



Howard County

Internal Memorandum

Subject: Testimony for Council Bill _____-2015
General Plan Amendment (GPA) 2015-1 to *PlanHoward 2030*

To: Lonnie Robbins
Chief Administrative Officer

From: Marsha S. McLaughlin, Director *msm.l*
Department of Planning and Zoning

Date: April 13, 2015

On July 26, 2012, the Howard County Council adopted *PlanHoward 2030* as Howard County's new general plan. The fully searchable text of *PlanHoward 2030* is posted on the [DPZ portal page](#) and [Plan Howard site](#).

Two years prior to adoption of *Plan Howard 2030*, on March 20, 2010, the County Council adopted CR9-2010 in support of efforts "to pursue Maryland State Heritage certification for the Patapsco Heritage Greenway."

On June 5, 2014, a draft Patapsco Heritage Area Management Plan and a proposed heritage area were presented to the Planning Board. The Planning Board heard public testimony and recommended for approval.

On July 25, 2014, Howard County Council adopted CR96-2014, "approving and authorizing submittal of a Management Plan for certification of the Patapsco Heritage Area as a Certified Maryland Heritage Area."

On January 15, 2015, Maryland Heritage Area Authority (MHAA) granted conditional approval for the Patapsco Heritage Area and the proposed Patapsco Heritage Area Management Plan with the following two conditions:

The adoption by each jurisdiction that will be within the Certified Heritage Area of an appropriate amendment of its local comprehensive/master plan to incorporate by reference, or by other means determined appropriate by the jurisdiction, all portions of the Patapsco Heritage Area Management Plan, except those portions solely relating to other jurisdictions within the Patapsco Heritage Area, as required under COMAR Title 14, Subtitle 29, Chapter 03, Section .05 (G); and, be it further resolved, that the local jurisdiction amendment shall be acceptable to the Authority.

On April 9, 2015, the Planning Board recommended for approval of GPA 2015-1 to include the Patapsco Heritage Area and the Patapsco Heritage Area Management Plan (PHAMP) in the adopted *PlanHoward 2030*.

Fiscal Impact

The PHAMP includes 52 actions for implementation by Howard County including specific departments and agencies; however, participation in the plan is voluntary and incurs no direct obligation, financial or otherwise. Howard County is free to participate in actions identified in the plan or to forego, depending on the availability of funding and budgetary constraints as determined annually through the operating and capital budget processes.

c: B. Diane Wilson, Chief of Staff
Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator