



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL

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Councilmembers Ball, Terrasa, and Weinstein to Re-Introduce Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) Legislation in January 2018

Ellicott City, MD (November 22, 2017) – Yesterday, Howard County Councilmembers Calvin Ball, Jen Terrasa, and Jon Weinstein announced that they have re-introduced legislation for introduction in January to update the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO). Council Bills 1- and 2-2018 were drafted from the amended versions of Council Bills 61- and 62-2017, which the Council intended to adopt on November 6.

After Council Bills 61- and 62-2017 favorably passed on November 6, it was determined that the APFO legislation had expired at midnight on November 5, which meant the Council's votes on the bills were not valid. The Howard County Charter limits the time between introducing and voting on a bill to a maximum of 125 days. "We're filing legislation that reflects the intent of what was agreed upon by the majority of the Council earlier this month," said Weinstein.

Council Bills 1- and 2-2018 will address the recommendations from the APFO Task Force to manage the pace of growth in the County, including tests for schools, housing allocations, and roads. "We heard from the community, made the bill much stronger than what was previously filed by the Administration, and are now taking action to complete this process in a timely manner," said Dr. Ball. Councilperson Jen Terrasa added, "The Council has worked long and hard on these bills and came up with compromises that both got the support they needed and served the community's needs."

The proposed legislation will be introduced at the Council's legislative session on January 2, 2018. Testimony will be accepted at the legislative public hearing on January 16, 2018. To sign up to testify, visit <https://apps.howardcountymd.gov/otestimony/>. If you would like to submit your testimony electronically, email councilmail@howardcountymd.gov.

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