

BALTIMORE HERITAGE

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Lesley Humphreys
President

February 28, 2024

Mara Murdoch, ALA
1st Vice President

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, House Environment
and Transportation Committee

Will Backstrom
Treasurer

Sent Electronically

Ralph Brown, MD
Recording Secretary

Matthew Compton, ALA
Membership Secretary

Re: Support for HB 1358 / Gwynns Falls Leakin Park

Dear Chairman Korman:

Krista D. Green
Past President

I am writing to convey my strong support for House Bill 1358 to include Baltimore's Gwynns Falls Leakin Park as a Partnership Park in the state park system.

Tabitha Atkins
Elise A. Butler, Esq.
Lashelle Bynum
Andrew J. Colletta
Graham Coreil-Allen
Elizabeth Doyle
Arlene B. Fisher
David A. Gadsby
Jean Rambo Hankey
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China Boak Terrell
Brandy Tomhave
Delegate Mary Washington
Barbara K. Weeks

The park is not only Baltimore's largest park, it also contains significant historic sites that are important parts of understanding Baltimore. These include the Crimea Estate and Orianda House that is part of the story of America's first railroad, the B&O, the role the park played in stopping a federal highway system from crushing Baltimore's parks and waterfront, and the overall design and role the park has played in shaping Baltimore's public spaces. Coupled with its fantastic natural resource, this heritage is important both to Baltimore and Maryland.

Thank you for your strong consideration of HB1358 that would help Gwynns Falls Leakin Park achieve its best potential for all of Maryland.

Sincerely,

Johns W. Hopkins
Executive Director



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Executive Director