



Howard County

Internal Memorandum

Subject: Testimony & Fiscal Impact Statement
Council Resolution No. _____-2016 granting a variance for government uses from certain height restrictions for the construction of a compost facility at the Alpha Ridge Landfill located at 2350 Marriottsville Road.

To: Lonnie R. Robbins,
Chief Administrative Officer

From: James M. Irvin, Director *JMI*
Department of Public Works

Date: October 27, 2016

The Department of Public Works has been designated coordinator for the preparation of testimony relative to granting a variance for government uses from certain height restrictions for the construction of a compost facility at the Alpha Ridge Landfill located at 2350 Marriottsville Road.

Capital Project C-0299 – Waste Management Improvements, was approved to include the design and construction of capital improvements at the Alpha Ridge Solid Waste Facility.

The Compost Facility-Phase II project consists of constructing a permanent composting facility at the landfill to accept food scraps and yard waste from the entire County and manufacture compost. The composting process diverts material from expensive disposal alternatives and creates a useful, environmentally-beneficial end product with commercial value.

The project includes constructing a Feedstock Receiving Enclosure which is a metal frame structure with a fabric covering that will be 65 feet in height. The building height was minimized to the maximum extent possible, given site conditions and facility operational needs. Alternative building types were investigated during the design process, however the fabric-covered metal frame structure proposed was determined to be the most cost effective for the County.

The department has presented Site Development Plan No. 16-035 to the Department of Planning & Zoning for review and approval. In order to construct the Feedstock Receiving Enclosure, a variance from the 40-foot height limitation for principal structures with gabled roofs in the RC (Rural Conservation) Zoning District is required.

The total costs for the design and construction of the project is currently approved in the Howard County Capital Budget at \$8,500,000.00.

Representatives of this department will be present at the public hearing to answer any questions or concerns. If you require any further information concerning this matter or have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

cc: Jennifer Sager
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