

Timestamp	First Name	Last name	City	State	Zip code	Are you representing yourself?	If not, who are you representing?	Remarks	File Upload (optional)
2024-07-10 17:49:13	Linda	Pittelli	EDGEWATER	MD	21037-1017	Yes		I oppose the further development of Homeport Farms park. Please see uploaded file for detailed comments and rationale.	https://www.aacounty.org/system/files/webform/cc_general_testimony/31152/Homeport%20Farm%20Park%20Opposition.pdf
2024-07-11 8:55:24	linda	pittelli	EDGEWATER	MD	21037-1017	Yes		I oppose the further development of Homeport Farms park. Please see the updated rationale, I corrected a measurement.	https://www.aacounty.org/system/files/webform/cc_general_testimony/31193/Homeport%20Farm%20Park%20Opposition%20%281%29.pdf
2024-07-14 15:37:14	Duke	McClure	Edgewater	MD	21037	Yes		<p>Greetings!</p> <p>I want to offer support to the opposition of the rowing team access to the Homeport Park. Although I am sympathetic to the plight, it was fairly clear that this water access is not ideal for the rowing team, Kayakers, nor the environment. The South River proposed park provided for a solution to many of the concerns and could be used for rowing beyond the small team that is the immediate concern.</p> <p>We heard testimony on the language and intent of the deed's language when the Homeport Park was created, and the language restricts group activities. The language defines low impact as individualistic activities. The government signed up for this language and I believe they should abide by it.</p> <p>The land at Homeport has history and we should work to inform the public about that history, while providing for the individual activities that the park could be used for. I frequently walk the park for the peace it provides.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration!</p> <p>Duke</p>	
2024-07-15 7:23:41	Jennifer	Stivers	Hanover	MD	21076	Yes		<p>I have been an Animal Care & Control volunteer for 7-plus years. At first glance, the shelter may appear to be functioning as usual since the abrupt, shocking departure of its longtime administrator, Robin Catlett. But in fact it is in turmoil, with key staffers contemplating leaving, mistakes occurring that could have lasting impacts and inappropriate decisions being made.</p> <p>When Councilmember Fiedler visited the shelter Thursday, the shelter's veterinarian had just been crying in frustration during a public rabies clinic after her professional decisions again were thwarted by lower-level shelter employees without any consequences to them. Citing medical reasons, the vet had told the acting administrator she was leaving for the day, but the acting administrator said she had to stay until the clinic ended. This dedicated veterinarian has not been back since then. I do not know when – or if – she will return. Abruptly losing the veterinarian would be disastrous.</p> <p>A longtime supervisor now plans to retire. Other key personnel, disgusted by Robin's dismissal and frustrated by unfair or unwise decisions, may also depart. Meanwhile, Mr. Pittman says he is close to deciding how to remove the shelter from the police department, a new administrator should be announced shortly and the shelter's grounds are about to be disrupted by a massive construction project.</p> <p>Change can be good, but this is not change: This is turmoil. Please continue to focus on what happened to Robin Catlett and what is now happening at the shelter.</p>	

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2024-07-15 10:57:15	Lisa	Arrasmith	Hanover	MD	21076	No	The Public Water Access Committee	<p>Dear Councilmembers,</p> <p>I am writing to ask that you legislate the mandatory extension of public comment periods in matters before county departments where a department does not provide project information in a timely manner or the means of commenting is not functioning for part of the comment period. At this time it is within a department's discretion to extend a public comment period when the department delays posting project information or the comment method is broken for all or part of a comment period. I ask that you make the extension mandatory.</p> <p>As an example, the county is considering putting a rowing center in Homeport Farm Park. Although the county has not actually provided a written proposal for public examination, the county wants public comments during a 28 day public comment period ending August 6, 2024. I believe that this project is the first stage of a publicly funded 25 million dollar rowing center for two private clubs in a public county park. As such, this first stage demands full and robust public participation. Unfortunately, haphazard administration of both project information and the means of commenting has impaired public participation.</p> <p>First, comments to the project email address for the proposed rowing center in Homeport Farm Park bounced all weekend into this morning. Worse yet, the bounce messages ended up in spam folders and people erroneously believe their comments were successfully submitted.</p> <p>Second, the Homeport project website, with information on how and when to comment, has been broken since before County Executive Pittman's 7/9/24 meeting in Homeport Farm Park. https://www.aacounty.org/recreation-parks/about-us/calendar/homeport-farm-park-water-access-discussion It is still broken as I write this testimony.</p> <p>People did not receive information from the county on when and how to comment unless they went to the 7/9/24 meeting or received a snail mail letter by virtue of living in a community within 300 feet of the park. The county has failed to tell the general public when and how to comment.</p> <p>I have asked that the county re-start the comment period starting today, or whenever both the Homeport comment email and the Homeport project website are fixed, so that county residents may have the full 28 day comment period to participate in this public proceeding. An extension of this project comment period, as with most county projects, is discretionary.</p> <p>Such administrative errors compromise the comment process and discourage robust public participation. Unfortunately this is not the only project that has suffered from delay in providing information or failure of commenting methods. I ask that you legislate a mandatory extension of public comment periods where the county does not meet its responsibility of providing both information and a means of commenting so that full and robust public participation is possible.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration of this request.</p> <p>Lisa Arrasmith, Chair The Public Water Access Committee</p> <p>District 1 Resident</p>	