

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2016 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-14-2016

Proposed by The Chairman (by request – County Executive)

Introduced by Council Members Davis, Turner, Glaros, Lehman and Taveras

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction March 22, 2016

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Regional Institution Strategic Enterprise (“RISE”) Zone Program

3 For the purpose of approving the designation of the Greater College Park Regional Institution
4 Strategic Enterprise (“RISE”) Zone.

5 WHEREAS, during the 2014 Session, the Maryland General Assembly passed House Bill
6 742, which established the Regional Institution Strategic Enterprise (“RISE”) Zone Program,
7 codified as Section 5-1401 *et seq.* of the Economic Development Article of the Annotated Code
8 of Maryland (the “Economic Development Article”); and

9 WHEREAS, the purpose of the RISE Zone Program is to access institutional assets that
10 have a strong and demonstrated history of commitment to economic development and
11 revitalization in the communities in which they are located; and

12 WHEREAS, the RISE Zone Program provides income and property tax credits to
13 qualifying businesses within a geographical area designated as a RISE zone by the Maryland
14 Department of Commerce; and

15 WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 5-1404(a) of the Economic Development Article, a
16 “qualified institution” shall apply jointly with a county, a municipal corporation, or the economic
17 development agency of a county or municipal corporation to the Secretary of the Maryland
18 Department of Commerce to designate an area as a RISE zone; and

19 WHEREAS, a “qualified institution” is an entity that is designated under Section 5-1403 of
20 the Economic Development Article and may include: (1) a regional higher education center as
21 defined under Section 10-101 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland; (2)
22 an institution of higher education as defined under Section 10-101 of the Education Article of the

1 Annotated Code of Maryland; or (3) a nonprofit organization that is affiliated with a federal
2 agency; and

3 WHEREAS, on September 11, 2015, the Secretary of the Maryland Department of
4 Commerce designated the University of Maryland College Park (“UMD”) as a “qualified
5 institution”; and

6 WHEREAS, UMD, the City of College Park, the Town of Riverdale Park, and Prince
7 George’s County, Maryland (the “County”) are jointly applying to the Secretary of the Maryland
8 Department of Commerce to designate a certain area as a RISE zone (hereinafter referred to as
9 the “Greater College Park RISE Zone”); and

10 WHEREAS, the proposed Greater College Park RISE Zone is located within the County,
11 the City of College Park, and the Town of Riverdale Park at UMD’s Research Park; and

12 WHEREAS, the Greater College Park RISE Zone is comprised of approximately four
13 hundred seventy (470) acres and includes four major locations at: (1) UMD’s Technology
14 Advancement Building; (2) UMD’s Innovation District; (3) UMD’s Research Park and other
15 nearby development sites; and (4) the property fronting Baltimore Avenue, from Fordham Lane
16 to Maryland Route 193; and

17 WHEREAS, UMD is the State’s flagship university and is one of the nation’s preeminent
18 public research universities; and

19 WHEREAS, UMD is vital to the County’s economy, with thirty-seven thousand five
20 hundred (37,500) students, seventeen thousand (17,000) faculty and staff, and an annual
21 economic impact of \$3.16 billion; and

22 WHEREAS, UMD is the birthplace of numerous startup-technology companies and
23 innovations and will be the source of much of the County’s future workforce; and

24 WHEREAS, UMD has a five hundred million dollar (\$500,000,000) annual research budget
25 and is the largest employer and economic driver in the Greater College Park area; and

26 WHEREAS, UMD has a strong record of economic development, which includes:
27 launching the State’s first technology incubator, investing in the State’s first technology transfer
28 office, and building the State’s largest research park; and

29 WHEREAS, UMD has launched an initiative called “Greater College Park,” which
30 integrates UMD’s vision of making the immediate area a premier university town by linking
31 dynamic academic buildings, a public-private research hub and a vibrant downtown community;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, Greater College Park is a realization and extension of the University District
3 Vision, a collaborative effort spearheaded by the College Park City-University Partnership; and

4 WHEREAS, the Greater College Park RISE Zone would be an important element of the
5 joint initiative to attract quality private sector investment and to revitalize commercial, research
6 and residential areas in the proposed zone; and

7 WHEREAS, the County's partnership with UMD is critical to the growth and success of
8 UMD and the County's overall economy; and

9 WHEREAS, Attachment A, attached hereto and made part hereof, depicts the boundaries of
10 the Greater College Park RISE Zone; and

11 WHEREAS, Section 5-1404(d) of the Economic Development Article provides that: (1)
12 unless a county in which a municipal corporation is located agrees to the designation of a RISE
13 zone in the municipal corporation, qualified property in the municipal corporation may not
14 receive a tax credit against county property tax; and (2) unless a municipal corporation located
15 within a county agrees to the designation of a RISE zone within its boundaries, qualified
16 property in the county may not receive a tax credit against the municipal property tax; and

17 WHEREAS, the County Executive expresses approval of the designation of the Greater
18 College Park RISE Zone.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Council of Prince George's
20 County, Maryland hereby expresses approval of the joint application by the University of
21 Maryland College Park, the City of College of Park, the Town of Riverdale Park, and Prince
22 George's County, Maryland to be submitted to the Secretary of the Maryland Department of
23 Commerce for the designation of the Greater College Park Regional Institution Strategic
24 Enterprise ("RISE") Zone.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Council of Prince George's County,
26 Maryland hereby expresses approval for the standard real property tax credit, effective for a five
27 (5) year period pursuant to Section 5-1404(f) of the Economic Development Article of the
28 Annotated Code of Maryland, of fifty percent (50%) in the first year, and ten percent (10%) in
29 years two through five, for properties located in the RISE zone, excluding: retail businesses;
30 hotels and motels; and grocery stores.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Council of Prince George's County,

