



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Chairman
Derrick Leon Davis
Council Member, District 6

SEP 30 2016

Ms. Wendi W. Peters, Secretary
Maryland Department of Planning
301 West Preston Street, Suite 1101
Baltimore, MD 21201-2305

Re: Recertification of Prince George's County's Application to the
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program

Dear Secretary Peters:

The Prince George's County Council is pleased to support the enclosed application for recertification of Prince George's County by the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program. On September 27, 2016, the County Council met to consider the application and this correspondence.

The application was developed pursuant to the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Maryland Annotated Code, Title 5, Subtitle 4, Section 5-408 (b)(1) and (2) – Certification of County Agricultural Land Preservation Programs, and the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR), Title 14 Independent Agencies, Subtitle 24, Office of Planning, Chapter 08 – Guidelines for Certification of County Agricultural Land Preservation Programs.

Prince George's County recognizes that preservation of agricultural land is important to achieve the goals of the *Plan Prince George's 2035 Approval General Plan*. We have worked hard since certification in 2014 to expand and support agricultural uses in our Rural Tier, and to open up additional sources of revenue for agricultural property owners. It is our understanding that the approval of the program will continue to benefit the County by retaining an additional percentage of the agricultural transfer tax collected by the County which will be used to support efforts to protect agricultural land, open space and other important natural resources.

We look forward to the Maryland Department of Planning's approval of the recertification and thank you in advance for your support and attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact Yates Clagett, Prince George's Soil Conservation District, at 301-574-5162 x 3 for additional information.

Sincerely,

Derrick Leon Davis
Chairman

Enclosures

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cc: Hon. Rushern L. Baker, III, County Executive
Carol West, Executive Director, Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Yates Clagett, Planner, Prince George's County Soil Conservation District
Debra Borden, Acting Planning Director, M-NCPPC, Prince George's County Planning
Department
Derick Berlage, Division Chief, Countywide Planning Division, M-NCPPC, Prince George's
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