



March 11, 2022

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chair  
House Appropriations Committee  
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121  
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: HB0896 - Maryland Stadium Authority - Increase of Bond Authorization - Camden Yards

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore (EAGB), I am writing to register our strong support for HB0896. The legislation will increase the cap on debt issuance and debt service from the current limit of \$235M to \$1.2B to be used to improve and enhance the facilities within the Camden Yards Sports Complex. By providing the resources needed for Oriole Park and M&T Stadium to remain competitive top-of-class homes for the Orioles and the Ravens, the State of Maryland will demonstrate their commitment to keeping the teams in Baltimore for years to come.

EAGB is a regional business organization dedicated to marketing the economic assets of the Greater Baltimore region, elevating the Region to a location of choice for employment, investment, and business location. We work in collaboration with our board members and other stakeholders to help catalyze economic opportunities and create pathways that enable residents throughout the region to be able to take advantage of these opportunities.

EAGB's member jurisdictions – Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Howard, Cecil, Carroll, Harford and Baltimore Counties – collaborate on programs and activities that celebrate the strengths of the entire Region, recognizing that the assets of one jurisdiction benefit the others and that Baltimore City is the heart of the Region. A vibrant Camden Yards as the home of two major league teams is a major asset for the entire Region and a critical element of the City's economic health and vitality.



The Camden Yards Sports Complex was a game changer for stadium development as a catalyst for urban revitalization across the country. More importantly, for over three decades Camden Yards has been a catalyst for economic development resulting in significant economic benefits for Baltimore City, the Greater Baltimore region and the State.

This legislation, once passed, will continue this tradition of visionary and future-focused leadership. Madam Chair and members of the Committee, we urge you to approve HB0896. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Whelley', is written over the typed name and title.

Michele Whelley  
President & CEO

CC: EAGB Board of Directors  
List Attached



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