unnecessary burden to taxpayers. The fee supports programs such as the READY Program (created by PATH, the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, and the County) to address stormwater remediation and employ and develop Howard County youth. There are many priorities this year and in the years to come that will be critical to the health and success of our county that the general fund supports, such as increasing educational opportunities, expanding transportation for seniors and other residents of the county, and ensuring the availability of affordable housing for current and future residents. Let's keep the general fund strong by keeping the Stormwater Fee intact. Thank you for your support! S

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Dear County Council members,	/ j	2004.111	

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Name: aval Jerckson	Institution: <u>UUCC</u>
Address: 6225 free Stone	A Coleembora 210215
Email Address: <u>cjackson 717</u>	@ gmail.com
Dear County Council members,	

	People Acting Together In Haward	-	
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	People Acting Together In Howard	
	Name: Shelley Von Hagen Jun Anstitution: DUCC	Angli La Angli Mara A
	Adress: 7213 Ospren Ct. Colombia MD	21915
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	Dear County Council members,	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100

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出	People Acting Together In Howard	
	Name: SEVEN AMAR Institution: MUCC	5%65
	Address: 9213 OSPREY (T, Columbia, MD	21045
	Email Address: Steven jamar@qmail.com	estat
	Dear County Council members,	C in d



Name: EDWARD NOLAN	Institution: しゃく	
Adress: 80/6 ROLAND CT E	ELKRIDGE MD 21075	
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Dear County Council members,	

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	r in Howard	
Name: Bob Jackson	Institution: <u>UUCC</u>	/ ¥
Address: 6205 FARSTAR Place	Columbia Md	21045
Email Address: bob ackson7160	gnection	201
Dear County Council members		

孔	People Acting Together In Howard	
	Name: Laurie Coltri Institution: UV Cong	of Columbia
	Adress: 5223 Patriot Lane Columbia, ND	21045
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	Dear County Council members,	2016 JAN



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Dear County Council members,



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	People Acting Tagether in Howard	
	Name: Kathy Harris Institution: UUL	20
	Adress: 57685 Harpers Farm Rd	
	Email Address: kather harres. net	
	Dear County Council members,	$\sim$



A People Acting Together In Howard		
Name: Steve Pakes Institution: UVCC		in.
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People Acting Together In Howard		
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A People Acting Together	In Howard	5		
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	PATH
	Name: JANIET RAMSEY Institution: UNITARIAN UNIVERSAL.
	Name: JANET RAMSEY Institution: UNITARIAN UNIVERSAL
	Address: 52532 EVEN STARPL, COLUMBIA MD 21044
	Email Address: Janetremany I Comeast net
	Dear County Council members,



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People Acting Together Howard Brooks Name: Institution: Address: Malhid bridoks (2) **Email Address:** Ū pase E-Mai Dear County Council members,  $\overline{\mathbb{N}}$ 

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PATH TATATA
Name: Frank Hazzon Institution: UUCC
Adress: 3901 Hay Boat Court 21021
Email Address: Frank @ byzzguake, com
Dear County Council members

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Name: NGE HYDER Institution: UUCC		
Address: St 75 Myshi Cf. Col. MD 21044		
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Email Address: ingenzy C gmail. cm	ಖಮನೆಡ ಕಾಂದಿ?	È :
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Dear County Council members,

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			People Acting Tag						
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Name:	INNX_		2016	Institu	ution:				
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Dear Count	ty Council me	embers,					υ	< UC	
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	PATH	
	Piecple Acting Together in Howard	
	Name ACTA 22.2 Institution: /////	
	Address: JIT Camino Columbia. ME	\$ 21049
	Email Address: Cmigates 7250 amail. com	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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	Dear County Council members,	
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	80-91 - - 10-1
Name hvistile (TING) for Institution: UUCC	
Address: 10509 Tolling Clock Walk	
Email Address: <u>Mahovn-Cae a hotma</u>	<u>(l-Com</u>

Dear County Council members,



Institution: 1 Name: Adress Email Address: 🔣

Dear County Council members,

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Faple Acting Toget		P
Name: Miriam W. Alberg	Institution: <u>JUCC</u>	
Address: 6509 Cardinda Ave.	Columbia, MD ZIOY	4
Email Address:	· · ·	
Dear County Council members,		:21 c
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People Acting Together In Howard	
Name: Wendy Alberg Institution: UUCC	
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Address: 6509 Carlinda Ave, Columbia, MD	21046 (Jentenassa
Email Address: Wendy alberg@qmail.com	
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Dear County Council members,	
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PATH		
Depie Acting Together In Howard		
Name: Mrg faul Institution: UVCC		
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Dear County Council members,	U	

