

3430 2nd Street, Suite 300
Baltimore, MD 21225
410-929-2270
www.greaterbaybrookalliance.org



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

Dear Senator Guzzone:

Greater Baybrook Alliance 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.

GBA's mission is to act as a catalyst and conduit for equitable development and reinvestment in the Brooklyn, Brooklyn Park, and Curtis Bay neighborhoods and empower our residents to strengthen the Baybrook community.

The Brooklyn and Curtis Bay neighborhoods suffer from the highest levels of per capita firearm violence in Baltimore City. Our initial Community Safety Works awards were used to pilot an innovative Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) program that is aimed at reducing opportunities for open-air drug dealing and its associated firearm violence in our violence reduction priority areas. Future funding would allow us to expand our impact to additional blocks, stabilizing the community and providing space for neighborhood revitalization activities to take hold.

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

Sincerely,

Meredith Chaiken
Executive Director
Greater Baybrook Alliance