

February 5, 2024

I am honored to submit this testimony about Laurel Cats.

Laurel Cats is one of the greatest and most effective community organizations within the city of Laurel. Their trap, neuter, return program is free to every citizen that calls Laurel their home.

As a Laurel police officer for 28 years, when someone would drop off their cat because they didn't want it anymore, our only option at that time was to contact the Prince George's County animal shelter and inform the citizen that they will euthanize your cat.

With the hard work and dedication of Helen Woods (founder and CEO of Laurel Cats), not only are there many other options but the entire cat population has decreased.

Trust me, as a City of Laurel council member for the past 6 years, the Laurel Cats followers packed our council chambers with people waiting in the lobby to show their support for the proposal of a no-kill shelter being built in Laurel.

Any support on the Spay/Neuter Fund HB85 that you can provide will help continue this very worthwhile organization's efforts to achieve their goals, humanely and efficiently.

Sincerely,

Carl W. DeWalt

City of Laurel Council Member