



BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

Public Comments

Meeting Date

Thursday, June 18, 2026

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
80 Calvert Street
Annapolis MD 21401

SECTION I

Public Comments Submitted Via BPW Website

Department of General Services (4 Comments)

Agenda Item: 1-CGL

Kristen Komlosy: Support

Chesapeake Bay Outward Bound School (CBOBS) delivers transformative outdoor experiential education programs that help young people develop the self-reliance, collaboration, and resilience needed to succeed in school, work, and life. Through one-day teambuilding programs, multi-day wilderness expeditions, and educator professional development, we serve thousands of Baltimore City students each year with programming grounded in challenge, reflection, and growth. CBOBS operates from its historic home in Leakin Park through a long-standing public-private partnership with the Baltimore City Department of Recreation and Parks. As stewards of 17 acres within the historic Crimea Estate—including its 1850s-era structures—we maintain these grounds as safe, accessible, and inspiring spaces for youth development. This unique setting serves not only as a classroom, but also as a connection to Baltimore’s cultural and environmental heritage. Capital investment is essential to sustaining and expanding this impact. Our campus includes critical infrastructure such as high-ropes courses, climbing walls, trails, and historic buildings that function as classrooms, community spaces, and instructor housing. These assets are central to our programs, enabling students to build confidence, develop leadership skills, and push beyond their perceived limits. The historic Orianda mansion—built in the 1850s by Thomas DeKay Winans—remains integral to daily operations, housing seasonal instructors and serving as a hub for training and community engagement. Since 1986, CBOBS has maintained a strong commitment to Baltimore City youth. To continue delivering high-quality, life-changing programming, we seek critical capital support for facility upgrades, including construction, repair, and site improvements. These investments will preserve historic structures, enhance program safety, and ensure that our campus remains a vibrant and effective learning environment. Strategic capital funding will strengthen our partnership with the City of Baltimore, protect an important historic asset, and expand access to proven programs that equip young people with the skills and confidence to thrive.

Agenda Item: 24-C

Mary Beth Carozza: Support

Dear Governor Moore, Comptroller Lierman, and Treasurer Davis: As the State Senator representing Somerset County and surrounding areas, I am writing to express my full support for Agenda Item 24-C, which is the proposed contract for the repairs of the bulkhead, piers, storm drains, utilities, and boat ramp at the Somers Cove Marina. The Somers Cove Marina plays an important role in the community of Crisfield and is a lifeline to the residents of Smith

Island. The current bulkhead and fixed pier system has well exceeded its useful life and has threatened operations at the marina. This project would replace these fixtures with floating docks and a vinyl composite bulkhead that will be more resistant to changing weather conditions. The storm drain utility replacement would include the installation of check valves, which would help mitigate sunny day flooding at the marina and downtown Crisfield. These necessary improvements at Somers Cove Marina would ensure the property continues to bring economic and tourism value to the surrounding community, including the signature J. Millard Tawes Crab and Clam Bake event and provide essential services to the residents of Crisfield and Smith Island. Thank you for your kind consideration of this request. In Service, MARY BETH CAROZZA State Senator – District 38 Somerset, Wicomico, Worcester

Agenda Item: 48-CGL

Josh Jackson: Oppose

If Item 48-CGL remains on the Agenda as a recommendation to fund an additional \$400k to Music City Maryland Association, it will represent and highlight serious systemic shortcomings in the entire DGS-BPW funding structure. Particularly with regard to public transparency and upholding the integrity of the countless sworn affidavits by eager nonprofits who know nobody is watching or cares. For months, several allegations, backed by indisputable and verifiable evidence, of fraud and misrepresentation has been shared by our neighborhood with DGS regarding the subject MCMA nonprofit and prior capital grants. DGS inaction, and now subsequent recommendation to approve additional funds to the nonprofit, represents a complete disregard and professional negligence for the following: ... -> Local zoning regulations as they conflict with proposed capital structures ... -> Faithful execution of Maryland's Capital Projects Grant Agreement, entered between BPW and subject nonprofits ... -> Claimed Corporate Diversity exemptions ... -> Community certification (or more importantly objection) to nonprofit legitimacy Baltimore County ALJ has ruled against the nonprofit and has denied the amphitheater. There should be no further discussion about grant awards to this nonprofit or for this project.

