



HCCA

Howard County Citizens Association

Since 1961... The Voice of the People of Howard County

Date: 20 September 2020

Subject: **Proposed Legislation to Eliminate Fee-in-Lieu Regarding Affordable Housing**

All,

When the County speaks about the topic of Affordable Housing during these past years one has to really question the sincerity. Why, because until Fee-in-Lieu, the loophole to permit developers to pay a fee to ignore any required Affordable Housing in their project. This should be eliminated and stopped now. This is simply WRONG! For once and for all it is time the County takes action. We ask that Legislation be enacted to fully demonstrate you really care. We ask County Executive Ball and any or all of our Council Members to take the necessary action to introduce and adopt legislation?

We ask that a Bill be adopted at the soonest as an Act to completely eliminate Fee-in-Lieu and any Alternative Compliance with no exceptions. By you adopting such Legislation it would show that you want Affordable Housing to become reality throughout our County and that Developers should not receive a pass because they are permitted to pay their way out.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg is quoted as saying, "Real Change, enduring change, happens one step at a time." It is time for a permanent change for you to completely eliminate Fee-in-Lieu if you strongly believe in Affordable Housing throughout our County.

Any feedback from our officials to our HCCA Membership would be appreciated especially since the subject is so important.

Stu Kohn
HCCAPresident