

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2016 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 4

Resolution No. 50 -2016

Introduced by: Mary Kay Sigaty

A RESOLUTION calling on the Environmental Sustainability Board to make a specified study and recommendations related to the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee.

~~Introduced and read first time _____, 2016.~~

Not introduced.

By order

Jessica Feldmark
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on _____, 2016.

By order _____

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted __, Adopted with amendments __, Failed __, Withdrawn __, by the County Council on _____, 2016.

Certified By _____

Jessica Feldmark, Administrator

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**, Section 20.1103 of the Howard County Code provides for the County to
2 levy and fix an annual Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee (the “Fee”) on all improved
3 property in the County; and
4

5 **WHEREAS**, on July 25, 2013, the County Council passed Council Resolution No. 88-
6 2013 that adopted schedules for various charges, including a system of credits, reimbursements,
7 and assistance, related to the Fee; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, the goal of the system of credits, reimbursements, and assistance is to
10 encourage the implementation of best management practices to treat stormwater and improve the
11 cleanliness and health of Howard County’s streams and rivers and ultimately the Chesapeake
12 Bay; and
13

14 **WHEREAS**, the system of credits, reimbursements, and assistance has not been as
15 effective as desired in promoting the installation of stormwater treatment facilities on private
16 property; and
17

18 **WHEREAS**, Section 6.600 of the County Code provides that the Environmental
19 Sustainability Board, among other things, “by resolution of the County Council, review and
20 make recommendations on any matter related to environmental protection, preservation, or
21 sustainability in Howard County”.

22
23 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,
24 Maryland this _____ day of _____, 2016 that the Council requests that the
25 Environmental Sustainability Board study the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee and the
26 related system of credits, reimbursements, and assistance and make recommendations on how to
27 provide more meaningful incentives for private property owners to make, or allow the County to
28 make, improvements to treat stormwater on their properties, including any recommended
29 changes to County or State law.
30

1 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Council encourages the Environmental
2 Sustainability Board, in undertaking this review, to create a workgroup that includes:

- 3 (1) commercial property owners;
- 4 (2) contractors experienced in installing stormwater management facilities to retrofit
5 developed properties;
- 6 (3) representatives from the Howard County Economic Development Authority and the
7 Howard County Chamber of Commerce; and
- 8 (4) representatives from County agencies including the Office of Community
9 Sustainability, the Department of Public Works, the Department of Finance, and the
10 Office of Law.

11
12 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Council requests that the Environmental
13 Sustainability Board complete the study and report its recommendations to the County Council
14 and the County Executive not later than September 30, 2016.

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