



AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 4, 2012

Francoise Carrier, Chair
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland
20910

Dear Madam Chair:

RE: Zoning Rewrite Process Public Session

On behalf of the Agricultural Advisory Committee-AAC, please accept this letter endorsing the comments submitted by Jane Seigler, Agricultural Representative of Zoning Advisory Panel-ZAP from the agricultural community regarding the Zoning Rewrite Process. The AAC and the agricultural community are very fortunate to have Jane Seigler as the voice of agriculture on the Zoning Rewrite Process. There are several sections within the current draft report pertaining to agriculture that we still have concerns which need to be addressed to fulfill the legislative intent of the Agricultural Reserve and to protect the interests of agriculture throughout Montgomery County. The AAC will not support recommendations that deemphasize agricultural uses in any way or in any zones from what is currently permitted in the Zoning Code. The AAC will continue to participate in the process to insure these objectives are fulfilled.

We want to thank the MNCPPC staff for their time and effort on this process as we truly understand the complexity of the Zoning Code and the challenges in trying to address the comments and concerns of all parties involved. The AAC is encouraged by some of the recommendations surrounding the Rewrite Process and we will continue the course to make sure agricultural uses and interests are not negatively impacted.

Thank you for considering the views of the Montgomery County Agricultural Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

David Weitzer, Chairman

Cc: Jane Seigler
Pam Dunn