

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2019 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 4

Resolution No. 36 -2019

Introduced by: Deb Jung and Christiana Mercer Rigby
Co-sponsored by Liz Walsh

A Resolution expressing the County Council's continuing support for CB8-2017, which authorized the Howard County Office of Law to institute any civil action or other proceedings related to the implementation of the Next Generation Air Transportation System at Baltimore Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport; and the Council's support for the related efforts of the DC Metroplex BWI Community Roundtable.

Introduced and read first time on _____, 2019.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

Read for a second time and a public hearing held on _____, 2019.

By order _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted ____, Adopted with amendments ____, Failed ____, Withdrawn ____ by the County Council on _____, 2019.

Certified by _____
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing language; TEXT IN ALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing language. ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **WHEREAS**, the Howard County Council has found and continues to find that the
2 implementation of the Next Generation Air Transportation System (“NextGen”) at
3 Baltimore Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (“BWI”) by the Federal
4 Aviation Administration (“FAA”) has harmed residents of the County due to excessive
5 and increased noise and air pollution from low-flying aircraft, which has a significant
6 negative impact on the quality of life for a large number of Howard County residents, and
7 has contributed to decreased home values; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the County Council has received numerous calls and emails from citizens directly
10 affected by the change in flight patterns; and
11

12 **WHEREAS**, the FAA has failed to appropriately consider significant environmental, health, and
13 land use impacts of NextGen and related flight operation changes that abandoned existing
14 State and federal noise abatement plans; and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, the FAA has acted arbitrarily and capriciously in failing to comply with federal
17 environmental, transportation, and historic preservation law in making several decisions
18 related to flight operation changes at BWI; and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, legal action is necessary to protect the residents and interests of the County from the
21 harm caused by the excessive and increased noise from airplanes; and
22

23 **WHEREAS**, the County has brought proceedings against the FAA related to the implementation
24 of NextGen at BWI, which proceedings are ongoing in federal court; and
25

26 **WHEREAS**, the County has brought a second claim against the FAA for continuing to ignore
27 significant noise impacts on Howard County citizens while approving proposed revisions
28 to the BWI Airport Layout Plan, which includes an expansion of cargo facilities; and
29

30 **WHEREAS**, the County Council supports the DC Metroplex BWI Community Roundtable’s

1 (“Roundtable”) continuing efforts to work with FAA to address the adverse effects of the
2 implementation of NextGen and requests that the FAA immediately resume
3 communications with the Roundtable; and
4

5 **WHEREAS**, the County Council urges the FAA to revert to pre-NextGen flight patterns at BWI
6 as soon as possible;
7

8 **NOW, THEREFORE, the County Council of Howard County, Maryland**, on this ___ day of
9 _____, 2019, reiterates its support for the ongoing civil actions being pursued by the
10 Office of Law of Howard County, the efforts of the Roundtable to engage with FAA to
11 have it return flight patterns to pre-NextGen flight patterns, and any other proceedings that
12 are related to reversing the implementation of the Next Generation Air Transportation
13 System at BWI.