



Office of the President  
10901 Little Patuxent Parkway  
Columbia, MD 21044

January 23, 2007

The Honorable Ken Ulman  
Howard County Executive  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear County Executive Ulman:

We, the following citizens of Howard County and the surrounding region, are writing in support of Howard Community College's (HCC) plans for the Belmont Conference Center. The Howard Community College Educational Foundation (HCCEF), Inc. is the current owner of the property although it holds an agreement with the college to manage Belmont.

HCC is a highly respected college with a solid record of integrity and excellence. Its mission is to serve the greater good of Howard County. HCC's vision for Belmont is to create an historic, cultural and educational center in which the entire community will take great pride. The college is committed to upholding the easement held by the Maryland Historic Trust. There are no plans for residential development at Belmont!

Plans for Belmont were developed with significant public input, including more than 30 meetings with community groups, local officials, historic groups, businesses, students and others. The hospitality department has ongoing meetings with advisors from the industry and with educational partners.

The plan presents a vision for making Belmont an exceptional resource that will benefit the larger community, with services including:

- Real-life learning for hospitality and culinary students. Through their educational experience at Belmont, students will learn high standards for restaurants, hotels and other hospitality businesses. This past semester students developed projects to improve customer service at Belmont.
- Continuing education. The entire community can attend classes in landscaping, music, dancing, wine appreciation, history, cooking and more. Business training is also available as part of the conference center offerings.

- Concerts, astronomy, and other events. Belmont's spacious lawns and gardens are a beautiful setting for the community to gather and enjoy music, food, stargazing and other events, including access to hiking and biking trails. In the fall, hundreds of high school students participated in a cross-country race that was featured on the front page of *The Columbia Flier*.

HCC's plans also offer a promising future for Belmont's historic preservation. By running a successful conference center that includes educational programs, HCC offers an economic model for preserving Belmont and keeping it open to the public.

Belmont is part of Howard County's heritage and we support HCC's plans to make Belmont more accessible to the community. We have plans for University of Maryland Baltimore County students to write a more complete history of Belmont. For updates, see [www.belmontcenter.com](http://www.belmontcenter.com), a community information website.

HCC and HCCEF, Inc. are committed to working with the county to keep Belmont a viable, historic property for students, citizens, and clients.

1. Jeffrey T. Agnor, Davis, Agnor, Rapaport & Skalny, LLC
2. Sharon Akers
3. Thomas H. Akins, Gallerie Elan
4. James H. Anderson
5. Joan I. Athen, National Career Assessment Services, Inc.
6. Nasser Basir, PSI Pax
7. Ilana Bittner, Pixel Workshop, Inc.
8. Rachelina Bonacci, Howard County Tourism
9. Timothy Brown, GE Commercial Finance
10. Dwight Burrill, Foundation for Human Development
11. Shirley Burrill, Foundation for Human Development
12. Linda R. Burton, DRW, Inc.
13. Kevin Byrnes, Provident Bank
14. Roger N. Caplan, The Caplan Group
15. Ronald Carlson
16. Mark R. Cissell, KAWG & F, P.A.
17. Joanne T. Davis
18. Michael W. Davis, Davis, Agnor, Rapaport & Skalny, LLC
19. Tim Dell, Columbia National Real Estate Finance, LLC
20. Roberta E. Dillow
21. Karen Dixon, CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield
22. Michael Drummond, Harkins Builders
23. Charles Ecker
24. Charles Ellison, Miller & Smith
25. Joanne Eyre, Eyre Bus Service
26. Jared Fast, Fast & Associates
27. Jon Files

28. Greg Florenzo, Siemens Building Technologies, Inc.
29. Abby Glassberg
30. Michael Greenebaum, Greenebaum & Rose Associates
31. Randall Griffin, Corporate Office Properties Trust
32. Elaine Heilman, Hospitality & Tourism Program, Howard County Public Schools
33. Ann Hines, Sodexo Health Care Services
34. Peter Horowitz
35. Patrick L. Huddie, Chesapeake Emerging Opportunities Management, LLC
36. Mark P. Huston, Constellation New Energy
37. Louis G. Hutt, Jr., Bennett, Hutt, & Co., LLC
38. Stacie Irish, Leadership Howard County
39. Jonathan Isaac, Davis, Agnor, Rapaport, & Skalny
40. Ann Ivester
41. Robert I. Jeffrey, Smith Barney
42. Alan Jefferson, Wachovia Bank
43. Del Karfonta, The Columbia Bank
44. Marilyn Kawamura, Kaiser Permanente
45. Ellen Kennedy
46. Padraic Kennedy
47. Bob Kerr, Choice Hotels International
48. Se Ung Kim, Cosmopolitan Inc.
49. Kenneth Kittelberger
50. Marie Kittelberger
51. Pamela Klahr, Howard County Chamber of Commerce
52. Edward Kohls, Ayers Saint Gross Architects
53. Joan Lovelace, The Columbia Association
54. Mukesh Majmudar, Star Hotels
55. Becky Mangus, Business Monthly
56. Christopher Marasco, Howard Bank
57. Margaret Mauro, The Rouse Company Foundation
58. Richard G. McCauley
59. Ronald Meliker, The Kane Company
60. David Mikszan
61. Terri Minford, Misty Meadow Stables
62. Bobby Mitchell, Putting on the Ritz
63. Jean Moon, Jean Moon & Associates
64. James Moxley, Jr.
65. Elizabeth Murphy, Datatel
66. Jordan Naftal, Jordan's Steakhouse
67. P. Michael Nagle, Nagle & Zaller, P.C
68. William O'Connor, Provident Bank
69. Cesar Pinto, Lockheed Martin Information Technology
70. Elizabeth Rendon, Lingual Information Systems Technologies, Inc.
71. Katherine K. Rensin
72. Marc Rubin, Berman Goldman & Ribakow LLP
73. Alexander Ruygrok, Cross Country Settlements

74. Thomas Sabia, Spherion Corporation
75. Steven W. Sachs, Hilb, Rogal, & Hobbs
76. Rosa Scharf, Howard Bank
77. Barbara Schulte, Ellicott City Properties, Inc.
78. Mary Ann Scully, Howard Bank
79. Caroline Sherman, PCA Group
80. Maurice Simpkins
81. Eric Stein, DECANTER Fine Wines
82. Bill Stock, Sunburst Hospitality Corporation
83. Richard Story, Howard County Economic Development Authority
84. Holly H. Thomas, Candlelight Concert Society
85. Karl C. Thomas
86. Virginia Thomas, University of Maryland Baltimore County
87. Bach-Tuyet Tran-Jeffrey, D.D.S.
88. T. James Truby, Synthesis Incorporated
89. Mary B. Tung, Conwell, LLC
90. Peter P. Tung
91. Thomas C. Tuttle, Tuttle Group International
92. Phyllis Utterback, The Horizon Foundation of Howard County
93. Barbara Van Winkle, Nancy Adams Personnel of Columbia
94. Edward L. Waddell, Cardoni Waddell, LLC
95. Mohammed Warshanna, Angel Dental Care
96. David Wasser
97. Marshall Weston, The Maryland Hospitality Education Foundation
98. Bev Wilhide
99. Lee Wilhide
100. Cathy Yost, Business Monthly