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Maryland Department of the Environment

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Larry Hogan Governor, Boyd Rutherford Lieutenant Governor, Ben Grumbles Secretary

AUG 24 2016

The Honorable Calvin Ball Chairperson Howard County Council 3430 Courthouse Drive Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

2016 AUG 29 PM 1:21 HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL RECEIVED

Dear Chairperson Ball:

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has completed its review of the 2015 Howard County Master Plan for Water and Sewerage (Plan). The Plan was adopted by the Howard County Council on May 2, 2016 by County Resolution No. 36-2016.

During MDE's review of the 2015 Plan, the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP) advised MDE that the Plan update is consistent with the 2030 Plan Howard Comprehensive Plan (see enclosed comments). The Department's Water Supply Program had comments on several aspects of Chapter 3 that should be addressed in the County's next Amendment to the Water and Sewer Plan (see enclosed comments). The Department hereby approves the 2015 Howard County Master Plan for Water and Sewerage.

This action completes MDE's review, as required by §9-507 of the Environment Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. If you need further assistance on these matters, please contact Virginia F. Kearney, Deputy Director, at (410) 537-3512, toll free at (800) 633-6101, or by e-mail at virginia.kearney@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Virginia F. Kearney (signature) Lynn Buhl, Director Water Management Administration

Enclosures

- cc: Don Campbell, Senior Engineer, Bureau of Utilities, Howard County; Jeffrey K. Welty, P.E., Deputy Chief, Bureau of Utilities, Howard County; Charles Boyd, Deputy Director, Planning Services, MDP; Saeid Kasraei, Water Supply Program, WMA, MDE; Virginia F. Kearney, Deputy Director, WMA, MDE



July 21, 2016

Mrs. Janice Outen
Maryland Department of the Environment
Water Management Administration
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

Subject: 2015 Amendments to the Howard County Master Plan for Water and Sewerage

Dear Mrs. Outen:

The Maryland Department of Planning has reviewed the 2015 Amendments to the Howard County Master Plan for Water and Sewerage in accordance with the Maryland Economic Growth, Resource Protection and Planning Act of 1992 and the Smart Growth Priority Funding Areas Act of 1997.

We find the amendments to be consistent with our programs and policies and the 2030 PlanHoward Comprehensive Plan.

If you have any questions please call Steve Allan, regional planner for Howard County at 410-767-4572.

Sincerely,

Charles Boyd, AICP
Deputy Director of Planning Coordination

Cc: Greg Golden, DNR
Dwight Dotterer, MDA
Steve Allan, Planning
John Leocha, Planning

STATE OF MARYLAND
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
WATER MANAGEMENT ADMINISTRATION
WATER SUPPLY PROGRAM

MEMORANDUM

TO: Daniel Laird
THROUGH: Saeid Kasraei *Saeid*
FROM: Zoë Goodson *ZG*
DATE: August 17, 2016
SUBJECT: Howard County 2015 plan

The Water Supply Program has the following comments for the subject plan:

Specific projects to add more elevated water storage, in addition to the proposed 2.0 MG Guilford elevated tank described on page 3-21, should be considered. The importance of more elevated water storage has been noted in past sanitary surveys of the Howard County DPW system. Table 8 "Immediate, 5 Year, 10 Year, and Comprehensive Priorities for Water System Development" itemizes a project to improve system redundancy-- does this include more elevated water storage? Additionally, Table 6A "Public Water Storage Facilities" lists the proposed Guilford elevated tank capacity as 2.5 MG. Please address this discrepancy.

Page 3-13: Under "Groundwater Supply," please explain the reasoning behind not allowing future community water systems with groundwater supplies within Howard County. Given the nature of groundwater quality in Howard County, as described in this section, a regulated community water supply with appropriate treatment has potential public health benefits over individual private wells.

Page 3-17: Under "Other Supply," Fort Meade no longer withdrawals from the Little Patuxent River for its water treatment facility; rather, it strictly withdrawals groundwater. The surface water Appropriation Permit AA1969S021 has been inactivated.

Page 3-29: It was mentioned that increased tank turnover models showed positive results on reducing water age. Are there planned projects to add tank mixers in the elevated storage tanks? Are chlorine booster stations being considered for zones with the highest water age, such as the 730 and 630 South zones? Low chlorine residuals at these zones were noted in past sanitary surveys. Additionally, adding backfeed lines with pressure reducing valves from the 630 South zone to the 550 II zone, and from the 730 zone to the 630 West zone (similar to the setup at Whiskey Bottom), could be considered to help with water age in the 630 South and 730 zones and allow for more system-wide elevated storage capacity.