

February 20, 2020

Senator Paul G. Pinsky
Chair, Education Subcommittee
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West Wing
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Senator Pinsky:

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, the City of Greenbelt Green Team urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of the City of Greenbelt, we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a certified municipality our city has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for over 10 years.

The City of Greenbelt has strived to be sustainable since its inception during World War II as a pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly planned community with an extensive tree canopy. The Greenbelt City Council has participated in the Sustainable Maryland program from its inception, forming a Green Team and sending members to training, in order to continue its sustainability programs and activities and to strive for excellence in sustainability practices.

Although the City of Greenbelt had been developing a Sustainability Framework when the SM program was being established, following the guidelines of the program has enabled Greenbelt to organize and concentrate our activities into a focused effort. By interacting with Green Teams from other Maryland municipalities at SM summits, the Green Team has learned about and collaborated with other cities and towns. For example, soon we will start a compost drop-off program modeled after the City of College Park's compost drop-off program. We hope this will lead to a community-wide compost pick-up program, like the City of Bowie is doing in 7 of its neighborhoods in a pilot program. Most importantly, we not only learn from other Maryland Green Teams, we can develop programs that will have a more likely chance of succeeding if we join together. At last week's SM Route 1 Corridor summit, we learned of municipalities wishing to join forces to have PEPCO agree to change our municipal streetlights to LED street lighting at a reasonable cost—PEPCO currently ensures that it keeps its current less efficient lighting by charging municipalities an exorbitant amount to switch to LEDs, far beyond the cost of LEDs. In the meantime, our municipalities must pay for the higher electricity usage of the existing lighting.

The Greenbelt Green Team consists of: Susan Barnett, Ron Bjorkland, Rhema Bjorkland, Maggie Callalan, Matt Dirksen, Josh Hamlin, Michael Hartman, Erica Hernandez, Larry Hilliard, William Manico, Steve Skolnik, Jane Young, and Xochitl Zamora-Thompson. Our Green Team Zero Waste subgroup members include Hally Ahearn, Kathy Bartolomeo, John Campanile, Ben Fischler, Beth Leamond, Naomi Littlefield, Lore Rosenthal, and Tom Taylor.

Please vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in Greenbelt but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John R. Lippert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being the most prominent.

John Lippert, Chair
Greenbelt Green Team

February 19, 2020

Delegates of the Appropriations Committee

Delegates of the Education, Health, and Environment Committee

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Delegates,

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, the Havre de Grace Green Team urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of Havre de Grace we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a certified municipality our city has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for over 3 years. Our Green Team strives to assist our city through adopting and implementing practices that protect our environment both now and for future generations. The support provided by Sustainable Maryland through information and available trainings are integral to our continued success.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed continue communicating the importance of sustainable environmental practices to our elected officials.

Vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in Havre de Grace but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,

Danielle Wolfe

Danielle Wolfe
Secretary, Havre de Grace Green Team

Carol Zimmerman
President, Havre de Grace Green Team



CITY OF NEW CARROLLTON GREEN TEAM

6016 PRINCESS GARDEN PARKWAY
NEW CARROLLTON, MARYLAND 20784

February 18, 2020

Maryland Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West Street
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

ATTN: The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky, Chair

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky and Honorable Members of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee:

On behalf of the City of New Carrollton Green Team, I urge you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund. Please note that the Green Team discussed this legislation and voted unanimously to request your support of SB0737/HB1520.

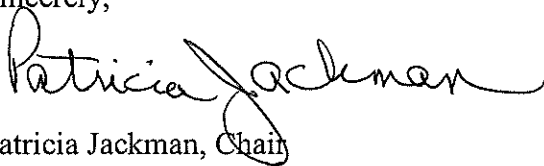
As residents and Green Team members of the City of New Carrollton, we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a Sustainable Maryland (SM) certified municipality our City has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for over a year and a half.

