



Harford County Council of PTA, Inc.
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November 6, 2024

Harford County Council
Mr. Dion Guthrie, District A
Mr. Aaron Penman, District B
Mr. Tony "G" Giangiordano, District C
Mr. Patrick S. Vincenti, Council President
Mr. James Reilly, District D
Ms. Jessica Boyle-Tsottles, District E
Mr. Jacob Bennett, District F

212 S. Bond Street
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Dear Members of the Harford County Council,

We would like to thank you for your continued support of all children across Harford County! We are requesting your support for Bill 24-033 which should restore Harford County Impact Fees to better reflect today's cost of money. The [Harford County Economic Statistics Report](#)¹ (as of November 1) shows people want to "Live here, work here, thrive here." But being "here" and building "here" should be commensurate with today's economy and today's inflation.

Harford County Impact Fees have remained flat. In fact, the [Maryland Department of Legislative Services](#)² shows that Harford County is not comparable to other County Government's Impact Fees/Excise Taxes of similar size. For example, Exhibit 2 shows that Frederick County's fees are roughly \$9,000 more than Harford County. Charles County fees are roughly \$11,000 more than Harford County.

As you are aware, Harford County Public Schools continually faces budget challenges resulting from changing and evolving State laws and constraints, and inflation. The current projected deficit is ~\$60M for FY26. Imposing reasonable Impact Fees does not eliminate the current

¹ <https://www.harfordcountymd.gov/3118/Data-Statistics>

² <https://dls.maryland.gov/pubs/prod/NoPblTabPDF/2021DevelopmentImpactFeesandImpactTaxes.pdf>



budget deficit that we're facing, but it does lessen the burden on Harford County citizens: you, me, and all the other citizens in this County.

New building and development has perpetual and long-lasting impacts on our schools in both capacity and infrastructure. Like you, we live here, work here, thrive here. Wouldn't it be impactful if the quality of our education and our school facilities encouraged people to stay here?

We request that you support Bill 24-033.

Thank you for your time and consideration. On behalf of the Harford County Council of PTA Board of Directors,


A. Renee DeBiase
President, HCCPTA