



Cathy Lemp [REDACTED]

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## please withdraw ZTA 23-09

1 message

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**Cathy Lemp** <cathylemp@gmail.com>

Sat, Jan 6, 2024 at 10:15 AM

To: county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov

Bcc: info@mocoalliance.org, Cathy Lemp [REDACTED]

As a voter, long-time Montgomery County resident, and volunteer on the Agricultural Reserve, I firmly oppose ZTA 23-09 and join the many agricultural groups, community associations, and other Ag Reserve stakeholders who have called on the County Council to withdraw this measure from consideration.

By allowing accessory structures for overnight accommodations and changing the definition of farming, I believe ZTA 23-9 fails to understand the true purpose and value of MoCo's unique Agricultural Reserve, as well as the complex economic issues involved in keeping farms viable and supporting diverse new types of farm operations. If the County Council is truly interested in supporting the Ag Reserve and its farms, you should be asking and listening to what farmers themselves have to say about the challenges they face. Anything else is just window dressing.

ZTA 23-9 would change the entire nature of the uses allowed in the Agricultural Reserve and does not serve the Ag Reserve's fundamental goals of preserving working farms, open space, and water resources. It will hurt, not help, the Ag Reserve.

Sincerely,

Catherine Lemp

