

**Amendment 7 to
Council Bill No.58-2009 (as amended)**

**SPONSORED BY: Calvin Ball
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**Legislative Day No: 2
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and at the request of the County Executive

Amendment No. 7

*(This amendment clarifies language relating to Symphony Woods, the Central Library,
and cultural districts.)*

1 In the attachment, on page 6, strike “MERRIWEATHER”, and substitute
2 “MERRIWEATHER-SYMPHONY WOODS”
3

4 In the attachment, on page 6, strike the first and second full paragraph and insert:
5

6 “Merriweather will be a new kind of cultural park where the landscape
7 becomes a setting for arts, cultural and civic uses. It will be anchored by an
8 enhanced Merriweather Post Pavilion and Symphony Woods. These uses may
9 have compatible commercial uses such as a café in the park or museum shop.
10 A new system of paths and infrastructure will support festivals and other
11 events in the park. Natural areas will be improved by removing invasive
12 species, restoring stream corridors with native vegetation and the planting of
13 up to 15,000 new trees in accordance with the Columbia Town Center
14 Merriweather & Crescent Environmental Enhancement Study. Merriweather-
15 Symphony Woods will be connected to the heart of Symphony Overlook along
16 a new north/south axis from Market Square at The Mall. Pedestrians will cross
17 Little Patuxent Parkway at a new entrance to Symphony Wood Park. This
18 intersection, designed to allow for safe crossing of the Parkway, will lead to a
19 new Fountain Plaza which connects to Merriweather Post Pavilion. The access
20 through Merriweather-Symphony Woods that connect to the civic and cultural
21 uses will be compatible with the topography. ”
22

23 In the attachment, on page 13, strike the first full paragraph under “HOWARD COUNTY
24 LIBRARY” and insert:
25

26 “The Howard County Library is one of the best library systems in the country.
27 While its success as a public institution is irrefutable, it has the exciting
28 opportunity, given the right tools, to grow further into a leader of library
29 innovation. This Plan recommends that a new Central Library be built downtown.
30 This new library complex could move the Howard County Library into the

1 direction of an “Experience Library,” an intellectual, interactive learning center
2 combining visual exhibitions with interesting architecture and typical library
3 elements.”
4

5 In the attachment, on page 31, strike the third and fourth full paragraphs and insert:
6

7 “With respect to the recorded open space within the Merriweather Neighborhood
8 known as Symphony Woods, implementing legislation should require that new
9 parkland be provided to replace any recorded open space. Improvements such as
10 playgrounds, walks, gardens, and fountains and minimal structures such as
11 gazebos, pavilions, cafes, outdoor stages and kiosks will not require replacement
12 space to be provided.

13
14 This Plan intends that open space shown on a Final Development Plan recorded
15 under the existing NT District continues to count toward the overall Columbia
16 open space requirements, thus the obligation to retain its character. This Plan also
17 intends that environmentally sensitive areas located within the Crescent
18 Neighborhood be protected and recorded as open space under the existing NT
19 Regulations.”
20

21 In the attachment, on page 35, strike the fourth full paragraph and insert:
22

23 “As discussed above, this Plan recommends the creation of a cultural district in
24 the Merriweather Neighborhood. Creation of a cultural district including
25 pedestrian and multi model linkages to the Lakefront and Symphony Overlook
26 neighborhoods would complement the renovation of Merriweather Post Pavilion,
27 activate and enhance Symphony Woods and create a destination by bundling
28 different opportunities for residents and visitors. However, the Merriweather
29 Neighborhood is not the only potential location for additional cultural amenities
30 Downtown. This Plan recognizes that selective development of arts, cultural and
31 community uses might also occur at other locations, including near or at the
32 Lakefront Core. The addition of cultural uses or amenities near the Lake could
33 increase activity and use of the Lakefront open space that already exists and could
34 (with the Lake) form an anchor for the Lakefront Connection depicted on the
35 Primary Amenity Space Framework Diagram (Exhibit G). Such development
36 would also conform with and would further the objectives of this Plan.”