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PATH	
Name: Mostine Care Institution: UUCC	
Address: 9313 Angeling Circle Columbia ML	2-24045
Email Address: Christine carey 10 outlook. con	T
Dear County Council members,	22 22 22

54	PATH	
	Name: <u>Phil Webster</u> Institution: <u>UMC</u> Adress: <u>7553</u> Broaddath Way	
	Email Address: Phil. Webster @ ME. Com	<u> </u>
	Dear County Council members,	D 12 D 12



Name: Eleanor Mc Manuels Institution: McCC	; 	
Address: 9759 Carriage Hills Dive	C-2	
Email Address: ellie memoriels equail an	2752/7* •27-270	
Dear County Council members,	2 5 7	

Elen E. Man

PATH	
Name: <u>ALICE PHAM</u> Institution:	VUCC
Adress: 9650 SANDLIGHT CT COL	MD 21046
Email Address: alicekphan@yahoo. com	<u> </u>
Dear County Council members,	



People Acting Together in Howard	
Name: MAAI MARA Institution: V/	1. verralist Unitarian
Address: 9377 Breinare Ct. Jaurel	Cargo Estimot Columbia
Email Address: Junn Mummer yahoo. On 20723	3
Dear County Council members,	τ

Feople Acting Together In Howard	
Name: Matt Scilipate Institution: UUCC	
Address: 9402 N. Lourel Rd. Lourel, MD 20723	
Email Address: Matte Scilipati, nome	
Dear County Council members,	: 20 E

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Dear Coun	ty Council ı	nembers,						$\overline{\mathbb{N}}$	Ξģ.



People Acting Together	In Howard		
Name: Sara Chernikoff	_Institution:	DUCC.	ŢĿ.
Address: 4727 Hallowed Stream			
Email Address: Sara Chernie Yahoo.com		اربیا محمد محمد	C
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Dear County Council members,



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Email Address: Family Williams 1	= non	onn	et	4007128 <sup>10</sup>	
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Dear County Council members,				Ņ	~ ~ 53
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	People Acting Together In Howard	11100	
Name:	Haley Bosner Institution:	UUC	2*** 10 *
Adress:_	3337 Hollow Ct. Ellicott City	41)	
Email Ad	dress: halcybesner@grail.com		enano (
Dear Cou	nty Council members,		Z C

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Comm Institution: Name oia MD210 no Adress Email Address Dear County Council members,



Name:	Cynthia Par Institution: MUCC		
Adress:_	4538 charlots Flight Way -	<u>S</u>	
Email Ac	Idress: CSPATE 10 yahoo, won	هد.) ۱۹۹۹ : سری سری سری	

Dear County Council members,

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People-Acting Together In Howard	
Name: SallyAnn Cooper Institution: U.U.C	C.
Adress: 5365 Chase Lions Way Col.	डे 1044
Email Address: Sacoper 1@ Concastar	rett
Dear County Council members	τ

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Feople Acting Togother		
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Name: DRUCE SERLAGE	_Institution: <u> </u>	- (000
Address: 4066 FRAgile SAil W.	ty Ellicot City 1	4D \$304
	/ /	
Email Address:		
Dear County Council members,		T
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As a leader with PATH, I am asking you to <b>please v</b>	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	1.5

## 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

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

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.

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.

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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

Chiara D'Amore [chiaradamore@yahoo.com] Sent: Thursday, December 17, 2015 2:33 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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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.

Chiara D'Amore Endicott Lane Columbia, MD 21044

Robert Smith [smithatec@aol.com] Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 9:26 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.

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.

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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.

Robert Smith 4054 Crescent Rd. Ellicott City, MD 21042

Patricia Schuyler [paschuyler@hotmail.com] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 12:17 PM To: CouncilMail FILE COPY

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.

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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.

Patricia Schuyler 5134 Rondel Place Columbia, MD 21044

Lisa Ott [lisamichelsott@gmail.com] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 12:29 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.

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.

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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.

Lisa Ott 9643 Green Moon Path Columbia, MD 21046

Dwayne Johnson [johnson.dwayne.k@gmail.com] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 1:19 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.

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.

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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.

Dwayne Johnson 5901 Rising Star Elkridge, MD 21075

William Fox [wfoxmd7@verizon.net] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 2:09 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.

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.

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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.

