

SB 353 - Support

CAD Task Force House Committee on Environment and Transportation
February 23, 2024

I live on the Magothy River in Pasadena Maryland and I recently became aware of the CAD program slated for the Patapsco River/Chesapeake Bay and it's detrimental impact on the environment we ultimately live in. How a project in the making for nearly two years could have gone undetected in our community is truly unbelievable. They applied for and were granted permits without so much as a conversation with the community they will be impacting. Unacceptable.

Although I live on the Magothy River and will not be directly impacted by this recent reckless proposition, it is only a matter of time before these harmful impacts make its way to my front door. The front door being the waterways where my family lives, boats, swims, crabs and any other activity that we can do on the water. We live on the water so we can enjoy the benefits of swimming in our own waters, crabbing off our own piers, and fishing in the River we call home as well as the Chesapeake Bay without the uncertainty of slowly being poisoned. We don't live here for free.....we pay the price for this luxury and the CAD program will absolutely disrupt sediment habitats, release toxic pollutants, affect the erosion of the riverbanks, and without a doubt, diminish the value of our waterfront property. Not to mention that my children and grandchildren swim in these waters!

Although I did not attend the town meeting in the second quarter of 2023, I personally know at least 15 people who did attend and it was clear there was no coordination with the Community or County Representatives who did attend. When our County Representatives stand up and say they have no knowledge of this proposal, clearly there is a problem. They were completely unprepared to answer the simplest questions as well as unable to explain the effects on the environment or our health. We need answers.

Due to their irresponsible oversimplified misstatements, it is gravely important that the task force proposed in SB 353 be moved into legislation. This task force should be a joint team of independent experts in health, science and environmental impact as well as nonpartisan experts in CAD and their reports should be coordinated with our County

legislators. All results should be presented in a public forum to allow residents who are directly impacted to understand how their findings will affect their health, waterways and ultimately the value of their homes. As a community, we all have to advocate for environmentally conscious practices that protect our cherished waterways and the health and well being of the residents who live here.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robin Lyate
Frank Cossitor