

**Amendment 11 to Council Bill No. 28 -2023**

**BY: Christiana Rigby**

**Legislative Day 11**

**Date: 10/02/2023**

**Amendment No. 11**

*(This Amendment makes the following changes to HoCo by Design Chapters 5 and 11:*

*Chapter 5: Economic Prosperity - Adds a new Implementing Action in Policy Statement EP-5 to continue to support the arts in the Savage community; and*

*Chapter 11: Implementation - Adds a new Implementing Action in Policy Statement EP-5 to continue to support the arts in the Savage community.)*

1 In the *HoCo By Design* General Plan, attached to this Act as Exhibit A, amend the following  
2 pages as indicated in this Amendment:

- 3       • Chapter 5: Economic Prosperity, page 44.  
4       • Chapter 11: Implementation, page 31.

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6 Correct all page numbers, numbering, and formatting within this Act to accommodate this  
7 amendment.

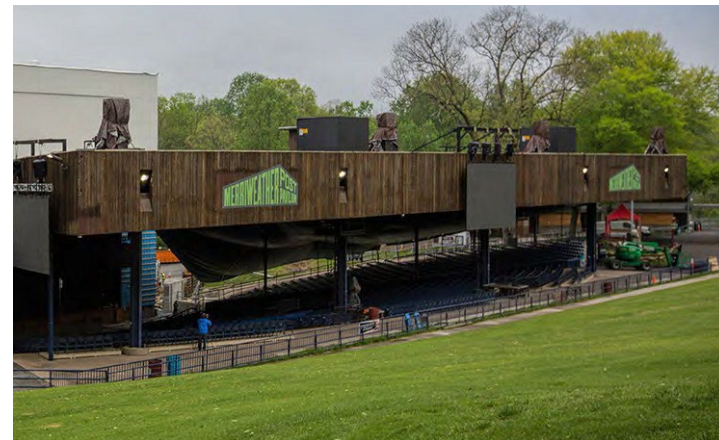
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A countywide arts and culture center in Downtown Columbia was envisioned by the community over 10 years ago and was ultimately incorporated into the DCP. This vision became reality in 2016 when the New Cultural Center (NCC) was included in the affordable housing plan for Downtown Columbia as one of the public amenities that would also provide mixed-income housing. The NCC is a redevelopment project planned at the current site of Toby's Dinner Theater. The NCC will include a new theater and commercial kitchen, two black box theaters, a gallery, dance studios, various classrooms/performing arts rooms, and mixed-income housing.

The Ellicott City Watershed Master Plan (ECWMP) supports the expansion of arts-related uses and public art in the Main Street area. It recognizes the potential to grow arts and entertainment offerings, build upon existing arts-related events, and give public art a prominent role in the community. Among its policies and implementing actions, the ECWMP recommends that upon expansion of arts-related uses in the area, a Maryland Arts Council, Arts and Entertainment District designation be re-explored. As described in the ECWMP, "Maryland's A&E Districts provide local tax-related incentives to attract artists, arts organizations, and other creative enterprises to towns and cities within the State." Support for additional arts and entertainment uses in Ellicott City may include incentives, reduced rent, or space in county-owned buildings.

In all of these destinations, investments in design value and quality of the public realm create safe and inviting spaces for pedestrians and cyclists, better wayfinding, improved landscaping, enhanced stormwater management, and spaces for civic gatherings, outdoor events, cultural activities, and the arts. The public realm is further described in the Quality By Design chapter.



## EP-5 Policy Statement

Seek opportunities to encourage and support the arts and cultural initiatives for residents, businesses, and visitors that reflect and celebrate Howard County's diverse population and are safe and accessible to people of all abilities.

### Implementing Actions

1. Encourage inclusive opportunities for the arts, cultural expression, and entertainment in new and existing activity centers through integration of public art, cultural amenities, public gathering space, and an activated public realm.
2. Explore incentives to support the expansion of arts and entertainment uses in Ellicott City.
3. Re-explore establishing an Arts and Entertainment (A&E) District Designation for Main Street Ellicott City as part of a creative places initiative, once additional arts and entertainment uses open.
4. Ensure that the Downtown Columbia Plan's vision for the arts continues to be implemented.
5. Continue to integrate the arts into revitalization efforts at Long Reach Village Center.
6. Continue to support the goals of the Howard County Arts Council and Howard County Tourism Council to benefit residents, businesses, and tourists into the future.
7. [Continue to ensure arts and craftsmanship are an integral part of Savage revitalization and explore incentives to support their expansion, especially through the sustainable communities program.](#)





