

**Amendment 81 to Council Bill No. 28 -2023**

**BY: Deb Jung**

**Legislative Day 11**

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**Amendment No. 81**

*(This Amendment amends HoCo by Design Chapter 7: Quality by Design to add strengthened requirements for higher level architectural design when redevelopment is identifying current styles.)*

- 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 7: Quality By Design: 9.
- 4 Correct all page numbers, numbering, and formatting within this Act to accommodate this
- 5 amendment.
- 6

## Buildings and Architectural Styles

Building and architectural styles are varied throughout Howard County. However, the predominant style evolved from early American vernacular traditions grounded in Georgian, Federal, and Greek Revival forms and styles. Early rural development used simple agrarian forms and styles, while development of the past 50+ years mostly follows styles typically found in suburban areas. Development in the mid-20th century implemented contemporary styles, particularly in the early phases of Columbia. Contemporary architecture is most common in and around Downtown Columbia but most residential development and some commercial development continue to be traditional in style. Building and architectural styles found within a specific area contribute to its overall feeling and sense of place. Future development should begin by identifying current style(s) within a character area for cues on context-sensitive design [and strengthening requirements for higher level architectural design](#).



## Landscape

Both the natural and the planned landscapes inform community character. The natural landscape includes the forest stands, wooded river valleys, and associated wetlands and floodplains. The planned landscape includes: tree-lined roadways, walking paths, manicured lawns, plantings, agricultural fields, and berms. Howard County's emphasis on stream valley protection and long history of stringent landscape requirements, both evident throughout the County, have positively impacted its character. Wooded buffers are the predominant image along Interstate 95 and many parts of Route 29 and Interstate 70. The landscapes of Columbia and many other older residential and commercial areas are lush and often mature. Redevelopment along Route 40 and Route 1 follow their respective manual requirements and include street tree and setback plantings where none previously existed. More recent planned landscapes incorporate environmental site design practices for stormwater management as a feature of the landscape rather than a technical afterthought.

