



Maryland DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

February 14, 2022

Worrall Reed “Nick” Carter III
14272 Drapers Mill Road
Greensboro, MD 21639-1345
nmcarter1@verizon.net

Dear Mr. Carter III:

Thank you for your letter regarding Fred Tutman’s service on the Patuxent River Commission (Commission). I want to take this opportunity to respond.

The Annotated Code of Maryland, State Finance and Procurement Article, § 5-814, establishes the membership of the Commission. Further, it defines the term of a Commissioner as four years, but it makes no reference to reappointments beyond the carryover provision that allows a Commissioner to continue to serve until a replacement has been appointed. Commissions, such as these, explicitly provide for the length of a term, so as to encourage fresh ideas and new perspectives being brought to the table at regular intervals.

As you may be aware, Mr. Tutman had served on the Commission since 1996. After extensive discussions with my professional staff concerning the makeup of the Commission and, after careful deliberation, I decided that the Commission was due for fresh ideas and new perspectives. While Mr. Tutman may not have a formal seat on the Commission, I anticipate and welcome his continued advocacy and participation in his role as the Patuxent Riverkeeper.

Again, thank you for your letter. I recognize and value Maryland’s riverkeepers and look forward to continued partnerships to protect Maryland’s environment and natural resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert S. McCord".

Robert S. McCord, Esq.
Secretary
Maryland Department of Planning