

Date: 19 April 2017

Subject: Howard County Citizens Association Supports CB29-2017 – Removal of BRX

The Howard County Citizens Association, HCCA and I as a member of the Greater Highland Crossroads Association fully supports CB29-2017 the removal of the BRX zoning type.

We are extremely pleased and appreciative that the Council took the time to not only meet with approximately 150 concerned residents of Highland and other community members last summer. You not only listened, but you are now taking the appropriate action on the BRX zoning. We want to especially thank both Councilwoman Sigaty and Councilman Fox for teaming together and introducing this Bill. It clearly shows that people can indeed work together with the hope of having a very positive outcome.

The real question in this case and other zoning cases is what is the real vision of Howard County? We are glad you are taking the necessary "Action" so the residents of Highland will be able to no longer be concerned with the BRX zoning.

As stated last year, HCCA requested the County Council not only have DPZ evaluate the BRX zoning, but look into the other 42 types of zoning currently permitted in our County. We only hope that all these Zoning Types, ZRAs, Conditional Uses, Redlines, and Variances will be fully examined by DPZ and Clarion when evaluating the zoning regulations. I am proud to say that HCCA was recognized by Val Lazdins, Director of DPZ in the local newspaper as being instrumental in suggesting that the zoning assessment be performed. To this end we are optimistic that progress will be made to permit a more balanced zoning regulation system to not just benefit the developers, but have a fairer system for residents.

There is a quote by Henry Ford which I believe sums up this situation it states, "Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

Thank you,

Stu Kohn
HCCA, President