Table 10-1: Implementation Matrix		
Policy and Implementing Actions	Lead Agency	Timeframe (Mid-Term five-year, Long-Term six+ years, Ongoing)
<b>EP-5 - Seek opportunities to encourage and support the arts and cultural initiatives for residents, businesses and visitors that reflect and celebrate Howard County's diverse population and are safe and accessible to people of all abilities.</b>		
1. Encourage inclusive opportunities for the arts, cultural expression, and entertainment in new and existing activity centers through integration of public art, cultural amenities, public gathering space, and an activated public realm.	<b>DPZ</b> Private Partners	Ongoing
2. Explore incentives to support the expansion of arts and entertainment uses in Ellicott City.	<b>DPW</b>	Mid-Term
3. Re-explore establishing an Arts and Entertainment (A&E) District Designation for Main Street Ellicott City as part of a creative places initiative, once additional arts and entertainment uses open.	<b>DPZ DPW</b> Non-profit sector Private Partners	Long-Term
4. Ensure that the Downtown Columbia Plan's vision for the arts continues to be implemented.	<b>DPZ</b> DRP DPW	Ongoing
5. Continue to integrate the arts into revitalization efforts at Long Reach Village Center.	<b>DPW</b> DPZ	Ongoing
6. Continue to support the goals of the Howard County Arts Council and Howard County Tourism Council to benefit residents, businesses, and tourists into the future.	<b>Elected Officials</b> OOB	Ongoing
<u>7. Continue to ensure arts and craftsmanship are an integral part of Savage revitalization and explore incentives to support their expansion, especially through the sustainable communities program.</u>	<b>DPZ</b> <u>Elected Officials</u> <u>Non Profit Partner</u> <u>Private Partners</u>	<u>Ongoing</u>
<b>EP-6 - Monitor economic disruptors, such as new technologies, autonomous vehicles, teleworking, and e-commerce, and employ adaptive and innovative strategies to meet emerging economic shifts.</b>		
1. Assess and adapt the Zoning Regulations to provide greater flexibility under broader use categories and respond to changing industries and technologies.	<b>DPZ</b> HCEDA OOT	Mid-Term
2. Continue to intentionally grow jobs in the manufacturing, warehouse, distribution, and logistics industries in response to last-mile distribution demand, new machinery, innovation practices, and other automated processes.	<b>HCEDA</b>	Long-Term
3. Consider reduced parking ratios for commercial uses if the adoption of autonomous vehicles, other technologies, or shifts in behavior lead to reduced parking demand over the Plan's 20-year timeframe.	<b>DPZ</b> OOT	Mid-Term

Table 10-1: Implementation Matrix		
Policy and Implementing Actions	Lead Agency	Timeframe (Mid-Term five-year, Long-Term six+ years, Ongoing)
<b>EP-7 - Support an educated and skilled workforce with specific attention and resources devoted to breaking barriers to employment and education while achieving greater racial and social inclusion in the workplace.</b>		
1. Increase job training, internships, and job placement to overcome barriers to employment and achieve greater racial and social inclusion in the workforce.	<b>HCEDA</b> OWD	Mid-Term
2. Partner with organizations that specialize in workforce development to help those experiencing multiple barriers to employment access education, apprenticeship programs, and training opportunities aligned with in-demand local workforce needs.	<b>HCEDA</b> OWD	Long-Term
3. Ensure job training programs support skills that provide living wages.	<b>HCEDA</b> OWD	Ongoing
4. Communicate the available jobs in the region and identify the skills workers need to be successful.	<b>HCEDA</b> OWD	Mid-Term
5. Invest in reliable affordable broadband to ensure that lower-income residents have equal access to education and employment opportunities.	<b>DTCS</b> Private Partners	Mid-Term
<b>EP-8 - Encourage a business climate that supports growth of and opportunities for small and diverse businesses, and values cultural diversity and inclusion.</b>		
1. Continue to create strategies and prioritize assistance programs to support local, small, and diverse businesses, such as apprenticeship programs.	<b>HCEDA</b>	Ongoing
2. Support small business districts and main streets by creating vibrant spaces through the integration of design, public art, an inviting public realm, historic preservation, cultural spaces, and areas for event programming.	<b>DPZ</b> DRP DPW	Ongoing
3. Explore and encourage creative uses of commercial space, such as maker spaces, coworking facilities, food halls, community kitchens, and other models, that allow the community to share resources.	<b>HCEDA</b> DPW DPZ	Ongoing
4. Continue business support programs through a partnership between the Howard County Economic Development Authority, Ellicott City Partnership, and the Maryland Small Business Development Center.	<b>HCEDA</b>	Ongoing
5. Through adaptive reuse and redevelopment, particularly within village centers, provide opportunities for varying sizes of retail, restaurant, and service uses. Smaller spaces could provide opportunities for small start-ups, micro-retail, and food hall type uses.	<b>DPZ</b> HCEDA DPW	Ongoing