Greg Allen: Oppose

I strongly oppose the Board of Public Works providing any funding to Music City Maryland Association Inc. Additional funding would only worsen the significant disruption this amphitheater already causes for my home and family. The amphitheater is simply too close to private residential housing. During concerts, which often last 10 or more hours, the noise and vibrations cause my entire house to shake. These events make it impossible to enjoy our yard or host friends and family when concerts are scheduled. We have had to cancel plans and

rearrange our already busy schedules because of the ongoing disruption caused by this amphitheater. These stages are too close to residential housing.

SECTION II

Public Comments Submitted Via Email



Fwd: Music City Maryland Association

Tanner Jones <tannerjones555@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 12, 2026 at 10:04 AM

To: John Gontrum <john.gontrum@maryland.gov>

Cc: Lisa Grigsby <lisa.grigsby@maryland.gov>, email bpw -BPW- <email.bpw@maryland.gov>, David Bohannon -BPW- <david.bohannon4@maryland.gov>

To all who it concerns,

I sit here writing this email in hopes that you are all receiving an overwhelming amount of support for Music City Maryland Association and The Vortex.

I joined the MCMA team a little over 18 months ago, I was a 25 years old, lost and struggling to find a purpose, or a place to feel proud of myself for. Joining the team not only gave me something to feel proud of and a true sense of direction, but it also allowed me to grow, learn how to run an effective business, and how to connect with the community on a level I never knew I could. A community that not only spans all of Baltimore county, all of Maryland, but all over the country.

I'd like to highlight my proudest moment while working with this team. On May 16th of this year we hosted our 2nd annual bluegrass festival, hosted on the 2nd Saturday of May, also known as armed forces day. That day we not only hosted a band with active military members, but we also offered free tickets to every single active duty military member and veteran who walked up to our ticket booth. We did this because they fought for our freedom to be able to live in this country and pursue our dreams. Also on the 16th we hosted Be the one, a non profit dedicated to saving live of veterans through suicide prevention. This is just one example how we've been able to use our platform to continue to build a stronger relationship with the community and also better our community. We will never give up that mission of building community.

We've been successful in selling tickets to patrons as far as Hawaii and have brought tourism to Baltimore county and Catonsville specifically. We've help grow the Catonsville art district and brought even more pride to the name Music City Maryland, given to us in 2002 by the Maryland General Assembly. We do that with immense pride as most of the team are Catonsville locals and have called this place home most, if not all of our lives.

We follow the rules, we cross our t's and dot our i's, I've watched Joe G, John Dennis Barth, and the rest of the team show me how to run a business and deal with the struggle of having people truly want to stop everything we've worked so hard for.

The last thing I would like to touch on is something I mentioned at the beginning. What this did for me. I was lost, broken down and on the verge of shutting down as a productive member of society, when I approached Dennis and Joe asking to join the team and help out. They excepted without a single question, I started with sponsorship and promotions, and quickly moved to running our promotion company, booking bands, and being able to connect with many artists who I've traveled far and wide to see. They gave me the opportunity of a life time and it saved my life. I started a new job, I got my life back on track, and I've become a functioning member of society again. Music city Maryland association has changed my life for the better, and again it SAVED MY LIFE.

I ask you to all look at what we are trying to achieve. It's not flashy cars, big houses, and millions of dollars. It's bringing community together through music, hoping one day the shows we help put on will lead to music impacting others lives the same way it did each and everyone of us in the origination.

I hope you can all see how important what we are doing is for the community. We hope to be a force for good in the community for the rest of time, bringing people together, and giving them a space to express themselves with one of the best gifts we have in this world. MUSIC!

