



Board of Directors
6310 Hillside Court, Suite 100
Columbia, Maryland 21046-1070
410-715-3111
ColumbiaAssociation.org

December 20, 2016

The Honorable Terri L. Hill
House Office Building
Room 215
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Delegate Hill:

In 2017, Columbia will celebrate its 50th birthday, as will the Merriweather Post Pavilion (“Merriweather”), a “renowned and celebrated” community treasure for the past half-century that, in the eyes of many, is synonymous with Columbia, MD.

Merriweather is recognized as one of the top outdoor concert venues in the country; a distinction that has been earned annually, even with the growth in residential and commercial developments in areas adjacent to and nearby Merriweather’s location in the community.

Over the years, Merriweather, with a concert season that runs from April to October, had been a “good neighbor.” However, in recent years, the experience of its neighbors has changed, as witnessed by the increase in the number of complaints about the high noise levels generated by some events at Merriweather. Actually, there are growing concerns that in addition to the increase in noise levels generated by some events at Merriweather, simultaneously, there has been an increase in the number of such events during the concert season. Merriweather events have been disturbing the quiet enjoyment of surrounding properties more frequently. We do not believe it is acceptable to wait until there are more complaints before this matter is looked at and resolved in a more meaningful manner for all residents.

The board of directors and staff of CA have received letters, emails and other documents with recommendations (varying in degree of complexity) as to an effective approach or course of action to address growing concerns over high noise levels generated by some events at Merriweather.

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The Honorable Terri L. Hill
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As CA's Board of Directors, we ask that you, as members of the state delegation representing Howard County in the General Assembly, initiate appropriate legislation to address acceptable noise levels for all events at Merriweather at the earliest possible date.

As of 29 November 2016, Merriweather is under new ownership. CA believes that the new ownership will work diligently to position Merriweather to continue to be a "renowned and celebrated" community treasure into its next half-century of existence.

The board of directors greatly appreciates all your efforts. As next steps are undertaken related to noise levels at Merriweather, please reach out to CA as the board of directors and staff want to be engaged in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrew C. Stack".

Andrew C. Stack, Chair
Columbia Association Board of Directors