



Oakland Mills Community Association
The Other Barn • 5851 Robert Oliver Place
Columbia, MD 21045

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March 27, 2024

Dennis Matthey, President/CEO Columbia Association
CA Board of Directors
6310 Hillside Court
Columbia, MD 21046

Dear Mr. Matthey and the Board of Directors,

The Oakland Mills Village Board extends a heartfelt appreciation to the CA Board for the approval in 2023 of the Open Space Play Area Pilot Study in Oakland Mills. We thank the CA Open Space Staff led by Jason Heath for excellent leadership and expertise in the successful completion of the study.

CA Staff presented the Pilot Study results to our Board last month and how the resulting Cluster Play Area Program Policy and Guidance would be applied to a sample cluster of our play areas. Our Board was very pleased to see the collaborative effort between CA Staff and Oakland Mills residents on the study work group. The Morey Group consultant study survey had 1,727 responses from Columbia residents with 15% from Oakland Mills. This provided a solid basis for the study work group to provide the amenities residents want in their play areas.

The Oakland Mills Village Board strongly supports the Pilot Study results. We urge the CA Board to approve the Cluster Play Area Program Policy as the Strategic Plan for Cluster Play Areas. Additionally, we strongly encourage an emphasis on community feedback for multi-generational features beyond play structures.

Our Board looks forward to future collaborative efforts with CA to provide our residents with an Open Space that is the Crown Jewel of Columbia.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Edelson, Chair
Oakland Mills Board of Directors