I appreciate your time and consideration,

Tanner Jones
Vice President - Sunrider9 Productions LLC



The Vortex at CCA Park, Music City Maryland

Michael Townshend <michael.townshend@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 12, 2026 at 8:09 AM

To: "email.bpw@maryland.gov" <email.bpw@maryland.gov>, council1@baltimorecountymd.gov, countyexecutive@baltimorecountymd.gov, countycouncil@baltimorecountymd.gov

To the Baltimore County Council, the Baltimore County Executive's Office and Maryland Board of Public Works,

I'm writing as a former Catonsville resident, born at St. Agnes, schooled at Catonsville Elementary, St. Marks, and St. Joe. I now live in Delaware but I have returned to visit the Vortex at CAA Park for events and seen firsthand the energy it brings to the Arts & Entertainment District. Catonsville has built a reputation as "Music City Maryland," and venues like the Vortex are a big part of why visitors like me come to the area, spend time at local shops and restaurants, and return again. This is not the Catonsville I left, and I mean that in the best way possible.

I understand there are concerns from a small number of residents, but from what I've seen, the organization running the Vortex has taken real steps to address noise — sound panels, insulation, decibel monitoring, and landscaping — and has worked to be a responsible neighbor while still hosting only a handful of outdoor events each year. Community arts centers like this benefit not just the immediate neighborhood, but the broader region's cultural and economic life.

I hope the county and state will continue to support the Vortex's mission and allow it to keep contributing to Catonsville's identity as a destination for music and the arts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Michael Townshend
Dover, DE



In Support of the Vortex at CAA Park, A Cultural Asset Worth Protecting

Adam Kirr <adam.kirr@gmail.com>
To: Lisa Grigsby <lisa.grigsby@maryland.gov>

Fri, Jun 12, 2026 at 10:49 AM

Hi Lisa,

Thank you for the heads up. I would like to resubmit without my number and address. Email contents is resubmitted below:

Dear representatives,

I am writing as a Maryland resident to urge your support for The Vortex at CAA Park, located at [202 Ingleside Avenue](#) in the heart of our community and to ask that you actively oppose any efforts to shut it down or curtail its operations.

The Vortex, operated by the nonprofit Music City Maryland Association, is not simply an outdoor music venue. It is the physical embodiment of what Catonsville has long called itself: Music City, Maryland. On 12 previously unused acres within Baltimore County's designated Arts & Entertainment District, this volunteer-driven organization has built a state-of-the-art amphitheater, gathering space, and community hub, one that has more than doubled its attendance in just its second full year of operation.

The cultural impact is real and documented:

- The venue hosts nine or more events annually: from bluegrass festivals and 4th of July celebrations to family reunions and graduation events, serving thousands of residents across the greater Baltimore region.
- It is recognized by the official Maryland tourism authority, VisitMaryland.org, as a legitimate arts and cultural destination.
- It provides direct economic benefit to the local businesses, restaurants, and shops along Frederick Road, driving foot traffic into downtown Catonsville.
- It supports local artists, food vendors, and craftspeople, providing a platform that would not otherwise exist for them in our community.
- It is an all-ages, family-friendly space and accessible to the entire community, not a niche audience.

Catonsville has earned its "Music City" identity over generations. The Vortex is the infrastructure that gives that identity a home. Allowing it to be silenced by opposition, particularly when the organization has consistently worked in partnership with local and state governments, would be a step backward for our community's cultural future and economic vitality.

I respectfully ask you to:

1. Publicly affirm your support for The Vortex and the Music City Maryland Association.
2. Oppose any permit challenges, noise ordinance enforcement actions, or zoning measures that would restrict or eliminate the venue's ability to operate.
3. Explore county-level resources, including arts and entertainment district funding, that could help the organization complete its planned Phase 2 improvements, including permanent restrooms, ADA-compliant parking, and improved landscaping.

This is the kind of grassroots, community-built institution that elected officials should be fighting to protect, not standing by while it is dismantled. I hope you will stand with us.

Thank you for your time and public service.

Sincerely,
Adam Kirr



Support The Vortex at CAA Park and Music City Maryland

Kevin Barnett <kevin.barnett@musiccitymd.org>

Thu, Jun 11, 2026 at 6:36 PM

To: council1@baltimorecountymd.gov, countycouncil@baltimorecountymd.gov, countyexecutive@baltimorecountymd.gov, email.bpw@maryland.gov

Dear Representatives,

I'm writing as a Catonsville resident and supporter of The Vortex at CAA Park to ask for your support and to oppose any efforts that would restrict or shut down this important community asset. **WE SUPPORT YOU and now....WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!**

The Vortex, operated by the nonprofit Music City Maryland Association, has transformed 12 previously unused acres at [202 Ingleside Avenue](#) into a gathering place for music, arts, and community events. In just a few years, it has become a destination that reflects what Catonsville has proudly called itself for decades: Music City Maryland!

