



Howard County

Internal Memorandum

Subject: Testimony for Council Bill No. ____ (Comprehensive Zoning Plan)

To: Lonnie Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

From: Marsha McLaughlin, Director *mm*
Department of Planning and Zoning

Date: May 31, 2013

The Department of Planning and Zoning supports adoption of Council Bill No. ____, the 2013 Comprehensive Zoning Plan for Howard County.

The Comprehensive Zoning Plan reflects a thorough review of the Howard County's Zoning Maps and Regulations. The intent of this review is to implement General Plan policies adopted in the *PlanHoward 2030*, as well as revisions to the regulations to address changing market conditions and problems associated with zoning interpretation and enforcement. The Preliminary Comprehensive Zoning Plan was submitted to the Planning Board for its review and recommendations after holding public hearings. The Planning Board's recommendations and DPZ's staff report were previously forwarded to the County Council.

There are no direct fiscal impacts associated with adoption of the Comprehensive Zoning Plan, however, it is important that Howard County's Zoning Regulations and Maps are periodically updated to facilitate appropriate development consistent with market conditions and *PlanHoward 2030*.

Please contact me if you have any questions at x4301.

MMcL/lb

cc: Jessica Feldmark, Chief of Staff
Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator ✓
Ray Wacks, Budget Administrator
Kimberley Flowers, Deputy Director, DPZ