

Danielle Lueking

From: Kirsten Coombs
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2018 2:50 PM
To: kcoombs [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: [External] Community
Attachments: Emails.pdf

Regards,

Kirsten Coombs

From: euclid6379@aol.com <euclid6379@aol.com>
Sent: Friday, September 28, 2018 11:28 AM
To: Superintendent; BoE Email
Subject: [External] Community

First I want to say that I do not represented any organization, community group or any other individual, I am only representing myself.

As most of you know, GECA, Greater Elkridge Community Association is going thru some really difficult issues with some emails that were published. With these emails I have learned about some issues that I would consider unethical for the Board of Education, which is a elected board.

Elected members of the Board of Education should be a group of people that we trust with our kids and not go to community members to set up other community member. I understand that not all of the board are involved. I hope the newly elected Board of Education will be there for the entire community, not just a few. I am still looking into the issue of ethics.

One of the emails states that a vice principal at Wilde Lake is very trustworthy with a lot of info that gets passed through her. So not only BOE, also a vice principal.

A lot of these email were from Sandy Norton Roschli, the chair person for the Task Force. In one letter attached she talks about "her bitch session with Andrew from AK's Office" If this is true, Nikki Marlatt - Young (NMY) and my self Sandy Baker (SB).

While I fought to keep HS14 out of Rockburn Park, and now understand it is off the table,I have always believe a high school in needed in Elkridge. But I also believe that the BOE should have transparency, and that is not what is happening with some.

Sandy Baker Grabowski
[REDACTED]

Danielle Lueking

From: Renee Kamen
Sent: Monday, May 21, 2018 8:28 AM
To: Kirsten Coombs
Cc: Anissa Brown Dennis; Bruce Gist; BoE Email; Karalee Turner-Little
Subject: RE: May 7 Elkridge Task Force Mtg

Good morning Ms. Coombs,

The meetings are open to the public and are recorded. The Elkridge Task Force has its own web page, and everything will get posted here: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Branches/County-Executive/Elkridge-High-School-Task-Force>

The agenda for this evening is here:

<https://www.howardcountymd.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=ia6sNYJhrHo%3d&portalid=0>

I've not completed the PowerPoint for this evening (yet), but below is the outline (which could change slightly):

- Office of School Planning (at a glance)
- Policy Guidance
- Policy 6000
- HS Education Specifications
- capital planning process
- Feasibility Study 101 (using 2017, explain how it reads)

Hope this information is helpful.

Take care,

-renée

Renée M. Kamen, AICP, Manager
Office of School Planning
Howard County Public School System
renee_kamen@hcpss.org
410.313.7184 (p)

-----Original Message-----

From: Kirsten Coombs
Sent: Sunday, May 20, 2018 5:35 PM
To: Renee Kamen <Renee_Kamen@hcpss.org>
Cc: Anissa Brown Dennis <Anissa_BrownDennis@hcpss.org>; Bruce Gist <Bruce_Gist@hcpss.org>; BoE Email <boe@hcpss.org>; Karalee Turner-Little <Karalee_TurnerLittle@hcpss.org>
Subject: May 7 Elkridge Task Force Mtg

Hi Renee,

Is there any synopsis of this meeting or can it not be shared until after tomorrow night's meeting?

Thanks,
Kirsten

Kirsten Coombs

Sent from my Board iPhone

Danielle Lueking

From: Howard County Council District 1 <jweinstein@howardcountymd.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2018 9:08 AM
To: Superintendent
Subject: The Weinstein Report

THE WEINSTEIN REPORT

Jon Weinstein

Howard County Council
Council Member, District 1

IN THE NEWS



***Councilman Jon Weinstein,
the Howard County Department of
Planning and Zoning, in partnership***

Since I created the Elkridge Renewal Group in 2015, we have been meeting to discuss ways to build upon improvements such as the new library, 50+ center, and fire station. The group includes representatives from the Greater Elkridge Community Association, Elkridge Heritage Society, local business owners and residents, as well as representatives from County government.

In the past year, the Elkridge Renewal Group has executed actions to build momentum to renew the Elkridge Main Street area, including working to capitalize on the opening of Guinness, boost tourism in the area, and present tax credit opportunities to property owners.

Earlier this year, I worked with the Patapsco Heritage Greenway and the Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning to apply for

**with the Patapsco Heritage
Greenway present:**

**"Elkridge Main Street:
A Path to Renewal"**

A community planning meeting for this
historic area in Elkridge on
Wednesday, May 9, 7-8:30 pm at the new
Elkridge Library - 6540 Washington Blvd

a grant to fund a formal Small Area Plan for the Elkridge Main Street
area. As part of this process, we are hosting a community meeting.

This will be an opportunity for residents and stakeholders to
participate together in a workshop setting to identify issues and
opportunities in the area, and what they would like to see for the
future of the Main Street Elkridge. I hope you can attend, and please
share this information with those in the area.

Ellicott City SpringFest 2018

Margaret and I had a great time at the Ellicott City's
annual SpringFest. We walked up and down Main
Street and both volunteered for a couple hours. The
streets were teeming with thousands of folks having a
great time listening to music, visiting the cool shops
and restaurants, and enjoying the spring weather.

Thank you to the Ellicott City Partnership and the
event sponsors and participants for making this an
amazing day!



Congratulations!

Winners of 2018 Human Rights Award

Congratulations to **Dr. Yen Li and The Build Haiti Foundation** for winning the 2018 Human Rights Award. The award is presented annually to individuals and organizations selected by the Commission from nomination by the community.



Congrats! Syriaana
Cafe & Gallery and A La
Mode Boutique!



Syriana Cafe & Gallery
8180 Main Street, Ellicott City



A La Mode Boutique
8334 Main Street, Ellicott City





2018 Howard County Library System's Battle of the Books

I would like to congratulate the winners and participants of this year's Battle of the Books. I was honored to give remarks on behalf of the County Council as well as participate as a head judge at the event hosted at a local School... where both my boys graduated. Over one-third of all 5th graders in Howard County, from all schools, participate in this great event. After reading 12 books, teams representing their elementary schools ask questions to demonstrate their knowledge. I am always impressed and inspired by the students' excitement and the depth of their knowledge on the books. I look forward to next year's Battle of the Books. The partnership between the County Library and School systems is an excellent example of the community's focus on education again!

Girl Scout Public Policy Badge Day at Howard County Government Center

Last week I was thrilled to host a great group of Girl Scout Ambassadors. Our day started in the Banneker Room to discuss my Council responsibilities. The Scouts followed up with an impressive set of questions leading to a great discussion about issues and ideas for the County. After a guided tour of the council offices we ended our visit with a meeting with County Executive Kittleman. For over 30 years I have been involved in youth leadership organizations and events, promoting the development of young people's leadership skills.



This group of young leaders is extremely impressive and gives me hope for the next generation's readiness to lead our community.

Deadline to apply is Friday, May 18



County Seeks Members for the Board of Health

Comprised of 11 members, the Board must include: one environmental health professional, three health professionals, one which may be a veterinarian; and seven members from the general public. Those representing the general public must meet the following qualifications provided that not more than three members shall be:

- at least two may not have professional or administrative training in health occupations;
- at least two may have had professional or administrative training in health occupations, but have not worked as such in the past five years;
- at least one shall have professional experience in mental health.

- at least one shall have professional experience in substance use disorders.

Board members serve five-year terms and are responsible for the health and sanitary interests of the County.

To be eligible for consideration, candidates must be Howard County residents, 18 years of age or older, and be able to attend the Board's meetings. With the exception of December, July and August, meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the administrative offices of the Howard County Health Department located at 8930 Stanford Boulevard in Columbia.

Applicants should send a resume and a brief letter explaining why they want to serve on the County Board of Health to the County Government, Office of the County Executive, Attn: David Lee, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043. Only eligible applicants will be submitted to the County Executive for approval and the nominee will be submitted to the Board of Health for confirmation. The deadline to apply is Friday, May 18.