SM has been instrumental in the City of New Carrollton launching its environmental programs and initiatives. SM provided advice and assistance to the City when it was establishing its Green Team and trained the Green Team once it was constituted. It has provided guidance to City staff who are liaisons to the Green Team. SM conducted a Pet Waste Management Summit that the City's Horticulturist, Mayor and Green Team Chair attended, and provided several pet waste stations that were installed in the City. SM has conducted various training sessions that have been of tremendous help to the City such as Growing the Community Forest and Community Energy Efficiency: Meeting the Climate Deadline. As a result of attending the latter training and implementing a SM required survey of City residents, the Green Team is focusing on energy efficiency in 2020. The City installed electric vehicle chargers and purchased an electric vehicle this Fiscal Year.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to independently manage local sustainability issues and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of available resources. Establishing a SM Program Fund would strengthen these efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed to influence our residents regarding sustainability issues.

Please vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund. Such a Fund will ensure that SM can increase its technical assistance to municipalities and help build community capacity to engage in environmental, economic and social sustainability projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Jackman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Patricia" and last name "Jackman" clearly legible.

Patricia Jackman, Chair
City of New Carrollton Green Team

cc: The Honorable Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice Chair
The Honorable John D. Bailey
The Honorable Mary Beth Carozza
The Honorable Arthur Ellis
The Honorable Jason C. Gallion
The Honorable Katie Fry Hester
The Honorable Clarence K. Lam
The Honorable Obie Patterson
The Honorable Bryan W. Simonaire
The Honorable Mary L. Washington
The Honorable Sarah K. Elfreth
The Honorable Jared Solomon



February 24th, 2020

Terri Gladus, Chair, City of Salisbury Green Team

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Delegates of the Appropriations Committee/ Dear Delegates of the Education, Health and Environment Committee,

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, the **City of Salisbury Green Team** urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of the City of Salisbury we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a certified municipality our City has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for over 5 years. Salisbury's growing sustainability initiatives are largely in part due to our participation in the Sustainable Maryland Program. We are proud to be a Sustainable Maryland Certified Community, and work constantly to improve our practices and continue to achieve more actions. Sustainable Maryland has provided resources, initiatives, and assistance to us throughout the years, and this certification has helped us bolster community engagement on environmental issues.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed to be a more resilient and sustainable community.

Vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in our City but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,

Terri Gladus, Chair, City of Salisbury Green Team
Ryan Weitzel Vice-Chair, City of Salisbury Green Team
Matthew Heim, Member, City of Salisbury Green Team
Michael Auger, Member, City of Salisbury Green Team
Charles Simms, Member, City of Salisbury Green Team
Kaitlyn Grigsby-Hall, Member, City of Salisbury Green Team
Elise Trelegan, Member, City of Salisbury Green Team
Lisa Howard, Member, City of Salisbury Green Team
Marina Feeser, Member, City of Salisbury Green Team



Town of Barnesville Green Team

February 23, 2020

Appropriations Committee
Education, Health and Environment Committee

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund –
Establishment

Dear Delegates of the Appropriations Committee/ Dear Delegates of the Education,
Health and Environment Committee,

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, the Sustainable Barnesville Committee, otherwise known as the Barnesville Green Team, urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of the town of Barnesville we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As an incorporated municipality our town has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for three years. Barnesville is a "tiny" town within the Agricultural Reserve in Montgomery County. Although our town population is small, we are sustaining a community that includes residents in the surrounding unincorporated parts of Montgomery County. We have limited resources and face many challenges in our efforts to preserve the way of life enjoyed by our residents. The Sustainable Maryland program helped provide a framework for the town to launch its efforts in sustainability. Members of our town's Green Team have taken advantage of several opportunities to expand our capabilities with the assistance of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a tiny town, we have no paid staff and rely on volunteer Commissioners and citizens for any projects we undertake. We can leverage our own capacity with help from Sustainable Maryland. Three members attended the ACCO Climate Change Officers training offered by the Department of Natural Resources, and introduced to us through SM. We were able to launch a Sustainable Barnesville webpage for our community thanks to a summer intern that was provided to us by SM. We take advantage of the SM website frequently so we can review

PO Box 95
Barnesville, MD 20838

projects that other communities have provided to their residents. We anticipate working with SM over the coming years as we explore funding for other issues we encounter.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that our town gets the support needed to pursue many projects it has in its pipeline -- such as replacement of our streetlights with LED dark-sky-compliant fixtures, dealing with worsening stormwater management issues on our streets, and continuing to improve our open space in town and create a walkable environment.

Vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in our town but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,

The Barnesville Green Team
Joyce Bailey, Co-chair
Audrey Morris, Co-chair and Commissioner
Jane Thompson
Anne Sturm
Julee Evans
Lauren Greenberger
Linda Pepe
Veronica O'Connor



TOWN OF BEL AIR

DEPARTMENTS OF PLANNING AND PUBLIC WORKS
705 E. CHURCHVILLE ROAD
BEL AIR, MARYLAND 21014
www.belairmd.org

PLANNING 410-879-9500
PUBLIC WORKS 410-879-9507
FAX 410-838-0775

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DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Stephen D. Kline

February 20, 2020

Paul G. Pinsky, Chair
Education, Health and Environment Affairs Committee
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21403

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Delegates of the Education, Health and Environment Committee,

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, Town of Bel Air's Green Team urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of the Town of Bel Air, we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a certified municipality our Town has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for over six years. Sustainable Maryland has helped our elected officials understand the benefits of green design and has provided clear and easy to understand explanations of complicated projects. The Town staff and Sustainability Committee regularly reference resources on the SM website to come up with innovative ways to attack difficult environmental problems. This especially relates to the inclusion of social and economic issues as part of the sustainable paradigm. The Town has applied the advice of SM staff to the identification of funding sources, provision of technical information and connection to other towns and cities that have confronted similar challenges.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would Paul G.

Pinsky, Chair
Education, Health and Environment Affairs Committee
February 20, 2020
Page 2

strengthen our efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed to address climate change and how it affects our town and the region.

Vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in our Town but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,



Kevin L. Small, AICP, RLA, LEED GA
Director of Planning & Community Development
Chair of the Bel Air Sustainability Committee
Town of Bel Air



February 17, 2020

Amanda Dewey

Councilmember, Town of Berwyn Heights

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Delegates of the Appropriations Committee/ Dear Delegates of the Education, Health and Environment Committee,

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, the Berwyn Heights Green Team urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of Berwyn Heights we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a certified municipality our Town has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for over 6 years. The SM program launched our Town's Green Team, largely starting our community-based sustainability efforts. We have benefited in many ways from our participation in the program. Recently, SM helped connect us to other municipalities and state programs that allowed us to install pet waste stations that have reduced contamination of our watershed. We have participated in trainings and green team summits that have given us ideas for new programs and connected us to collaborative opportunities in our region. The support and structure of this program have allowed us to undertake countless efforts that have improved quality of life and sustainability in our community, including starting a community garden, implementing a shade tree program, providing residents with resources and education to combat stormwater problems on their properties, and hosting a workshop focused on solutions to climate change.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed to learn about innovative solutions to environmental challenges and connect with agencies, municipalities, and organizations.

Vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in our town but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,

Amanda Dewey, Councilmember, Berwyn Heights
Therese Forbes, Outreach Coordinator, Berwyn Heights Green Team
Genevieve de Messieres, Berwyn Heights Green Team
Jenny Coral, Berwyn Heights Green Team
Jeffrey Knutson, Berwyn Heights Green Team
Laura Knutson, Berwyn Heights Green Team



February 24, 2020

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Delegates of the Appropriations Committee/ Dear Delegates of the Education, Health and Environment Committee,

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, the **Boonsboro Green Team** urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of Boonsboro, we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland (SM) program. As a registered /certified municipality, our Town has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for over five and a half years (since 2014). The Sustainable Maryland program helped Boonsboro kick-start its way to more sustainable practices, successfully completing many actions for certification. Some of these include the following: Started a farmer's market, completed energy audits (all town buildings now use LED bulbs, many old and outdated heat pumps have been replaced with Energy Star-efficient units, and the town began a Green Purchasing Policy), initiated curbside recycling, became Tree City USA certified, approved a Pet Waste Ordinance, installed pet waste receptacles in the town park, and hosted an annual Stream Clean-up and tree planting, in concert with National Arbor Day. We have also received credit for our Green Fest, now in its 12th year. A Green Team member has attended SM-hosted yearly Leadership Training and webinars. These are just a few of the required/suggested SM actions that have helped Boonsboro become certified. Without SM's help, Boonsboro would not be as far along on sustainability practices as it is.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed to begin a community garden, and make our town more "walkable," with paths/access to the park and schools. We look forward to Sustainable Maryland's support and cost-effective solutions.

Vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in our town but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability. Sustainability is the wave of the future.

Sincerely,

Boonsboro Green Team Members: Kathy Vesely, Laura Schnackenberg, Amy Jones, Leah Grasso, Scott McIlwee, Jessica Renner, Alison Preston, Barb Wetzel and Anthony Dowell

Boonsboro Mayor Howard Long

Boonsboro Town Manager Paul Mantello

Boonsboro Town Planner Ethan Strickler



Town of Colmar Manor

A Port Towns Community
3701 Lawrence Street
Colmar Manor, Maryland 20722



Office (301) 277-4920 * Fax (301) 699-5245

February 20, 2020

Colmar Manor Green Team

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Delegates of the Appropriations Committee/ Dear Delegates of the Education, Health and Environment Committee,

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, the town of Colmar Manor, Green Team urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of the town of Colmar Manor, we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a registered /certified municipality our town of Colmar Manor, has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for over 11 years, Colmar Manor participated in the Green Team program. The Sustainable Maryland program has provided our town with educational materials and a community program which has engaged town residents in sustainable green practice. SM, help us lay the blueprint on how to be a green town, we have the pet waste management program the big belly trash cans located on our main road Bladensburg Rd. The pet owners have changed their behavior more are picking up the pet waste. This has decreased the contamination of our watershed and our town lawn surrounding grass is a lot cleaner. Our town has two personal stories: the Rain Garden next door the IHOP and the rose bed on our new green street called the Triangle located on Newark Rd. The rain garden brought out business community town residents, the green team and garden club together whereby everyone rolled up their sleeves, put the groves pick up work shovels and rakes and cleaned the rain garden, the business donated the plants and materials. The Triangle rose bed on Newark Rd., the plants that were donated by the town residents. The town councils and public works assist in preparing the groundwork and planting. The Mayor and Council are strong supporters for the green team they represent strongly at our meeting and also partake in physical work in any of our programs and classes.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed to maintain our green sustainability practices.

Vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in our town of Colmar Manor, but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,

Colmar Manor Green Team

Green Team members and/or supportive residents

Council members Jackson-Liaison

Doreatha Epps, resident /Chairperson

CM Lois Blue

CM Melinda Mendoza

Mayor Sadara Barrow

Julianna Bethea resident/Master Garden

Paul Howe, resident/Secretary

Irina Hobbs resident/ Researcher

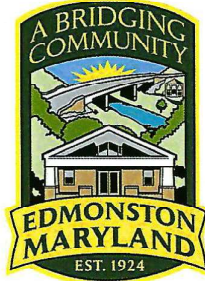
Martha Williams- supportive resident

Del. Diana M. Fennell- supportive resident

Rufus Lusk- Owner of the Port Towns Shopping Center

TOWN OF EDMONSTON

GREEN TEAM
NICK PETERS
CHAIRMAN



GREEN TEAM MEMBERS
JOHN A. JOHNSON
HILARY CHESTER
JOHN & EMILY DAY
ED HOOKER
ROD BARNES

February 20, 2020

Maryland Senate
Education, Health & Environment Committee

Maryland House of Delegates
Appropriations Committee

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Committee Members,

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, the Edmonston Green Team urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of Edmonston we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a certified municipality our Town has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for over 7 years. Sustainable Maryland provided the Town of Edmonston crucial training and funding to implement a pet waste program in the Town. Reducing pollutants to the Anacostia River is a major priority to improve the Chesapeake Bay watershed. This is just one example of how the Town has been impacted by the work of the SM program. With the Town's limited resources, the the Green Team Action Plan would not be able to be implemented without the support and technical assistance from the SM program. The SM program provides training opportunities and networking events that help identify common objectives that communities in Maryland share. Due to a recent summit event conducted by SM, the Green Teams on the Route 1 Corridor identified composting and food waste collection as an action item that communities could unite to create a positive outcome. The SM team facilitated this group. Without their involvement, identifying regional issues that can be worked on through collaborative solutions would be much harder to implement.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed to assist Edmonston with identifying sustainable alternatives for our residents. Edmonston leads the way in the region for our green initiatives. The Sustainable Maryland program provides the network to identify financing solutions for options and to educate our elected officials and green team members on options available to meet the Town's sustainability action plan.

Vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in our town but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,

Nick Peters, Chair
The Edmonston Green Team

5005 52nd Avenue, Edmonston, MD 20781
301 699-8806 (Office) 301 699-8203 (Fax)
Website: edmonstonmd.gov



Town of Emmitsburg

Mayor Donald N. Briggs

Board of Commissioners,
Clifford Sweeney, *President*
Timothy O'Donnell, *V.P. & Treasurer*
Joseph Ritz III
Frank Davis
T.J. Burns

Town Manager
Cathy Willets

Town Clerk
Madeline Shaw

February 24, 2020

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund –
Establishment

Dear Senate Education, Health & Environment Committee members & House Appropriations Committee members:

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, Town of Emmitsburg's Green Team urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland (SM) Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of the Town of Emmitsburg in northern Frederick County we have experienced firsthand the benefits of the program. The Town has been a certified Sustainable Maryland (SM) municipality since 2014. The SM program provides our Green Team ideas and resources for developing further sustainability initiatives in our Town and valuable training for our members, which is composed of 11 community members from various families, businesses and non-profits. Numerous times in the past we have emailed SM asking for additional resources or contacts for starting a new "green" project within our Town. The monthly newsletters also provide valuable grant opportunities and help our team members to see how neighboring municipalities are becoming more sustainability focused and how we can partner together to achieve a common goal.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed to receive training, fund future green projects and learn about innovative solutions.

Vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in the Town of Emmitsburg but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,

Emmitsburg Green Team Members:

Madeline Shaw, Charlotte Mazaleski, Barbara Weedon, Diane Walbrecker, Stephen McGinley, Zach Gulden, Libby Briggs, Donald Briggs, Wayne Slaughter, Sandy X, and Kelsey Wailes.

February 24th, 2020

Justinian Dispenza

Chairperson, Galena Green Team/Park and Tree Committee

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Hello,

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, the Galena Green Team urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of Galena, we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a municipality, our little town has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for the last year. When I became the chairperson of the park and tree committee two years ago *we didn't even HAVE a green team*. The Park and Tree committee's responsibilities basically were to help hang Christmas lights on the town tree and replace a Dogwood tree every year or two that got killed by the winter road salts. Pretty basic stuff. And not changing the world.

Getting the SM grant changed everything. And I mean that.

Since getting the 2019 grant, we have ramped up our sustainability **10 fold**. We handed out 300 reusable cloth shopping bags with our green team info on it to local businesses to give to their customers, we designed and built NINE (9) trash cans/local wildflower planters that our elementary school students painted with eco-friendly messages, we educated the local school students about picking up trash for the ENTIRE fourth and fifth grades, and handed out over TWO THOUSAND compostable shopping bags, tasting spoons, take out containers and coffee cups to help our small town's businesses transition away from 'single-use' and 'disposable' plastic items to a greener and more livable future.

I have been involved in eco-projects since college and this grant is **BY FAR** the best thing that we could have ever received. It has started the long and difficult process of changing our citizens into eco-aware consumers and since our town is close to a river that runs into the bay, the reduction in both plastic waste (from our handouts to businesses) and trash in town (due to our construction and placement of the planters/trash bins) has been noticeable by our mayor (John Carroll). We have big plans for the SM grant this year if we get it, and we hope this program continues to grow for years to come. By 2050, scientists say that there will be as much plastic in the oceans as fish, and this grant has enabled us to do our small part in reducing waste and trash that gets blown or washed into the Chesapeake Bay.

At the end of the day, most people are lazy, and this grant enables us to create positive change through a small committee that benefits not only our town but also the environment around our municipality. The options are endless on what we can do, and we're already starting to plan for our grant application next year (say hello to a Monarch friendly butterfly and local wildflower garden in our Dogwood Park!!)

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance

needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed to fund REAL, LASTING, and MEANINGFUL change on the ground in our little community.

I beg you to vote with a resounding “Yes” on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in Galena, but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability. We only have one planet, the time to act is NOW.

Sincerely,

Justinian Dispenza (Galena Park and Tree/Green Team Chairperson)
Richard Amato (Park and Tree Committee member)
Gary Robinson (Park and Tree Committee member)
Kathleen Billmire (Town Administrator)
John Carroll (Mayor of Galena)

The Town of
GLEN ECHO
Chartered 1904

Town Hall • 6106 Harvard Avenue • P.O. Box 598 • Glen Echo • MD 20812 • (301) 320-4041

February 19, 2020

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Delegates of the Appropriations Committee,

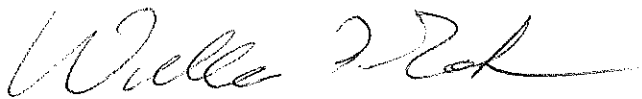
As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, the Town of Glen Echo urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of Glen Echo we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a registered municipality our Town has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for over 2 years. Being involved with the Sustainable Maryland Program has provided a guide for our priorities in being a Sustainable Town as well as providing an identity that is valued by our residents. Moreover, the information shared and gathered through the program has given us new ideas for sustainable activities and outreach for our community. These are essential changes, improvements and priorities needed throughout Maryland.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed to develop rain and conservation gardens, to establish a composting program, to reduce waste, to plant more trees, to create bio corridors and habitats, and to value our natural heritage through the actions of residents.

Vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in our Glen Echo but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,



Willem Polak, Mayor and The Glen Echo Green Team



Robin Cahall, Mayor
Eugene Carver, Council Member
Rob Jarrell, Council Member

Cindy Burns, Town Manager
Virginia Albers, Town Clerk
Office Phone 410-482-8805

February 18, 2020

Dr. Cindy Burns, Circuit Rider Town Manager
Towns of Goldsboro and Templeville

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Delegates of the Appropriations and Education, Health and Environment Committees,

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, the Town of Goldsboro's Green Team urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

The Goldsboro Green Team has firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a registered municipality, our Town has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for 2 years. The program has been the key to establishing and maintaining our sustainable efforts. The Town registered in 2018 with the help of Mike Hunninghake. Mike attended our kick-off meeting to explain the benefits and process of becoming a certified municipality. From that meeting, we created our Vision and an Action Plan; we have been using that Action Plan as our map for action. The program pointed us to the Maryland Smart Communities grant, we applied and are currently working on reducing the electricity usage in our Town Hall. Last spring the Town hosted the first ever Farmer's Market; the market was so successful the committee is currently working on plans for the 2020 season. Additionally, the Town is working towards greening the Town Office property using the Green Street, Green Jobs, Green Towns grant program. The program has been a great motivation as we work towards earning points towards certification. The SM Leadership seminars, the newsletters, and the link to other Towns' efforts have provided information on actions and resources to improve our sustainability.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps our Commissioners and Green Team members. The resources and technical assistance enable the Town to develop its own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. The assistance provided by the SM Program is especially critical to the tiny towns with little or no staff. Every resource you can provide to establish a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed to identify solutions, pay or contribute to payment for projects, and communicate with Town and surrounding community residents – especially critical for Towns without an on-line presence.

Vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in our Town but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,

Cindy Burns



February 13, 2020

Re: MD SB0737 / HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund - Establishment

Dear Senators of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee,

The New Market Green Team wishes to express its support of the MD SB0737 / HB 1520 and urges a "YES" vote on the bill to establish **the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund**. Our Green Team and our community have benefited greatly from the technical assistance, education, and resources provided by the Sustainable Maryland (SM) program. This bill to expand and enhance SM is a critical step in the State's effort to empower local action and realize statewide environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

As a registered municipality of the SM program, we have firsthand experience with this unique framework that helps provide our Green Team, elected officials, and staff with the education and technical assistance we need to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues.

