

Attachment C

February 10, 2015-Annual Meeting between the County Executive, the Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board, and the Agricultural Advisory Committee

Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board, Chairman-Bob Cissel, Michael Jamison, and John Fendrick and Staff-John Zawitoski

Thank you for your support on the FY15 Supplemental Appropriation to the Ag Pres CIP that was unanimously approved by the County Council earlier today.

Before the end of the month an agricultural easement will be settled on a 279 acre farm adjacent to the Town of Poolesville.

In 2013, you advised us to do the following-**Due to our funding situation please bring preservation opportunities like this farm in Poolesville to your attention.**

The preservation of this farm could set the stage for protecting the adjacent farms and this outcome can only be achieved with new sources of funding.

Over the next few months the APAB will begin dialog on ways to fund our preservation programs so we are prepared for the FY 17-18 Bi-Annual CIP Budget submission.

Thank you again for your continued support.

Agricultural Advisory Committee, Chairman-David Weitzer, Michele Cropp, Linda Lewis, Alzia Fishbein and Staff-Jeremy Criss

The AAC spent several months discussing the Bill 52-14 Pesticide Prohibitions.

All of the agricultural organizations participated in the public hearings and they are opposed to the legislation even though it exempts agriculture.

We do not believe the legislation is needed and it will only circumvent the authority of the Federal-EPA and the Maryland-MDA which regulates all pesticides registered for Restricted Use and General Use.

We do not believe the County Tax Payers can afford the costs to implement this legislation. With another significant revenue shortfall projected for FY16, how can the County pay for this legislation and what other programs or services will be negatively impacted?

We are happy to announce recent developments to schedule a public meeting with Providers of High Speed Internet access in the Poolesville area of the Ag Reserve.