## Queen Anne's County

County Commissioners:

James J. Moran, At Large Jack N. Wilson, Jr., District 1 J. Patrick McLaughlin, District 2 Philip L. Dumenil, District 3 Christopher M. Corchiarino, District 4

## DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & ZONING

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9 February 2023

The Honorable Delegate Kumar P. Barve, Chair Environment and Transportation Committee House Office Building, Room 251 Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: HB98 - Condominiums - Mandatory Insurance Coverage - Alterations

**SUPPORT** 

Dear Delegate Barve,

Having reviewed last year's HB553 and this year's HB98, I am comfortable in noting the fact that insurance coverage would have no impact (negative or positive) on the zoning of a condominium regime and/or cottage homes. I would note that QAC enacted cottage homes provisions in March 2021 in order to support affordable housing options in accordance with numerous Comprehensive Plan and Community Plan strategies. I would further note that the 2022 Queen Anne's County Comprehensive Plan identifies the need to ensure avenues for workforce and affordable housing as key issues and Plan themes.

The County's cottage homes use is a condominium regime by definition and is now a permitted multifamily use option in sixteen zoning districts on the County. Cottage housing provides more diverse housing opportunities that will serve all age and income levels. Due to their modest size and smaller land requirements, they may be more affordable than the traditional single-family units on larger lots. Cottage homes may meet the needs of a buyer who wants less home and yard to maintain and is not attached to their neighbor, while still providing a sense of community that a typical neighborhood provides.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Department at (410) 758-1255.

Sincerely

Arny G. Moredock, CFM

Director

CC: Delegate Steven J. Arentz, District 36

Todd Mohn, QAC County Administrator