

Timestamp	First name	Last name	City	State	Zip code	Organization you represent:	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachment
2023-12-03 18:32:40	Joseph	Everett	Severn	MD	21144		Bill No. 80-23a: 10-Year Solid Waste Management Plan 2023 (amended)	Oppose	<p>Document name "10-YEAR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2024-2033"</p> <p>From page INT-5, it states the following:</p> <p>INT-5.1 DESCRIPTION OF PLAN CHAPTERS 1-6</p> <p>Chapter 1: Goals, Objectives and Policies</p> <p>The goals and objectives guiding solid waste management in the County are presented in this Chapter. These goals and objectives are included in the Chapter 4 discussion of enhancements to the existing solid waste management and recycling systems and the evaluation of alternatives to the existing systems. They are also included in Chapter 5 in the formulation of recommended actions.</p> <p>Regulatory requirements and input from the public guide solid waste management planning, policy, operations and decision making. Chapter 1 also describes the structure of the County Government as it relates to solid waste management, and the impact of existing Federal, State, and Local regulations on the planning, establishment, and operation of solid waste disposal and recycling systems in the County.</p> <p>My comments are as follows</p> <p>Other than 2 short weeks this summer (AFTER the plan had been written) and also in front of the County Council on 04 Dec (AGAIN AFTER THE PLAN HAD BEEN WRITTEN), when is the public actually given the opportunity to provide meaningful comments that could result in meaningful changes to this plan? You're going to tell me that that's all the regulations require. But for a county that posits at every opportunity they get, the need for community involvement and participation, doing the bare minimum in no way reflects what the spoken words state.</p> <p>From the 10 Year Plan Document</p> <p>In para 1.1 entitled GOALS, on page 1-1, it states</p> <p>"Maintain a 'good neighbor' relationship with residents in the immediate vicinity of County solid waste and recycling acceptance facilities."</p> <p>My comments are as follows</p> <p>The term 'good neighbor' was in quotes within the document. But what does this really mean? This document is literally 235 PAGES long, and other than this ONE statement, there is not one more word within the document that actually describes what a "good neighbor" relationship actually means. What kind of GOAL is this if there is no further explanation of what being a "good neighbor" entails?</p> <p>To further my point, attached is a picture of the typical debris that is on the roadway (Burns Crossing Road) right outside our development. My wife picked up these pieces at the entrance to our development on her regular walks. Does this look like an example of being a good neighbor? My neighbor who lives on Burns Crossing tells me when he walks the road, he is constantly picking up this kind of debris. This in no way presents itself as being a good neighbor in the world in which I live.</p> <p>From a personal perspective, a brand new tire on my wife's car was punctured by a hitch pin, and hence the whole tire had to be replaced. A brand new tire had to be replaced at a cost to me of \$250+. Now I can't say for certain that this was a result of something from the landfill, but given what I show in the attached picture, I can say I'm fairly certain it is from the landfill. I can also say for certain that there are tons of vehicles that arrive at the landfill daily, that make use of hitch pins. There are none of these type vehicles at where she works.</p> <p>Additionally, just today, I received the "Millersville Landfill and Resource Recovery Facility Community Update" in the mail. There is an article in the mailing that states the county intends to increase the eventual height of cell 9 by 41 feet. 41 FEET. Other than mentioning a study to figure out how to extend the life of the landfill, the 10 year plan makes no mention of this specific fact. How can this be something that just happened out of the blue, that this specific information is not included in the plan? I now come back to the Odenton Maintenance Yard Relocation. With the removal of the trees for this project, and the new cell 9 height, why should my residential development have to most certainly see this from our area? And in light of this most recent revelation, it is now more imperative that the county seek a new location for the Maintenance Yard, as well improve the overall operations at the landfill to actually respect the citizens that live around the facility.</p>	YES
2023-12-03 12:09:37	Jason	Schwier	Annapolis	MD	21401	Odenton Town Center Advisory Committee	Bill No. 84-23: Odenton Town Center Master Plan – Approval	Support	<p>The Odenton Town Center Advisory Committee strongly supports the approval of Bill No. 84-23. This update to the Odenton Town Center Master Plan provides increased clarity and guidance to support development that enhances the Odenton community. Please see the included attachment for our full comments.</p>	YES
