



# Howard County

*Internal Memorandum*

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**Subject: Testimony on Council Resolution No CR105-2020; Amending the minimum square footage for Conservation Landscaping.**

**To: Lonnie R. Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer**

**From: Julie Costantino, Office of Community Sustainability**

**Date: June 26, 2020**

When updating the reimbursement rates and BMP minimum size requirements in CR35, the existing requirement of 250 SF for Conservation Landscaping was to be reduced to 150 SF. The "2" in 250 SF was never deleted, and the "1" that was to be in 150 SF was added in front of the 250 which resulted in 1,250 SF. The error was not detected until after the resolution was passed, so an opportunity to correct this was not available. As you can see, the minimum size requirement for commercial Conservation Landscaping is 300 SF, which represents a reasonable minimum for properties of a larger size. Our intention was to set 150SF as the minimum for Conservation Landscaping on residential properties, to reflect a reasonable minimum for smaller, residential homes.

We do not anticipate any fiscal impact due to this technical correction. Reimbursements paid for conservation landscaping will come from the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund .