

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: 10/19/99

Reference No.: CR-54-1999

Proposer: County Executive

Draft No.: 1

Sponsors: Hendershot, Scott, Estep

Item Title: A Resolution approving the proposed establishment of
the Prince George's County Enterprise Zone

Drafter: Joseph James
EDC

Resource Joseph James
Personnel: EDC

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date Presented: __/__/__

Executive Action: __/__/__

Committee Referral: 10/12/99 C.O.W.

Effective Date: __/__/__

Committee Action: 10/19/99 FAV

Date Introduced: 10/12/99

Public Hearing: __/__/__ :__ __

Council Action: 10/19/99 ADOPTED

Council Votes: JE:A, DB:A, IG:A, TH:A, WM:-, RVR:A, AS:A, PS:A, MW:A

Pass/Fail: P

Remarks: _____

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

DATE: 10/19/99

Committee Vote 9-0 (In Favor: Council Members Estep, Bailey, Gourdine, Hendershot,
Maloney, Russell, Scott Shapiro and Wilson)

Fern Piret, County Planning Director, and Joseph James, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Economic Development Corporation, addressed the Committee and explained the concept of the Enterprise Zone designation. A map highlighting the areas proposed for designation as an Enterprise Zone in the County was displayed by the Planning Department staff. The proposed Enterprise Zone includes as many commercial and industrial properties as possible. These areas are consistent with the Focus Areas established by House Bill (HB877). The Focus Areas were created within boundaries of existing or proposed Enterprise Zones.

The Enterprise Zone includes tools such as income and real estate tax credits, provided as an incentive from the State, to encourage existing businesses to expand and to attract new businesses in distressed areas. In turn, as part of this partnership between local and State government, the State reimburses the County fifty (50) percent of the lost real estate taxes.

Some Council Members inquired as to the process for designating certain areas within the County for inclusion in the Enterprise Zone. Dr. Piret explained that twenty-nine (29) census tracts in the County as well as other areas not specifically within these tracts are eligible for consideration.

The application to the State for the Enterprise Zone designation was submitted by the October 15, 1999 deadline with an indication that this resolution was introduced and eligible for adoption/final action on October 19, 1999.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT

(Includes reason for proposal, as well as any unique statutory requirements)

This legislation will approve the proposed establishment of the Prince George's County Enterprise Zone.

CODE INDEX TOPICS: