

May 24, 2022

Hon. Rueben B. Collins
President, Charles County Board of Commissioners
County Government Building, 200 Baltimore St.
La Plata, MD 20646

Re: Septic Tier Map Amendment-Newburg

Dear President Collins and Commissioners,

The Maryland Building Industry Association (MBIA) is submitting testimony in regards to the proposed Septic Tier Map Amendment-Newburg. The Newburg Septic Tier Map Change went before the Charles County Planning Commission in late 2021 and it was determined by the commissioners that waiting until the Newburg Sub-Area Plan is developed with stakeholder input was the best course of action.

A Tier Map Change should not be made on its own from the Sub-Area Plan, which is a process that will have significant public input and discuss the entire Newburg area in total context, including economic development opportunities, and future sewer needs. The Newburg Sub-Area plan is already scheduled to begin later this year. If a sewer downgrade occurs prior to the Sub Area Plan completion, then any future work sessions would have no real effect.

It is also important to take into account the amount of investment at both a state and federal level. The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) on March 15th approved a \$200 million federal loan to finance part of the \$636 million replacement of the Nice/Middleton Bridge.¹ This brings a tremendous opportunity for the creation of a new tax base and more jobs in the area.

The industry appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed septic tier amendment and are available to answer any questions that you may have. We would ask the board for an unfavorable report on this proposal.

Respectfully,

Griffin Benton, Vice President Government Affairs

¹ Maryland-Virginia Nice/Middleton Bridge Replacement Gets \$200M Federal Loan - <https://www.constructionequipmentguide.com/maryland-virginia-nice-middleton-bridge-replacement-gets-200m-federal-loan/55963>



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