William Fox 11837 Winterlong Way Columbia, MD 21044

Kurt Schwarz [krschwa1@verizon.net] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 3:33 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.

I wish to reiterate my concern 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.

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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. Further, such projects have already been shown to improve water quality in Baltimore County. The same will occur here in Howard.

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.

Kurt Schwarz 9045 Dunloggin Court Ellicott City, MD 21042

Anna Farb [anna.r.farb@gmail.com] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 3:46 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.

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 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 also think the incentives for homeowner installing BMPs are important to maintain.

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.

Anna Farb

Columbia, MD 21044

Gregory Buffaloe [easyman123@verizon.net] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 5:33 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.

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.

Gregory Buffaloe 8026 Jane Garth Jessup, MD 20794 Page 1 of 1

Fran Terry [bestmadelemonade@gmail.com] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 6:20 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.

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.

Fran Terry 10837 Braeburn Rd Columbia, MD 21044

# Howard County Bill 52-2015

Jodi Rose[jodi@interfaithchesapeake.org]Sent:Thursday, January 07, 2016 11:12 PMTo:CouncilMailAttachments:IPC letter to Chair of Cou~1.pdf (189 KB)

Dr. Ball -

Attached please accept electronic testimony in regards to Howard County Bill 52-2015. I will be unable to attend the Jan. 19th hearing, but am grateful that you will accept this testimony electronically.

Thank you,

Jodi Rose Executive Director Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake

interfaithchesapeake.org

501 6th Street Annapolis, MD 21403 410-609-6852

*"We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work." Archbishop Oscar Romero, peace activist* 



Forming Faithful Stewards, Caring for Sacred Waters

> 501 Sixth Street Annapolis, Maryland 21403

January 4, 2016

Dr. Calvin Ball George Howard Building 1st Floor 3430 Courthouse Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043

RE: Howard County Bill 52-2015

Council Chair Dr. Ball:

We are writing you to express our opposition to a repeal of the Howard County stormwater fee, Council Bill 52-2015.

As you know, polluted runoff is created when rain falls on manmade surfaces and becomes polluted. We make this pollution in our daily living: by driving our cars, or dropping cigarette butts, or over-applying our salt. By expanding our communities with new shopping centers and schools. We never intend to pollute, but that doesn't mean we're not responsible. God makes the rain, but we make the runoff.

There is a cost to polluted runoff, and one that we must all share fairly. Many congregations throughout Maryland are already rolling up their sleeves and getting to work to reduce their polluted runoff. They understand that we cannot shirk our responsibilities. If nonprofit congregations are willing to carry their fair share of the responsibility, why are so many others passing the buck?

We believe there is a deep connection between caring for the environment and caring for humanity around us, and those yet to come. We appreciate your respectful consideration of these viewpoints in regards to repeal.

In hope for a balanced web of life,

pdi

Jodi Rose Executive Director

Peter Katan [peterkatan@comcast.net] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 10:18 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.

Peter Katan 2510 kensington gdns unit 304 unit 304 ellicott city, MD 21043

Andrew Porter, P.E. [civildesign@comcast.net] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 10:50 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  $\cdot$  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.

Andrew Porter, P.E. 6123 Hlly Ridge Ct Columbia, MD 21044 Susan Imbach [susanimbach@comcast.net] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 11:18 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.

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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.

Susan Imbach 3894 Paul Mill Rd Ellicott City, MD 21042 Christine Hilton [cmhilton@verizon.net] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 11:20 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.

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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.

Christine Hilton 5330 Debbie Court Ellicott City, MD 21043

Frank Lombardi [ftlombardi@aol.com] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 8:54 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.

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.

Frank Lombardi 11726 Lightfall Court Columbia, MD 21044

Karlton Kim [karltonkim@yahoo.com] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 8:47 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.

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.

Karlton Kim 11052 Harding Road Laurel, MD 20723

Karlton Kim [karltonkim@yahoo.com] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 8:47 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.

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.

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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.

Karlton Kim 11052 Harding Road Laurel, MD 20723

Rachel Hlavay [chlavay@comcast.net] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 10:17 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.

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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.

Rachel Hlavay 9722 Deep Smoke 9722 Deep Smoke Columbia, MD 21403

Charles Scudder [cescudder@yahoo.com] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 10:23 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.

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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.

Charles Scudder 9556 Wandering Way Columbia, MD 21045 Dave Dittman [davedittman@msn.com] Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 10:24 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.

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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.

Dave Dittman 6318 Wimbledon Court Elkridge, MD 21075