1 Maryland hereby expresses approval of a real property tax credit with a credit percentage of
2 seventy-five percent (75%), effective for a five (5) year period, for high technology companies
3 and businesses in the key target industries, including: engineering, data analytics, earth sciences,
4 virtual reality, cybersecurity, quantum computing, linguistics, additive manufacturing, e-
5 commerce, robotics, aerospace, biotechnology and similar industries.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
7 Maryland that the County Executive shall develop procedures to implement the RISE Zone
8 Program in the County.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Council of Prince George's County,
10 Maryland will hold a public hearing for this Resolution in accordance with Section 317 of the
11 Charter for Prince George's County.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Council of Prince George's County,
13 Maryland hereby acknowledges that the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning
14 Commission determined that the Greater College Park RISE Zone is not located in: (1) a
15 development district established under Title 12, Subtitle 2 of the Economic Development Article
16 of the Annotated Code of Maryland; or (2) a special taxing district established under Title 21 of
17 the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
19 Maryland that the designation of an area as a RISE zone may not be construed to limit or
20 supersede a provision of a comprehensive plan, zoning ordinance, or other land use policy
21 adopted by the County, a municipal corporation, or bicounty agency with land use authority over
22 the area designated as a RISE zone.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
24 Maryland that copies of this Resolution shall be sent by the Clerk of the Council to the County
25 Executive, the University of Maryland College Park, the City of College Park, the Town of
26 Riverdale Park, and the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Commerce.

Adopted this 3rd day of May, 2016.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Derrick Leon Davis
Chairman

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council

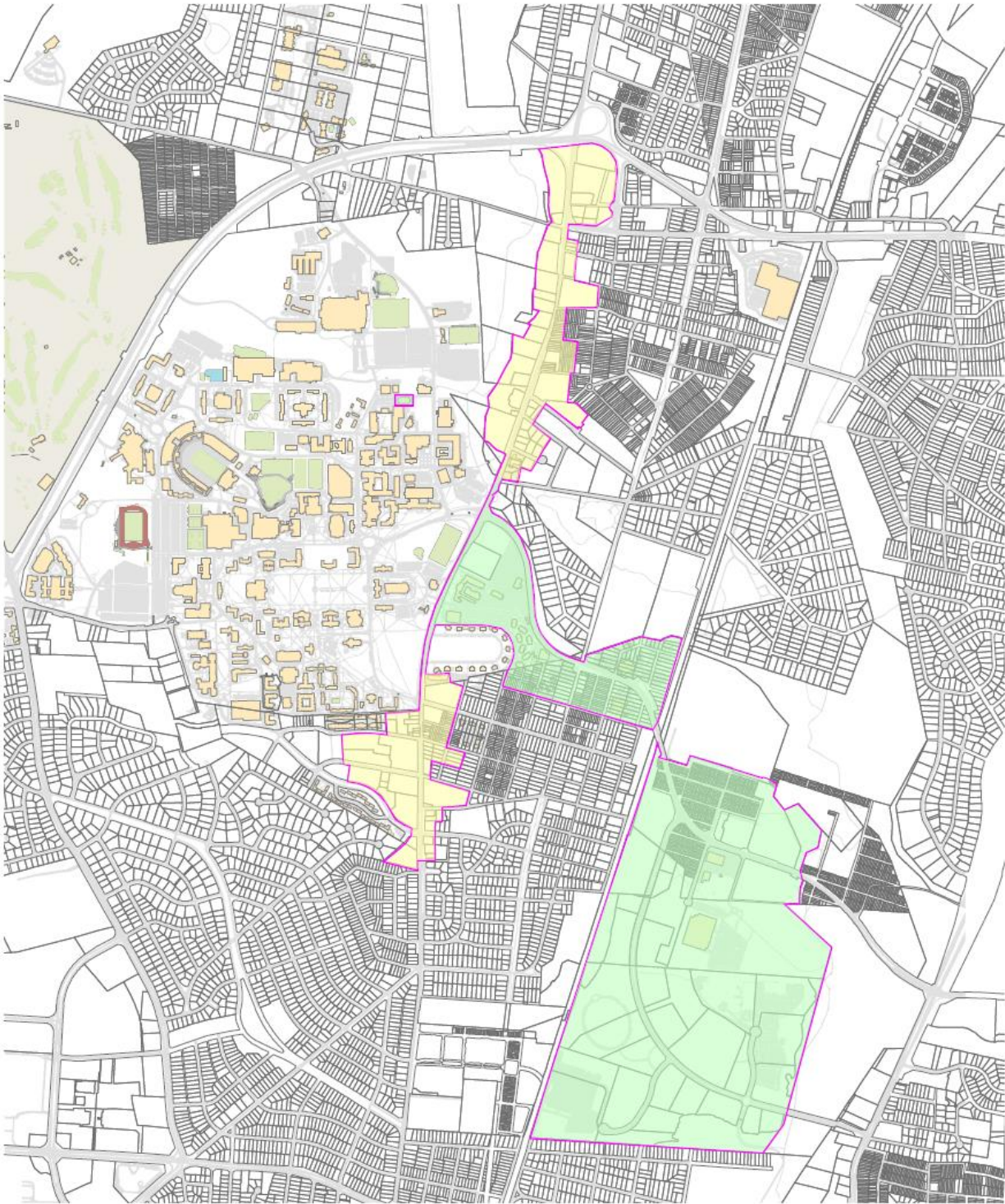
APPROVED:



DATE: _____

BY: _____
Rushern L. Baker, III
County Executive

Attachment A

Greater College Park RISE Zone



-  Greater College Park RISE Zone
-  Baltimore Avenue Subzone