For more information about the Board of Health, visit www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Health or contact the Howard County Health Department at 410-313-6300.

Deadline to apply is Thursday, May 31

County seeks student member for Howard County's Commission on the Status of the Child

ELLICOTT CITY, MD - Howard County Executive Allan H. Kittleman is seeking a student applicant on the Commission for Women. The Commission is comprised of twelve members, including one student, to promote the economic, social and political equality of women in Howard County. The student commission member term from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

To be eligible for consideration, candidates must be a rising 11th or 12th grade student in a public school, have an interest in women's equality and be able to attend the Commission's meetings. The meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Gateway Building, 6751 Columbia Gateway.

Applicants should send a resume and a brief letter explaining why they want to serve on the Commission to the County Government, Office of the County Executive, Attn: David Lee, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043. All eligible applicants will be submitted to the County Executive for approval and the nominee will be submitted to the Board of County Council for confirmation. The deadline to apply is Thursday, May 31.

Established in 1980, the Commission for Women publicizes services and activities of interest to women, promotes the image of women and recognizes their accomplishments, encourages the expansion of educational and employment opportunities for women, and sponsors workshops and seminars on issues specific to women.

For more information about the Commission for Women, contact the Department of Community Relations at 410-313-6400 (voice/relay) or visit the Commission online at www.howardcountymd.gov/CFW.

ELLICOTT CITY, MD - Howard County Executive Allan H. Kittleman is seeking one health professions professional and one substance use disorders professional interested in serving on the County's Board of Health.

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



Looking for
Something To Do...

Reminders



April 28 from 1-3 pm
the Miller Branch Library

Howard EcoWorks
and the Neighborhood Design Center
are hosting an "Ellicott City Soak It Up" Homeowner
Workshop on . Priority placement is for those that live in
Ellicott City's Tiber Hudson Watershed.

Howard C

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Clarksville

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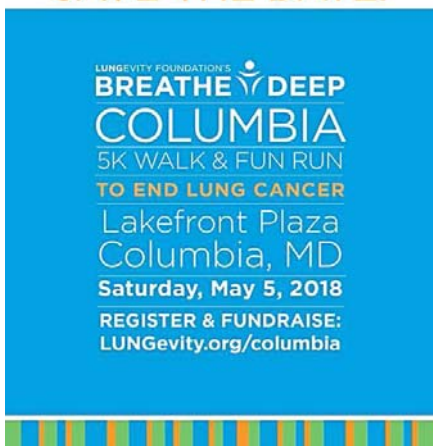
May 5th - Saturday, 8:30am

Breath Deep Columbia

Columbia Town Center, Lake Front Plaza



SAVE THE DATE!



Location and Course

Columbia Town Center Lakefront Plaza
Town Center, Columbia, MD (map)

- Venue is easily accessible from 195 and Route 29. Parking is in parking garages around Wincopin Circle, in Starrett Place parking lot, and in Rouse Building.
- Course is pet-, wheelchair-, and stroller-friendly

Schedule of Activities

- 8:30 am: Check-in/Registration
- 9:30 am: Program featuring inspiring survivor stories
- 10:00 am: Walk/Fun Run - perfect for runners and walkers of all abilities, plus strollers & wheelchairs!
- All morning: DJ playing fun music * family activities * pre-walk warm-up by Columbia Association Fitness Team * refreshments

click [here](#) to register or donate

May 5th thru 6th - Saturday & Sunday, 10am - 6pm Teddy Bear Farm Visit

Clark's Elioak Farm

10500 Clarksville Pike (State Route 108), Ellicott City,



Bring your bears!

Free hayrides for all children who bring a teddy bear
Teddy bear contest at 1 PM and 3 PM Sat and Sun

Folk singing with Tony McGuffin from Noon to 4 PM both days. Also, take your bears to enjoy the hands-on experience of GEM MINING. Gem mining and geode cracking.

click [here](#) for more information

May 5 - Saturday, 1pm

In Her Shoes

HopeWorks

9770 Patuxent Woods Drive, Ste 300, Clumbia

"A few years ago I participated in the "In Her Shoes" program. The experience is hard to describe because of the many emotions I had throughout the program. Though the one word that sums it up is ... "powerful". HopeWorks is an amazing organization and provides a critical resource to people in our community. I encourage you to participate in the program or learn more about HopeWorks, their mission, and how you might be able to help."

Jon

An interactive, educational exercise used in a workshop setting to help us connect to the day-to-day reality for someone experiencing violence, deepen our empathy and take action.

click [here](#) to register online



May 6th - Sunday, 1pm
Voices for Children
Family Fun Fest
Burleigh Manor Animal Sanctuary
3950 White Rose Way, Ellicott City

Family Fun Fest

click [here](#) to register



May 11th thru May 12th - Friday thru Saturday, 8am - 6pm
Whipps Annual Plant Sale

First Evangelical Lutheran Church
3604 N Chatham Rd, Ellicott City,

The plant sale will feature many native perennial flowers, including many butterfly, shade-loving, deer-resistant, day lilies, and rain garden plants. Many of the plants, including natives are donated from the gardens of Master Gardeners. The sale is a favorite of Ellicott City gardeners because it features many unusual and hard-to-find varieties.

Free compost bins will be available on Saturday morning.

For more Information, Call 410-274-7795, text or email agravelle@verizon.net www.whippsgardencemetery.org



Sponsors:



May 11th thru May 13th - Friday thru Sunday, 8am
Preakness Balloon Festival

Howard County Fairgrounds,
2210 Fairgrounds Rd, West Friendship



WCBM and WQLL
present the
Annual Preakness Balloon Festival

Over 15 hot air balloons, tethered balloon rides, a large kid zone, a beer and wine garden, Maryland's finest vendors, the Baltimore area's best food, a balloon glow after dusk, live music on the main stage by Pressing Strings, Higher Education, Spencer Joyce, Rhett Repko, Shiftwork and many more!

click [here](#) to see event schedule



May 13th
Wishing all Mother's



Click [here](#) - Mother's Day Events on Eventbrite
Click [here](#) - Mother's Day Weekend in Howard County

May 13th, Sunday, 8am
8th Annual Hills of Milltown 5K Challenge

Lot F off Ellicott Mills Drive & Main Street, Historic Ellicott City

Presented by Blossoms of Hope, championing hope with a passion to improve the lives of those with cancer and other causes and the Ellicott City Partnership (ECP) in support of benefit beautification projects in the historic district of Ellicott City.

Runners can register online at www.ACTIVE.com

Runners may also register on Race Day starting at 7 a.m. at the start located behind the Log Cabin at the corner of Ellicott Mills Drive and Main Street in Parking Lot F.

Race start at 8:00 am SHARP!

May 19th thru May 20th - Saturday & Sunday, 11am - 6pm
Wine in the Woods

Symphony Woods
5950 Symphony Woods Rd , Columbia

26th Year

Celebrate the charm and character of an event that has aged to perfection!



Wine in the V
festival in Mary
in Howard
Maryland's fine
purchase fo
quality, distin
sharpen your pa
seminars; purch
specialty craft

As wine is being
audience for t
This is not int

click [here](#) to purchase tickets

May 22nd - Tuesday, 11:00am - 10:00pm
B & O Ellicott City Station Museum Restaurant Fundraiser

with Tino's Italian Bistro & Wine Bar - Foundation Night

8775 Centre Park Drive, Columbia



Our very generous Friends at Tino's are hosting a daylong event where 10% of all pro delivery and dine-in will be donated to the Baltimore & Ohio Ellicott City Station Museum exhibits!

