



March 6, 2023

Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Senate Bill 874 – Favorable

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony regarding SB874.

Enterprise Community Development builds, preserves, owns and operates affordable housing communities in the Mid-Atlantic region that create a sense of pride, power and belonging, and connect our residents to vital support systems.

We write in support of Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. This program has provided valuable assistance to our organization as well as other nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impacts community safety, and the timing couldn't be better as we struggle to meet rising neighborhood challenges and louder resident requests.

Enterprise Community Development received two grants in 2022 from the Community Safety Works program for safety upgrades to two of our communities: \$25,000 to Park Heights Place and \$15,000 to Admiral Oaks. These grants have been important to our work to implement crucial safety upgrades and community resources at these properties.

At Park Heights Place in Baltimore, we are replacing lighting, repairing/replacing fencing and trimming trees on the property to improve security and help protect local residents. We are also improving lighting at the front and back of the property to increase visibility and deter crime. We are adding a fence this week that will help ensure that non-residents do not loiter on our property and helps reduce safety incidents in the parking lot and around the property. Tree trimming is helping to improve the visibility around the property and helps provide a clear line of sight for exterior security cameras to reduce trespassing, vandalism and other safety incidents in the parking lot and around the property.

At Admiral Oaks (Annapolis), we are refreshing the community's two playgrounds to improve the overall durability of the playground's ground cover and plan to incorporate additional projects that will improve bench seating and improve the playground's overall curb appeal. These improvements will provide central outdoor locations where residents can gather in pride and comfort.

Enterprise Community Development

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Enterprise Community Development is an Enterprise Community Partners affiliate



The State of Maryland's Community Safety Works program is providing crucial resources to ensure safer and better communities across our state. We request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Please feel free to contact us at 410.332.7400 for any questions or follow up. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian McLaughlin
President
Enterprise Community Development