This isn't just a concert venue. It's a community space that hosts bluegrass festivals, Fourth of July celebrations, family events, graduations, fundraisers, and live music performances that bring people together from across the region. It supports local musicians, artists, food vendors, and small businesses while driving visitors into Catonsville's restaurants and shops. My six year old and two year old daughter love playing in the grass with their friends. It is a true community GEM! If Baltimore is the Charm City, Catonsville is the gem!

The impact is real. Thousands of people visit The Vortex each year. It has been recognized by Maryland's tourism community as a cultural destination, and it has created opportunities for local artists and nonprofits that simply did not exist before. We have hosted local teachers events, graduations, team building events, and want to continue our mission to give back to OUR community.

Most importantly, The Vortex was built by volunteers and community members who believed Catonsville deserved a permanent home for arts and culture. It represents years of hard work, private investment, and community engagement.

I respectfully ask that you:

- Publicly support The Vortex and the Music City Maryland Association.
- Oppose any zoning, permitting, or enforcement actions that would unnecessarily restrict the venue's ability to operate and give back to the community.
- Explore county and state resources that could help support future improvements, including permanent restrooms, ADA-accessible infrastructure, parking enhancements, and landscaping.

Catonsville's identity as Music City, Maryland should be something we continue to build upon, not diminish. The Vortex has become an important part of our community's cultural and economic future, and I hope you will stand with the residents, volunteers, artists, and local businesses who have helped make it a success.

Thank you for your time, your service, and your support of our community.

Sincerely,

Kevin Barnett & Alfiya Barnett
[1911 Clifden Road](#)
[Catonsville, Maryland 21228](#)



Opposing DGS 48-CGL

Maxwell Bloch <citizen@maxwellb.email>
To: email.bpw@maryland.gov

Wed, Jun 17, 2026 at 1:46 PM

Dear Members of the Board of Public Works,

I ask you to look beyond the paragraphs and pages of comments submitted in support of the "Music City Maryland Amphitheater".

Approving a grant to "Board of Directors of Music City Maryland Association Inc." for \$400,000 "For the acquisition, planning, design, construction, expansion, repair, renovation, reconstruction, site improvement, and capital equipping of Music City Maryland Amphitheater project (Baltimore County)" would be short-sighted and harmful.

