



Oakland Mills Community Association
The Other Barn • 5851 Robert Oliver Place
Columbia, MD 21045
410-730-4610 • oaklandmills.org



January 29, 2024

TO: Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

FROM: Oakland Mills Community Association
Jonathan Edelson, Chair, Board of Directors

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 446

The Oakland Mills Community Association supports Senate Bill 2024-446. While most of Oakland Mills is already served by public roads, stormwater facilities, etc., parts of Oakland Mills were developed as subdevelopments with their own common ownership or homeowners' associations responsible for their subdevelopment within Oakland Mills. Fifty years or more after their construction, some of these subdevelopments are now struggling to raise the funds necessary to maintain or upgrade services provided by our county in other communities. This has led to inequities in the condition of infrastructure that would traditionally be maintained by the county, and the only current path to remedy this would be substantial dues increases passed on to the members of the subdevelopments.

Allowing counties and municipalities to establish infrastructure funds will be a step toward fixing this situation. We support not only the potential to create these funds, but also the prioritization by need for the disbursement of these funds. Senate Bill 2024-446 is a first step toward relieving a burden on residents of the State of Maryland, such as those who live in the subdevelopments within Oakland Mills, who currently face steep bills to maintain or repair infrastructure that other residents receive as a public good.