

Carol DeSoto

From: applications@charlescountymd.gov on behalf of Charles County Government
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Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2021 10:20 AM
To: Public Record
Subject: *NEW SUBMISSION* Comprehensive Plan Amendment – Lands Surrounding Maryland Airport

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Comprehensive Plan Amendment – Lands Surrounding Maryland Airport

Submission #: 1209292
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Public Hearing Comment Form

Questions or More Information (301) 645-0570

Name

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Are you:

Against Topic

Comment

I oppose the amendment to remove the Watershed Conservation District designation from around the airport. The WCD designation was put there in response to urgent warnings from state and federal agencies. The science is well-established that WCD is critically needed to keep Mattawoman Creek from going over the tipping point of irreversible decline. Removing the WCD designation, as discussed by all parties, would lead to intense expansion of the airport, resulting in an unacceptable increase in the exposure of the community, especially schoolchildren only 700 yards away. Save the Creek and Save the Community. The stated purpose of the Amendment is to allow a large expansion of an airport whose propeller planes use leaded gas that pollute local communities. The Amendment is a threat to a nationally recognized bass fishing habitat that drives local ecotourism. The Amendment would fragment

forest and wildlife corridors in an area with documented biodiversity. The worldwide climate crisis expresses itself in our region in flooding and forest loss. Local governments have a responsibility to consider holistically their contribution to the global climate crisis. Airplanes have a big fossil fuel footprint. The airport expansion, for which the amendment was devised, represents removal of the benefits to the community of the protections and economic opportunities afforded by this land and transferring it to a private out-of-county owner. The Commissioners at the hearing repeatedly denied any environmental damage from the airport expansion, which is totally inconsistent with the content of the scientific reports which spurred the creation of the Watershed Conservation District.

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Thank you,
Charles County, MD

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