



ACTION ALERT

14 March 2008

Save Neighborhood Funding! Urge delegates to support State revitalization programs Act Today to Save Community Legacy Funding!

Every Year RHIC works to ensure funding is retained in programs that invest in older neighborhoods, and we've been pretty successful. A lot of the reason for that is the great response to our Action Alerts by you the residents of Reservoir Hill and supporters of RHIC. Decisions impacting two main sources of State funding for neighborhoods were made this week, and a critical vote is occurring at 1:00 pm today. Your response is very much needed. Please read on.

Older neighborhoods that slide into decline tend to cost taxpayers more for public safety, sanitation, and social services as private investment leaves, and residents who flee increase pressure for costly new development.

Maryland's Community Legacy and Neighborhood BusinessWorks Programs provide targeted grants and loans for neighborhoods that are basically sound, but showing signs of decline. Here in Reservoir Hill, Community Legacy dollars have funded rehab of 15 houses, and the Neighborhood BusinessWorks Program is funding studies that will create a tool for Reservoir Hill to advocate for re-development of the Whitelock Corridor. Strategic investments like these stem decline and help foster more thriving, sustainable communities over time.

Last week a Senate budget subcommittee voted to cut each state program \$1 million below Governor O'Malley's proposals, but this past Tuesday the House Health & Human Resources subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee disagreed on the Community Legacy Program, voting to approve the full \$7 million proposed by the governor.

The same House subcommittee already cut NeighborWorks by \$1 million. We need to act today to preserve Community Legacy funding!

One of Reservoir Hill's own delegates, Barbara Robinson, is a member of the subcommittee.

Please email and call your delegates immediately and urge them to support the House subcommittee's decision to fully fund Community Legacy. District 40 delegates are listed below.

Please cc emails to RHIC so we have a count of responses, or drop us a note to let us know you called.

Thank you in advance for your work to save Community Legacy funding.

Rick Gwynallen | Associate Director
Reservoir Hill Improvement Council
T 410.225.7547 | F 410.225.7455
Email: rgwynallen@reservoirhill.net
www.reservoirhill.net

State of Maryland – District 40

House of Delegates

FRANK M. CONAWAY, JR.

Democrat

House Office Building, Room 315
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 841-3189, (301) 858-3189
1-800-492-7122, ext. 3189 (toll free)
e-mail: frank.conaway@house.state.md.us

SHAWN Z. TARRANT

Democrat

House Office Building, Room 316
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 841-3545, (301) 858-3545
1-800-492-7122, ext. 3545 (toll free)
e-mail: shawn.tarrant@house.state.md.us

BARBARA A. ROBINSON

Democrat

House Office Building, Room 315
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 841-3520, (301) 858-3520
1-800-492-7122, ext. 3520 (toll free)
e-mail: barbara.robinson@house.state.md.us
fax: (410) 841-3278, (301) 858-3278

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