

# County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2022 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 1

## Resolution No. 17 -2022

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION adopting a comprehensive revision to the Howard County Design Manual Volume III (Roads and Bridges) that includes content changes; renaming the Howard County Design Manual Volume III to be "Complete Streets and Bridges"; amending the Howard County Design Manual Volume IV (Standard Specifications and Details for Construction) to include updated sections and details reflecting Complete Streets concepts and policy in Howard County; repealing current Howard County Design Manual Volume III (Roads and Bridges); and generally related to Volume III and IV of the Design Manual.

Introduced and read first time Jan 4, 2022.

By order

Michelle Harrod  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on Jan 18, 2022.

By order

Michelle Harrod  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted , Adopted with amendments , Failed , Withdrawn , by the County Council on Feb 7, 2022.

Certified By

Michelle Harrod  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive Feb 9, 2022

Calvin Ball  
Calvin Ball, County Executive

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

1           **WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 18.210 of the Howard County Code, the Design  
2 Manual sets forth Howard County's technical standards for the design and construction of roads  
3 and utilities in Howard County; and

4           **WHEREAS**, the last comprehensive revision of the Design Manual, Volume III (Roads  
5 and Bridges) occurred in 2017 with the passage of Council Resolution No. 138-2017; and

6           **WHEREAS**, the last comprehensive revision of the Design Manual, Volume IV  
7 (Standard Specifications and Details for Construction) occurred in 2017 with the passage of  
8 Council Resolution No. 139-2017; and

9           **WHEREAS**, since the comprehensive revision, Council has adopted Council Resolution  
10 120-2019 calling for revisions that “develop a Complete Streets Design Manual that implements  
11 Complete Streets Policy”; and

12           **WHEREAS**, these design guidance revisions, combined with new processes for  
13 community engagement and project prioritization represent an updated approach to  
14 transportation in Howard County, intended to provide a more transparent and inclusive process  
15 and safer streets for everyone; and

16           **WHEREAS**, the goal of Complete Streets is to enhance, prioritize, and incentivize the  
17 utilization of a range of transportation options in Howard County, including walking, bicycling,  
18 transit use, and accessibility for all users to improve the health, wellbeing, and sustainability of  
19 Howard County; and

20           **WHEREAS**, The Office of Transportation appointed a Complete Streets Implementation  
21 Team (CSIT) pursuant to Council Resolution 120-2019; and

22           **WHEREAS**, the CSIT met 37 times since December 2019 and submitted a Draft  
23 Advisory Document for public review and comment between October 11 and October 28, 2021;  
24 and

25           **WHEREAS**, the Office of Transportation presented documents summarizing the changes  
26 to the Design Manual at two workshops in October 2021 and has posted those documents on its  
27 website, <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/DM-updates>, along with all responses to questions

1 received during the public comment period, and made changes in response to comments by both  
2 the public and the CSIT since the draft was published on October 11, 2021; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Howard County met with the CSIT on December 1, 2021 to finalize the  
4 version that has been posted on the Howard County Office of Transportation Website since  
5 December 7, 2021; and

6 **WHEREAS**, the Director of Public Works has proposed a comprehensive rewrite of  
7 Volume III (“Roads and Bridges”) to amend the content and change the name of the volume to  
8 be “Complete Streets and Bridges”, as shown in the attached Exhibit A; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Director of Public Works has also proposed a revision to Volume IV of  
10 the Design Manual to update various detail drawings, as shown in the attached Exhibit B; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the proposed revisions were considered by the Howard County Public  
12 Works Board at its public hearings on November 9 and December 14, 2021 and the Board  
13 recommended submission of the updates to Volume III and IV of the Design Manual for  
14 consideration by County Council; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the proposed revisions were endorsed by the Howard County Multimodal  
16 Transportation Board at its December 16, 2021 meeting; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the proposed revision of Design Manual Volume III incorporates design  
18 guidance related to Complete Streets with a focus on safety for all road users and the proposed  
19 revision of Design Manual Volume IV incorporates changes to the detail drawings; and

20 ~~**WHEREAS**, the Administration will be convening a similar Complete Streets~~  
21 ~~Implementation Team in 2022 to assist in the development of revised transportation components~~  
22 ~~for proposed Subdivision and Land Use Regulations and related additional changes to the Design~~  
23 ~~Manual Volume III Chapters 4 and 5 that are needed to support the County’s Complete Streets~~  
24 ~~Policy.~~

25 **WHEREAS**, following the adoption of this resolution, the Administration shall convene  
26 a similar Complete Streets Implementation Team in 2022 to develop comprehensive changes to

1 the Design Manual Volume III Chapters 4 and 5 that are needed to support the County’s  
2 complete streets policy and inform revisions to the Subdivision and Land Use Regulations; and

3 WHEREAS, revisions to Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance and Subdivision and  
4 Land Use Regulations must reflect a complete streets approach throughout the County that  
5 would support and encourage walking, bicycling, transit use, and accessibility for all users as per  
6 the County’s Complete Streets Policy (CR 120-2019); and

7 WHEREAS, the Complete Streets Implementation Team shall make comprehensive  
8 revisions to Chapters 4 and 5 of the Design Manual Volume III and Subdivision and Land Use  
9 Regulations and submit an updated copy of the Design Manual Volume III to the County  
10 Council for approval nine months following the adoption of the Design Manual per the Complete  
11 Streets Policy (CR 120-2019); and

12 WHEREAS, the County Council strongly encourages that the Administration take a  
13 proactive approach to incorporate Complete Streets principles and transportation mode shift  
14 goals to increase active transportation and reduce road traffic through the ongoing “HoCo By  
15 Design” General Plan process and other planning efforts

16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,  
17 Maryland this 7 day of February, 2022, that the Howard County Design Manual,  
18 Volume III (Roads and Bridges), previously adopted by Council Resolution No. 138-2017, is  
19 hereby repealed.

20 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the County Council of Howard County,  
21 Maryland that the Howard County Design Manual, Volume III is hereby renamed to be  
22 “Complete Streets and Bridges” and the revised Volume III, attached as Exhibit A, is hereby  
23 adopted as the Howard County Design Manual Volume III.

24 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the County Council of Howard County,  
25 Maryland that the Design Manual Volume IV, previously adopted by Council Resolution No.  
26 139-2017, is amended as follows, with all substitute and newly inserted pages show in Exhibit B:

27 The following Details are removed and substituted:

- 1           1. R-1.01 through R-1.09
- 2           2. R-2.01 and R-2.02
- 3           3. R-3.05
- 4           4. R-4.01 through R-4.06 and R-4.11
- 5           5. R-5.01 through R-5.06
- 6           6. R-6.01 through R-6.04; R-6.07 and R-6.10

7           The following new Details are being inserted:

- 8           1. R-1.10 through R-1.16;
- 9           2. R-4.08, R-4.09, R-4.10, R-4.12 and R-4.13;
- 10          3. R-6.11

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, stands enacted on Feb 9, 2022.

Michelle Harrod  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been passed by the yeas and nays of two-thirds of the members of the Council notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, stands enacted on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the Executive within ten days of its presentation, stands enacted on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, not having been considered on final reading within the time required by Charter, stands failed for want of consideration on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been disapproved by the Executive and having failed on passage upon consideration by the Council stands failed on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, the withdrawal of which received a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Council, is withdrawn from further consideration on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council