



HCCA

Howard County Citizens Association

Since 1961...

The Voice Of The People of Howard County

Date: 10 April 2017
Subject: Suggested Proposal to Place Temporary Moratorium on ZRA's

Dear County Council Members,

We, the Howard County Citizens Association (HCCA) request that you consider sponsoring a Bill or Resolution to place a temporary moratorium on Zoning Regulation Amendments (ZRA's). This is based on the fact that the Department of Planning and Zoning is currently in an on-going process of assessment and review leading to a comprehensive update of the Howard County Zoning Regulations. HCCA requests that all ZRA's, except simple technical corrections, be held off until the review, amending and implementation of the new zoning regulations are complete.

Since the assessment process has as its commendable set of goals assuring that regulations not contradict one another and that terms and rules are non-subjective (not open to multiple interpretations) in order to enable uniform enforcement, it seems most prudent to not continue to allow changes at this time, during this process.

Secondly, the desire to simplify regulations can be better-achieved without an on-going set of changes occurring at the same time as the review. Citizen input and transparency would be better-served to not have a continuously moving target. If developers were to rush with amendment requests during the review then the public could rightfully so react negatively which is a situation that should be avoided to allow harmony during the process.

The HCCA appreciates your consideration of this request for a moratorium on ZRA's. Your feedback on the aforementioned suggestion would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

Stu Kohn
HCCA, President

Cc: County Executive Kittleman, Chief of Staff, Diane Wilson, DPZ Director Val Lazdins, Deputy Director Amy Gowan, and HCCA Board of Directors