

SHARON GREEN MIDDLETON

VICE PRESIDENT

Sixth District

Chair

Taxation, Finance, &

Economic Development

Committee

Vice-Chair

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2/25/20

Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair

Budget and Taxation Committee

Miller Senate Office Building, 3 West Wing

11 Bladen St.

Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB 987- Racing and Community Development Act of 2020

SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Guzzone,

First, I would like to thank you Mr. Chairman and thank you to the Committee for allowing me the opportunity to speak with you today.


My name is Councilwoman Sharon Green Middleton, of Baltimore City Council District 6. I'm here today to testify in strong support of SB 987. I have represented Southern Park Heights for over 12 years.

Keeping the Preakness in Baltimore and more importantly, in the Pimlico and Park Heights community, is critical to the City as a whole, and the Northwest area. This plan paves the way for an holistic, equitable approach for further redevelopment. It will stimulate the local economy through real estate projects, streetscape programs, and provide partners with several community organizations, and comprehensive education and outreach programs, that lead into the building of our long waiting, Park Heights Library. It will also provide diverse segments of the regional population with access to Cultural District activities. This will be a driving force of an innovative, diverse social, racial, and economic community strategy that intertwines neighborhoods lead by and in partnership with the Park Heights Renaissance. This vital asset will not only create jobs, but pride, visibility, and a unique identity for unity in the Northwest region and throughout Baltimore.

I leave you with this Black History thought:

The Sanfoka Children's Museum just moved to Park Height, in January. An awesome addition to the community. The only African Children's Museum in the Country. Sankofa teaches us that we must constantly monitor the present by going back to our roots in order to move forward. We should critically examine the past and gather the best of what it has to teach us. Reclaiming what we have lost or been stripped of through modernity, and preserving it as we engage the present in view of the future, is critically imperative for both the present and the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon G. Middleton". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Sharon Green Middleton, VP/Councilwoman, District 6

cc: Speaker Adrienne A. Jones, Maryland House of Delegates