



**Frederick County
Government
Frederick, Maryland**

News
Release

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**COUNTY TO EXPLORE WAIVING IMPACT FEES FOR
FARMERS WHO GIVE LAND TO FAMILY MEMBERS**

FREDERICK, MD – The Frederick Board of County Commissioners today directed staff to prepare a proposal for the board’s consideration that would waive all fees, including impact fees, for a farmer who would like to give a lot to a family member to live on and not use for development purposes.

Board President Blaine Young brought this issue to the attention of the board after recently recommending such a waiver at the recent Frederick County Farm Bureau Legislative Day session.

President Young commented, “Agriculture is our number one industry in this county and our farmers need every tool possible to continue with their business. We have asked county staff to bring to the board a proposal to waive impact fees for a family that wants to give a lot to a family member for the purpose of building a house and continuing to live on the farm property. There are already exemptions for impact fees for other areas, such as age restricted families, and we have heard strong support from the agricultural community for us to consider such a proposal during this board’s term of office.”

President Charles Brault of the Frederick County Farm Bureau wrote the board saying, “The Farm Bureau Board asks for your support to eliminate or substantially reduce impact fees assessed when building a home on a farm lot. We are not seeking relief for lots that are sold for development purposes, but for homes that are built on a family farm, for immediate family who are engaged in or have retired from farming and are working to keep agriculture a vital and viable activity in Frederick County.”

In addition, Secretary Brenda Ripley of the Linganore Grange #410 in Unionville, Md., wrote to the commissioners, saying, “The members of the Linganore Grange would like to show our support for a proposal made by Commissioner Blaine Young... We strongly support this proposal due to the fact that the farmer or land owner has already paid his or her property taxes on said land and should be able to pass that land onto his family without the land being taxed a second time.”

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