



Howard County Citizens Association

Since 1961...

The Voice Of The People of Howard County

Date: 16 September 2019

Subject: **Howard County Citizens Association (HCCA) Testimony in FAVOR of CB40-2019**

My name is Stu Kohn and I am the President of the Howard County Citizens Association, HCCA.

We, the HCCA are by all means in FAVOR of the passage of CB40-2019 as we are for CB38-2019. Both Bills are unequivocally the right thing to do if one really cares and takes pride in our environment. We congratulate Council Member Walsh for her continued tireless efforts to ensure our invaluable land is fully protected from any further unnecessary disturbance caused by development.

A question for all of our Council. What has priority – lives, property, or the continuation of over-development? Common sense needs to prevail. A second question is why at this time do we not see any sponsors on this Bill? This Bill is by all means the right thing to do. We recommend that the proposed extension of three months be extended to such time when all parties have the full confidence that development along the designated Watershed is considered fully ready for prime time. There should be absolutely no harm to the land when contemplating construction until all measures have been fully analyzed and guaranteed that no unintended damage will occur before the first foundation is completed.

Please refer to the Bill for suggested amendments.

Page 2, Lines 7 thru 9 to read – that the County Council also have AMPLE time to consider, share with the public, BY HAVING A PUBLIC HEARING TO FULLY DISCUSS THE FINDINGS, and act on any recommendation(S) concerning zoning changes in the Tiber Branch Watershed or the Plumtree Branch Watershed; and

Page 2, Line 14, additional three months OR UNTIL SUCH TIME THIS ACT IS DECLARED TOTALLY FOOLPROOF BY ALL CONCERNED PARTIES.

Page 2, Line 20 change to match what was previously stated.

We ask you to simply do the right thing by ensuring that our county's major priority and focus is as stated on page 3, Line 10 that the public health, safety, or welfare is an emergency and needs to be adopted because of this most compelling need. Your unanimous adoption of this Bill can be attributed to a quote by Margaret Thatcher, when she stated, "Disciplining yourself to do what you know is right and important, although difficult, is the highroad to pride, self-esteem, and personal satisfaction."

Thank You for your consideration.

Stu Kohn
HCCA President