



Howard County

Internal Memorandum

Subject: Testimony for Council Bill ____-2012
Amendment 1 to *PlanHoward 2030*

To: Lonnie Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

From: Marsha S. McLaughlin, Director
Department of Planning and Zoning

Date: November 15, 2012

On July 26, 2012, the County Council adopted *PlanHoward 2030* as Howard County's new general plan. During the process, the County Council amended *PlanHoward 2030* removing the proposed Growth Tiers to allow additional time for review by both the public and the County Council. As part of the amendment the two rural designated place types were also removed, as they directly relate to the Growth Tiers.

The text and maps associated with rural growth tiers are being resubmitted for inclusion in *PlanHoward 2030*. Council Bill ____ - 2012 adds Maps 6-1 and 6-2 with the associated text, which are identical to the original text and maps previously reviewed by Planning Board and the County Council earlier in 2012. Map 6-3 and associated text have been revised slightly in response to comments from the Maryland Department of Planning. Tier IV now includes some large farms and forested areas of RR that are permanently protected.

The full text of enrolled Council Bill 26-2012, adopting *PlanHoward 2030*, as amended, and all of the background information related to the *PlanHoward 2030* process are available at www.planhoward.org.

Fiscal Impact

There are no unanticipated fiscal impacts associated with adoption of this Council Bill. The fiscal impact analysis that was prepared as a supplement to *PlanHoward 2030* incorporated the proposed rural growth tier designations in its assessment of the implications of future growth in terms of both projected revenue and expenses for supporting public service and facilities.

There are property value impacts associated with the new State prohibition of major subdivisions in Tier IV growth areas. The proposed amendment (Policy 6.1, Action f.) seeks to mitigate the impact via expanding opportunities to transfer density from the impacted Tier IV properties.

c: Jessica Feldmark, Chief of Staff
Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator
Kimberley Flowers, Deputy Director, DPZ
William Mackey, Chief, Division of Comprehensive and Community Planning