

The Sun

**Group fighting Rouse's N. Laurel plan must pay for full transcript of hearing**

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April 6, 1999 Page(s): 3B

Edition: HOWARD

Section: LOCAL

Length: 232 words

Index Terms:

HOWARD REGION

Record Number: 9904060117

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A Howard County Circuit judge has declared that a civic organization must pay for reproducing a transcript of an entire hearing if the association intends to fight the development of a Columbia-style village in North Laurel.

The ruling means that the Southern Howard Land Use Committee will be forced to ask the Howard County Zoning Board to transcribe all 1,332 pages of testimony from 15 nights of hearings at a cost to the committee of \$6,600.

Thomas Dernoga, an attorney representing the committee, said his clients had hoped to pay for testimony applying only to the argument regarding a zoning mistake or a change in the character of the neighborhood.

The Rouse Co., which wants to build a mixed-use development of 1,145 homes, 1.2 million square feet of employment space and 183 acres of open space on 517 acres straddling Interstate 95, successfully persuaded the board in June to change the zoning and approve a preliminary development plan.

In response to the ruling by Judge Diane O. Leasure, the organization has paid the \$6,600 cost, Dernoga said.

The battle against Rouse Co. will continue Sept. 16 at a hearing on the group's appeal in Circuit Court.

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