

Ms. Susan Stern
9E Ridge Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770
15 February 2021

Honorable Chair Barve
Environment and Transportation Committee
Maryland General Assembly

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in favor of HB 0704, with apology for not being able to get this to you on time. I am concerned about impacts to the Greenbelt Forest Preserve, National Park Lands of the Parkway, the Patuxent Wildlife Refuge, Goddard Space Flight Center, and the sensitive areas of Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, which are all essential to the Prince George's County (PGC) environment. These protected properties provide essential benefits for conservation, mitigation, recreation, and education. I am a local resident who enjoys the aforementioned benefits of these protected properties

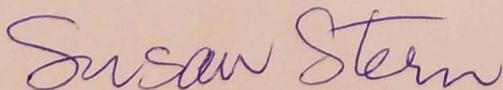
In addition, human health improves with access to forests and natural green spaces. Please consider this research in support of this statement:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2793342/>

I support the NO BUILD option to allow the environmental health of our forests and green spaces to continue to benefit the health of citizens of PGC, and to aid in the challenges of air and water quality, stormwater and wetland functions, and climate change.

There was very little advance notice and submitting testimony is not easy. Therefore I am very grateful for the opportunity to submit my concerns to safeguard these protected properties, and thank you very much for your consideration to support HB0704.

Very Respectfully,



Susan Stern