



Howard County

Internal Memorandum

Subject: Testimony for Support of CR-96 -2014
Patapsco Heritage Greenway- Certified Maryland Heritage Area

To: Lonnie R. Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

From: Marsha S. McLaughlin, Director *mm* ✓
Department of Planning and Zoning

Date: June 24, 2014

The Department of Planning and Zoning supports Council Resolution 96 that approves and authorizes the submittal of a Management Plan for the 24.6 square mile Patapsco Heritage Area to become a State Certified Heritage Area.

The Patapsco Heritage Greenway (PHG) organization has been steadfast and thorough in their efforts to create a Management Plan that addresses the need to value and protect this valley. The Patapsco Heritage Greenway, Inc. will promote stakeholder interest and support for the recognized heritage area, organizing projects, programs and special events to celebrate, preserve, protect, and conserve the valley's historic, cultural, archeological, natural, and recreation resources.

The purpose of this Management Plan is threefold: provide a strategic action blueprint for coordinating the many collaborative efforts required to develop a successful heritage area, enable the key stakeholders to reach consensus on the roles each will play in implementation of the management plan, and determine the optimum investment of public resources necessary to trigger the significant private commitments of dollars, energy, and programmatic support that will make the heritage area sustainable over time. The Plan has short term (1-3 years), mid-term (3-4 years) and long term (5-10 years) action plans that address organizational, heritage, stewardship and interpretative management. Both Baltimore County and Howard County along with the Department of Planning and Zoning has been working with PHG in the creation of this Management Plan in their efforts to enhance and preserve the historical, cultural and natural resources. DPZ recommends approval of Council Resolution 96 – 2014.

Fiscal Impact

This Resolution has no current fiscal impacts associated with its adoption, but there is potential for State grant assistance if this Heritage Area Certification is approved.

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cc: Steve Lafferty, Director of Special Projects
✓Jen Sager, Legislative Coordinator