

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2014 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 4

Resolution No. 39 -2014

Introduced by: Calvin Ball

A RESOLUTION, creating a task force to study standards and related parking issues for locating fueling stations and to recommend standards for locating facilities.

Introduced and read first time _____, 2014.

By order _____
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on _____, 2014.

By order _____
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted_, Adopted with amendments_, Failed_, Withdrawn_, by the County Council on _____, 2014.

Certified By _____
Sheila M. Tolliver, Administrator

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

1 **WHEREAS**, during the Comprehensive Zoning process in 2013 the County
2 considered adding specific standards for alternative fueling stations throughout the
3 County, without adopting related legislation; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Council recognizes the need to continue the analysis initiated in
5 the Comprehensive Plan and has received a request to amend the decision-making
6 standards in the Zoning regulations for the use of gasoline stations in Howard County;
7 and

8 **WHEREAS**, as alternative fuels, including biodiesel and electricity, become
9 more popular there is an increased demand for alternative fueling stations and associated
10 parking; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Council recognizes the need to study New Town zoning as a
12 whole, including fueling stations; and

13 **WHEREAS**, Section 902 of the Howard County Charter authorizes the creation
14 of temporary advisory boards of citizens to study policies and issues.

15

16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard
17 County, Maryland, this ____ day of _____ 2014 that there is a Fueling Station
18 Task Force established to:

- 19 1. review findings of applicable scientific studies to ascertain pertinent safety issues
20 related to the siting of fueling stations; and
- 21 2. review best practices for placing and regulating alternative fueling stations
22 including, but not limited to, standards adopted by Montgomery County, Charles
23 County and the United States Environmental Protection Agency; and
- 24 3. review the New Town Zoning Regulations and any other related documents,
25 including village center master plans and the Columbia Market Analysis and
26 Economic Development Services study, to ensure that fueling station standards
27 will fit with the overall vision of New Town; and
- 28 4. review the standards for locating gasoline stations as a conditional use in the 2013
29 Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Regulations; and

- 1 5. evaluate the supply, demand and practices of fueling stations over the last decade
- 2 in the county, state and nationally; and
- 3 6. evaluate the research findings pertaining to the need for and requirements of
- 4 alternative fueling stations; and
- 5 7. make recommendations for developing standards for fueling stations in New
- 6 Town and in areas allowing these facilities; and
- 7 8. make recommendations, incorporating the findings of science and the best
- 8 practices available, concerning the regulation and siting of fueling stations; and
- 9 9. make recommendations for possible amendments to the Howard County Zoning
- 10 Regulations addressing the standards for conditional use approval of fueling
- 11 stations.

12

13 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Task Force consists of the
14 following members:

- 15 1. The CEO or his representative of the Howard County Economic Development
- 16 Authority;
- 17 2. The President or a designee of the Howard County Chamber of Commerce;
- 18 3. The President or a designee of the Howard County Sierra Club;
- 19 4. The Executive Director or a designee of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council;
- 20 5. The Chairperson or a designee of the Howard County Environmental
- 21 Sustainability Board;
- 22 6. The Chairperson or a designee of the Howard County Transportation Board; and
- 23 7. Two members of Columbia village boards, to be selected by the County
- 24 Council; and
- 25 8. Two people with experience in the production, distribution or sale of motor
- 26 fuels, to be selected by the County Council.

27

28 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Task Force shall hold meetings,
29 including at least one public hearing, and receive testimony as the task force considers
30 appropriate.

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1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Task Force shall present its findings
2 and recommendations to the County Council on or before December 1, 2014.

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4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County Solicitor and the Council
5 Administrator shall assign appropriate staff to assist the Task Force in its work.

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