



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Dear Distinguished Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

For the record, I am Delegate Ryan Nawrocki, requesting a favorable report on **HB 0211 – Baltimore County – Property Tax Credit – Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 34**. This is a very simple bill that would authorize Baltimore County to grant a property tax credit to the Maryland Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 34 building in Middle River.

The FOP Lodge 34 represents the men and women of Maryland Transportation Authority Police throughout Baltimore County, seeking to promote their interests and safety, as well as encouraging social, charitable, and educational activities among officers. The group is a nonprofit largely funded through membership dues, and a property tax credit would relieve a significant burden and allow the organization to further increase its work on behalf of its members and the community.

There are already over twenty-five similar community organization buildings which the Baltimore County government is authorized to grant a property tax credit. This bill would simply add the FOP Lodge 34 building to that list. Should the County Council grant the property tax credit, it would have a very minimal impact on the county budget. The most recent property tax bill for the lodge was \$12,534.30, while the Baltimore County operating budget adopted for Fiscal Year 2026 was \$4.78 billion.

In addition to being an active union hall for its members, this facility is also an active regional hub for community meetings. Numerous local organizations utilize the facility for awards ceremonies, banquets, holiday celebrations, and other events. The lodge also hosts its own well-attended events, including annual Breakfast with Santa and Trunk-or-Treat festivities.

The property sits on the border of Legislative Districts 7 and 8, meaning its location, accessibility-compliant facilities, and availability make it particularly suitable for local government meetings and town halls. For example, on February 5th, the Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation will host a meeting at the lodge to update the community and gather input regarding the Bengies Sewer Extension project. There would also be a tangible law enforcement benefit to this bill, as the Baltimore County Police Department utilizes this property extensively to stage warrant executions, raids, and other activities throughout Eastern Baltimore County.

FOP Lodge 34 is a uniquely valuable institution both for its members and for Baltimore County, and this bill would significantly benefit the organization and its future work.

Therefore, I respectfully ask the committee for a favorable report for HB 0211.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Ryan Nawrocki".

Delegate Ryan Nawrocki