



TO: COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: SHERI FANAROFF
RE: 2019 PROPOSED LEGISLATION
DATE: JANUARY 17, 2019

This memo is being provided in response to the board's request for bi-weekly status reports on proposed legislation from January to April 2019 while the Maryland General Assembly is in session. (The session began last Wednesday, January 9th.) This and future memos will include information regarding bills of interest that have been filed with the General Assembly and if applicable, also provide information on Howard County Council bills.

MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY BILLS

Howard County Delegation Bills

I described in my January 4, 2019 memo to the board (which is attached) four bills and one bond request for Inner Arbor Trust that the Howard County Delegation has proposed to file in the General Assembly. The Delegation scheduled a work/vote session for January 16 to discuss their proposed bond initiatives, but they deferred discussion of the Inner Arbor bond request, which likely will be discussed at their next session on January 23. No work/vote sessions have yet been scheduled to discuss the proposed bills.

Ho. Co. 12-19 – Howard County – Public Ethics – Developer Contributions

This bill would apply to the owner of or holder of an interest in a property that is the subject of an application for a zoning map or zoning regulation amendment or who participates in the approval of a comprehensive zoning plan amendment that changes the classification or increases the density of the applicant's land. The bill would prohibit such an applicant from making a payment to an elected official during the pendency of the application. Likewise, the bill would prohibit a County Council member from voting on or participating in the proceeding on the application if [s]he received a payment from the applicant during the 36-month period preceding the filing of the application. This bill does not impact CA but certain CA board members expressed interest in the bill at the January 10, 2019 board work session.

HB 8 - Business Regulation - Amusement Attractions - Maryland Rider Safety Act

This bill sets forth certain regulations that would apply to individual riders of amusement attractions. CA's SplashDown falls within the definition of an amusement attraction, so if the bill passes, CA would be required to revise SplashDown signage to reflect the language of the new regulations. This bill has been scheduled for a hearing on January 22nd.

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL BILLS

Council Bill 4-2019

This bill would remove the Necessary Disturbance provision of County Code Section 16.116 - Protection of Wetlands, Streams, and Steep Slopes (which permits construction and maintenance in wetland areas if certain requirements are met). If this bill were to pass, it would inhibit CA's ability to construct and maintain its pathways. The bill is scheduled for public discussion on January 22nd.



TO: COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: SHERI FANAROFF
RE: PROPOSED LOCAL BILLS FOR 2019 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION
DATE: JANUARY 4, 2019

The Howard County Delegation to the Maryland General Assembly has posted a list of bond initiative requests and local bills proposed for filing during the 2019 legislative session in Annapolis. As stated in the posting, the "list of proposed legislation is subject to change as determined by the Delegation Chairs." In some cases the proposed legislation is still in bill drafting, and a copy is not yet available for review.

This memo is being provided pursuant to a request by the Board at its December 13, 2018 board meeting that I provide a report on local bills to the extent they may be of concern to CA.

BOND INITIATIVE REQUESTS

Ho.Co. 05-19 - Butterfly Building for Visual Arts Gallery and Guest Services – Design and Build – \$2,000,000

There is no written documentation at present in support of this bond request. It apparently would provide funding for the Inner Arbor Trust to proceed with plans for the design and construction of the Butterfly Building in Symphony Woods. This bill benefits CA in that it moves forward the development of the park.

PROPOSED BILLS

Ho.Co. 1-19 – Howard County Board of Education – Elected School Board

This bill would provide for five members of the Board of Education to be elected by the voters of their Councilmanic districts and two members to be elected at large by the voters of the County. This bill does not impact CA but certain CA board members expressed interest in the bill at the December 13 board meeting.

Ho.Co. 4-19 – Howard County – Authority to Impose Fees for Use of Disposable Bags

This bill would allow the County to impose a fee, not to exceed five cents per bag, on a retail store that provides plastic disposable bags to customers at point of sale. This bill does not impact

CA but certain CA board members expressed interest in the bill at the December 13 board meeting.

Ho.Co. 6-19 - Howard County - Alcoholic Beverages - Marketplace License

A version of this bill was filed during the 2018 session of the General Assembly. This bill would create a “marketplace liquor license” in Howard County, i.e. a “house license” covering an entire facility which would permit the license holder (owner/operator of the facility) to allow different food vendors within the facility to also sell liquor. This bill thus would create a type of liquor license that would cover the Butterfly Building food hall concept envisioned by Inner Arbor Trust. This bill benefits CA in that it allows for increased income for the Trust.

Ho.Co. 16-19 – Property Tax Credit – Elderly Individuals – Eligibility

This bill would broaden eligibility for the property tax credit by requiring that the claimant have lived in the same county rather than the same dwelling for 40 years. This bill would negatively impact CA to the extent that it increases the number of property owners entitled to a tax credit because CA honors such credit by providing a corresponding percentage reduction in the annual charge.