



January 27, 2024

Senator Benjamin F. Kramer
401 Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Bill PG/MC 112-24

Dear Senator Kramer,

I am writing on behalf of the Greater Olney Civic Association (GOCA) to convey our support of draft bill PG/MC 112-24, "Montgomery County People's Counsel for Land Use Planning."

As you know, the Greater Olney Civic Association is the umbrella association of homeowners and civic associations located in Greater Olney. At both our November and December meetings, GOCA discussed Bill PG/MC 112-24; and at the December meeting, our members overwhelmingly voted to support the legislation.

The GOCA members originally supported the creation of the position of the People's Counsel. We recognized the value of citizens having access to an expert who is knowledgeable and can advise them on development issues as they assess the impacts of development proposals - citizens who would not otherwise have access to expensive, well-trained land use attorneys.

Thank you for your intent to safeguard the Olney community's interests.

Sincerely,

Helene Rosenheim
President

Greater Olney Civic Association
PO Box 212
Olney, MD 20830