

July 13, 2016

The Howard County Council George Howard Building 3430 Courthouse Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043

Re: <u>CB46 – 2016 (ZRA – 159)</u>

**Dear Council Members:** 

On Behalf of the Board of Directors of the Harper's Choice Community Association (HCCA), I wish to express our support for CB46 – 2016 (ZRA - 159), which amends the County's zoning regulations for Gasoline Service Stations.

As you are aware, HCCA expressed support for the adoption of the Recommendations issued by the Fueling Station Task Force established by the County Council. The Task Force was established to study the siting of motor fuel service stations within the County, given the significant changes in the petroleum industry and the issues relevant to fuel station location such as environmental, health, safety, and blighting impacts that affect all citizens and areas within the County. Its recommendations form the basis for the legislation before you. While some of the recommendations have been modified as a result of further public input following the issuance of its report, as well as the analysis and recommendations of the Department of Planning and Zoning and the County Planning Board, the provisions contained in the legislation reflect an important strengthening and enhancement of the zoning requirements for fuel station development, most notably the requirements that address environmental, health, and safety protections.

HCCA urges adoption of CB46 – 2016 (ZRA - 159).

Sincerely,

Stephen J. Ingley

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Village Manager

Harper's Choice Community Association

Cc: Board of Directors, Harper's Choice Community Association

Kahler Hall