

# 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 Sept 3, 2024.

By order Michelle Harrod  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on Sept 16, 2024.

By order Michelle Harrod  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

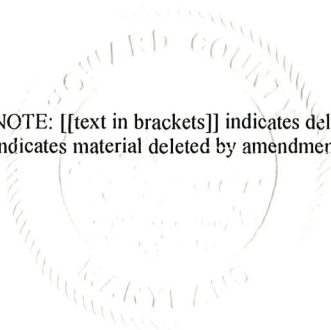
This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted , Adopted with amendments , Failed , Withdrawn , by the County Council on Oct 7, 2024.

Certified By Michelle Harrod  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive October 10, 2024

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**, 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  
4

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  
8

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  
18

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  
22

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  
26

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  
30

31       **WHEREAS**, the primary benefits to businesses located within an Enterprise Zone are local

1 property tax credits and State income tax credits; and

2  
3 **WHEREAS**, eligible businesses in an Enterprise Zone may claim a 10- year credit against  
4 local real property taxes on a portion of real property improvements, that credit being 80 percent  
5 of the assessment increase during the first five years, and then decreasing 10 percent annually to  
6 30 percent in the tenth year; and

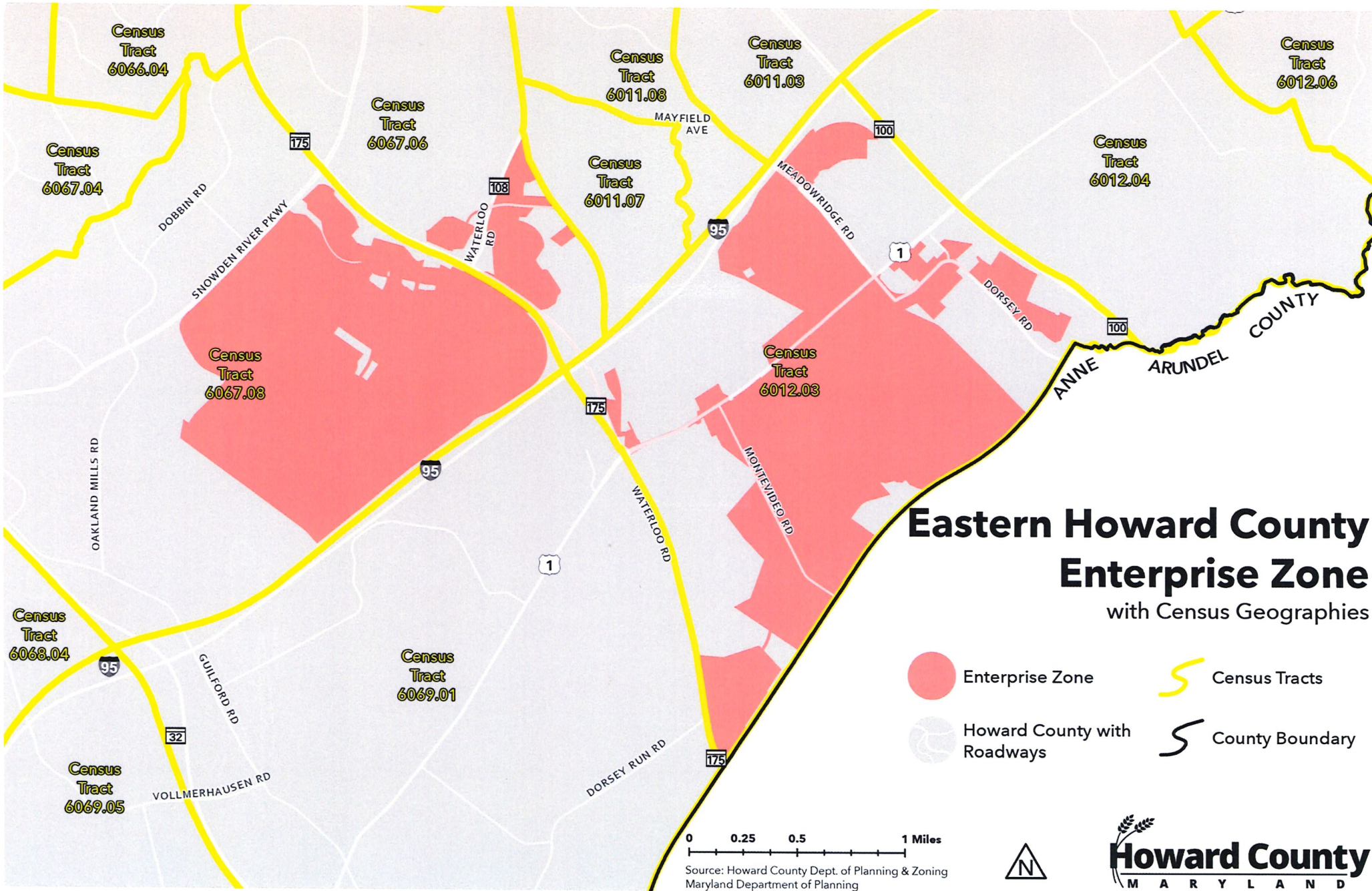
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8 **WHEREAS**, eligible businesses in an Enterprise Zone may claim credits for wages paid to  
9 new employees in new positions. Those credits being a one-time \$1,000 credit per new  
10 employees in general but increasing the credit amount in the 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

