

SUPPORT FOR CB7-2016

Mark Czajka [mark@mdvolt.org]

Sent: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 1:50 PM

To: CouncilMail

Cc: Terrasa, Jen; Ball, Calvin B

Attachments: mdvolt_CB7-2016.pdf (151 KB)

Attached is a letter of support for Council Bill 7-2016.

Thank you for addressing the issue of enforcement of "EV only" charging spaces.

Mark Czajka

Director

MD Volt Inc.

www.mdvolt.org



Subject: SUPPORT FOR CB7-2016

February 10, 2016

Howard County Council
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Members of the Council:

I represent MD Volt Inc., a Maryland based non-profit representing more than 260 EV owners and enthusiasts in the Mid-Atlantic region. MD Volt hosts meetups and events all over the area for the purposes of education and awareness of Electric Vehicles (EVs) and EV charging stations. Eighteen of our members recently met at Sidamo Coffee in Maple Lawn on December 5, 2015.

We support CB7-2016 as we did CB36-2014. We host events in Howard County and our members support businesses close to your area charging stations. Enforcement of these spaces as "EV only" is imperative to make these spots available. When a charging station is blocked, EV owners, especially those from out of the area, cannot get to their destinations. It's the equivalent of pulling up to a gas station and having all the gas pumps blocked for an undefined amount of time. Even if the EV owner could wait for the gas only vehicle to move, they would have to wait even longer to charge their EV.

I have personally experienced spaces being blocked in several counties across Maryland. We've also seen pictures on social media of EV spaces being blocked by gas only vehicles in Howard County. Approval of CB7-2016 will not only be a positive for owners of plugin electric vehicles, but it will help all County residents become more aware of what these spaces are used for and why access is important.

We appreciate this initiative which will continue to make Howard County one of Maryland's most EV friendly places to visit and a destination for our members.

Sincerely,

Mark Czajka, *Director*, MD Volt Inc.

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