If you are planing to dine at Tino's that day, **PLEASE** call **410.730.8466** to make you



FUND-RAISER

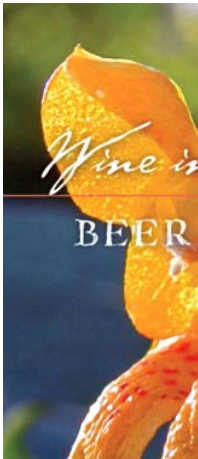
May 24th - Thursday, 8am
Wine in the Garden
Beer in the Barn
Howard County Conservancy
Centennial Lake, Ellicott City
10520 Old Frederick Road, Woodstock

Stroll through the garden tasting fine wine and craft beer and sample delicious food from local restaurants and caterers.

Take in our three-acre native plant garden while listening to live bluegrass music and perusing our large silent auction and raffle items featuring artwork, giveaways, dining and more!

All proceeds benefit the environmental and preservation programs of the Howard County Conservancy.

click [here](#) to purchase tickets



May 28th - Monday
Wising Everyone a Safe
and Happy Memorial Day !!!

[Click here](#) to learn more about the Howard County Commission for Veterans and see how they're helping our service members, veterans, and their families.



HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!

Howard County Council District 1 | jweinstein@howardcountymd.gov | <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Districts/District-1>
(410) 313-2001 x3110

Stay Connected



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Howard County Council District 1, George Howard Building,
3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043

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Sent by jweinstein@howardcountymd.gov in collaboration with



Try it free today

Danielle Lueking

From: Superintendent
Sent: Thursday, April 12, 2018 1:16 PM
To: Niki McGuigan
Cc: Anissa Brown Dennis
Subject: RE: Can we meet?

Good afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Office of the Superintendent. By copy of this email Dr. Martirano is asking Ms. Anissa Brown Dennis, Chief Operating Officer to contact you regarding this matter.

Kind regards,

Kathy

Kathy Agans
Executive Assistant
Office of the Superintendent
Howard County Public School System
Office #: 410.313.6677
Fax #: 410.313.6833

From: Niki McGuigan [mailto:mcniki1@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 29, 2018 4:31 PM
To: Superintendent <superintendent@hcpss.org>
Subject: Can we meet?

Dear Dr. Martirano,

With the announcement of Mr. Kittleman's task force for HS14, I would like to propose occasional, brief meetings with you and a few representatives from Elkridge schools. I got the idea from an Elkridge resident that told us she and two other representatives from Elkridge used to go to Dr. Sydney Cousin's office on a monthly (and sometimes quarterly) basis to meet for 30 minutes. Elkridge has felt left out of the picture for a long time now. We are just starting to feel like we have a place in the county again. We understand that the high school 13 vote is a done deal. It doesn't change the fact that our kids are most impacted by the overcrowding and will be shuffled around for many years until we get our own high school.

I am on the board of the PTA at both Elkridge Elementary School and Elkridge Landing Middle School, a Greater Elkridge Community Association (GECA) member and one of the creators of the "Build Elkridge a High School" facebook page. I look forward to discussing this idea further with you. We think that YOU are an important part of the Elkridge discussion for high school 14.

Thank you,
Niki McGuigan

Danielle Lueking

From: Michael Martirano
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 6:32 AM
To: Cynthia Vaillancourt
Cc: Karalee Turner-Little; BoE Email; Kathleen V. Hanks; Anissa Brown Dennis
Subject: Re: Troy Hill Site Plan

Anissa,

Please send the schematic to the Board again via email attachment

MJM

DR. MICHAEL J. MARTIRANO
Interim Superintendent
Howard County Public School System

"It's easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."
Frederick Douglass

“Be kind ALWAYS! Everyone is fighting a hard battle.”

On Jan 30, 2018, at 1:22 AM, Cynthia Vaillancourt <Cynthia_Vaillancourt@hcpss.org> wrote:

fyi. cindy v

From: Becki Vivrette <rvivrette@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2018 5:20 PM
To: Cynthia Vaillancourt
Subject: Re: Troy Hill Site Plan

Hi Cindy, still no schematic for Troy Hill? Hoping to get more information tomorrow during the afternoon meeting. Many of us plan to attend.

Things are stirring up in the community, so I am hoping we have answers soon.

Thanks,

Becki Vivrette

On Fri, Jan 26, 2018 at 8:16 AM, Becki Vivrette <rvivrette@gmail.com> wrote:

Ok thanks. Kim from Dr. Ball's office said last night at GECA that Parks and Rec didn't know about the Tuesday meeting. They do now and hope they will attend. She said "now you have a deadline", not that they can meet it, but hopefully they understand how divisive this has been for our community. We want to be careful and make the right choice, but expeditiously! We really need to make Troy Hill work for HS13.

Thanks for your continued partnership.

Becki

On Jan 26, 2018, at 7:55 AM, Cynthia Vaillancourt <Cynthia_Vaillancourt@hcpss.org> wrote:

Hi Becki,

I have been out of the loop all week. I have sent a new email to our facilities person asking if he has seen the sketch or of all we have is the letter about their evaluation that the school could go on the site without disturbing their other plans. I will let you know what I find out. I suspect that the rec and parks people just did a very preliminary sketch, and are probably working on something that would be in a form suitable for sharing. I will let you know as soon as i hear back from anyone.

Cindy V

From: Becki Vivrette <rvivrette@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, January 26, 2018 7:45 AM

To: Cynthia Vaillancourt

Subject: Re: Troy Hill Site Plan

Hi Cindy,

I tried emailing Alan and Parks and Rec but no response yet. I am hoping we will have info on a site schematic next week for the two meetings, otherwise we are operating on speculation rather than facts, which is unproductive. Hope we get the info soon.

Becki Vivrette

On Jan 22, 2018, at 5:53 PM, Cynthia Vaillancourt

<Cynthia_Vaillancourt@hcpss.org> wrote:

I think asking Kittleman's office would be the fastest. If Martirano had the sketch he would have forwarded it to BOE. I don't think it is anything all that exciting--- just a sketch. nothing official or even probably particularly detailed. They just took their plans and saw that they have an unused portion large enough for our school, i think.

In any event, i will disseminate as soon as i see it.
cindy v

From: Becki Vivrette <rvivrette@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 4:25 PM

To: Cynthia Vaillancourt

Subject: Re: Troy Hill Site Plan

Ok. I appreciate you doing that. Please let me know if you think of it, or if you disseminate widely, I'll get it that way. It's hard to contain the fear mongering, but most of us in Elkridge support Troy Hill.

Who would you recommend I contact? Kittleman, Martirano? Or do you have a Parks and Rec contact?

Thank you,
Becki

On Jan 22, 2018, at 4:16 PM, Cynthia Vaillancourt
<Cynthia.Vaillancourt@hcpss.org> wrote:

Hi,

I did say it- I have not seen it. We were copied on a letter from rec and parks to the county gov that said they had sketched it out and it looks like a school could be put there without altering any of their existing plans for fields or the community center. I know Drew MPIAd it right from the meeting. Since I have no idea whether HCPSS has received a copy of the sketch or just the letter, I don't know if we will be able to send anything. But maybe you could ask county government. This is moving along pretty quickly, at least for preliminary reviews. There may be new info before you can even request it from county gov. I am trying to get a copy too, and if i do, it will be put out asap.

Cindy V

From: Becki Vivrette <rvivrette@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, January 22, 2018 2:47 PM

To: Cynthia Vaillancourt

Subject: Troy Hill Site Plan

Dear Cindy,

I am aware that you stated on Saturday at the BOE coffee event that a preliminary plan from Parks & Rec on Troy Hill for HS13 has been drafted, and it indicated that it may be possible to reduce or eliminate negative effects to existing recreational space plans. I also understand that a PIA request was submitted to obtain copies of these documents.

