



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

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Main Street Historic Chestertown 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.

We have been the recipient of two Community Safety Works grants, both of which have helped to dramatically improve the safety and security in our downtown district. The first grant allowed us to install dozens of security and traffic cameras, and upgraded corresponding equipment at our town Police Station. Being a small community, these cameras are integral in expanding our police force's capacity and "eyes on the street". The second grant we received will be used to improve undeveloped, vacant lots that are currently prime real estate for vagrant activity. The development of these parks and other streetscape will significantly improve the aesthetics, sustainability, and storm water management of downtown and reduce criminal activity.

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 blue ink that reads 'N. Fleegle'.

Nina Fleegle
Executive Director