

SUBJECT: Testimony and Fiscal Impact Statement

Council Resolution No.: 45-2019, A RESOLUTION approving a Financial Assurance Plan for Howard County's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit programs, in accordance with Section 4-202.1 of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland; and requiring certain copies be sent to the Maryland Department of the Environment.

TO:

Lonnie Robbins

Chief Administrative Officer

FROM:

Mark De Luca, Chief Bureau of Environmental Services

Department of Public Works

DATE:

March 28, 2019

The Administration has filed a resolution endorsing the biannually updated Financial Assurance Plan to satisfy Section 4-202.1 of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The Code requires local jurisdictions who receive a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm System (MS4) permit to submit a plan that outlines what resources the jurisdiction will use to meet the permit requirement.

The permit, most recently issued to Howard County in 2014, required restoration of 20 percent of the impermeable area within the county. State law further requires the County to approve and file a biannually updated financial assurance plan with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE). The purpose of the plan is to describe the necessary costs and identify the revenue sources to meet the remaining portion of the 20 percent restoration requirement.

This will be the last financial assurance plan for the current permit since it ends December 2019. The next financial plan will be based on the requirements of the next permit which we hope to receive in early 2020 and end in 2025.