I am reaching out to you directly to see if you would be willing to share any information or plans that have been circulated for Troy Hill for HS13. There are certain members of the community who are erroneously stating that a HS13 at Troy irrefutably means loss of park land. In addition to the fact that many of us do not see Troy Hill as a "park", but a recreational sports complex with an abundance of turf fields, this statement is factually incorrect. Our group has submitted alternate proposals to include industrial park buildings as part of the HS acquisition, but I do not know if this is being considered. There are also claims that the plans would involve eminent domain to remove the family owning the 2 private parcels from their home, which I am sure is untrue, but do not have facts to back it up.

I would like to do my part to derail another hysterical social media campaign and provide accurate, factual information on what we know.

I hope you will consider sharing the information you have. If not, we will wait for our PIA and try to reduce the spread of false information as best we can.

Thank you,
Becki Vivrette

Danielle Lueking

From: Nancy Burdett <nlburdett@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 28, 2017 5:14 PM
To: Kirsten Coombs; Superintendent; BoE Email; Mavis Ellis; Sandra French; Ananta Hejeebu; Bess Altwerger; Cynthia_valliancourt@hcpss.org; Christina Delmont-Small
Subject: [BoE Email] - Rockburn Park Proposed High School Site

I am writing to each of you to voice my opposition to the proposed high school site at Rockburn Park. As a resident, county business owner and tax payer, of Elkridge I am extremely opposed to this location for many reasons such as inadequate roadway infrastructures, destruction of park lands, negative impacts on the environment and wastefully spending of taxpayer monies. This proposal was brought to the BOE, by GECA, a minutely small subsection of Elkridge. The vote to bring this proposal was by 13 people (9 in favor and 4 opposed). The last time I checked, the population of Elkridge far exceeds 13 people. The fact that a site tour was conducted and arranged by an elected BOE official without the knowledge of the ALL residents and taxpayers is shocking.

The current roadways are not adequate to handle the increased traffic a high school would bring to the immediate area. I live on Timberview Drive which is located off of Montgomery Road. At various times of day and night, it is nearly impossible to get out of our neighborhood especially if trying to turn left. Those in favor of a high school there keep telling me we will get a traffic light. I'm not sure how that would help my neighborhood because the road would have to be significantly reconfigured because Timberview Drive, Landing Road and Montgomery Roads do not line up. I have heard two homes will be built on the corner of Landing and Montgomery Roads in the near future, so I'm again perplexed by how a traffic light would be installed. In addition, there are several homes and one business that sit within close proximity to Montgomery Road, making it difficult for the roadway to be widened unless everyone is okay with Eminent Domain? I hope that each of you is familiar with Montgomery Road and have noticed all of the utility poles that provide electricity, television/cable and telephone services to the local residents. Moving these utility lines, widening roads, reconfiguring intersections, possibly paying Eminent Domain monies already sound like staggering costs without clearing, grading and constructing a school. Landing Road is a scenic road with twisty roads that many drivers speed along. This road cannot be widened. We have had several deaths due to speeding on this road, most recently a high school student.

Is the water main line that is being replaced along Montgomery Road adequate to handle a new high school or will that have to be replaced again in the near future? This rather lengthy process has been causing havoc on traffic during the day and creating dangerous driving conditions while trying to get in and out of neighborhoods for months; construction of a high school will only continue this traffic nightmare. While we are discussing the traffic problems associated with construction, let's talk about the dump trucks that drive 45+ miles an hour through Rockburn Elementary and Elkridge Elementary School zones. How long will it take to bulldoze a forest, clear it, regrade the terrain, build the school?

In regard to the park land itself, the park does have wetlands. You can see the creek running along Montgomery Road, you can see the cattails that grow around Koffel Court. From my understanding, when the most recent bridge was built in Rockburn Park it was very costly. How much will it cost to build bridges and create barriers around the wetlands at Rockburn Park? I remember not too long ago the horrific flooding that killed two people, washed away homes, businesses and cars in Old Ellicott City. The flooding was a result of overbuilding and disturbing the natural terrain around Old Ellicott City? How much did that cost the county or the state? How many people lost their livelihood? My neighborhood has issues with underground springs as do many other neighborhoods in the surrounding area. I find it difficult to believe that disrupting the wetlands in Rockburn Park will not impact these underground springs.

The park is used by many people for hiking, bike riding, mountain biking, horseback riding, animal and bird watching, etc. The athletic fields are in high demand throughout the sports seasons. Many of our youth and lifelong residents of Elkridge grew up at the park and still use the park on a daily basis. Green space is in short supply today, if we take 1 tree or 90 acres, we will have even less green space. We all need trees to breath.

I beg each and everyone of you to come door to door and speak to the residents that live within close proximity to this proposed site. We are the ones that will be most significantly impacted by this high school. We should have our voices heard. We pay your salaries and we vote to keep you or replace you. Please vote no for this site.

Nancy L Burdett


Danielle Lueking

From: Cynthia Vaillancourt
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2017 1:55 PM
To: Eric Heinlein; Kirsten Coombs; Mavis Ellis; Bess Altwerger; Christina Delmont-Small; Sandra French; Ananta Hejeebu; BoE Email; Michael Martirano; cball@howardcountymd.gov; akittleman@howardcountymd.gov; Jon Weinstein; jterrasa@howardcountymd.gov; gfox@howardcountymd.gov; mksigaty@howardcountymd.gov; Superintendent; mark.belton@maryland.gov; robert.mccord@maryland.gov
Subject: Re: [BoE Email] - Elkridge/Ellicott City/Ilchester

that should be "part of the community ARE feeling stress"... in my ongoing fight with this software I hit sent when i was trying to scroll up to proofread.

From: Cynthia Vaillancourt
Sent: Friday, December 22, 2017 1:51 PM
To: Eric Heinlein; Kirsten Coombs; Mavis Ellis; Bess Altwerger; Christina Delmont-Small; Sandra French; Ananta Hejeebu; BoE Email; Michael Martirano; cball@howardcountymd.gov; akittleman@howardcountymd.gov; Jon Weinstein; jterrasa@howardcountymd.gov; gfox@howardcountymd.gov; mksigaty@howardcountymd.gov; Superintendent; mark.belton@maryland.gov; robert.mccord@maryland.gov
Subject: Re: [BoE Email] - Elkridge/Ellicott City/Ilchester

Thank you Mr. Heinlein (Eric),

We are all very interested in all the information you want to share. All we want to do is what is best for the whole community, no matter how they identify themselves or their addresses. All county parks are an asset to all county residents. Speaking only for myself, I am not giving special consideration to specific groups or residents. Every concern and issue raised is valid to the people raising them, and we are taking all of them seriously. I don't know how this will all eventually work out, but I can assure you that all points of view will be considered. I am especially grateful to those, like you, who have given us specific feedback on your concerns. Some of them we might be able to mitigate, others we can try to make more palatable, and some would be a hard loss for all of us to accept.

I am very sorry parts of the community is feeling so much stress and anxiety over our efforts to evaluate this parcel for a potential school site. Previous administrations would not have shared the information that we were taking a look at this possibility before it was "a done deal". In this case, we are trying to be truly transparent in our activities, which has led to this community discussion. It may turn out that it won't be feasible, or ultimately desirable - all things considered. I would love to hear from thoughtful community members like you about whether this process- if it is ultimately decided not to move forward with this site - whether the stress, anxiety, and in some cases somewhat ugly behavior, was an acceptable price for letting the community know about this investigation before it was determined we should move forward.

Thank you for your passionate advocacy for the community. We are all members of this community too, and really appreciate the efforts of folks with so much passion and expertise.

Happy Holidays!