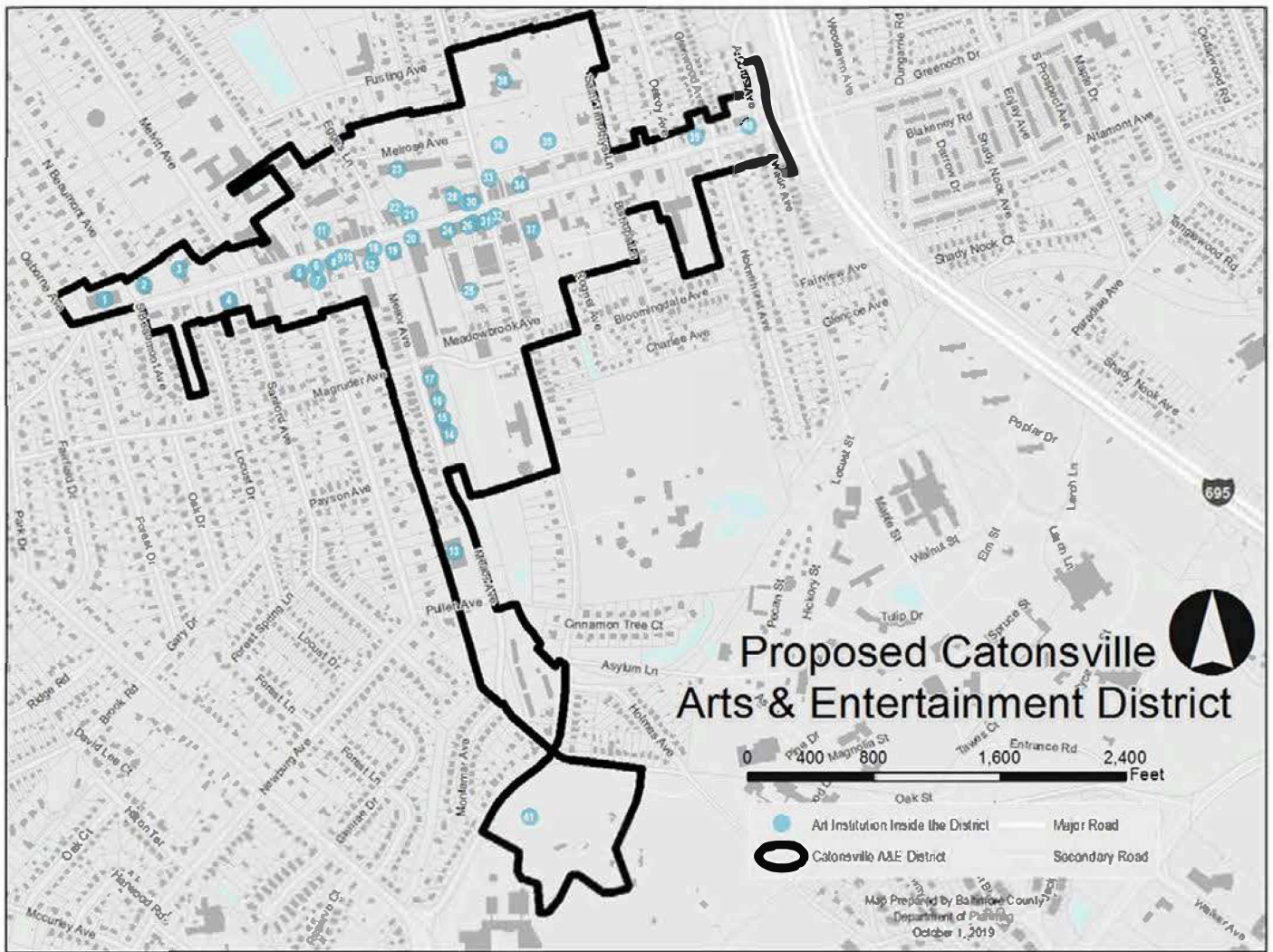
The pages of comments available in support of the project are (as of Wednesday noon):

- From four people: two affiliated with the awardees of the grant (Tanner Jones, Kevin Barnett), one resident of Delaware (Michael Townshend), and a Maryland resident (Adam Kirr)
- Sent all around the same time between Thursday evening and Friday morning
- In my opinion, all grossly overstate the "cultural" and "community" benefits of the project

I grew up in Catonsville, and recently became a proud parent and first-time homeowner. I live *directly adjacent* to the "Music City Maryland Amphitheater" and cannot stress how burdensome the environmental noise pollution has been, how little the most-impacted community members have been consulted or represented, or how unyielding and dismissive the organizers have been to criticism.

Yes. "Catonsville has proudly called itself for decades Music City Maryland" (Kevin Barnett) The actions of one organization formed so recently should not get to speak for the needs or views of generations of artists or hundreds of involved and affected residents.

The claim of "12 previously unused acres within Baltimore County's designated Arts & Entertainment District" (Adam Kirr) misrepresents the contemplation and formation of the Arts and Entertainment District, as can be plainly seen from the map proposed in 2019 prior to the formalization of the district itself (<https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/departments/arts-entertainment/venues>). That's letting the cart drive the horse, so to speak.



