

**Please Vote "NO" on CB52-2015**

James McCann [jmccann216@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Friday, January 15, 2016 3:14 PM

**To:** CouncilMail

I am writing to you to urge you to vote "NO" on CB52-2015. Removing the polluted runoff fee is neither fiscally nor environmentally responsible and above all else, the polluted runoff fee is needed to continue progress on clean water in Howard County. Removing the fee defers progress on clean water and transfers the cost to other and future funding sources.

Polluted runoff flows off of our streets, parking lots, and building rooftops. It picks up fertilizers, pesticides, oil, and automotive fluids, pet waste, sediment, and other pollutants.

This runoff pollutes our rivers and streams and threatens our drinking water. It also causes problems like local flooding of streets and homes. We need the polluted runoff fee to prevent further harm to our local waterways.

Please vote NO on CB52-2015. The fee must stay in place for the sake of clean water and quality of life in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration. I would appreciate a response to my request.

James McCann  
10213 Scaggsville Rd  
Laurel, MD 20723

**Please Vote "NO" on CB52-2015**

Jung Elky [jelky@gcmeadows.com]

**Sent:** Saturday, January 16, 2016 4:22 PM

**To:** CouncilMail

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Thank you for your consideration. I would appreciate a response to my request.

Jung Elky  
11716 Teri Lynn Dr  
Fulton, MD 20759

**Vote NO on CB52-2015**

Donald Klein [askdon@mac.com]

Sent: Monday, January 18, 2016 9:23 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.

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.

Donald Klein  
6239 Plaited Reed  
Columbia, MD 21044

**Vote NO on CB52-2015**

Atanaska Dineva [nasi.dineva@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, January 18, 2016 5:06 PM

To: CouncilMail

Dear County Executive Kittleman and Howard County Council:

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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.

Atanaska Dineva  
10603 White rock Ct  
Laurel, MD 20723

**Please Vote "NO" on CB52-2015**

Lisa Versteeg [lversteeg1@verizon.net]

**Sent:** Monday, January 18, 2016 2:14 PM

**To:** CouncilMail

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Please vote NO on CB52-2015. The fee must stay in place for the sake of clean water and quality of life in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration. I would appreciate a response to my request.

Lisa Versteeg  
4134 Red Bandana Way  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

**Please Vote "NO" on CB52-2015**

Brent Showalter [brentshowalter74@hotmail.com]

**Sent:** Monday, January 18, 2016 10:38 AM

**To:** CouncilMail

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Thank you for your consideration. I would appreciate a response to my request.

Brent Showalter  
11056 Swansfield Rd.  
Columbia, MD 21044

## **Please vote no to Council Bill 52-2015.**

Rous-Fu family [rousfu@verizon.net]

**Sent:** Saturday, January 16, 2016 10:12 PM

**To:** CouncilMail

Hello Howard County Council,

I have been privileged to witness community growth that came with watershed protection – funded by – you guessed it: **The Watershed-Protection-and-Restoration-Fund!** With the implementation of three rain gardens in the Deering Woods community of Columbia, senior citizens were talking and socializing with seniors in high school. Residents of Deering Woods were thrilled that perfect strangers want to use their bathrooms, and then they came out to give snacks to the young adults digging and planting in their community. Yes, we are slowing the flow of stormwater, and keeping it on land so that our waterways and roads do not flood during large storms, and minimizing pollutants running into our local streams and eventually into the Chesapeake Bay. But we are also building communities, training young adults, and providing jobs – all with the Watershed-Protection-and-Restoration-Fund.

Instead of calling it by the proper name of Watershed-Protection-and-Restoration-Fund, opponents of this concept have called it the “rain tax”. Of course, no want wants a rain tax! *But, the fund has nothing to do with how much it rains nor does it impose any tax for rain. Instead, it is about watershed protection and restoration.* We must use the proper name of things or we will never be able to discuss issues clearly. Who wants to repeal the Watershed-Protection-and-Restoration-Fund when the fee is doing what it was meant to do?

The Watershed-Protection-and-Restoration-Fund imposes a fee to manage stormwater, much needed to protect and restore our watersheds. Having an adjustable fee rewards remediation efforts, encourages clean construction, and creates a dedicated, accountable revenue source. If we can really take out money from the general fund, then we should decrease the taxes that pay into the general fund!

Repealing the Watershed-Protection-and-Restoration-Fund makes no sense since it is a transparent way to have government accountable to work for the greater good — protect and restore our watersheds.

Sincerely,  
Sabrina S. Fu  
9817 Madelaine Court  
Ellicott City, MD 21042  
410-418-8694

**Please Vote "NO" on CB52-2015**

Arnold Tschanz Tschanz [aatreas@ureach.com]

Sent: Saturday, January 16, 2016 3:54 PM

To: CouncilMail

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Thank you for your consideration. I would appreciate a response to my request.

Arnold Tschanz Tschanz  
10368 Cullen Ter  
Columbia, MD 21044



**Please Vote "NO" on CB52-2015**

Samuell Dixon [samueldixon3.7@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Saturday, January 16, 2016 3:16 PM

**To:** CouncilMail

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We have a duty to protect the provisions we have in place to ensure a livable environment. In fact, what our county really needs is greater environmental protection in place, and that is important work beyond the scope of my petition today. I am urging you now to take the very simple step of not repealing this one law which is part of our county's foundation for continued health and prosperity.

Please vote NO on CB52-2015. The fee must stay in place for the sake of clean water and quality of life in Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration. I would appreciate a response to my request.

Samuell Dixon  
9801 Michaels Way  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

**Please Vote "NO" on CB52-2015**

Dann Brown [dannb@verizon.net]

**Sent:** Saturday, January 16, 2016 7:37 AM

**To:** CouncilMail

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Thank you for your consideration. I would appreciate a response to my request.

Dann Brown  
8695 Flowering Cherry Lan  
Laurel, MD 20723

**Please Vote "NO" on CB52-2015**

Heather Dorst [heatherdorst@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Friday, January 15, 2016 4:48 PM

**To:** CouncilMail

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Heather Dorst  
5409 April Wind Ct  
Columbia, MD 21045