



*Advocating for the
Monocacy River watershed
since 1978*

From: The Monocacy Scenic River Citizens' Advisory Board

To: The Frederick County Council:

The Honorable Mr. Bud Otis, President; Ms. MC Keegan-Ayer, Vice President; Ms. Jessica Fitzwater; Mr. Tony Chmelik; Mr. Kirby Delauter; Mr. Jerry Donald; Mr. Billy Shreve

Carroll County Board of Commissioners:

The Honorable Mr. Dennis Frazier, President; Mr. Stephen Wantz, Vice President; Mr. Richard Weaver, Secretary; Mr. Richard Rothschild; Mr. Doug Howard

Date: March 8, 2018

Dear Elected Officials of Frederick and Carroll Counties:

The Monocacy Scenic River Citizen's Advisory Board (The River Board) voted by a majority on March 7, 2018 to respectfully ask The Frederick County Council and the Carroll County Board of Commissioners to allow the River Board to further modify the draft August 2, 2017 Monocacy Scenic River Management Plan (the Plan) that was previously submitted to the counties for your consideration and adoption.

We can modify the River Plan to achieve a successful and effective Plan expeditiously, should time be of essence.

Based on the many public comments and reactions to the August 2, 2017 River Plan that occurred after the 2017 Draft Plan was submitted by the River Board to the counties - we feel it is fitting and proper for the Board to further amend the Plan to address genuine concerns expressed by so many factions.

This includes a desire by the Carroll County Commissioners as publicly stated by the Commissioners, to have the Plan further reformed by The River Board to address concerns of The Farm Bureau and landowners contiguous to The Monocacy. The 2017 River Plan was also rejected as written, by The Frederick County Planning Commission and recommended only with suggested revisions.

Furthermore, numerous concerns were expressed in several county public meetings subsequent to the completion of the 2017 draft Plan, including during the recent 2/28/2018 River Plan Public Hearing before the Frederick County Council. The Carroll & Frederick County Farm Bureau organizations; The Frederick & Carroll County Association of Realtors; and above all, so many citizens of the counties have repeatedly expressed strong opposition to aspects of the Plan.

The overwhelming consensus is to have The River Board fairly reform the Plan to address concerns.

The River Board is the most knowledgeable on all aspects of the Plan and issues. And the board agreed by majority on 3-7-18 that having the Board further amend the Plan is necessary and achievable.

It is for these reasons that we respectfully ask you to allow us to finish the job to produce an acceptable and successful Plan to be re-submitted to you for consideration.

Cordially,

Colonel Earl S. Bell, USAF (ret)

Vice Chairman of The Monocacy Scenic River Advisory Board / In accordance with the River Board by-laws, I have been authorized by the Board to send this letter.



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From: The Monocacy Scenic River Citizens' Advisory Board

To: The Frederick County Council: The Honorable Mr. Bud Otis, President; Ms. MC Keegan-Ayer, Vice President; Ms. Jessica Fitzwater; Mr. Tony Chmelik; Mr. Kirby Delauter; Mr. Jerry Donald; Mr. Billy Shreve

Date: April 4, 2018

Dear Elected Officials of Frederick County:

As you know, The Monocacy Scenic River Citizen's Advisory Board (The River Board) voted by a majority on March 7, 2018 to respectfully ask The Frederick County Council to allow the River Board to further modify the draft August 2, 2017 Monocacy Scenic River Management Plan (the Plan) that was previously submitted to both Frederick and Carroll counties for your consideration and adoption. We sent a letter on March 9th with this request.

We are writing today to re-iterate our interest in receiving the River Plan back for further reforms.

Since our previous correspondence to you, the Carroll County Board of Commissioners voted unanimously on March 29, 2018 to send the River Plan back to the River Board to be further amended in keeping with the spirit of suggested reforms by the Commissioners. The suggested amendments were determined through targeted public outreach to gage concerns.

Since The Monocacy River Management Plan is a joint-county River Management Plan under the MD Scenic & Wild Rivers Act, and has been such for over 26 years – we hope the Frederick County Council will also agree to allow the River Board to further reform the Plan accordingly for the benefit of the counties and citizens. We can modify the River Plan to achieve a successful and effective Plan expeditiously, should time be of essence.

Based on the many public comments and reactions to the August 2, 2017 River Plan that occurred after the 2017 Draft Plan was submitted by the River Board to the counties - we feel it is fitting and proper for the Board to further amend the Plan to address genuine concerns expressed by so many factions.

This includes the desire by the Carroll County Commissioners as evidenced by the above noted 3/29/18 vote to address concerns of The Farm Bureau and landowners contiguous to The Monocacy. The 2017 River Plan was also rejected as written, by The Frederick County Planning Commission and recommended only with suggested revisions.

Furthermore, numerous concerns were expressed in several county public meetings subsequent to the completion of the 2017 draft Plan, including during the recent 2/28/2018 River Plan Public Hearing before the Frederick County Council. The Frederick County Farm Bureau organization; The Frederick County Association of Realtors; and above all, so many citizens of the counties have repeatedly expressed strong opposition to aspects of the Plan, requesting reforms.

The overwhelming consensus is to have The Plan sent back to The River Board to be fairly reformed to address concerns.

The River Board is the most knowledgeable on all aspects of the Plan and issues. Having the Board further amend the Plan is necessary and achievable.

It is for these reasons that we respectfully ask you to allow us to finish the job to produce an acceptable and successful Plan to be re-submitted to you for consideration.

Cordially,

Matthew Toms

Member of The Monocacy Scenic River Advisory Board authorized by the Board to send this letter.