2023-12-04 10:49:51	Linda	Mundy	Annapolis	MD	21403		Bill No. 78-23aa: Essential Worker Housing Access Act of 2023 (MPDU bill) (amended)	Oppose	<p>I am a member of SURJ3A, which stands for Showing Up for Racial Justice Annapolis and Anne Arundel County, and does not support this bill as it currently stands. 78-23 was significantly weakened two weeks ago when you voted to remove single-family detached homes from the MPDU requirement and lowered the pay in lieu fee to 1%. It was further weakened when you delayed its start date.</p> <p>You say it's about compromise, but we see no compromise for people who desperately need housing now! After hearing vulnerable, moving testimony from many Anne Arundel county residents, you have responded with "don't get too emotional", "that will be in the next bill", and "we have to be strategic." Yet, you have offered no overall affordable housing strategies. Tell us what your plans are! Will you get rid of single family zoning and agricultural zoning that divides us by income and often by race? Will you instead implement inclusionary zoning for ALL income levels? In EVERY district? Will you pass rent stabilization like Montgomery county recently did? Social housing like DC is considering?</p> <p>County Executive Pittman and the County Council, you don't get to claim credit for addressing the housing crisis with these breadcrumbs that will barely help anyone.</p> <p>Chairman Smith, we like data too, and our research on the Council and the County Exec's campaign finance reports showed that developers, real-estate, and the building industry gave more than a quarter of a million dollars to your campaigns over the past two elections. All of you, please carefully consider the influence this money might be having on your decisions.</p> <p>Ms Fielder, you said you don't want people who work outside of Anne Arundel county benefiting from this bill. Have you forgotten that when people can afford to live here, they can afford to invest in our communities too? By paying property taxes, shopping at local businesses, or volunteering at their kids' school because they don't have to work two jobs. Affordable housing benefits everyone.</p> <p>We implore you to learn from Annapolis and get rid of the developer buy-outs, increase the MPDU percentages to 25%, and ensure the bill goes into effect immediately if passed. We also ask that you meet with us to discuss your housing strategy moving forward. Thank you.</p>	

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2023-12-04 10:55:03	Jen	Roman	Odenton	MD		21113 Showing Up For Racial Justice Annapolis & Anne Arur	Bill No. 78-23aa: Essential Worker Housing Access Act of 2023 (MPDU bill) (amended)	Oppose	<p>SURJJA, which stands for Showing Up for Racial Justice Annapolis and Anne Arundel County, does not support this bill as it currently stands. 78-23 was significantly weakened two weeks ago when you voted to remove single family detached homes from the MPDU requirement and lowered the pay in lieu fee to 1%. It was further weakened when you delayed its start date.</p> <p>You say it's about compromise, but we see no compromise for people who desperately need housing now! After hearing vulnerable, moving testimony from many Anne Arundel County residents, you have responded with "don't get too emotional", "that will be in the next bill", and "we have to be strategic." Yet, you have offered no overall affordable housing strategies. Tell us what your plans are! Will you get rid of single family zoning and agricultural zoning that divides us by income and often by race? Will you instead implement inclusionary zoning for ALL income levels? In EVERY district? Will you pass rent stabilization like Montgomery county recently did? Social housing like DC is considering?</p> <p>County Executive Pittman and his administration, you don't get to claim credit for addressing the housing crisis with these breadcrumbs that will barely help anyone.</p> <p>Chairman Smith, we like data too, and our research on the Council and the County Exec's campaign finance reports showed that developers, real-estate, and the building industry gave more than a quarter of a million dollars to your campaigns over the past two elections. All of you, please carefully consider the influence this money might be having on your decisions.</p> <p>Ms Fielder, you said you don't want people who work outside of Anne Arundel County benefiting from this bill. Have you forgotten that when people can afford to live here, they can afford to invest in our communities too? By paying property taxes, shopping at local businesses, and volunteering at their kids' school because they don't have to work two jobs. Affordable housing benefits everyone.</p> <p>We implore you to learn from Annapolis and get rid of the developer buy-outs, increase the MPDU percentages to 25%, and ensure the bill goes into effect immediately if passed. We also ask that you meet with us to discuss your housing strategy moving forward. Thank you.</p>	
