



HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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November 16, 2021

Senator Clarence K. Lam, Senate Delegation Chair
Howard County Delegation
420 Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Delegate Courtney Watson, House Delegation Chair
Howard County Delegation
216 House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: **TESTIMONY OF SUPPORT:** Ho. Co. Legislative Bond Initiative: Waterloo Park Playground

Dear Chair Lam, Chair Watson and Delegation Members,

I am proud to express my support for this project, which would establish funding to support the repair and replacement of the Waterloo Park playground.

Howard County is one of the best places to play and enjoy the outdoors in Maryland, thanks in large part to our award-winning parks and playgrounds. Elkridge's Waterloo Park brings children and adults of Howard County's oldest settlement together. At Waterloo, they experience the beauty of nature and come together as a community.

I am grateful for the Delegation's support for our county's park and playground infrastructure. Support for this \$150,000 bond initiative will build upon this investment by funding a replacement playground at Waterloo Park. The twenty year-old playground is beyond its functional lifespan. Structure and surface improvements will enhance public accessibility, visitor safety, and the overall park experience. These park improvements will also improve equitable access to quality recreational facilities for the surrounding community.

Howard County's children and adults have enjoyed getting back outside as part of the COVID-19 recovery. Our community's public parks are among the best free and accessible places for residents and visitors to care for their mental and physical health. I urge support for this project so that the current and future park users can stay active, healthy, and build new friendships in a place that many have come to love.

All the Best,

Calvin Ball
Howard County Executive