



# CITY OF HAVRE DE GRACE

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**William T. Martin**

January 19, 2022

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve  
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee  
Room 251  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Mr. Chairman and the Honorable Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

**RE: Support – HB 156 - Local Governments – Urban Agricultural Incentive Zones – Authorization.**

The City of Havre de Grace supports House Bill 156. If passed, the bill would enable the City of Havre de Grace to establish an agricultural incentive zone.

Urban agriculture incentive zones are intended to encourage the production and sale of farm products. The city would receive 100% of the sales tax generated from farm products in the zone, to be placed in a special fund. Additionally, the city may grant property tax credits and other incentives to properties located in the zone. Urban agriculture incentive zones dissolve after 25 years.

The legislation would not require the city to take action; however, if the city desired, it could establish an urban agriculture incentive zone, which would make the city more marketable from an economic development viewpoint.

The City of Havre de Grace respectfully requests the committee give HB 156 a favorable report.

William T. Martin  
Mayor, City of Havre de Grace