Cindy Vaillancourt

From: Eric Heinlein <ericheinlein3@yahoo.com>

Sent: Friday, December 22, 2017 6:47 AM

To: Cynthia Vaillancourt; Kirsten Coombs; Mavis Ellis; Bess Altwerger; Christina Delmont-Small; Sandra French; Ananta Hejeebu; BoE Email; Michael Martirano; cball@howardcountymd.gov; akittleman@howardcountymd.gov; Jon Weinstein; jterrasa@howardcountymd.gov; gfox@howardcountymd.gov; mksigaty@howardcountymd.gov; Superintendent; mark.belton@maryland.gov; robert.mccord@maryland.gov

Subject: [BoE Email] - Elkridge/Ellicott City/Ilchester

I have seen interactions and postings on facebook which have caused me some concern. A facebook page exists, "Greater Elkridge," that would appear to be a community page for the Elkridge population as a whole, and is named as such. It is NOT representative of Elkridge; it is administered by one man who has the ability to choose or ban its members. There is an actual GECA page, but for reasons with which I am not familiar, it is not active as of now. I have seen postings on the Greater Elkridge page from elected officials that cause me to believe that perhaps they believe this page and the individual who runs it represent the region of Elkridge. Again, this is not the case.

Likewise, Rockburn Park has been billed in several places as "Elkridge's Park." It is not. It is a county park serving all county citizens. It has also had funds from the state of Maryland used in its creation and development. In actuality, it is located in the US census designated neighborhood of Ilchester, not Elkridge. Ilchester, if you are unfamiliar, is a US census designated community with a very long history. In 1982, its postal designation was dropped and divided between Ellicott City and Elkridge, as the actual post office was deemed too small to be functional. It has been restored as a historical structure and still exists on Bonnie Branch Road. When the postal designation was dropped, Ilchester residents, including the park, obtained a zip code for one or the other. Many, however, still choose to use the name "Ilchester" as their address. You can easily find the boundaries of these communities with a quick Google search.

I thought this information was important for elected officials to know.

Sincerely,
Eric Heinlein

Sent from Yahoo Mail. [Get the app](#)

Danielle Lueking

From: Benjamin Cooperman <coopermanmd@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 6:28 PM
To: Cynthia Vaillancourt
Subject: Re: New High School

12-19-17

Chairwoman Vaillancourt,

Thank you for taking time to respond to my email below. As a Howard County Citizen for almost 20 years and a lifelong Maryland Resident I am trying to understand the process for building a new high school and had additional questions:

1. In a May 8, 2016, at a BOE meeting, you voted "yea" on a motion to move for preliminary approval at the Mission Road Site. On a BOE memo dated July 17, 2017, this year many reasons were listed stating why the county should not use Rockburn Park. Please explain your change in position that you now support using Rockburn Park to build a high school.
2. I am a homeowner whose property is adjacent to Rockburn Park. I intentionally purchased my home, so I could use the park. Traffic over the years has increased significantly. Placing a new high school in the park would cripple local traffic. Under the BOE policy, Section 6000 (Site Selection and Acquisition) under section I. the Policy Statement states the BOE should

"... recognize the impact on the surrounding neighborhood."

A new high school would have a significant negative (daily) impact on the surrounding neighborhood. Please explain how you can support placing a new high school in Rockburn Park when there would be such a negative impact on traffic? There does not seem to any reasonable answer. A traffic light would not solve the problem and would only add to the traffic misery.

3. There is excessive noise from Rockburn Park that affects the surrounding communities. Complaints have been filed with both the park and police. Placing a new high school in Rockburn Park would further exacerbate the noise problem. Under the BOE policy 6000 as stated above the BOE is obligated to recognize the impact this will have on the surrounding neighborhood. How will this issue be addressed? There does not seem to be any reasonable answer.
4. On March 16, 2011, there was a public meeting before the Recreation and Parks Committee. The issue was should a 1-acre area of Rockburn Park be converted to a bike skills course.
 - a. Liability issues. Placing a high school in Rockburn park would involve additional liability (since in is in a park) compared to a site that is not in a park. What is the increased cost to the county on a yearly basis for this liability?
 - b. The park at that time (2011) had insufficient parking. Concern was the bike skills course would add to the parking problem. Mr. Byrd the current park director (and park director at that time) acknowledged there were parking issues. He stated the park service would closely monitor the parking problem. It is now 6 years later. Placing a high school with 1600 students on 50 acres in the park would make parking for other citizens at the park almost impossible (every day). How is the BOE addressing this concern?
 - c. Please provide the environmental impact this would have on Rockburn Park. Please release all environmental studies to the public including maps showing what specific area would be affected. Based on conversation with the state there would be a negative impact on Patapsco State park by removing 50 acres in Rockburn.
5. A BOE memo dated July 17, 2017, titled Update on Environmental Studies stated the following:
 - a. "There has been a discussion for years over developing Rockburn Park location for a new high school. Factual data does not support Landing Road – Rockburn Park site and includes:
 1. A portion of the school site shown is located on a parcel of property that was purchased with State Program Open Space funding. There would have to be a land conversion done through the State to allow any school construction on this property."
 - a. Why would we use property designated under the State Program Open Space Funding? That seems to defeat the purpose of "Open Space". Please address this issue.

2. "The footprint is located over an existing stream and wetland area." Please explain why you would support building a high school over an existing stream and wetland area.
 3. "The footprint is located over an existing registered historic site with stone ruins." Please explain why you would support building over a registered historic site.
 4. "The foot print is located over existing trails." Many of those living next to Rockburn Park intentionally purchased our homes next to the park so we could walk into and use the park. We use these trails. Please explain you position as to why it is ok to remove these trails we paid extra to live near and use.
 5. "The proposed road access crosses over a stream". Why would you place a high school that would affect a stream?
 - b. As stated above the discussion has gone on for years. County tax payer money has already been spent to determine the above reasons why Rockburn Park should not be used. In the July 17, memo:
 1. The memo stated: "In general, a large portion of Howard County citizens are opposed to impacting Rockburn Park in any fashion". Why would you support a high school that a large portion of Howard County citizens oppose? How much tax payer money has been used since July 2017, to study Rockburn Park? The appearance is tax payer money is being wasted when the school system has a deficit. Is this good stewardship of Howard County Citizen tax payer money by the BOE?
6. Mr. Andrew Michaels a reporter for the Howard County Times on October 12, 2017, wrote: "Bruce Gist, the executive director of capital planning, says the school system is following a "tight and aggressive schedule" to decide between two possible locations by December." The two sites were the Mission Road site and Rockburn Park.
- a. Mr. Kittleman signed a MOU for the Mission Road Site in May 2016. My understanding after reading BOE documents that agreement was due to expire January 2017. Was the agreement renewed? Did it expire? What is the status of that agreement? I have directed this question to both the County Executive office and County Council. Both have referred the question to you (BOE). There is no reason this information should not be made public. How much tax payer money has been spent on the Mission Road site? Articles have stated the county spent around 23 million dollars for the Mission Road site. What is the basis for that number?
 - b. Mr. Gist was quoted as saying there was a "tight and aggressive schedule" to determine the new high school site by the end of the year. A public meeting was scheduled on this matter December 7. It was abruptly cancelled. No public statement was made explaining the abrupt cancellation. My inquiries to both the County Executive Office and County Council have been referred to you.
 1. Why was the meeting cancelled? All information should be released to the public. Is there any code or regulation that prohibits the release of that information?
 2. What does this mean as far as building a new high school on fast track by 2022. The "tight and aggressive schedule" has been delayed. Does this mean the earliest we could build a new high school is now 2023 instead of 2022? If so shouldn't the BOE put out a statement?
7. In your response you mentioned as possible reasons for not using the Mission Road site:
- a. It is also across the street from an active quarry which does blasting twice a week - which is a concern among many folks who are actively following this process.
 1. There are many homeowners who purchased or rented homes across from this "active" quarry for years. That has not deterred people from "living" next to the quarry. If Howard County Citizens can live next to a quarry that does blasting only "twice a week" how can that be a reason against a high school? Please clarify your position on this matter.
 2. You stated "it (Mission Road) will make a wonderful site for a high school in an area where there is – and will continue to be – great need." Why are we not moving forward with the Mission Road site as according to Mr. Gist the county is under a tight and aggressive schedule?
 3. You stated your position is the 13th high school needs to be in the Elkridge area where is can give "permanent" relief. When it comes to neighborhood census there is no such thing as permanent. People are constantly moving, and neighborhood age populations are in constant flux. Mission road is "in the Elkridge area". According to "maps.google.com" the travel time between Elkridge Motors and the Quarry at Mission road is only about 12 minutes! From my house to Howard High School is about 12-13 minutes. From Howard High School to the Stone Quarry is about 12-13 minutes. There is no significant difference in times. Many students across the country have bus commute times much longer. My commute in Montgomery Country where I grew up was longer. For students living near Mission Road the commute would be longer to Rockburn. Why are you stating putting the high school in Elkridge is more important than

on Mission Road in Jessup? Are the citizens in Elkridge more important than those who live in the Jessup area?