14  
15 **WHEREAS**, Howard County is supportive of the application to designate the Eastern  
16 Howard County Enterprise Zone, thereby making qualified businesses located in the zone  
17 eligible for certain tax credits.

18  
19 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the County Council of Howard County,  
20 Maryland this 7 day of October, 2024 that it supports the County's  
21 application for the designation of the Eastern Howard County Enterprise Zone containing  
22 portions of Census Tracts 6067.06, 6067.08, and 6012.03, as shown on the attached Exhibit.

23  
24 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland  
25 that the County Executive is hereby requested to endorse this resolution, thereby indicating  
26 approval thereof.

27  
28 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this Resolution be sent to the Secretary  
29 of the Maryland Department of Commerce.



# Eastern Howard County Enterprise Zone

with Census Geographies

- Enterprise Zone
- Census Tracts
- Howard County with Roadways
- County Boundary

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles  
 Source: Howard County Dept. of Planning & Zoning  
 Maryland Department of Planning



**Amendment 1 to Council Resolution No. 134-2024**

**BY: The Chairperson at the request  
of the County Executive**

**Legislative Day No. 11  
Date: October 7, 2024**

**Amendment No. 1**

*(This amendment substitutes a revised Exhibit that uses parcel boundaries obtained from the Maryland Department of Planning. The prefiled Exhibit was created using Howard County's own parcel and land use data. After prefile it was learned that the State's requirement for Enterprise Zone boundary delineation is that parcel boundaries must be from the Maryland Department of Planning. Due to several factors, the adjustment from County to State parcel data caused more right of way to be included, capturing 0.7% more acres in the official Enterprise Zone area.)*

- 1 Remove the exhibit attached to Council Resolution No. 134-2024 as filed and substitute a
- 2 revised Exhibit as attached to this Amendment.

I certify that this a true copy of

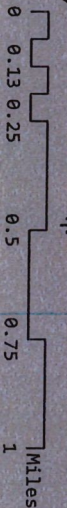
Am 1 CR 134 -2024  
passed on \_\_\_\_\_

