



Howard County

Internal Memorandum

Subject: Testimony for Council Bill No. ____ (Zoning Amendment for Breweries)

To: Lonnie Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

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

Date: May 28, 2013

The Department of Planning and Zoning supports adoption of Council Bill No. ____ which amends the M-1 (Light Manufacturing) and M-2 (Heavy Manufacturing) zoning districts to add breweries that manufacture fermented malt beverages as a permitted use.

The addition of breweries as permitted uses in the M-1 and M-2 zoning districts was originally proposed by DPZ in the Preliminary Comprehensive Zoning Plan that was submitted to the Planning Board for its review and recommendations after holding public hearings. No testimony was received on these amendments. In the interim, the Economic Development Authority was contacted by a firm that is starting a new brewery. It has identified sites in a neighboring county that have the requisite zoning, however, this firm would prefer to locate in Howard County. In order to meet their business plan, this firm needs to select a site by mid-summer. Due to the complexity of the Comprehensive Zoning Plan, which may delay adoption, allowance for breweries in the M-1 and M-2 districts is being proposed as a separate zoning amendment. The Planning Board was informed of this decision and prepared a separate recommendation supporting the addition of breweries in the M-1 and M-2 zones.

There are no direct fiscal impact associated with adoption of this Council Bill, however, development of a brewery would create jobs and have a positive economic impact.

Please contact me if you have any questions at x4301.

MMcL/lh

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