4. You stated the Rec and Park folks have developed plans to develop that portion of the park. Those plans did not include removing 50 acres of the park. Second many are opposed as noted on the July 2017, BOE memo to any development of the park. Parkland cannot be replaced once it is gone. Would anyone in New York support development in Central Park?

8. One proponent who has used social media to push for Rockburn Park is Drew Roth former GECA president. He has made many statements (including those in written testimony to the BOE) that are not supported by fact or have been distorted and are misleading. I have been told that you have met with this individual. In his BOE submitted written testimony from the 10-4-16 BOE meeting:

- a. His claim that there is no possible redistricting that will comply with Policy 6000 is without basis.
- b. He claims that it is not equitable for the high school students in Elkridge to not have a high school in their community. Jessup students do not have a high school in their community. How is that any different? There does not appear to be any clause in section 6000 that states a high school must be in each community. This claim has no basis.
- c. He claims GECA overwhelmingly supports building the high school in Elkridge. The last Facebook update to GECA seems to have been 2 years ago. Howard County Citizens have a right to express their opinions. However, any association testifying before the BOE should show how many members belong and how many are active members. My understanding based on a conversation with the county council is the actual vote by GECA only involved 17 people (and it is not clear they were actual citizens of Elkridge). The vote was reportedly not unanimous. That is an extremely small sample size.
- d. He suggests using replacement land for land taken at Rockburn Park. That does not work. Small pieces of open land do not provide the same environmental benefit as does a large contiguous area such as Rockburn Park. Using "replacement parkland" is a nonstarter. It does not address the fundamental issue that parkland cannot be replaced. In addition, more and more scientific studies (and articles in the newspaper and on network news that I watch with my kids) are showing the benefits of spending time in the environment such as park land.
- e. He claims, "there are not wetlands on the site". He did not provide or submit data to support that claim. I use that site weekly and in my opinion, there are wetlands.
- f. He even admits that enrollment in an Elkridge High School could decline in the future and it has happened at other high school in Columbia. Communities change over time. Demographics change over time.
- g. He claims building a high school at the Mission Road site would be an "injustice" to students of Elkridge.
 - i. Wouldn't that be an injustice to students in Jessup?
 - ii. We (Elkridge) should not be "second class citizens". Wouldn't that make the Jessup area "second class citizens"?
- h. Since you have reportedly met with this individual:
 - i. Please state what if any contact meetings have occurred with this individual.
 - ii. What conflicts of interest if any apply to your contact/relationship with Mr. Roth.
 - iii. What if any benefit would Mr. Roth obtain by a high school being built in Elkridge.

There appear to be a great deal of secrecy about this matter. All information about the Mission Road Site and Rockburn Park Site should be made public. Howard County is one of the wealthiest, diverse and educated counties in not only the USA but the world. There should be no reason to withhold any information about this matter. Withholding information only leads to suspicion that those in control are manipulating the process. Prior to any public hearing before the BOE there must be (1) release of all information to the public, (2) reasonable time for the public to review the information before the hearing. Release of information 2 days before a public meeting is not sufficient time. It should be at least 1 week.

Building a new high school is an expensive. The BOE has known about the need for a new high school for quite some time but there seems to be a rush by the BOE to build the school. There should no rush if proper and due diligence is followed. Rushing leads to mistakes and cost overruns. The BOE claimed it was under a tight and aggressive schedule and then abruptly canceled the December 7, meeting. The actions by the BOE are contradicting. It gives the BOE a bad appearance and gives the impression the BOE does not know what it is doing. Rushing the process will lead to unnecessary cost overruns at the tax payer expense. Neither the County Council or County Executive office can provide any information on what has transpired and have referred me to you for answers.

I appreciate your taking the time to answer the above questions and concerns.

Thank you.

Ben Cooperman
Howard County Citizen.

From: Cynthia Vaillancourt <Cynthia_Vaillancourt@hcpss.org>
To: Benjamin Cooperman <coopermanmd@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2017 10:45 AM
Subject: RE: New High School

Dear Mr. Cooperman,

The Mission Road site has not been "purchased" by the county; it is under Agreement right now. It is also across the street from an active quarry which does blasting twice a week - which is a concern among many folks who are actively following this process. It will make a wonderful site for a high school in a an area where there is - and will continue to be - great need. My position is that the 13th high school needs to be in the Elkridge area where it can give "permanent" relief and stability to what are currently the attendance areas for Howard, Mt Hebron, Centennial and Long Reach. The school system is continuing to actively pursue all possible sites in that region.

In the event the myriad considerations around using less than half of the undeveloped section of Rockburn Park lead to a decision to move forward - one of the considerations will be to provide other enhancements to the park to offset the loss of wooded area. I am not sure many people are aware of this, but the Rec and Parks folks have developed plans to develop that portion of the park. To date none of them have gotten past the initial stages. No one "wants" to "replace" park land for a school. We are all trying very hard to find a site for a community necessity - a high school - and this community owned site is one option.

Thank you for staying engaged in this process. In the end the community will speak, and the county government will listen. If you have any additional thoughts or information as the process goes on, please let us know.

Many thanks,
CIndy Vaillancourt

From: Benjamin Cooperman [coopermanmd@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2017 9:49 AM
To: Cynthia Vaillancourt
Subject: New High School

Re: Location for new high school

There seems to be two possible locations for the new high school. One off Mission road on property already studied and purchased by Howard County. The other is in Rockburn Park. Using park land should be avoided at all costs. How can it even be considered? What is your position? Thank you.

Ben Cooperman, Howard County Citizen

Danielle Lueking

From: Kathleen V. Hanks
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 1:06 PM
To: Allison Eatough; Cynthia Vaillancourt; Kirsten Coombs
Cc: BoE Email; Student Board Member; Bruce Gist; Renee Kamen
Subject: RE: [BoE Email] - New high school

Dear Ms. Eatough:

Thank you for contacting the Board of Education regarding the High School Sites. Your email will be saved as written testimony for the public hearing process on High School Sites. Please note that written testimony is part of the public record maintained by the Board Office and is uploaded online to BoardDocs as part of the public hearing.

The public hearing on Thursday, December 7, 2017, at 7:30 p.m. had been postponed as well as action on December 19, and will be rescheduled after the first of the year. The public can continue to submit written testimony at BOE@hcpss.org

Once again, thank you for your valuable input.

Kind regards,

Kathy Hanks
Administrator
Board of Education
Phone: 410-313-7194
Fax: 410-313-6633
Email: kathleen_hanks@hcpss.org

From: Allison Eatough [mailto:allisoneatough@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 10:08 AM
To: Cynthia Vaillancourt <Cynthia_Vaillancourt@hcpss.org>; Kirsten Coombs <Kirsten_Coombs@hcpss.org>
Cc: BoE Email <boe@hcpss.org>
Subject: [BoE Email] - New high school

Good morning, Ms. Vaillancourt and Ms. Coombs. I just wanted to reiterate my concerns about building a new Howard County high school in Rockburn Park. I disagree with the idea of taking away valuable, mature forest that's in a county park for a high school. These trees clean the air, provide oxygen, help prevent water pollution and soil erosion and provide a home for deer, rabbits, foxes, birds, snakes, etc. It sets a dangerous precedent for the future if we are to bulldoze acres of parkland trees and eliminate precious habitat and green space when other options exist. And yes, I believe other options exist, especially if leaders take some extra time to investigate instead of rushing a decision to satisfy families who do not want to be redistricted.

