

**NORTH COLLEGE PARK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
**4912 NANTUCKET**  
**COLLEGE PARK, MD 20740**

March 22, 2019

Dear Senator Rosapepe,

It has been North College Park residents' ardent desire to have a community center located in their region of the City. In fact, the results of an informal survey of 134 residents showed that 94% of the respondents were in favor of such a center. As I am sure you are aware, this area of College Park, which includes Districts 1 and part of District 4, is the City's most heavily residential district in the City. It is home to a significant population of senior citizens, recent immigrants and children for which there is an extremely limited amount of indoor and outdoor programming.

Last year, now Del. Mary Lehman, appropriated \$50,000 for the Community Center project as our County Councilmember. Unfortunately, since it was not earmarked specifically for North College Park, the money has been diverted to the City's senior programming. Meanwhile, just weeks ago, the City Council agreed to spend \$40,000 on a study to explore the possibility of a community center.

Concurrently, a Community Center Committee, consisting of North College Park residents, was formed and an initial study to rent or buy space in the Four Corners (the intersection of Rhode Island Ave. and Edgewood Rd.) area was performed for this exciting endeavor. You will find the study attached to this email. During committee meetings, we have already received dozens of ideas for programs, from exercise classes to photography workshops to puppet shows. In addition, the center will be a space for seniors and others to gather during the day for coffee and company.

It is important to note that three highly successful ventures, initiated and managed by North College Park residents, have come to fruition over the past several years: the College Park Library, The Community Yoga and the Open Gym Play Date Group. These ventures were driven by residents for College Park residents and the environs.

To conclude, on a visit to the North College Park Community Association last fall, Del. Ben Barnes expressed enthusiastically his support and the possibility of appropriating some funds for a community center in the northern end of the City. We sincerely hope the 21<sup>st</sup> Delegation will show their strong support for their constituents in creating an amenity which will serve the current residents' needs as well as become a vibrant attraction for new residents.

Respectfully,



John Krouse  
NCPA President

Cc: Delegate Ben Barnes  
Delegate Mary Lehman  
Delegate Joseline Pena-Melnyk  
County Councilmember Tom Dernoga  
County Councilmember Mel Franklin  
County Councilmember Calvin Hawkins  
College Park Mayor and Council

Attachment: Community Center survey results  
Community Center study