



August 15, 2011

Honorable John Leopold  
Anne Arundel County Executive  
Arundel Center, 44 Calvert Street  
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

Dear Mr. Leopold,

Several years ago we sought and received your assistance in a matter of critical importance to the environment and the health of the Herring Bay area. Once again we find ourselves seeking your help in blocking poor policy decisions which have the potential to cause real and lasting harm to the Chesapeake watershed.

As you are well aware, county land-use decisions are governed by the General Development Plan (GDP) and are informed by the Small Area Plans. The South County Small Area Planning process involved significant citizen participation and was a prime example of effective collaboration between the public and elected officials in government decision-making.

Out of that planning process emerged the guiding principle of keeping South County rural – a policy reflective of residents' wishes and designed to preserve and protect both our environmental resources and our quality of life. Unfortunately, recent zoning decisions made by the County Council directly conflict with policies in the GDP and with the recommendations of the Office of Planning and Zoning. Amendments like those allowing commercial development at the Lothian traffic circle and areas south of Route 214 would disrupt the rural fabric of South County, leading to the kind of fragmented, fiscally irresponsible development that the GDP process is designed to prevent.

Allowing such inconsistencies to become law would undermine the integrity and effectiveness of the county's planning process and set a dangerous precedent for future zoning decisions. We urge you to act as a check on legislative actions that violate the spirit if not the letter of Maryland's land-use laws by vetoing provisions in Bill 44-11 that are inconsistent with the GDP and the Small Area Plan for South County. If you have any questions about our views on this matter, please contact Stephen Marley at [herringbay@gmail.com](mailto:herringbay@gmail.com).

David Berry  
Michael Brewer  
Elizabeth Ruppert Bulmer  
John Clarke  
George Demas  
Stephan Dobert

Elizabeth Berry  
Sharon Brewer  
Mark Bulmer  
Myles Conway  
Suzanne Demas  
Donald Eversfield

Cindy Blackistone  
Jack Brumbaugh  
Joan B. Clancy  
Dana Danielson  
Claire Dobert  
Mary Ann Filipkowski

*Signatures continued on page 2*

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Regarding Bill 44-11  
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Clifford Foust  
Kristen Griner  
James Harle  
Donna Hefflin  
Marylyn V. Leet  
Sonia Linebaugh  
Gail Martinez  
Fred Michaud  
Jim Muell  
Nancy Oliver  
Robert E. Poole  
Gail Schneider  
Barbi Eversfield Shields  
Eric Smith  
Donald Stewart  
Daniel M. Veith  
Lawrence Wannamacher  
Patricia Ford Wilson

Juanita Foust  
John Groves  
Joe Hasuly  
Maureen Hudson  
Peter Legg  
Emily Manders  
Keith Mayes  
Joele Michaud  
Kelly Myers  
Farley Peters  
Paul Rensted  
Karl Schlichter  
Bill Shields  
Scott Smith  
Catherine Thames  
Peggy S. Veith  
David Williamson  
Melinda Zimmerman

Kathy Gramp  
Ardith Harle  
Bill Hefflin  
Tom Hudson  
David Linebaugh  
Stephen Marley  
Mark McCaig  
Barbara Miller  
Dick Nelson  
William P. Poole, Jr.  
Richard Ronay  
Paula Schlichter  
Barbara Smith  
Anne Stewart  
Laurie Tillmans  
Jane M. Walter  
Jean Williamson

Cc:  
Dick Ladd, Chairman, Councilman, District 5  
Derek Fink, Vice-Chairman, Councilman, District 3  
Daryl Jones, Councilman, District 1  
John Grasso, Councilman, District 2  
G. James Benoit, Councilman, District 4  
Chris Trumbauer, Councilman, District 6  
Jerry Walker, Councilman, District 7