If there had been no use, the space would not have been included in the proposal. The current amphitheater sits on top of the space originally identified as "35" and "36" in the legend of the 2019 map, and reads:

- 35 : CAA Tennis Club [200 Ingleside Avenue](#) : Entertainment
- 36 : CAA Youth Sports Field and Event Space [202 Ingleside Avenue](#) : Entertainment

The adjacent building on the combined lot of the neighboring church originally identified as "38" in the legend reads:

- 38 : Saint Timothy's School [583 Frederick Road](#) : Venue with Stage

In the same 2019 plan:

- Two spaces were identified as home to "Live Music": Live Music at Wieland's BBQ (9); and Morsbergers Tavern (26).
- Seven spaces were identified and proposed as a "Venue With Stage": Catonsville Historical Room at the Library, [1100 Frederick Road](#) (1); Knights of Columbus, [1010 Frederick Road](#) (2); Catonsville Baptist Church, [1004 Frederick Road](#) (3); Salem Lutheran Church, [905 Frederick Road](#) (5); Palestine Lodge #189, [837 Frederick Road](#) (6); Providence Lodge [16, 6 Ingleside Avenue](#) (33); and Saint Timothy's School, [583 Frederick Road](#) (38). The latter may have been a mailing address at time, because it is plain that the marker (38) sits at [202 Ingleside Avenue](#).
- Two spaces were even contemplated as "Future Venues": Armory (Potential Community Arts Venue), [130 Mellor Avenue](#) (13); and Catonsville Elementary School (Potential Community Arts Venue), [629 Frederick Road](#) (37).

To say there are "concerns from a small number of residents" (Michael Townshend) hides the fact that these residents are the ones such as myself who are opposing a commercial amphitheater being built on top of property zoned DR 5.5, whose construction permit was approved as a "storage shed", and the amplified music and noise from which can be heard inside the home throughout the summer and past a child's bedtime.

I am not opposing specific people, or their good intentions. If my expression of speech, and exercising my first amendment right, amounts to dealing "with the struggle of having people truly want to stop everything" you've "worked so hard for" (Tanner Jones) I would offer that you actually talk to me and understand why I am saying what I am saying.

This is a process. Asking my representatives to "oppose any permit challenges, noise ordinance enforcement actions, or zoning measures" (Adam Kirr) is asking *me* to be *excluded from the process*.

My neighbors and friends are moving or contemplating moving from our street because an outdoor amplified venue with commercial activities was plopped into our *residential* neighborhood.

Please don't put any more of our hard-earned tax dollars to this project. This is not just about a "destination". It is about our homes. Catonsville was doing just fine before the "Vortex" started funneling thousands of dollars, and it will do just fine after.

Respectfully submitted for consideration,

Maxwell Bloch

Catonsville High School Class of 2003
Catonsville Elementary School Class of 1996
First-time Homeowner, Catonsville, 2019

[615 Southmont Rd](#)
[Catonsville, Maryland 21228](#)

citizen@maxwellb.email



Support for Music City Maryland and The Vortex at CAA Park

Brion Townshend <btown214@gmail.com>
To: email.bpw@maryland.gov
Cc: Brion Townshend <btown214@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 17, 2026 at 1:35 PM

Dear Board of Public Works,

I am writing to express my strong support for Music City Maryland and The Vortex music venue at CAA Park in Catonsville.

Having grown up in Catonsville and lived there for 30 years, I have long believed in the potential for the community to benefit from a dedicated, high-quality live music venue. For many years, such a space was notably absent. Today, The Vortex represents a long-awaited and meaningful step forward in establishing Catonsville as a vibrant Arts & Entertainment destination.

Although I now reside in Baltimore City, I regularly return to attend performances at The Vortex. It is an exceptional venue that offers a welcoming, professionally run environment for live music and community engagement. The quality of the events, the organization behind them, and the positive energy they bring to the area are truly impressive.

I understand that there are ongoing concerns raised by a small number of individuals regarding Music City Maryland and activities at CAA Park. While all voices deserve to be heard in a democratic process, decisions must be guided by accurate information and reflect the broader community's interests. My experience, and that of many others, has been overwhelmingly positive.

Music City Maryland has demonstrated a clear commitment to operating responsibly and in compliance with regulations. They have taken proactive measures to address community concerns, including monitoring sound levels, installing noise reduction materials, and limiting the number and timing of events. Notably, the organization hosts only a limited number of outdoor events annually, making every effort to balance cultural programming with neighborhood considerations.

