



Honorable Guy Guzzone

Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Southeastern Community Relations Council would like to express our strong support for Senate Bill 874, which would establish Community Safety Works as an ongoing program within the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. Established as a budget initiative within the Department, Community Safety Works has already provided valuable assistance to nonprofit organizations, businesses and local governments through targeted investments in crime prevention that impact community safety.

The Southeastern Community experiences a wide array of crime stemming from violent to quality-of-life crimes for years. In efforts to mitigate crime in the Southeast communities work hard with local law enforcement and city agencies to find resolutions and put in safety measures to deter these types of crimes. Future funding of this bill will allow for communities to provide solutions to adding more resources within the neighborhoods to ensure safety of Southeastern residents and businesses. This would not only be a proactive measure but also allow for real time action to help find a resolution and strengthen partnership with local law enforcement and local city agencies on working collaboratively on community safety concerns. Residents in the Southeast want to help to make their neighborhoods feel safe for all community members as well as their businesses and those that visit the Southeastern District. This will allow for residents be a true partner to help bring viable solutions to help curb violence and quality of life crimes.

Again, this is to request a favorable report on SB874 to continue this valuable program. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brant Fisher', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brant Fisher

Southeast Community Relations Council, President

Southeastern District