

Subject:

Testimony for Approval of MALPF Easement Application, Barrow Property

To:

Lonnie Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer, Department of Administration

Through:

Marsha McLaughlin, Director, Department of Planning and Zoning mm. L

Through:

Beth Burgess, Chief, Resource Conservation Division, Department of Planning and Zoning

From:

Joy Levy, Administrator, Agricultural Land Preservation Program, Department of Planning and Zoning

Date:

June 17, 2013

The Department of Planning and Zoning, of which the Agricultural Land Preservation Program (ALPP) is a part, supports Council Resolution No. -2031. This resolution approves a Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF) application for the purchase of an agricultural land preservation easement on property owned by Barrow Family, LLC. County governing body approval of agricultural land preservation easement applications to MALPF is required per Section 15.15.01.09 of the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR).

This is the only property applying for easement sale in MALPF's combined FY13/14 cycle. MALPF purchases are funded by a combination of State general allotted funds and matching funds; MALPF contributes 60% for every 40% of the cost contributed by the ALPP, up to the level of available funding. The County Executive has committed \$660,000 towards matching funds for this acquisition.

Since the application will have minimal impact on staff workloads or the ALPP operating budget, we support approval of the Barrow easement application. Thank you for your consideration.

cc:

Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator, Department of Administration Kim Flowers, Deputy Director, Department of Planning and Zoning Lisa O'Brien, Senior County Solicitor, Office of Law Barrow File Ag Read File