



Town of Queenstown

Queenstown Commissioners



County Seat from
1708 to 1782

February 19, 2020

Chairman Kumar Barve
House Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251
Lowe House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 203/SB 614 and SB 962

Dear Chairman Barve,

The Community Parks and Playgrounds Program has been a municipal-only grant program since 2010 and has been funded at only \$2.5 million per year for the past ten years. By passing the above referenced bills, it will allow Baltimore and Howard Counties, two large and wealthy counties with no municipalities, to access this small amount of funding and could decimate what little parks and recreation monies municipalities currently have available through this over-subscribed grant program.

The Town of Queenstown, with a population of around 700 people, was fortunate enough to have been awarded grant funding for park projects in the past from the Community Parks and Playgrounds Program. In FY 2005 we were awarded \$24,000 for improvements to our basketball court. In FY 2011 we received \$99,000 for the upgrade and replacement of our playground and new equipment. Finally, in FY 2017 we were awarded \$120,000 to be applied towards a park shoreline restoration project. Without these funds being made available to us, we would not have been able to create and upgrade to the safe and family oriented playground and park areas that we currently have. Should municipalities, such as ours, have to compete with large counties for the share of the coffers, I'm afraid that the smaller communities will suffer.

On behalf of the Town Commissioners of Queenstown, and the residents of our municipality, I am respectfully requesting that you vote against HB 203/SB 614 and SB 962.

Regards,

Amy W. Moore
Town Manager