



HCCA

Howard County Citizens Association

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

Date: 20 October 2025

Subject: **HCCA Against CR182-2025**

Good evening.

I am Stu Kohn from beautiful Scaggsville founded in the 1830s consisting of 700 acres testifying on behalf of the Howard County Citizens Association as its President.

Nothing personal about the nominee or the other Board of Appeals members. We are AGAINST this nominee for reappointment or any of the current members, because they unfortunately have no legal experience, are receiving continuous on the job training and are making monumental decisions rendered by the Hearing Examiner. They are overruling a more than qualified legal expert. Why? We don't understand why cases are heard by the Hearing Examiner who is highly qualified as a legal subject matter expert to a body which has none! There is definitely something wrong with the system. It needs to be fixed now not later!

The continuation of all Board of Appeals (BoA) Hearings should immediately stop until such time CB57-2025 is fully discussed, and you take action to correct not only the rules of procedure but its current process. We appeal to you to enact a moratorium declaring no cases be heard until further notice. You heard most compelling testimony of the concerns of your constituents during public testimony on 21 July. Don't continue to kick the can down the road. Your constituents have had enough! Council-member Walsh said it best when describing the situation by saying, "The BoA is the most embarrassing situation she has witnessed during her tenure." We agree! Please act as it is not right for your constituents to have to pay enormous legal fees — for what? Yes - I understand over \$30,000 regarding the W.R. Grace, over \$20,000 for the Go Kart case and \$35,000 and counting for Manor Hill.

Why are resumes of nominees or reappointments not associated with proposed Resolutions for Boards and Commissions? We strongly suggest you ensure all nominees submit their resumes at least two weeks prior to the Public Legislative Hearing for all appointments and reappointments. Their resumes should be posted under "Related Documents." This would allow sufficient time for the public to examine any nominees and provide necessary information used for public testimony.

On March 1, 2022 - Yes - 3 1/2 years ago, we testified detailing concerns of the BoA when Ms. Phillips was nominated. We expressed our concerns with the process then and continue today. You heard our testimony this past July concerning CB57 and the public.

A quote by Abraham Lincoln is very appropriate when he stated, "You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today." We the people ask for your immediate action. The consequences is far too great for you to do nothing for any of your constituents who go before the Board of Appeals. We appeal to you to act today as tomorrow is too late! Please do something to

correct a dire situation. Many are depending on you. It's time you act! Any takers, because business as usual cannot be allowed to continue.

Thank you.

Stu Kohn
HCCA President