

Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights

October 5, 2017

Council President Berliner
Council Vice President Riemer
PHED Chair Nancy Floreen
Councilmember Elrich
Councilmember Hucker
Councilmember Katz
Councilmember Leventhal
Councilmember Navarro
Councilmember Rice

Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue, 4th Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Re: Bill No. 24-17
Concerning: Land Use Information – Burial Sites

Dear Councilmembers:

Common decency demands that the remains of the dead be addressed in a respectful manner. The needs of the living require flexibility in individual circumstances to allow the respectful relocation of remains.

Therefore, the Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights, comprising 18 communities, supports the proposed legislation set forth in Bill No. 24-17, Land Use Information - Burial Sites.

http://montgomerycountymd.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=169&clip_id=13762&meta_id=142763

We suggest your consideration of the following to be added to the proposed legislation:

- Provide for submission of petitions to the Planning Board to add burial sites to the inventory.
- Identify known burial sites/cemeteries on digital Planning Dept. maps used by the Planning Department and Department of Permitting Services, respectively, in considering an approval of a subdivision and issuance of a permit.
- Require identification of burial site(s) that are on the inventory on all subdivision and site plans addressing the area where burial site(s) are located that are submitted to the Planning Dept. for approval, and all building permit applications submitted to the Department of Permitting Services for approval.
- Prohibit disturbance to a burial site, other than a licensed cemetery, unless approved by the State's attorney.
- Provide for identification of the burial site, e.g., signage.
- Provide for future access to the burial site, under reasonable conditions

We appreciate your engagement on this issue and your consideration of our suggestions above.
Sincerely,

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Sincerely,



Harold W. Pfohl, Chair
Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights

c. Jeffrey Zyontz, County Council Staff

Representing the Citizens Associations of Brookdale, Chevy Chase Village, Chevy Chase West, Drummond, Friendship Heights, Glen Echo Heights, Kenwood, Kenwood Condominium, Kenwood House Cooperative, Kenwood Place Condominium, Somerset, Springfield, Sumner, Sumner Village Condominium, Westmoreland, Westbard mews, Westwood Mews, and Wood Acres