



AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

January 12, 2024

Andrew Friedson, President
Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: ZTA 23-08, Transferrable Development Rights – Cemetery

Dear Council President Friedson,

During its January 9, 2024, meeting, the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board (APAB) moved to submit recommendations to the Council on Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) 23-08. The APAB believes this ZTA could have unintended negative impacts on the amount of farmland in the county.

The APAB recommends the ZTA be amended to explicitly exclude family burial sites, which are currently included within the definition of cemetery in the County Code, and to allow existing cemeteries to expand one time only, by a maximum of 10 acres, onto property with a shared boundary.

The APAB looks forward to working with the Council on this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael Jamison, Chairman

cc: Marc Elrich, County Executive
Mike Scheffel, Director, Office of Agriculture