



## HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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Senator Clarence K. Lam, Senate Delegation Chair  
Howard County Delegation  
420 Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Delegate Courtney Watson, House Delegation Chair  
Howard County Delegation  
216 House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: **TESTIMONY OF SUPPORT:** Ho. Co. Legislative Bond Initiative: Barnard Fort House Renovation

Dear Chair Lam, Chair Watson and Delegation Members,

I am proud to express my support for this project, which would establish funding to support the renovation of the Barnard Fort House.

Howard County acquired the historic Barnard Fort House in 2013. The property, located in Historic Ellicott City and the Patapsco Valley Heritage Area, is currently vacant and in need of repair to make it available for public use and enjoyment. The \$150,000 bond initiative funding will allow the County to restore and renovate this 19<sup>th</sup> century building. The Department of Recreation & Parks' renovation plans include the construction of classrooms for educational and recreational programming; the creation of office space for the nonprofit Patapsco Heritage Greenway, Inc.; and the preservation of local historic artifacts that can connect current and future Howard County residents and visitors to our rich past.

I am prepared to match Delegation funding for this initiative with funds in the FY2023 Capital Budget.

As we near the celebration of Ellicott City's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary, our historic town remains a vital part of Howard County and our nation's history. Delegation support for the Barnard Fort House renovation will support the restoration of a site where all who visit or work in the space can connect with our history. I urge your support for this project.

All the Best,

Calvin Ball  
Howard County Executive