2023-12-04 10:59:15	philip	ateto	Annapolis	md		21401	Bill No. 78-23aa: Essential Worker Housing Access Act of 2023 (MPDU bill) (amended)	Oppose	<p>Dear Council Members,</p> <p>I am sincerely happy that you are attempting to address the serious affordable housing crisis here in our county.</p> <p>However to be honest I am deeply disappointed that MPDUs/inclusionary housing was the path that you chose. From what I understood there was some excitement around social housing, community land trusts, and other options that have much more promise to provide a long term solution. While this bill 78-23 is indeed a step in the right direction, it is a baby step, and we need so much more.</p> <p>To address the roots of our affordable housing crisis, all levels of government must step up to finance and create deeply affordable housing that is for people, not profit. Social housing – housing that can never be resold for profit, that is forever affordable, and that is publicly owned or under democratic community control – is absolutely necessary, because for-profit landlords and for-profit investors can't meet our communities' housing needs. Around the world, social housing works to prevent homelessness and displacement. Across the country, cities and localities are building subsidized housing developments that are 100% affordable and below market-rate. This is absolutely necessary to more effectively reach those most in need. We support social housing that is deeply, wholly, and permanently affordable, to match the scale of the crisis and realize housing as a human right.</p> <p>Corporate control of our housing market is driving our crisis of rampant rent increases and homelessness. Today, corporate control over our homes is unprecedented and expanding. To rake in profits, corporate landlords and Wall Street investors are jacking up rents and evicting families.</p> <p>Examples around the world show that social housing works to prevent homelessness and stop displacement. Housing is an absolute human necessity. Only public leadership to finance and build housing that is protected from speculation, profiteering, and rent increases, will guarantee the deeply affordable housing our communities need.</p> <p>I often lament that what I see being discussed here locally is 10-15 years behind what I hear being discussed and implemented in D.C., Baltimore, or other municipalities around the country. As you may know, Montgomery County just passed comprehensive rent control which seems to me more in line with the scope and scale of the issue given the data.</p> <p>In D.C. I am helping work on the Green New Deal for housing legislation and the bill going in for mark up stipulate 30% units for those who make less than 30% of the Adjusted Median Income and 30% for those making less than 50% AMI. And that is conservative as we will surely push for more and other projects around the country are up to 100% discounted. The projects are transit oriented to deal with one of the other main issues of trying to survive on lower wages. Additionally these building and communities have tenant boards and mechanisms so that they are under community control.</p> <p>Now is the time to take bold steps using frameworks with proven success to help people as we are predicted to head into a rough recession on the heels of record inflation that has people who were historical comfortably middle class, struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>You have the power to do something meaningful for a lot of hard working people who are struggling in our county. Will you have the courage?</p> <p>I urge you to pause and make sure that you get this bill right so that we can actually make some significant improvement on this long term issue.</p> <p>Supporting articles: Kevin Schaul and Jonathan O'Connell, "Investors bought a record share of homes in 2021. See Where." The Washington Post, February 16, 2022. https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/interactive/2022/housing-market-investors/; "AFR Report: Wall Street and Single Family Rentals," January 17, 2018, https://ourfinancialsecurity.org/2018/01/afr-report-wall-street-and-single-family-rentals/; Heather Vogell, "When Private Equity Becomes Your Landlord," ProPublica, February 7, 2022, https://www.propublica.org/article/when-private-equity-becomes-your-landlord.</p>	
2023-11-24 10:05:22	Nancy	Selden	Arnold	MD		21012	Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose		
2023-11-25 21:36:03	Lisa	Phipps	Pasadena	Maryland		21122	Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	I disagree with Bill 85-23 unless it is amended. The bill provides zoning approval for all indoor bars and restaurants to extend to the outdoors regardless of if they are located in residential neighborhoods or not. There are grandfathered indoor bars and restaurants located in residential neighborhoods in the county. Allowing all to extend the outdoors in one sweeping bill, with no end date, is unreasonable and unfair to the residents in those neighborhoods. The noise is horrible and deeply affects the resident's quality of life.	
