

November 16, 2010

Matt Zaborsky
President
NORBECK MEADOWS

The Honorable Richard Madaleno, Chair
Montgomery County Senate Delegation

The Honorable Brian Feldman, Chair
Montgomery County House Delegation

Jim Haddow
Executive Vice President
HALLOWELL

Delivered via email to: sara.hartman@mlis.state.md.us

Ellen Bogage
First Vice President
VICTORIA SPRINGS

Dear Senator Madaleno, Delegate Feldman, and Distinguished Members of the Montgomery County Delegation:

Lori Wilen
Second Vice President
CHERRYWOOD

I am here today on behalf of our 32 association members representing 40,000 plus residents of Olney. As you begin your work in anticipation of 2011 we would like you to know what our priorities are. As citizens we are very aware of the realities of today's economy. Like many communities, we have our share of families that are struggling due to job loss, illness, and working through the many realities of life. We feel our priorities are reasonable in terms of present economic conditions. We further feel our requests are based on true community needs and not unrealistic thinking.

**Theresa Kyne
Robinson**
Recording Secretary
OLNEY OAKS

First of all, the Olney area is desperate for major improvements at the intersection of Routes 97 and 28. The impending opening of the Intercounty Connector has made this road project critically important to Olney and its quality of life. As many of our District 14 and 19 Representatives are aware, per the Maryland State Highway Administration, traffic analysis shows this intersection is considered "failing" and will continue to do so once the ICC is opened. SHA studies have shown the intersection can only be improved by constructing a grade-separated interchange and the design phase is over 85% complete. We are cognizant of the fact this improvement is called for in the 2005 Olney Master Plan and while this is not state issue, we are understanding the funding of this improvement is. We realize the county sets a **priority list for road projects** and we have met with Montgomery County Officials on many occasions regarding this interchange. As of July 2008, this project was number 5 on the list and presently we are concentrating our efforts on getting this project moved to the top of the list. We feel that with the backing of the Montgomery County Delegation we can not only get this priority moved higher on the list - but you all can press the state for the crucial funding needed. ***This improvement is needed now - not 20 years later.***

Ruth Laughner
Corresponding Secretary
WILLIAMSBURG VILLAGE

Roy Peck
Treasurer
NORBECK MEADOWS

Second, the Homeowners and Condominium Owners Associations that make up our membership are being very severely impacted by the current prolonged downturn in the housing market. When homeowners have gone delinquent on their mortgage, monthly HOA and Condo. Association dues are no longer get paid either. Many of our GOCA members are owed thousands of dollars in delinquent dues and needless to say - this is a tremendous burden on a small association budget. HB 842, which was defeated in the 2010 Legislature, would have been a tremendous help to our members. At our November 9th GOCA Meeting, which was attended by Senator Elect/Delegate Karen Montgomery and Delegate Ben Kramer, there was a very spirited discussion among our members - many of whom are now facing financial hardship. Undoubtedly, many of you have heard from Homeowners and Condominium Owners Associations in your districts that are facing these conditions. We **implore** you to pass legislation that would give these HOA's and Condominium Associations some type of lien priority in being able to collect delinquent dues. ***As our economy remains unstable, this legislation is urgently needed in 2011.***

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Third, we are adamantly opposed to the proposed legislation in Bill MC 10-11. Our members very strongly feel charging a transportation fee, or however it may be termed, is unconscionable. MCPS like many organizations has been impacted by the economy. No doubt, cost cutting measures are called for but perhaps have not been put into place or simply may not have gone far enough. Our public schools are a model and quality education is the right of every child in Montgomery County. This legislation seems short-sighted and sends a very negative message. We're confident the MCPS leadership can find ways to improve their efficiency, and Bill MC 10-11 is not an answer for them or Maryland.

Thanks very much for this time to speak before you and present the crucial issues Olney faces. We look forward to working with you on behalf of Olney and the great citizens of Maryland!

Sincerely Yours,

Matt Zaborsky

Matt Zaborsky
President