

Re: [HOWARD-CITIZEN] HCCA Requests Postponement of Downtown Columbia Legislation [1 Attachment]

Barbara Russell [babsrussell@comcast.net]

Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 4:19 PM

To: HOWARD-CITIZEN@yahoogroups.com

Cc: Kittleman, Allan; CouncilMail

To all but especially our elected officials,

If you are following the discussion on this listserve it is clear that Howard County, being the highly educated county that it is, has many citizens who are able to understand the legislation that is being put forward regarding affordable housing, the TIF, etc. The question is -- do you as elected officials want to hear from these citizens or have you already decided you have heard enough from Howard Hughes (HH) and are ready to go forward quickly without being put on the spot by what citizens might have to say?

There is a time honored practice in Howard County politics that thankfully is not invoked too often. It is this. If our local elected officials (the county executive and members of the county council) wish to pass legislation that they know will be controversial (and this usually involves the development community) they schedule it for the summer months or Christmas time when ordinary people are either distracted by family plans and activities or are not even physically present in the county.

So there is indeed transparency here -- if you, our county elected officials, stick to the schedule you are proposing, you are making it transparently clear that you don't want to give our citizens a fair opportunity to read, evaluate, help you inform the community and testify on this large and important package of legislation.

Based on my past experience as an ordinary citizen testifying on legislation desired by General Growth Properties (the parent of HH), it will be hard enough to be heard under the best of circumstances, let alone, under the schedule currently being proposed.

Barbara

On Jun 30, 2016, at 9:25 PM, 'Stu Kohn' stukohn@verizon.net [HOWARD-CITIZEN] wrote:

[Attachment(s) from Stu Kohn included below]

ALL,

The request below is addressed to our County Executive and Council Members in hopes that our elected officials will consider and act on the Howard County Citizens Association (HCCA) suggestion. If you want to respond to this Listserve posting we suggest you do a "Reply All" to make sure our elected officials have an opportunity to see your posting even though the majority of our officials are HCCA Listserve members.

Date: 30 June 2016

Subject: Suggested Postponement of Forthcoming Downtown Columbia Legislation

Dear County Executive Kittleman and County Council Members,

We, the Howard County Citizens Association, HCCA Board of Directors are quite troubled at the prospect of the schedule of the Downtown (DT) Columbia Project. All the various legislative proceedings that make up the pieces of such an undertaking are to take place starting in less than two weeks, July 11, 2016. This includes "Special Legislative Work Sessions, Special Public Hearings, and a Legislative Hearing". We ask for consideration from the Administration and Council to postpone this proposed schedule in the name of transparency and allow citizens to be better educated with all the parts of the legislation.

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Sincerely,

Stu Kohn

HCCA, President

Attachment(s) from Stu Kohn | [View attachments on the web](#)

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[HCCA - Downtown Columbia Legislative Postponement.docx](#)

Posted by: "Stu Kohn" <stukohn@verizon.net>

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**Re: [HOWARD-CITIZEN] HCCA Requests Postponement of Downtown
Columbia Legislation**

George C Higgins [georgehiggins@me.com]

Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 1:27 PM

To: HOWARD-CITIZEN@yahoogroups.com

Cc: Kittleman, Allan; CouncilMail

Thank you Linda Wengel. This all reminds me of when I worked in higher education and trustees would announce plans for our salary and benefits in the summer when most of us were all across the world doing our research ,

Sent from my iPad

George Higgins
10310 Swift Stream Place Apt 305
Columbia MD 21044-4936

410-715-3953 (Home)
860-916-4327 (Mobile)

On Jul 1, 2016, at 11:33, Joel Broida jbroidal@gmail.com [HOWARD-CITIZEN] <HOWARD-CITIZEN@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

Date: July 1, 2016

To: Howard County Council, County Executive Kittleman
From: Linda Wengel, Chairperson, Town Center Village Board

Re: Downtown Pl

-

The Town Center Village Board finds itself overwhelmed with the Administration's introduction of eight bills dealing with significant revisions to the 2010 Downtown Plan at one time. Several of the issues, including the TIF, the DRRA are complicated and require much greater explanation and consideration than is allowed for in the normal legislative process.

Considering that this is the beginning of summer vacation time, we request the following: After the legislation is introduced on July 8th, the rest of July is used for public forums that offer the public the opportunity to ask questions and understand the many implications of this sweeping legislation to the future of Downtown Columbia. When the Council returns from its August break, the public hearing process and legislative deliberations should begin. This seems like good public policy to us, and we hope the Council will consider our suggestion.

