

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2026 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 11

Resolution No. 148-2026

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

SHORT TITLE: Appointment – Greg Zudock– SMART Data Center Task Force

TITLE: A RESOLUTION appointing Greg Zudock to the SMART (Strategic Moratorium for Assessing Responsible Technology) Data Center Task Force as an appointee for the County Executive.

Introduced and read first time Sep 8, 2026.

By order Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on Sep 22, 2026.

By order Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted ☒, Adopted with amendments ☐, Failed ☐, Withdrawn ☐, by the County Council on Oct 5, 2026.

Certified By Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

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

WHEREAS, on June 1st, 2026, the Howard County Council approved Council Bill 31-2026, which established a temporary prohibition of issuance of certain approvals of development plans on data processing centers, and called for the creation of the SMART (Strategic Moratorium for Assessing Responsible Technology) Data Center Task Force (the “Task Force”); and

WHEREAS, the members of the Task Force are tasked with developing a definition of “Data Center” for the Zoning Regulations; recommending best practices for data center siting and location, setbacks and screening, water consumption and impact, power and energy infrastructure, noise and acoustic mitigation, impact fees or excise tax application, decommissioning plans, removing the data center tax credit; and assessing the impact of data centers on the Howard County Climate Forward: Climate Action and Resiliency Plan; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Council Bill 31-2026, each Councilmember shall nominate one member to the Task Force and the County Executive shall nominate no more than six members with all members appointed by individual Council Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive has the utmost confidence in the abilities and the character of:

Greg Zudock
Laurel, Maryland

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland this 5 day of October, 2026 that Greg Zudock be appointed as a member of the SMART Data Center Task Force of Howard County, Maryland, to serve from the date this Resolution is adopted until August 3, 2027, or until a successor is appointed.

Gregory Zudock – BIO

As Deputy Chief Information Officer (CIO) for the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory (APL), Gregory (Greg) Zudock is responsible for the operation and service delivery of a 650-person IT department providing critical IT infrastructure and services to a key national laboratory in the national security sector. The portfolio of services he manages includes high-speed computing infrastructure supporting APL's work in artificial intelligence (AI) and modeling/simulation, and data centers supporting APL's work in data science and general computing. He is responsible for IT and compliance activities for all levels of classification, including support for highly classified Department of War and Intelligence Community programs.

Greg leads the Laboratory's Enterprise IT Infrastructure and Data Center Sub-team and maintains the enterprise data center roadmap for APL. In his time at APL, he has overseen the design and construction of 4 enterprise data centers, the latest of which will be a 3 MW facility coming online in 2028 that will expand APL's capacity to support the GPU clusters necessary for AI research.

In the late 1990s, Greg helped grow Digex, one of the first managed hosting companies. As VP of Client Services, he managed a \$30M profit center providing technical support for over 3500 servers and relationship management to large, complex web hosting clients, including primary transaction sites for roughly 20% of the Fortune 500 (including airlines, financial services, manufacturing, and pharmaceutical corporations).

Greg has over 40 years of information technology experience including a 30-year relationship with APL. His extensive experience includes IT operations and support, information security, software design and development, and systems engineering.

Greg holds a bachelor's in Electrical Engineering from Northwestern University and a master's in Computer Science from Johns Hopkins University. For over 10 years, he designed and taught courses for the Master of Science in Information and Telecommunication Systems program of the former Johns Hopkins University School of Continuing Studies in Business (now the Johns Hopkins Carey Business School).