2023-11-26 9:08:11	Karon	Mitchell	Pasadena	MD		21122	Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	Quiet residential neighborhoods should automatically be protected from additional noise, potentially drunk drivers on dimly lit narrow residential streets not designed for a commercial establishment - this is a no brainer.	
2023-11-26 9:12:57	James	Mitchell	Pasadena	MD		21122	Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	Please protect our quiet residential neighborhoods from unwanted noise that easily travels, potentially drunk drivers on already narrow dimly lit streets. This is the wrong environment to expand any type of outdoor dining. Please keep our neighborhoods safe and quiet.	
2023-11-26 14:29:09	m	sarkar	arnold	md		21012	Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	Within or close to residential areas, a more permissive stance/authorization for restaurants to create outdoor dining will potentially create more noise nuisance for residential homeowners and affect their families' quality of life. I respectfully ask that bar/restaurants not be allowed to create outdoor dining if within 100 or less feet from residential dwellings.	
2023-11-26 14:37:15	Nina	Benoit	Pasadena	MD		21122	Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	Nearby outdoor dining will potentially create more noise nuisance for residential homeowners and affect their families' quality of life. I respectfully request outdoor dining if within 100 or less feet from residential dwellings should not be permitted.	
2023-11-26 14:44:01	Ann	Allam	Pasadena	MD		21122	Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	More permissive county authorization for restaurants and bars to have outdoor dining creates more noise nuisance, traffic and parking problems for residential homeowners and affects their families' quality of life. I ask that bar/restaurants not be allowed to create outdoor dining in residential neighborhoods. Another specific concern is ambulances or fire trucks trying to get through some of these smaller roads in older neighborhoods being made more difficult by the increase in cars parked in the street.	
2023-11-27 9:42:03	George	Lambert	Pasadena	Maryland		21122	Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	We all live and learn, and one thing we should learn and react to is unintended consequences. Allowing outdoor dining regardless of proximity to residences is an horrendous intrusion on individual rights affecting both adults and children. Residents should be able to have noise limits consistent with their zoning, and certainly no outdoor revelers should be condoned on adjacent property or even within hearing. Put yourself in residents' shoes - and beds! Even if there is ever another Covid emergency that justifies revising outdoor hours, they should not extend beyond 8pm if there are residents who would be affected.	
2023-11-27 11:38:41	Angelina	Shaw	Glen Burnie	Md		21061	Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	Bill 85-23 should not pass in its current form. The bill treats residential neighborhoods and commercially zoned areas as if they are the same. They are not. It also has no end date, so it could be in place for years, or forever, if passed as is. The bill provides zoning approval for any bar or restaurant to seat outside at 50% of the indoor seating. There are grandfathered bars and restaurant in the county in residential neighborhoods and those residents do not deserve the problems this sweeping bill would create: more noise, more traffic, more parking problems, etc. This bill should be amended to exclude residentially zoned areas.	
