

Senat Bill 353

CAD Task Force Senate Committee on Environment and Transportation 3/27/2024

I am writing to you with deep concern about the proposed development project, the Patapsco CAD, and its potential devastating effects on our waters and environment. As a resident who deeply cares about the well-being of our community and our natural resources, I feel compelled to voice my opposition to this project.

The Patapsco CAD, as planned by the Maryland Port Authority, poses a significant threat to the health and sustainability of the Patapsco River and the Chesapeake Bay. The construction of this massive facility would involve extensive dredging, land reclamation, and increased industrial activity, leading to a host of environmental problems.

First and foremost, the dredging required to accommodate larger vessels would disrupt delicate ecosystems and habitats that support a diverse array of marine life. The Patapsco River is home to numerous species of fish, shellfish, and other aquatic organisms, many of which are already facing population declines due to pollution and habitat destruction. Further disturbance caused by dredging would only exacerbate these issues, pushing these species closer to the brink of extinction.

Additionally, the increased industrial activity associated with the Patapsco CAD would introduce pollutants and contaminants into the water, further degrading water quality and threatening the health of aquatic life. Runoff from cargo handling operations, fuel spills, and other sources of pollution would introduce harmful chemicals and toxins into the river, posing risks to both aquatic life and human health.

Furthermore, the construction and operation of the Patapsco CAD would contribute to increased air and noise pollution in the surrounding area, impacting not only the natural environment but also the quality of life for nearby residents. The constant noise of heavy machinery and the emissions from trucks, ships, and other vehicles would disrupt the peace and tranquility of our community, while also posing health risks to residents, particularly those with respiratory conditions.

In conclusion, the Patapsco CAD project represents a grave threat to our waters and environment, and it must be stopped. Instead of prioritizing short-term economic gains, we must prioritize the long-term health and sustainability of our natural resources. I urge you to join me in opposing this destructive project and advocating for alternative solutions that promote environmental conservation and responsible stewardship of our precious waterways.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Nathan Gremba  
Rock Creek Resident