Michelle Harris  
Council Administrator

*Not Introduced*

# Eastern Howard County Enterprise Zone

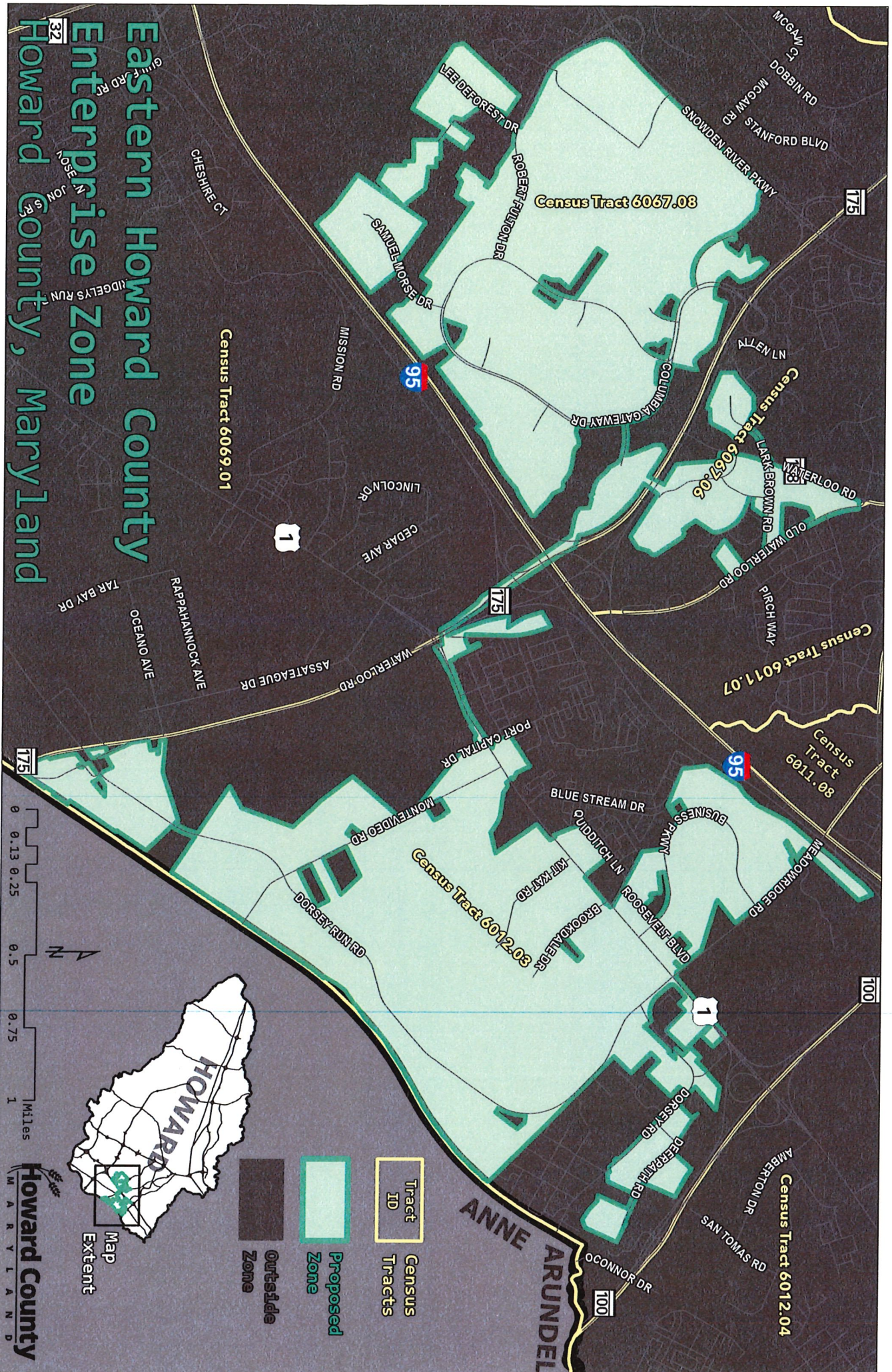
## Howard County, Maryland



Map Extent

Howard County  
M A R Y L A N D

- Tract ID Census Tracts
- Proposed Zone
- Outside Zone



**Amendment 2 to Council Resolution No. 134-2024**

**BY: The Chairperson at the request  
of the County Executive**

**Legislative Day No. 11  
Date: October 7, 2024**

**Amendment No. 2**

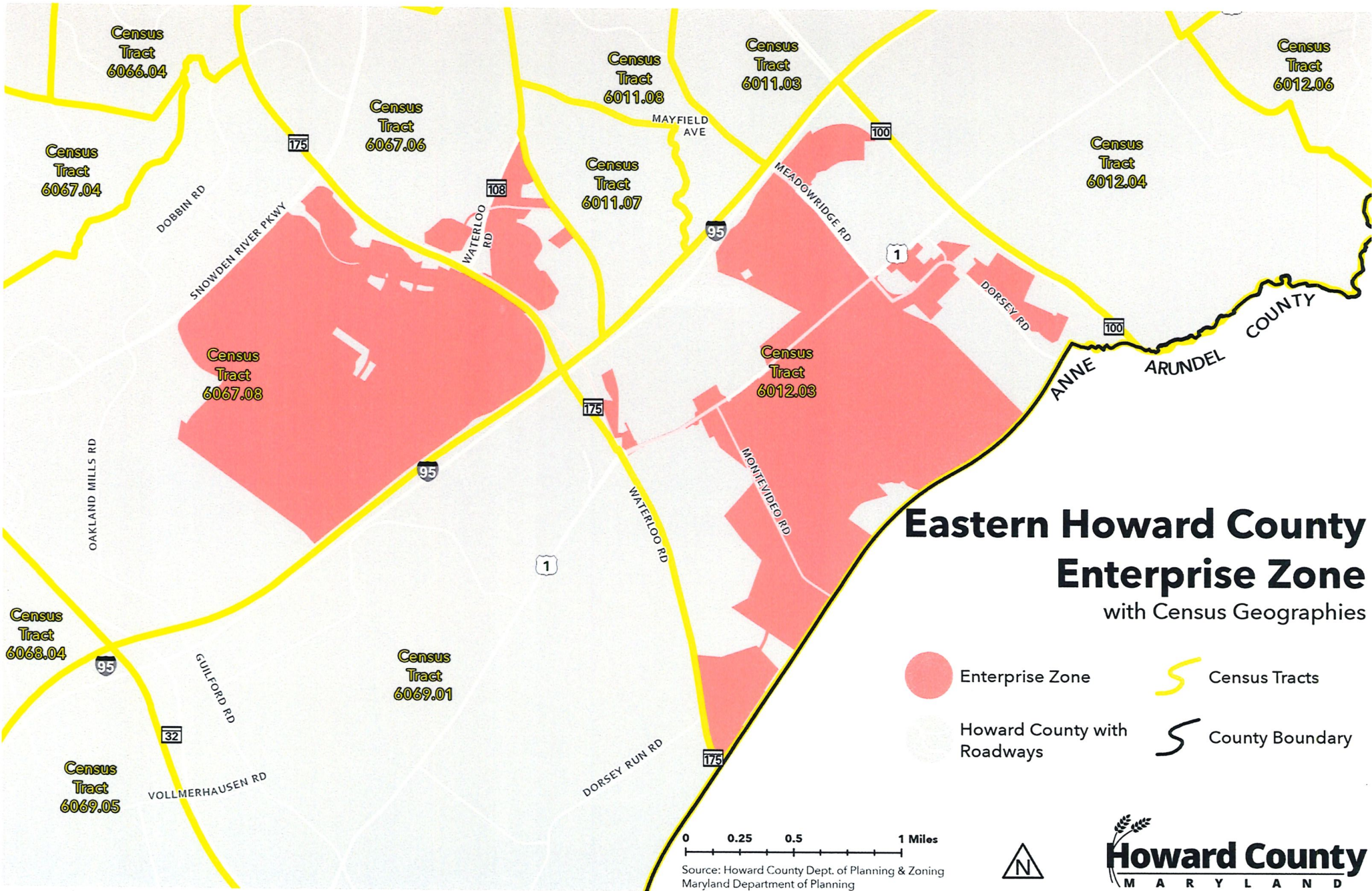
*(This amendment substitutes a revised Exhibit that uses parcel boundaries obtained from the Maryland Department of Planning. The prefiled Exhibit was created using Howard County's own parcel and land use data. After prefile it was learned that the State's requirement for Enterprise Zone boundary delineation is that parcel boundaries must be from the Maryland Department of Planning. Due to several factors, the adjustment from County to State parcel data caused more right of way to be included, capturing approximately 13.7% more acres in the official Enterprise Zone area.*

*This amendment also includes certain commercial/office properties at the corner of Snowden River Parkway and Route 175 and those located northeast of Meadowridge Road.)*

- 1 Remove the exhibit attached to Council Resolution No. 134-2024 as filed and substitute a
- 2 revised Exhibit as attached to this Amendment.

I certify that this a true copy of

Am 2 CR134-2024  
passed on October 7, 2024  
Michelle Darrow  
Council Administrator



# Eastern Howard County Enterprise Zone

with Census Geographies

-  Enterprise Zone
-  Census Tracts
-  Howard County with Roadways
-  County Boundary

0 0.25 0.5 1 Miles  
 Source: Howard County Dept. of Planning & Zoning  
 Maryland Department of Planning





**Amendment 3 to Council Resolution No. 134 - 2024**

**BY: Deb Jung**

**Legislative Day # 11  
Date: October 7, 2024**

**Amendment No. 3**

*(This Amendment removes the Columbia Gateway property from Enterprise Zone consideration.)*

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On page 1, strike lines 9 through 12, in their entirety.