Beyond its cultural value, The Vortex has become an important economic and social asset. It draws visitors from across the region and even the country, benefiting Catonsville's local businesses, restaurants, and shops. It also strengthens the town's identity as "Music City Maryland," a distinction that residents can take pride in.

In my view, Music City Maryland and The Vortex are exactly the kind of thoughtful, community-oriented initiatives that deserve continued support. They enhance quality of life, promote the arts, and contribute to a thriving local economy.

I respectfully urge you to consider the broader community benefit and to continue supporting Music City Maryland and The Vortex as they grow and evolve.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Brion Townshend



Support for The Vortex in Catonsville

Mike Reese <reesemike@gmail.com>
To: email.bpw@maryland.gov

Wed, Jun 17, 2026 at 2:50 PM

Governor Moore, Comptroller Lierman, and Treasurer Davis:

I am writing to express my strong support for The Vortex. As a lifelong Catonsville resident, I have witnessed our community's transformation from a quiet Baltimore suburb into a vibrant destination with a thriving downtown.

This growth has been driven by local entrepreneurs and community members who have established the shops, restaurants, and cultural venues that make Catonsville special. The Vortex stands out as one of our most valuable assets, attracting visitors from across the region and creating a positive ripple effect for surrounding businesses.

As a regular patron, I am consistently impressed by the professionalism and quality of their events. I urge you to continue supporting The Vortex and the vital role it plays in our community's continued success.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Reese



Music City Maryland /The Vortex Catonsville

Donna Fendlay <donna.fendlay@musiccitymd.org>

Tue, Jun 16, 2026 at 9:21 PM

To: council1@baltimorecountymd.gov, countycouncil@baltimorecountymd.gov, countyexecutive@baltimorecounty.gov, "email.bpw@maryland.gov" <email.bpw@maryland.gov>

Good evening,

My name is Donna Fendlay and I proudly serve on the Music City Maryland Association board. I am also proud to be a life long Catonsville resident, four generations strong currently living in Catonsville!

Please let me know how I can help ensure Catonsville continues to thrive by protecting our beautiful open space at The Vortex [202 Ingleside Ave.](#)

For those of you who may not be familiar with our non-profit, here's a bit more about us.

Music City Maryland Association (MCMA) was founded to support arts, entertainment, tourism, economic development, and community engagement throughout Catonsville and the surrounding region. Since launching the first Music City Maryland Festival in 2019, MCMA has worked to create opportunities that strengthen our community, support local businesses, and enhance Catonsville's reputation as a destination for arts, entertainment, recreation, and culture.

Over the years, our events have welcomed thousands of visitors from across Maryland, neighboring states, and beyond. Today, MCMA hosts approximately seven to eight community events annually, attracting more than 19,000 attendees who support local restaurants, retailers, artists, vendors, nonprofit organizations, and community partners. These events represent only a small portion of the calendar year while generating meaningful economic and cultural benefits for the greater Catonsville community.

As with any community initiative, questions and concerns have been raised regarding the future of the Catonsville Arts & Entertainment District and The Vortex at CAA Park. We respect the right of all residents to participate in these discussions and believe open dialogue is an important part of community growth.

A key component of MCMA's vision is The Vortex at CAA Park. In partnership with the Christian Athletic Association (CAA), MCMA is helping preserve one of the last significant open spaces in downtown Catonsville. Rather than pursuing commercial development, MCMA and CAA have chosen to create a community-focused destination dedicated to arts, entertainment, recreation, youth sports, education, tourism, and public gatherings.

The Vortex is envisioned as a place where families, schools, community organizations, businesses, and residents can come together for concerts, festivals, alumni reunions, celebrations of life, educational programs, charitable fundraisers, recreational activities, civic events, and other family-friendly community gatherings.

Although privately owned by CAA, The Vortex has been intentionally developed and operated as a community-focused destination designed for public benefit. Through this partnership, MCMA remains committed to ensuring that the space is available for community use and enjoyment while preserving open space and enhancing quality of life throughout Catonsville.

The success of MCMA would not be possible without the support of our volunteers, sponsors, artists, vendors, local businesses, nonprofit organizations, elected officials, and the thousands of attendees who believe in the positive impact arts, entertainment, recreation, and tourism can have on a community.