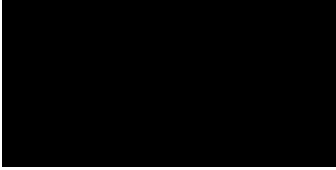
I'm also concerned that some members of the Greater Elkridge Community Association have led others to believe the majority of Elkridge is OK with using 20 to 60 acres of the county park for a school - and that a lot of the discussion about using publicly-owned parkland is occurring behind closed doors. As I'm sure you've

heard, there are plenty of people in Elkridge who do not want parkland eliminated. (I have also made these concerns known to county government leaders.)

Let's show that we can be a county that's pro environment AND pro schools.

Thanks for your attention to this matter. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have about my position.

Thanks,
Allison Eatough



Danielle Lueking

From: Kathleen V. Hanks
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 11:16 AM
To: Mike & Tina; cball@howardcountymd.gov; Kittleman, Allan; BoE Email; Bess Altwerger; Mavis Ellis; Sandra French; Ananta Hejeebu; Cynthia Vaillancourt; Kirsten Coombs; Superintendent
Cc: Student Board Member; Bruce Gist; Renee Kamen
Subject: RE: [BoE Email] - Testimony from Christine Barton, against building Elkridge High School in Rockburn Park
Attachments: Testimony Regarding Rockburn Park.pdf

Dear Ms. Barton:

Thank you for contacting the Board of Education regarding the High School Sites. Your email will be saved as written testimony for the public hearing process on High School Sites. Please note that written testimony is part of the public record maintained by the Board Office and is uploaded online to BoardDocs as part of the public hearing.

The public hearing on Thursday, December 7, 2017, at 7:30 p.m. had been postponed as well as action on December 19, and will be rescheduled after the first of the year. The public can continue to submit written testimony at BOE@hcpss.org

Once again, thank you for your valuable input.

Kind regards,

Kathy Hanks
Administrator
Board of Education
Phone: 410-313-7194
Fax: 410-313-6633
Email: kathleen_hanks@hcpss.org

From: Mike & Tina [mailto:miketinabo@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, December 17, 2017 10:27 AM
To: cball@howardcountymd.gov; Kittleman, Allan <akittleman@howardcountymd.gov>; BoE Email <boe@hcpss.org>; Bess Altwerger <Bess_Altwerger@hcpss.org>; Mavis Ellis <Mavis_Ellis@hcpss.org>; Sandra French <Sandra_French@hcpss.org>; Ananta Hejeebu <Ananta_Hejeebu@hcpss.org>; Cynthia Vaillancourt <Cynthia_Vaillancourt@hcpss.org>; Kirsten Coombs <Kirsten_Coombs@hcpss.org>; Superintendent <superintendent@hcpss.org>
Subject: [BoE Email] - Testimony from Christine Barton, against building Elkridge High School in Rockburn Park

Please see attached document.

Sincerely,

Christine Barton

Testimony Against Using "The Landing Road Site" For a High School

By Christine Barton

November 2017

My opinion on building a school in Rockburn Branch Park is multi-faceted. While I recognize the need for a high school, I'm frustrated that parkland is being considered and I'm concerned about traffic, safety and visual impact on Landing Road. The county allowed the development in Elkridge to continue willy-nilly, and allowed large swaths of land to be developed into large homes, high-density housing, and a golf course, without conserving space for a high school which the residents predicted would be needed as far back as the 1990s. Rockburn Branch Park was designated as parkland long before all this development was in the works, as the area in question was purchased in 1979. Back in 1992, residents of Elkridge feared that by building Rockburn Elementary in the park, the county was setting a precedent that parkland is not protected. We now know for SURE almost 20 years later, that the "Old Guard" of Elkridge was right. How can we say for sure that the county won't take parkland again, 20 years hence?

I don't think any of the school board members or the county council is from Elkridge. Perhaps you don't remember what it was like when this was all going down. Try to walk in the shoes of long-time Elkridge residents who fought to prevent the elementary school from being built, and then were fed false promises that the school would become a community center, that the drainage pond would become a water feature for all to use, and that taking parkland for a school was "highly unlikely to ever happen again." Try to consider the Moms and Dads who have taken their children to play in the park for free, made use of the fields and playground, and took them for nature walks on the trails in the very area where you want to build a school. And then as the children grew, those same Moms and Dads cheered on their kids as part of the Elkridge Youth Organization, the Elkridge Hurricanes and the Elkridge Lightening. Is it any wonder that many people are attached to the park and want to keep it intact?

I am aware that prominent Greater Elkridge Community Association (GECA) members have put forth a plan that "only" calls for the use of 16 acres of the 90+ acres of woodland in Rockburn Park that has trails popular with hikers, cross-country runners and mountain bikers. However, in this case, the high school would also usurp several of the fields in the main part of the park, and also a stadium is recommended in that area. The high school kids will need the fields after school. High school sports are deemed important - more important than rec sports because they generate interest if we should happen to have an athlete worth notice by newspapers and colleges, and even pro sports, not to mention donors to the school programs and probably to politicians as well. They will always get the priority. The park as we know it will be changed drastically.

We cannot afford this romantic notion that the park will not be destroyed and that "only" 16 acres of woodland will be removed. We have to assume the worst case. Our fields will be taken over, a stadium will be built either in the woodland on the 90+ acres, or in the woodland in the main area, more trees will be cleared for practice fields.

This is a huge change in the way the park is used, will remove large areas of forest, and will interrupt the recreational leagues for our children, which are so important to their health and happiness. Homes near the park will be impacted by added lights and noise from the stadium. And as abovementioned, what is to stop the county from picking more lots out of the 70+ acres left, down the road for the next county need? And of course, there is no guarantee that the GECA plan will be adopted, and the alternative of taking more of the woodland for the school and fields is even more reprehensible as we need wooded areas for recreation, storm water management and air quality.

Add to this the misleading idea championed by these prominent GECA members that the county will replace the parkland with other undeveloped land in Elkridge, adjacent to Patapsco State Park. How can we trust that this will come to pass when there is nothing in the deed to require this, and the land wasn't bought with Open Space money? And even if the county graciously agreed to purchase new parkland, how do we know it will be in Elkridge? The last time they purchased replacement parkland (for Rockburn Elementary) it was bought in Dayton, which is not useful for the Elkridge community.

Beyond this, I have many more concerns as a resident of the Landing Road area and want to make the county planners and board of education understand what they are up against in improving the road to make it suitable for a school in the vicinity. I'm concerned about safety, traffic, the environment, historical significance, and scenic road status. I believe it will be very expensive, for example, to improve the road for safety, and such improvements will be detrimental to the scenery and environment.

Landing Road is still considered a Scenic Road thanks to the proximity of Rockburn Branch Park and Patapsco Valley State Park. Bike-riders, joggers, and even horseback-riders take to the road to enjoy the quiet rural feel, and its connection to the parks. Mountain Bikers park cars on the meager shoulders of the road to gain access to the best mountain biking trails in the area, which extend across Landing Road into both parks. There is even a training course in Rockburn Park because the terrain is so perfect for mountain biking.

The rural feel of the Historic Landing Road community is not what it used to be, but there are still working horse farms which passersby enjoy viewing. I have lived in the area since 1994 and witnessed the conversion of hundreds of acres at Trinity School into the Grovemont neighborhood, and then the demise of Elkridge's beloved and historic Cider Mill as it became the Cider Mill development. Slowly but surely other smaller parcels of land have been chopped into lots less than ¼ acre, and yet Landing Road still holds its charm, though the traffic is getting heavier every day. The idea that parkland is sacred and cannot be developed has been the saving grace of this beautiful area. Now that idea is being challenged, again.