Not only does SM enable us to more easily navigate other state and local programs, but it also helps us to organize our residents to take action. Through the SM program we have received training and information necessary to communicate the importance of sustainability to our residents, established a plan for taking action, and increased our ability to pursue funding to improve our community. The SM program has become a primary driver for building community capacity to engage in sustainability projects.

With the assistance of SM staff, our team has been able to establish programs, which allow New Market to address its sustainability. Our residential compost program has been in existence for three years and continues to add participants on an average of 20 residents per year. This year, we have established a rain barrel program, which will reduce runoff into our local tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay. With guidance from SM Staff, we hope to build on these two programs and pursue other sustainable activities such as residential pollination gardens and vegetable gardens.

By supporting this bill, the state will help to elevate and amplify these efforts. The SM Program Fund will help to replicate and scale Green Teams to other local jurisdictions and provide much needed funding to pursue new and innovative community-based projects. The State should take this opportunity to expand and support this high-performing program in order to create more and stronger Green Teams across the state of Maryland.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Runkles
Chair, New Market Green Team

RIVERDALE PARK



February 19, 2020

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Delegates of the Appropriations Committee and Delegates of the Education, Health and Environment Committee,

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, the Town of Riverdale Park Green Team urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of the Town of Riverdale Park we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a Sustainable Maryland (SM) certified municipality since 2014 our Town has relied on the SM program to support our comprehensive sustainability efforts for the last 6 years. Over the years, the SM team has taken the lead in connecting the dots between our Maryland communities that literally amplify benefits to both human and environmental sustainability for the region.

Specifically, the Town of Riverdale Park has benefitted from the relationship established for us by SM with the University of Maryland School of Information Science, Community Outreach Coordinator. Through the work of graduate students completing CAPSTONE projects, our Town staff have multiple studies on stormwater issues, food security, composting, community gardens and energy efficiency upon which to base decisions and make recommendations to our Town Council for the betterment of the quality of life for our Town's residents. In addition, members of our Green Team and Town staff have taken full advantage of attending SM Leadership Trainings as well as the individualized attention we get from the dedicated SM team.

Our Town website documents Visions and Commitments which all include an element of sustainability. While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed to achieve the resilience demanded to address environmental challenges, such as stormwater management, in the future.

Vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in our town but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,

RIVERDALE PARK



Town of Riverdale Park Sustainability Committee (Green Team)

Sarah F. Battis

D. Lee

An C. Fub

Marya H. Faulk

Lora Katz

Monica E. Gall

Vicky Zurett

W. P.

Stephen Savage

Thurmont Green Team
ThurmontGreen@gmail.com
615 E Main Street, Thurmont, MD 21788



February 13, 2020

Re: MD SB0737 / HB 1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Delegates of the Appropriations Committee & Delegates of the Education, Health and Environment Committee,

The Thurmont Green Team wishes to express its support of the MD SB0737 /HB 1520 and urges a “YES” vote on the bill to establish the **Sustainable Maryland Program Fund**. Our Green Team and community has benefited greatly from the technical assistance, education and resources provided by the Sustainable Maryland (SM) program. This bill to expand and enhance SM is a critical step in the State’s effort to empower local action and realize statewide environmental, economic and social sustainability.

As a Certified Municipality of the SM program, we have firsthand experience with this unique framework that helps provide our Green Team, elected officials and staff with the education and technical assistance we need to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues. Thurmont approved a Green Purchasing Policy, Arbor Day events and residential clustering to allow for more areas to be set aside for environmental uses.

Not only does SM enable us to more easily navigate other state and local programs, but it also helps us to organize our residents to take action. Through the SM program we have received training and information necessary to communicate the importance of sustainability to our residents, established a plan for taking action and increased our ability to pursue funding to improve our community. The SM program has become a primary driver for building community capacity to engage in sustainable projects. The Green Team arranged for Stream Clean-Up of Hunting Creek, Storm drain Stenciling for the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, and a local Farmers Market and other outreach events for the town and neighboring area.