As we continue moving forward, we ask residents, businesses, volunteers, supporters, and community partners to stand behind our mission. By working together, we can preserve valuable community assets, support local businesses, create opportunities for artists and entrepreneurs, and ensure that Catonsville remains a vibrant and welcoming destination for future generations.

Thank you,

Donna Fendlay

Music City Maryland Association
VP Development & Partnerships
dfendlay@musiccitymd.org
202 Ingleside Avenue
Catonsville MD 21228
410-530-7743
<https://www.musiccitymd.org/>





The Vortex in Catonsville

lisa millerteam.com <lisa@millerteam.com>
To: "email.bpw@maryland.gov" <email.bpw@maryland.gov>

Wed, Jun 17, 2026 at 3:07 PM

Dear Maryland Board of Public Works,

I am writing you to voice my support for the Vortex in Catonsville to be able to continue their concert venues. The work these volunteers have put into this project is absolutely amazing and it has become a favorite of not only my family but of my clients that live here and in surrounding areas. Bringing a community together is what makes it thrive and Catonsville has beyond blessed to have this beautiful area to gather and listen to music.

To come and see all the families, kids and people there peacefully gathered and enjoying themselves makes me proud as a life long Catonsville resident. I have been going to these shows since the start and have yet to see them go late and people all leave at the end. There have been no fights or bad behavior that I have witnessed and think it is crazy to take this away for a small few looking for something to complain about. I hope you will stand up and support them.

Much appreciated!

Lisa Dickey

Lisa Dickey /REALTOR®
ABR | CDPE | CNE
The Miller Team Northrop Realty
Cell: 443-829-2826 | Office: 410-465-1770
Lisa@MillerTeam.com
[LisaDickey.NorthropRealty.com](https://www.LisaDickey.NorthropRealty.com)
[Meet Lisa](#) | [Get Home Valuation](#)
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Zillow](#)



THE
MILLER TEAM
OF NORTHROP REALTY
— Move With The Miller —



Please Preserve The Vortex at CAA Park — A Catonsville Resident's Voice

Lauren Modisette <lauren.modisette@protonmail.com>

Thu, Jun 11, 2026 at 10:14 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Lauren Modisette, and I am a resident of Catonsville, Maryland, living at [122 Wyndcrest Avenue](#). I am writing to urge you to support the preservation of The Vortex at CAA Park and the community events hosted there by the Music City Maryland Association (MCMA).

I recently learned that the future of The Vortex and MCMA's festival programming may be in jeopardy, and I feel compelled to speak up. As a Catonsville homeowner, a single parent, and a lifelong live music enthusiast, this issue is personal to me. The Vortex has become one of my family's most cherished destinations throughout the spring, summer, and fall.

My son — who turns five years old tomorrow — absolutely loves attending these events. His face lights up when we walk through that park. These festivals have given us some of our most treasured memories together, and they represent exactly the kind of community experience that makes Catonsville a special place to put down roots and raise a family.

I am also an amateur musician myself, and I have been deeply passionate about live music for most of my life. Catonsville's identity as Music City Maryland is something I take genuine pride in as a resident. The MCMA events at The Vortex are also economic engines for our local small businesses, gathering spaces for neighbors, and platforms for local artists. The fact that this space has been deliberately preserved as open land rather than developed commercially speaks volumes about the values of the organizations behind it.

I understand that a small number of voices have raised concerns about these events. I respect that everyone has the right to participate in community dialogue. However, I would ask that you weigh those concerns against the tremendous good these festivals bring to the broader Catonsville community — the families, the small business owners, the artists, the volunteers, and the thousands of attendees who travel from across Maryland and beyond to be part of what we have built here.

Please do not allow a few complaints to take away something that brings so much joy, community connection, and economic vitality to our town. I urge you to stand with the many Catonsville residents who believe in the future of The Vortex and the mission of the Music City Maryland Association.

Thank you sincerely for your time and for your service to our community.

Warm regards,

Lauren Modisette
[122 Wyndcrest Avenue](#)
Catonsville, MD
347-949-2393