County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2024 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 10

Resolution No. 134-2024

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

Short Title - Supporting an Application - Eastern Howard County Enterprise Zone designation

Title: A RESOLUTION supporting an application to the State of Maryland for the designation of the Eastern Howard County Enterprise Zone as part of the Maryland Enterprise Zone Program.

Introduced and read first time, 2024.	
	By order Michelle Harrod, Administrator
Read for a second time at a public hearing on	_,2024.
	By order Michelle Harrod, Administrator
This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted, Adopted with an on, 2024.	mendments, Failed, Withdrawn, by the County Council
Approved by the County Executive, 2024	Certified By Michelle Harrod, Administrator
Approved by the County Executive, 2024	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, Maryland's Enterprise Zone Program (the "Program") is a joint effort between
2	the State and local governments to provide tax incentives to businesses and property-owners
3	located in economically distressed communities; and
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5	WHEREAS, the State of Maryland has designated in Title 5, Subtitle 7 of the Economic
6	Development Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland a process for the designation of
7	Enterprise Zones; and
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9	WHEREAS, Howard County's General Development Plan – HoCo By Design – adopted in
10	2023, describes Columbia Gateway's redevelopment as the County's greatest opportunity to
11	accommodate future job growth and identifies it as a major hub for employment, entertainment
12	and innovation with access from one or more transportation corridors; and
13	
14	WHEREAS, HoCo by Design and the County's Route 1 Corridor Plan: A Plan for
15	Washington Boulevard (2023) identify this area as vital to employment opportunities in the
16	County and aim to support, retain, and grow the Corridor's industrial and manufacturing base
17	through redevelopment and reinvestment incentives; and
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19	WHEREAS, the Howard County Economic Development Authority considers enterprise
20	zone designation a critical tool in the effort to retain and attract business, create jobs and
21	redevelop underutilized property; and
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23	WHEREAS, the Howard County Executive and County Council seek this designation for
24	the Eastern Howard County Enterprise Zone to support economic development in the Columbia
25	Gateway area and along the Route 1 corridor; and
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27	WHEREAS, the Eastern Howard County Enterprise Zone will include parcels within
28	Howard County, located in the priority funding area and within portions of Census Tracts
29	6067.06, 6067.08, and 6012.03, as shown on the attached Exhibit; and
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31	WHEREAS, the primary benefits to businesses located within an Enterprise Zone are local

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- 1 property tax credits and State income tax credits; and
- WHEREAS, eligible businesses in an Enterprise Zone may claim a 10- year credit against local real property taxes on a portion of real property improvements, that credit being 80 percent of the assessment increase during the first five years, and then decreasing 10 percent annually to 30 percent in the tenth year; and
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8 WHEREAS, eligible businesses in an Enterprise Zone may claim credits for wages paid to 9 new employees in new positions. Those credits being a one-time \$1,000 credit per new 10 employees in general but increasing the credit amount in the case of economically disadvantaged 11 employees to \$6,000 per employee, distributed over a three-year period. Such credits are to be 12 claimed on Form 500CR and submitted to the Comptroller as part of an individual or business 13 income tax return; and

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WHEREAS, Howard County is supportive of the application to designate the Eastern
Howard County Enterprise Zone, thereby making qualified businesses located in the zone
eligible for certain tax credits.

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19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Council of Howard County, day of , 2024 that it supports the County's 20 Maryland this application for the designation of the Eastern Howard County Enterprise Zone containing 21 22 portions of Census Tracts 6067.06, 6067.08, and 6012.03, as shown on the attached Exhibit. 23 AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland 24 25 that the County Executive is hereby requested to endorse this resolution, thereby indicating 26 approval thereof. 27

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be sent to the Secretary
of the Maryland Department of Commerce.

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