



# **SUGARLOAF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER May 2013**

"Protecting our rural legacy"

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## **Sugarloaf to Appeal Global Mission Church Decisions**

The Board of Directors of the Sugarloaf Citizens Association (SCA) has voted to pursue two appeals of the decisions by Frederick County to approve the site plan for the Global Mission Church (GMC) megacomplex between Old Hundred and Doctor Perry Roads on agricultural land. Access to the project site will cross Little Bennett Creek in Montgomery County's Agricultural Reserve.

SCA will appeal the final decision of the Frederick County Board of Appeals to the Frederick County Circuit Court. That appeal must be filed by May 30. Among other things, **the Board of Appeals refused to consider evidence prepared by SCA and others challenging GMC's claim that the megacomplex will use less than 5,000 gallons of septic capacity (in a giant sand mound system, one of the largest ever to be proposed in Maryland) on a peak day, and showing that the proposed megacomplex would be incompatible with surrounding land uses, would threaten the integrity of the sole source aquifer that is the source of drinking water for many in the Ag Reserve, and would result in traffic congestion on Maryland Route 109, a designated Rustic Road.** SCA and its co-appellants will be represented by noted land use attorney Michele Rosenfeld.

At a hearing held on the evening of February 28, 2013, the Board of Appeals **refused to hear the testimony of any of the 22 witnesses** who had come to Frederick to testify against the approval of the GMC site plan. In a final decision on April 30, the Board refused to reconsider its decision.

SCA will also pursue an administrative appeal before the Maryland Department of the Environment concerning the septic issues. SCA and co-appellants will be represented by Ms. Rosenfeld in this matter as well, and will submit a notice of appeal by May 30.

SCA seeks your input, your insights, and your involvement, and as always welcomes your support.

**If you have any questions about the GMC megacomplex or other issues, please contact me at [president@sugarloafcitizens.org](mailto:president@sugarloafcitizens.org) or by phone at 301-349-4889.**

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