								3	THANK YOU!	

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2023-11-29 19:47:17	Tyler	Jones	Pasadena	MD	21122		Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	<p>First, I do not appreciate the lack of transparency in rolling social clubs, restaurants and bars under the term "restaurant", particularly since this change was not adequately explained to the public. While that may simply be the production of the legislation, it impedes the average citizen's attempt to engage with said legislation.</p> <p>Second, I strongly oppose an indefinite extension of the current permission for outdoor dining at "restaurants". Bars, in particular, make quite a lot of noise and can be very disruptive to those around them. This is particularly troublesome with bars and restaurants outside of commercial areas. Bars that were grandfathered in to residential areas should not be allowed to expand more than their existing limits. People moved near those bars with the understanding that there were limits to the bar's expansion, and those limits likely did not include parties outside. The bar I live near can get quite obnoxious with the "outside dining" that has been allowed under emergency measures, and I do not at all want that to be the new normal going forward.</p>	
2023-12-01 15:51:20	Ann	Allam	Pasadena	MD	21122		Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	<p>More permissive county authorization for restaurants and bars to have outdoor dining creates more noise nuisance, traffic and parking problems for residential homeowners and affects their families' quality of life. I ask that bar/restaurants not be allowed to create outdoor dining in residential neighborhoods. Another specific concern is ambulances or fire trucks trying to get through some of these smaller roads in older neighborhoods being made more difficult by the increase in cars parked in the street.</p>	
2023-12-01 17:15:49	Todd	Taylor	Pasadena	MD	21122		Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	The bill needs to exclude residential areas.	
2023-12-02 7:59:05	Kathleen	Kelly	Annapolis	MD	21401		Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	Infringement	
2023-12-02 11:29:10	Mary	Tobin	Gambrills	MD	21054		Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	<p>Opposing as written. Needs amending to not include restaurants in residential areas. Have had to fight constantly with owners of a restaurant up the street from us that has repeatedly done things that disturb neighborhood life (noise, traffic). Music so loud that neighbors across the street had glasses on shelves crash to floor. Had meetings with neighbors before remodeling, design pictures and all, explaining how their plan would involve less neighborhood nuisance. Then of course they went ahead and rebuilt exactly the opposite. Passing this law would give them even more excuse to destroy neighborhood peace.</p>	
2023-12-04 10:44:57	Peggy	Williams	Severna Park	MD	21146		Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	<p>I oppose this because I am concerned that this previous policy implemented under emergency orders is now being used to make changes without proper public input. Why is the outdoor seating being extended when there is no longer an emergency? What is the emergency under which this extension is being proposed? People are done with this creeping authoritarianism. We need to get back to allowing citizens to properly participate in local government instead of circumventing or rushing the process under the guise of an "emergency."</p>	
2023-12-04 10:47:41	Mimi	Schwarz	Pasadena	MD	21122		Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	<p>I'd like the Council to consider voting no on Bill 85-23 unless it's amended. I'm especially concerned about restaurants and bars located in neighborhoods. I believe that over the years, zoning regulations have been used to carefully consider what effect an entity will have on its surroundings, and how it might affect the quality of life of those living in that community, including noise and traffic. During COVID, decisions were made to help everyone survive it as well as possible. But now we're done. If an entity would like to apply for an exception to the way things were, let them apply, and careful consideration can be made. There were good reasons that the areas were zoned the way they were, and a one-size fits all sweeping decision isn't carefully considering everyone who might be affected. Let's take the time needed to get it right, so the communities in Anne Arundel County will continue to be a nice place to live.</p>	
2023-12-04 10:53:44	Robin	Sirkel	Pasadena	Md	21122		Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	<p>I am opposed to this extension because I feel this has been going on far too long. The emergency is now over. The intrusion on people's private lives has gone on long enough. If this allowed, it should only be for six months and then end when the time ends. No more authoritarian orders for something that no longer exist! Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness still exist. There is nothing that says unless it's Covid.</p>	
2023-12-04 10:56:13	Catherine	Vieweg Taylor	Pasadena	MD	21122		Bill No. 85-23: Zoning – Outdoor Dining	Oppose	Please see the attached	YES