On page 1, in lines 24 and 25, strike “in the Columbia Gateway area and”.

On page 1, in line 29, strike “6067.08”.

On page 2, in line 22, strike “6067.08”.

On the attached map entitled, “Proposed Enterprise Zones, Howard County Maryland”,  
remove Census Tract 6067.08’s Enterprise Zone designation.

**FAILED**

I certify that this a true copy of  
Am 3 CR 134-2024  
~~passed~~ on October 7, 2024  
Michelle Harrison  
Council Administrator



# Howard County

## *Internal Memorandum*

SUBJECT: Council Testimony and Fiscal Impact Statement  
Supporting an Application – Eastern Howard County Enterprise Zone designation

TO: Brandee Ganz  
Chief Administrative Officer

FROM: Jennifer Jones, CEO  
Howard County Economic Development Authority

Lynda Eisenberg, Director  
Department of Planning & Zoning

DATE: August 21, 2024

The Howard County Economic Development Authority (HCEDA), along with the Department of Planning & Zoning, express their support for Council Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_, which authorizes Howard County to apply to Maryland Department of Commerce for an Enterprise Zone designation for certain parcels in eastern Howard County.

Enterprise Zones have a tremendous impact on communities throughout our state, serving as a catalyst for growth and revitalization. Businesses operating within an Enterprise Zone may be eligible for a tax credit towards their state income tax filings based upon the number of new jobs created, and a tax credit on their local real property taxes based upon their overall capital investment into a property.

The proposed Eastern Howard County Enterprise Zone focuses on two target areas in *HoCo By Design* - the Route 1 Corridor and the Columbia Gateway District. *HoCo By Design* recognizes the opportunity and necessity of thoughtful redevelopment in Howard County to meet our growing community needs. Enterprise Zones provide an important tool to advance this effort.

The Route 1 Corridor is expected to remain a significant employment corridor in the County for the next 20 years. *HoCo By Design* and its companion *Route 1 Corridor Plan: A Plan for Washington Boulevard*, both adopted in 2023, emphasize the uniqueness of the Corridor as well as the importance of attracting public and private investment and spurring redevelopment that will enhance its attractiveness and economic value.

Currently an employment center with large office and industrial buildings and surface parking lots, Columbia Gateway is envisioned as an iconic model for sustainable and innovative

redevelopment and infrastructure projects, making it an exciting new focal point for the Baltimore-Washington region.

This Enterprise Zone application includes 2,054.5 acres of commercial, manufacturing and industrial properties that could benefit from this important designation.

#### Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact is not quantifiable at this time because the County does not have any Enterprise Zones at present. However, the state does publish an Enterprise Zone Tax Credit Report for all Counties ([Evaluation of the Enterprise Zone Tax Credit \(maryland.gov\)](#)). The State reimburses local jurisdictions 50 percent of the revenue lost as a result of offering businesses located in its zone the property tax credit, subject to approval in the State's annual budget.

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By order

Michelle Harrod  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

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By order

Michelle Harrod  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

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Certified By

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Calvin Ball, County Executive

