



# Howard County Council

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

## COUNCILMEMBERS

Mary Kay Sigaty, Chairperson  
District 4  
Jennifer Terrasa, Vice Chairperson  
District 3  
Calvin Ball  
District 2  
Greg Fox  
District 5  
Courtney Watson  
District 1

Minutes (approved 12/07/09)  
Legislative Work Session  
November 30, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 pm in the Board Room, Board of Education, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City.

Members present: Calvin Ball, Greg Fox, Mary Kay Sigaty, Jennifer Terrasa and Courtney Watson.

Discussion: The members discussed the following items related to the following bills:

Council Bill No. 58-2009 – Introduced by The Chair at the request of General Growth Properties - Adopting the Downtown Columbia Plan, a General Plan Amendment for the purpose of revitalizing and redeveloping Downtown Columbia; and generally relating to the Downtown Columbia Plan, a General Plan Amendment

Council Bill No. 59-2009 (ZRA-113) – Introduced by: The Chair at the request of General Growth Properties - Amending the Howard County Zoning Regulations to create a new Downtown Columbia revitalization process in the New Town District; defining new terms; establishing a new residential density for Downtown Columbia; establishing new land use percentages for open space in Downtown Columbia; establishing an affordable housing provision for Downtown Columbia revitalization; establishing new off-street parking requirements for Downtown Columbia revitalization; and generally relating to the New Town zoning district

Gabrielle Koeppel summarized the features of and Brian Spencer described the modeling process for the several neighborhoods proposed by GGP. There was a discussion of the ratio of uses and densities for transit oriented development. Dick Story made a presentation on office absorption for the period 2000 – 2009. There was also a discussion of GGP's proposal for hotel rooms and the benefits and the proper use categorization of a conference center hotel. Mr. Spencer explained the rationale for the height limit plan with further information provided by Marsha McLaughlin. Ms. Koeppel reviewed the 29 Community Enhancements, Programs and Public Amenities (CEPPA) with input from Bob Jenkins for CEPPA related to pathways and the Route 29 pedestrian bridge. Mr. Spencer reviewed the three phase Downtown Revitalization Phasing Plan. Ms. McLaughlin gave an overview of the development process created by the legislation. And finally, there was a discussion of monitoring.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