If arguments for historical significance and scenery are not strong enough, safety should be of utmost importance. Landing Road is deceptively dangerous, and the 30 MPH speed limit is often ignored. There are hills that are "foreshortened" by straight stretches, and blind curves and hidden valleys appear suddenly, particularly when traveling at a high rate of speed. Too many people have found this out to their detriment, and even to their death over the years. In October, 2004, Nicholas Paul Thayer, a Howard High junior, was killed in a 2-car collision on Landing Road, and a three-year-old, Natalie

Velasco, who was in the other vehicle, died an hour later. There were two other fatalities within 12 months of that tragic crash. More recently, in 2016, Yash Mitul Shah, 16, was killed when he lost control of an SUV on a curve of Landing Road, then crashed into trees and a utility pole. Also that year, I witnessed the aftermath of a major, but non-fatal accident in which a young father lost control of his car near the Grovemont development, destroying the fence along the development, and no doubt totaling his car. His wife and child were in the car.

Historic Landing Road, and the part of Montgomery Road that surround the site are not built for the kind of traffic that will come with a school. Landing Road is not even built to handle the amount of traffic it has today. The number of homes has bloomed 10 fold in the last 20 years, resulting in a proportionate increase in traffic. On top of that, the users of both parks make a significant impact on traffic too. Landing Road will need expensive improvements: shoulders, traffic calming, sidewalks or pathways to make it safe for drivers exiting the high school, and navigating around the aforementioned “obstacles” of cyclists, horse-back-riders, joggers, etc. And I’ve been told that “speed humps” cannot be built on a road like Landing because it is not a “neighborhood.” So much more expensive and intrusive methods will be necessary.

My recommendation is that, if there is any urgency, you move forward with building High School #13 on the Mission Road site, as it sounds like it is already in the pipeline. If you want to use Rockburn you will meet a lot of resistance from residents. We have a petition signed by over 2000 people so far. Even if you will not accept an on-line petition, we will present hard-copies if so desired. Surely the amount of opposition in your inbox already will give you pause. This will give you time to look for land in the Elkridge area for School #14.

If you can’t come up with one large swath of land, why not think outside the box? Where I grew up in Newport News Virginia, three large high-schools shared the same stadium, centrally located. Such solutions will greatly reduce the footprint of high schools and be better for the environment. Since the county has chosen to “urbanize” Elkridge, the county must now develop new guidelines for a suitable school site. We are no longer a small town. We have to start thinking like a city. Cities know that their parkland is precious. We need to protect it as fiercely. Sure, Manhattan could alleviate a lot of over-crowding by building schools in Central Park. They don't. Why? Because it is precious, and enjoyed by city residents and the world at large. We have a parkland that is enjoyed by us and by people all over the state. It is precious. It should not be harmed.

There are some other sites which have not been developed yet, and if developments are in the works, perhaps they can be stopped. There are also some industrial sites which could be repurposed, perhaps, though it is not my desire that anyone lose their livelihood here. Here are some ideas: (1) The land behind Bellows Spring Elementary (103-100 interchange); (2) The land near Brightfield and Old Montgomery; (3) Open land near Dorsey Run Rd; (4) Land off of Ilchester Road; (5) Land where Merle Way ends that stretches to Montgomery Service Center (6) Connect with businesses on Route 1 to see if they might be willing to sell. For example, the Flea Market, UPS Freight, ABF Freight, and/or the auto auction site off of Montevideo – these businesses are relatively easy to move as their parking lots are much bigger than their buildings. (7) Look for under-utilized business parks and see whether you can

consolidate those businesses and free up land. Negotiate negotiate negotiate. Build up your land bank again. Build a school on Mission Road first and by the time you look to build high school #14 you will perhaps have land to work with.

I ask you to take Rockburn Park off the table as a site for a high-school. You can do better with some work and some creativity.

Sincerely,

Christine Barton

Danielle Lueking

From: Cynthia Vaillancourt
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 9:38 AM
To: Ball, Calvin B; Bess Altwerger; Weinstein, Jon
Cc: Pruim, Kimberly; Smith, Gary
Subject: RE: Meeting Cancellation

If not [REDACTED] then her [REDACTED]. He is [REDACTED] and a former president of GECA.

From: Ball, Calvin B [cbball@howardcountymd.gov]
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 7:40 AM
To: Bess Altwerger; Weinstein, Jon
Cc: Cynthia Vaillancourt; Pruim, Kimberly; Smith, Gary
Subject: Re: Meeting Cancellation

Thanks Bess!

I'd like to recommend a young person, maybe someone from HHS and/or a PTA person from one of the middle schools that may feed into a new Elkridge high school.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Bess Altwerger <Bess_Altwerger@hcpss.org>
Date: 3/29/17 8:23 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Weinstein, Jon" <jweinstein@howardcountymd.gov>
Cc: "Ball, Calvin B" <cbball@howardcountymd.gov>, Cynthia Vaillancourt <Cynthia_Vaillancourt@hcpss.org>, "Pruim, Kimberly" <kpruim@howardcountymd.gov>, "Smith, Gary" <glsmith@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Re: Meeting Cancellation

I would like to suggest [REDACTED].
Bess

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 27, 2017, at 8:05 PM, Weinstein, Jon <jweinstein@howardcountymd.gov> wrote:

All,

Calvin and I discussed [REDACTED] as well. I think Joel would be a great addition if he's able and willing.

Jon

Jon Weinstein, Council Chair
Councilman - District 1
Ellicott City, Elkridge, Hanover, and Columbia
410.313.3110

Twitter: [@HC_JonWeinstein](#)

Facebook: [Jon Weinstein – Howard County](#)

From: Ball, Calvin B
Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2017 11:41 AM
To: Cynthia Vaillancourt <Cynthia_Vaillancourt@hcpss.org>; Weinstein, Jon <jweinstein@howardcountymd.gov>; Bess Altwerger <Bess_Altwerger@hcpss.org>
Cc: Pruim, Kimberly <kpruim@howardcountymd.gov>; Smith, Gary <gsmith@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting Cancelation

Great start! Maybe we could at least agree upon the group of invitees. Aim for a diverse group of nine?

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Cynthia Vaillancourt <Cynthia_Vaillancourt@hcpss.org>
Date: 3/26/17 11:35 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Ball, Calvin B" <cball@howardcountymd.gov>, "Weinstein, Jon" <jweinstein@howardcountymd.gov>, Bess Altwerger <Bess_Altwerger@hcpss.org>
Cc: "Pruim, Kimberly" <kpruim@howardcountymd.gov>, "Smith, Gary" <gsmith@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: RE: Meeting Cancelation

I think that is a great idea. I have a couple of suggestions for invitees. [REDACTED] of course. As an Elkridge resident, and former HCPSS employee--- maybe [REDACTED] would be interested. I realize both have drawbacks as well--- but don't we all :)

From: Ball, Calvin B [cball@howardcountymd.gov]
Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2017 9:15 AM
To: Weinstein, Jon; Cynthia Vaillancourt; Bess Altwerger
Cc: Pruim, Kimberly; Smith, Gary
Subject: RE: Meeting Cancelation

Can we try to move forward with our Elkridge school site group this week?

----- Original message -----

From: "Smith, Gary" <gsmith@howardcountymd.gov>
Date: 3/19/17 8:38 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "Weinstein, Jon" <jweinstein@howardcountymd.gov>, "Ball, Calvin B" <cball@howardcountymd.gov>, Cynthia Vaillancourt <Cynthia_Vaillancourt@hcpss.org>, Bess Altwerger <Bess_Altwerger@hcpss.org>
Subject: Meeting Cancellation

Hi all,

This email is to confirm cancellation of the meeting tomorrow morning in the Council office.
Have a great week!

Best Regards,

Gary Smith

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone