

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2026 Legislative Session

Legislative day # 9

RESOLUTION NO. 119 - 2026

Introduced by: Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short title: Reappointment – William Phillip Webster – Environmental Sustainability Board

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of William Phillip Webster to the Environmental Sustainability Board.

Introduced and read first time on July 16, 2026.

By order: Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

Read for a second time and a public hearing held on July 20, 2026.

By order: Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted ☒, Adopted with amendments___, Failed___, Withdrawn ___ by the County Council on sep 8, 2026.

Certified by: Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing language; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing language. ~~Strike out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

July 29, 2026 Tabled Michelle Harrod

WHEREAS, Section 404 of the Howard County Charter and Section 6.300 of the Howard County Code provide for the County Executive to appoint and for the County Council to confirm nominees to Howard County Boards and Commissions created by law; and

WHEREAS, Sections 6.339 and 6.600 of the Howard County Code provide for an Environmental Sustainability Board in Howard County; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive has proposed the reappointment of William Phillip Webster as a member of the Environmental Sustainability Board; and

WHEREAS, the County Council ratifies the County Executive's special trust and confidence in the abilities of the nominee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland this 8 day of September, 2026 that the following person is reappointed as a member of the Environmental Sustainability Board to serve from the passage of this Resolution to September 8, 2029 or until a successor is appointed and confirmed:

William Phillip Webster
Columbia, Maryland

W. Phillip “Phil” Webster, PhD

Post Retirement Environment and Sustainability Activities

- Community Service
 - Co-Lead of Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia Climate Crisis Team
 - Climate Change Lead Advocate, Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland. Advocate for Climate Justice and Climate Affirming Legislation in the Maryland General Assembly for Maryland Unitarian Universalists.
 - Steering Committee, Electrify HoCo. Advocating for Electrification of new and substantial upgrades to buildings in Howard County.
 - Steering Committee, Maryland Climate Coalition. Advocating for passage of the Clean Energy Jobs Act of 2019 and other climate legislation
- Personal
 - Installed a Geothermal heat pump system to replace a methane gas furnace.
 - Purchased 2 EVs, 2017 and 2020
 - Upgraded windows with high performance triple pane units.

Employment History

- NASA Goddard Space Flight Center – Earth Sciences Division (1998-2017)
 - Retired as Director of Weather and Climate SuperComputing
 - Largest NASA computing system of Climate and Weather simulation, data analysis and storage.
 - Scientific Visualization Studio – Award winning simulation and visualization of climate, weather, and oceanographic data.
- US Air Force – Civilian Employee
 - Office of the Secretary of Defense High Performance Computing Modernization Program (1994-1998)
 - Directed acquisition, implementation, and oversight of 13 SuperComputing Centers supporting US military scientists and engineers.
 - Wright Patterson Air Force Base (1987-1994)
 - Supervisory Computer Scientist – Managed an Award Winning team of Computation Aerodynamicist
 - Computer Scientist – Conducted basic Computational Fluid Dynamics research on aircraft components.
 - Personal Activity – designed, built, and occupied a passive solar house.
- US Department of Energy
 - Morgantown Energy Technology Center (1986-1987)

Education

- PhD Mechanical Engineering, Pennsylvania State University, Aug 1986
 - Thesis: *Condensation on a Flat Place with a Row of Film Cooling Holes.*
- Master of Mechanical Engineering, North Carolina State University, Aug 1982
 - Master’s Project: *Insulation in a Passive Solar House*
- BS Mechanical Engineering, North Carolina State University, May 1981
- BA Political Science, University of North Carolina, Dec 1975