



# Howard County Council

George Howard Building  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

## COUNCILMEMBERS

Liz Walsh, Chairperson  
District 1  
Opel Jones, Vice Chairperson  
District 2  
Deb Jung  
District 4  
Christiana Rigby  
District 3  
David Yungmann  
District 5

**Minutes (approved)**  
**County Council Work Session**  
**Monday, February 22, 2021**  
**1:00 p.m.**  
**Via WebEx and live-streamed**

Chair Walsh the meeting to order at 1:01pm

Attendees:

**Councilmembers** – Chair Liz Walsh; Vice-chair Opel Jones; Deb Jung; Christiana Rigby; and David Yungmann

Staff – Theodore Wimberly, Acting Council Administrator; Gary Kuc, Solicitor; Margery Sayers, Executive Assistant;

The meeting began with a moment of silence to recognize the passing of Laura Weatherall, long-time employee in the County's Department of Recreation and Parks.

**Council Bill 13 – 2021 Plastics Reduction Act Discussion** – Invited guests: Pat Hersey, Less Plastic Please; Melvin Thompson; Restaurant Assoc. of MD; Josh Feldmark, OCS; Mark DeLuca, DPW; Eric King, Sea King; Shane Robinson, Trash Free MD; Joe Barbera, Aida Bistro

Ms. Rigby gave a summary of the Plastic Reduction Act bill and stated that she sent out (earlier that morning) a proposal about alternative packaging options to assist with discussing the bill. The Maryland Restaurant Association (MRA) proffered amendments that they would like to see incorporated in the bill. The majority of the MRA's amendment centered around carry-out options.

Additionally, the following issues that were discussed:

- There was a discussion that centered around comparing the CR – 13 to the State Plastics bill.
- DPW's role in processing/recycling plastics.
- OCS discussed proposed enforcement efforts.

**Council Bill 14 – 2021 Landlord/Tenant Discussion** – Invited guests: Jessica Burgard, Howard County Indivisible; Kelly McLaughlin; Jessie Keller, MD Multi-Housing Assoc.; Bob Frances, DILP; Jim Johnson

Mr. Yungmann gave a summary and history of the Landlord/Tenant bill. Mr. Yungmann stated that prior to bill introduction, he talked with the different advocates around the issue in an attempt to develop a comprehensive bill. The discussion then centered around written testimony that was provided to the Council by Howard County Indivisible. The main discussion topics were: Substantially Similar Apartment Units; the Role of Rental Licenses for single units; policies surrounding the Failure to Pay Rent; and increasing the time to file for eviction. Mr. Yungmann stated that he would work on amendments that would move the bill forward.

**Council Bill 8 – 2021 (ZRA 193) CAC Commercial Buy-Down Discussion** – Invited guests: Tom Coale, Counsel for Petitioner; Christopher Murn, Petitioner; Joe Rutter, LD and D; Amy Gowan, DPZ; and Geoff Goins, DPZ

The Chair began the conversation by stating that she was looking for draft amendments that would facilitate an exchange of increased community amenities for allowing the petitioner to pay down their commercial square-footage requirement. There were subsequent conversations pertaining to the need for the General Plan to be completed before considering this type of ZRA, trends and norms for mixed-use commercial space in the County, the history and development of the CAC zoning district, and campaign disclosures.

Chair Walsh adjourned the meeting at 4:01pm.