



# Charles County Government

## CHARLES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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*Acting County Administrator*

February 24, 2026

RE: Letter of Support for SB 575 Economic Development - Maryland Stadium Authority - Charles County Sports and Wellness Center

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Budget & Taxation Committee:

On behalf of the Charles County Board of County Commissioners, I write to express our strong support for passage of SB 575 Economic Development - Maryland Stadium Authority - Charles County Sports and Wellness Center, a bill slated to spur significant economic development in the Southern Maryland region.

The Board of County Commissioners is committed to bringing the Sports and Wellness Center, a world-class recreational amenity, to the heart of the Charles County population center, in Waldorf, MD. The facility will offer competitive aquatics services along with other recreational programming for patrons of all ages. We, as a Board, have dedicated \$53 million to funding the facility. The Sports and Wellness Center is in direct response to the desires of our residents identified through extensive community outreach and engagement. Additionally, our 2022 Charles County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (LPPRP) identified deficiencies in indoor recreation and aquatic facilities, specifically, the lack of operation by the County of any indoor aquatic facilities that are regularly accessible to the public. In addition to filling this important local need, the project has the potential to be an economic catalyst with impact beyond our County's boundaries.

MSA's expertise and additional resources is precisely what is needed to make the Charles County Sports and Wellness Center the transformational project it is ripe to become. SB 575 authorizes \$45 million in funding and directs the Maryland Stadium Authority (MSA) to participate in the planning, financing, and long-term stewardship of the proposed Charles County Sports and Wellness Center. Sited on the former location of the Sears department store at St. Charles Towne Center, this project, with help from the State, will attract new business and investment to an area under threat of becoming blighted without deliberate and aggressive action.

We urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 575 as a major step in bringing the Charles County Sports and Wellness Center to fruition. This project will close documented service gaps for our residents and be of benefit to the vitality of Southern Maryland.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "RC".

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq. President