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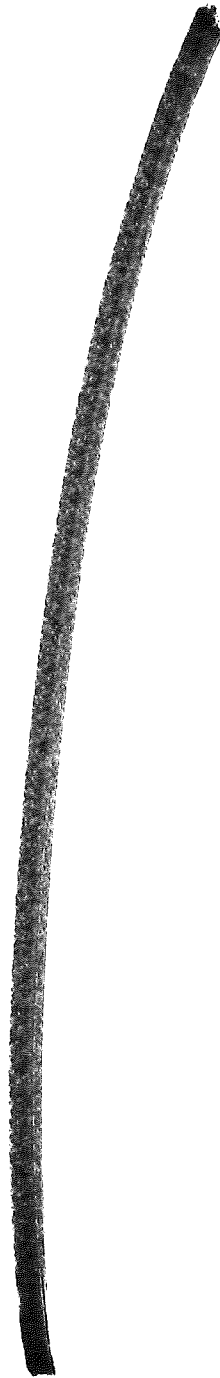
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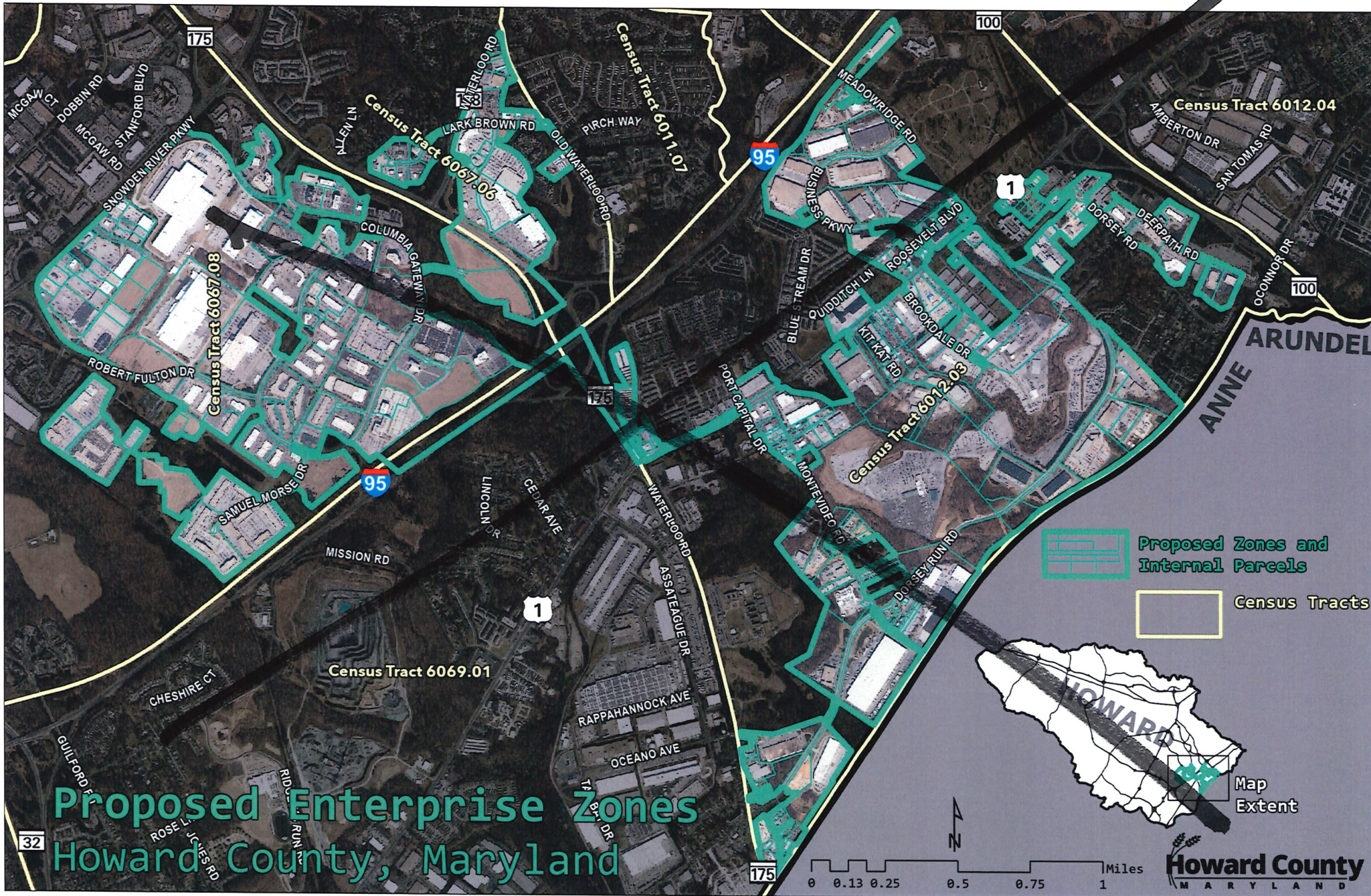
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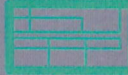
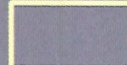
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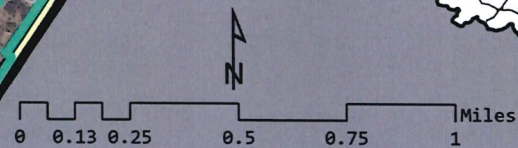
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# Proposed Enterprise Zones Howard County, Maryland

-  Proposed Zones and Internal Parcels
-  Census Tracts





BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, stands enacted on October 10, 2024.

Michelle R. Harrod  
Michelle R. 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

Michelle R. 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

Michelle R. 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

Michelle R. 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

Michelle R. 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 \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council