

Whose All In for Forest Conservation?

From: STUART KOHN

Subject: Whose All In for Forest Conservation?

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Cc: Elizabeth Walsh <ewalsh@howardcountymd.gov>, Deb Jung <djung@howardcountymd.gov>

To: via Howard-Citizen <howard-citizen@googlegroups.com>

Once again the Howard County Citizens Association, HCCA is disappointed that when it comes to Forest Conservation only Council members Liz Walsh and Deb Jung consistently are doing their best to ensure our remaining mature trees are protected. An example is last evening when Liz Walsh's bill, CB30 was defeated by a 3 to 2 vote with Council Member Jung as usual supporting Forest Conservation. Council Members, Jones, Rigby and Yungmann said "No."

The Bill was for amending the purpose of the Forest Conservation Act of Howard County; altering the definition of a forest; increasing certain reforestation calculations; amending qualification for the use of certain forest mitigation banks; and generally related to the Forest Conservation Act of Howard County. You can see the contents of the Bill by going to <https://apps.howardcountymd.gov/olis/api/Documents/LegislationDocument?documentId=34473>.

HCCA's testimony presented by Susan Garber can be found at https://howardcounty.granicus.com/player/clip/5366?view_id=6&redirect=true&h=24c20410a27a0029205a776151037ec0.

You can hear the discussion of the Bill starting at 39:22 and the voting rationale at 43:43. Liz Walsh's most compelling testimony is at 45:06 and can be heard at https://howardcounty.granicus.com/player/clip/5380?view_id=6&redirect=true&h=486bb1e5f70acf522337a97080f3596e.

It is a shame that Council Members Jones, Rigby and Yungmann voted "No."

Stu Kohn
HCCA President