

## Request to BOCC for Calvert Shores hearing

LETTER TO THE EDITOR Cathy Zumbrun, Lusby. The writer is chair of the Calvert Shores Organizing Committee.

Sep 2, 2016

*The following letter was submitted to the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners Aug. 22. A copy was sent to The Calvert Recorder. At your public meeting June 21, you approved a resolution to conduct a public hearing and reconsider the referendum on establishing the Calvert Shores municipality when the Calvert Shores Organizing Committee submitted a request to this effect accompanied by “the signatures of the owners of at least 25% of the assessed valuation of real property of the area proposed to be incorporated ...” The computer disc attached to this letter consists of two files. The first file includes copies of the individual petition signatures the committee submitted to the Calvert County Board of Elections Nov. 9, 2015. Also included in this file are the individual petition signatures the committee obtained recently from officials of the Property Owners Association of the Chesapeake Ranch Estates (POACRE) and the Chesapeake Ranch Water Co. (CRWC). The second file is a list of all individual property owners within the proposed municipality boundaries who signed the referendum petition, including officials of POACRE and CRWC.*

The total assessed valuation of the real property within the proposed municipality boundaries owned by these individuals and organizations, based on data obtained via the Maryland Open Data Initiative, is \$229,794,000. The specific source of these data is the Maryland Property View 2013, which includes updated 2015 property ownership and assessment data from the Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation. This figure, \$229,794,000, represents 28.46 percent of the total assessed valuation of \$839,533,500 for real properties located within the proposed municipality boundaries.

The data in the second file consist of three columns. The first column contains the names of the property owners as their names appear in the 2015 assessment data; these names may differ slightly from the names as they appear on the referendum petition submitted to the election board last November. The second column provides the addresses of the real property within the proposed municipality boundaries owned by each of these individuals and organizations; in some cases, these individuals and organizations own multiple real properties within the proposed municipality boundaries. The third, and final, column lists the assessed valuation of each of these real properties as represented in the 2015 assessment data.

Having met and substantially exceeded the 25 percent condition you imposed on the committee in your resolution, we now request you honor your pledge to hold a public hearing and reconsider the committee’s request for a referendum on establishing the proposed municipality. We look forward to this opportunity to correct misinformation about, and demonstrate community support for, the Calvert Shores municipality.