

APPENDIX B – Matters of Concern

Although the Severn Small Area Plan Committee has endorsed Mixed-Use Employment for the 250 acres known as the Kirk Property, as well as recommending a Severn Village Plan and continued development in many locations, we have several concerns about the future of our area. These concerns are highlighted below.

- **School Overcrowding** – Needless to say, this is one of the major concerns; in as much as continued housing development will add to the pressure.
- **Increased Traffic** – Traffic congestion along MD 175 and MD 170 already creates problems. More development will only add to the existing congestion.
- **Infrastructure/Facilities** – Availability of public water and sewer, adequate roads, sidewalks, street lighting, public transportation and all of those vital support facilities which are required for a growing and developing area must be considered.
- **Costs/Public Funding** – All of the above require money, which eventually will have to be generated from revenue (taxes) or fees. Our primary concern is the cost to individual property owners who may have to shoulder much of the burden.
- **Safety** – Public safety for the citizens in our area should be the number one concern. Adequate police, fire, and EMT personnel, as well as the facilities for this requirement, should be a primary consideration before too much development occurs.

Development, both residential and commercial, appears to be a forgone conclusion for our area. This being the case, the Severn Small Area Plan Committee requests that County Government and Agencies make a concerted effort to provide adequate facilities yet, limit the potential for extreme financial burden on resident home owners and local citizens in our area.

The issues highlighted above must be confronted. The Committee is not anti-development. However, the Committee Members feel strongly about the impact future growth will have on our area, and we would be remiss if we did not raise these concerns.