The Town of Thurmont has been able to upgrade most of the town street lights, light the walk/bike Trolley Trail, and renovate an older home to accommodate the Town Offices in a sustainable manner. Through the camaraderie of other state Green Teams and training via the Sustainable Maryland Program we have established our own Thurmont Green Fest which provides educational materials, demonstrations, and information on sustainability to our residents.

By supporting this bill, the state will help to elevate and amplify these efforts. The SM Program Fund will help to replicate and scale Green Teams to other local jurisdictions and provide much needed funding to pursue new and innovative community-based projects. The State should take this opportunity to expand and support this high-performing program in order to create more and stronger Green Teams across the state of Maryland.

Sincerely, 
Cindy Poole, chairman, Town of Thurmont Green Team



Town of Upper Marlboro

Town Hall, 14211 School Lane
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

Tel: (301) 627-6905
Fax: (301) 627-2080

info@uppermarlbormd.gov
www.uppermarlbormd.gov

Mailing address: P.O. Box 280 • Upper Marlboro, MD 20773-0280

February 20, 2020

The Honorable Paul Pinsky, Chair
Education, Health and Environmental Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Support for SB0737 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Chairman Pinsky,

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, on behalf of the Town of Upper Marlboro, Maryland and its future Green Team, I urge you to support SB0737 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

We have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program. As a registered municipality our Town has relied on the SM program to support the beginning of our comprehensive sustainability efforts.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials, municipal staff, and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that the Town and Upper Marlboro area is supported to bring green initiatives, save money, and take steps to sustain residents' quality of life over the long term.

Please vote "Yes" on SB0737 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. Help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in our town but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,

Linda Pennoyer

President / Mayor

Board of Town Commissioners

Kai Bernal-LeClaire
Commissioner/Treasurer

Wanda Leonard
Commissioner

Linda Pennoyer
Commissioner/President



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE
PO BOX 15887, CHEVY CHASE, MD 20815

February 20, 2020

Re: Support for SB0737/HB1520 Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Delegates of the Appropriations Committee/ Dear Delegates of the Education, Health and Environment Committee:

As you deliberate the State of Maryland's legislative priorities in the coming weeks, the Village of North Chevy Chase's Green Team urges you to support SB0737/HB1520 and vote "YES" on the bill to establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund.

As residents and Green Team members of the Village of North Chevy Chase, we have firsthand experience with the benefits of the Sustainable Maryland program (SM). The Village of North Chevy Chase registered for the Sustainable Maryland program in the summer of 2019 and in just that short time, we have already benefited from the program substantially. We received a Sustainable Maryland certification training from the Program Manager, Mike Hunninghake, who shared best practices and lessons learned from a number of municipalities with similar challenges as ours. Based on the training, the Green Team is planning the Village's first-ever Earth Day celebration this year, during which it plans to disseminate information to residents on zero waste practices, native tree plantings, stormwater management, and a range of other important topics that will help the community further its green practices.

While other programs offer specific environmental services, the SM program framework helps provide our elected officials and Green Team members the education and technical assistance needed to develop our own capacity to manage local sustainability issues comprehensively and navigate other state and local programs so that we can take advantage of resources already available. Establishing a Sustainable Maryland Program Fund would strengthen our efforts, ensuring that we get the support needed to fund on-the-ground projects and learn about innovative solutions throughout the State of Maryland.

We strongly encourage you to vote "Yes" on SB0737/HB1520 and establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund in order to increase technical assistance, coordinate local efforts, and encourage more communities to take action. The bill will help build community capacity to engage in sustainability projects, not just in our Village but in the growing number of communities throughout the state who are deeply invested in pursuing local environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

Sincerely,

Helen Santiago Fink, Jane Houlihan, Mike Houlihan, Howard Kaplan, Dana Peterson, Carrie Witkop
Village of North Chevy Chase Environment Committee