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Posted by: Joel Broida <jbroida1@gmail.com>

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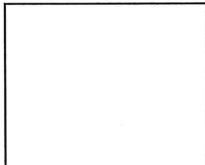
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Joel Broida [jbroida1@gmail.com]

Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 11:33 AM

To: HOWARD-CITIZEN@yahoogroups.com

Cc: Kittleman, Allan; CouncilMail

Date: July 1, 2016

To: Howard County Council, County Executive Kittleman

From: Linda Wengel, Chairperson, Town Center Village Board

Re: Downtown Plan

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HCCA, President

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Posted by: "Stu Kohn" <stukohn@verizon.net>

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July 2016 Letter to Council regarding Downtown Plan

Jeryl Baker [villagemanager@columbiatowncenter.org]

Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 8:58 AM
To: Kittleman, Allan; CouncilMail
Cc: fwasseem@baltsun.com
Attachments: July 2016 Letter to Council~1.doc (66 KB)

Please see the attached letter from the Town Center Community Association Board.

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Jeryl Beth Baker / Village Manager, Executive Director
villagemanager@columbiatowncenter.org

Town Center Community Association
Office: 410 730-4744 / Fax: 410 730-1823
5430 Vantage Point Road
Columbia, Maryland 21044
www.ColumbiaTownCenter.org



Town Center Community Association

5430 Vantage Point Road – Columbia, Maryland 21044

Date: July 1, 2016

To: Howard County Council, County Executive Kittleman

From: Linda Wengel, Chairperson, Town Center Village Board

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Telephone 410-730-4744/410-730-4801 – Fax 410-730-1823
villagemanager@columbiatowncenter.org – www.columbiatowncenter.org

Re: [HOWARD-CITIZEN] HCCA Requests Postponement of Downtown Columbia Legislation

circle5064@verizon.net

Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 6:30 AM

To: Kittleman, Allan; CouncilMail; howard-citizen@yahoogroups.com

I agree with both Stu, more hearings and studies, and Lada, no meetings during the vacation months of July and August.

This information needs to go out to all citizens of Howard County and specifically Columbia not just on newspapers but on Facebook and Twitter and more emphasis on the Columbia Flier.

It's very obvious that Summer months are **not** the best as many are on vacation and wouldn't be able to attend.

Maria Alvarez

From: <mailto:HOWARD-CITIZEN@yahoogroups.com>

Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 9:45 PM

To: HOWARD-CITIZEN@yahoogroups.com ; akittleman@howardcountymd.gov ;

CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov ; howard-citizen@yahoogroups.com

Subject: Re: [HOWARD-CITIZEN] HCCA Requests Postponement of Downtown Columbia Legislation

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Lada Onyshkevych

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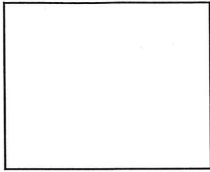
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Posted by: Lada Onyshkevych <lada2@verizon.net>

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Re: [HOWARD-CITIZEN] HCCA Requests Postponement of Downtown Columbia Legislation

rebecca dickerson [rdd7@verizon.net]

Sent: Friday, July 01, 2016 3:39 AM

To: HOWARD-CITIZEN@yahoogroups.com

Cc: Kittleman, Allan; CouncilMail

This is major, major change to our founder's dream...bless James Rouse who honored the people and put them first in his plans as he unfolded Columbia. I've lived here almost since its inception and am so disappointed in the changes as they are unfolding...certainly not in keeping with the vision this young man had when he put all he had into forming this most popular and well planned community, built around all people, rich and poor, and centered on lifestyles and family. I agree there needs to be postponement and more public awareness of the enormous impact your proposals will have on us as a community and as individuals. We, too, have poured our earnings, savings, energy into making this a model city that others dream of moving to. It really belongs to The People (take a good look at the People Tree) and not to a handful of elected officials. Having the opportunity to hear and review all the new legislature and have a chance to voice our opinions should not worry officials if they feel confident they have Columbia citizens support. So, I would like to see these vital proceedings scheduled when we, the residents of Columbia, can attend.

Rebecca Dickerson

On Jun 30, 2016, at 9:45 PM, Lada Onyshkevych lada2@verizon.net [HOWARD-CITIZEN] <HOWARD-CITIZEN@yahoogroups.com> wrote:

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Posted by: Lada Onyshkevych <lada2@verizon.net>

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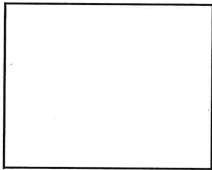
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