#### **Adopted Resource Conservation Plan:** *A Countywide Functional Master Plan for Prince George's County*



**District Council Worksession** February 14, 2017



The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

# **Resource Conservation Plan**

...forming a platform for resilience and sustainability to implement

Plan Prince George's 2035



# Preliminary Resource Conservation Plan Testimony

- 13 speakers at the joint public hearing on September 27, 2016.
- 21 written comments—before the public record closed on October 12, 2016.
- 5 written comments—after the close of the public record.

# Resource Conservation Plan Measurable Objectives

- Improve water quality in a majority of county watersheds.
- Preserve at least 52 percent forest and tree canopy coverage countywide.



# Resource Conservation Plan Measurable Objectives

- Conserve 1,500 acres of land per year for environmental protection and farming—20 acres of which should be for urban farms.
- Preserve 80 percent of undeveloped land in the Priority Preservation Area by 2035.
- Increase easement participation by small and minority-owned farms by 15 percent.

### **Important Policies**

- 13 "special conservation areas" as unique natural assets.
- Reliable funding for land conservation programs, especially HARPP.
- Protect viewsheds along scenic and historic roads and from Mount Vernon. (Could be added to the Zoning Rewrite.)



## **Important Policies**

- Amend the zoning ordinance to allow agriculture in more zones and define agriculture more broadly. (Already contained in the Zoning Rewrite.)
- Protect working farms from conflict with new subdivisions. (Already contained in the Zoning Rewrite.)
- Expand the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area to Bowie and Glenn Dale.





# Changes made by the Planning Board

Amend Policy 5.1 on page 91 as follows:

"Allow a broad spectrum of new uses on agricultural and forested lands, <u>including</u> <u>agri-tourism</u>, as long as those uses continue to focus on agriculture and forestry or related uses and do not take existing agricultural or forested land out of production." (Will also be reflected in the Zoning Rewrite.)

# Changes made by the Planning Board

Amend Policy 1.2 on page 121 as follows:

"Ensure that the uses allowed in rural areas are appropriate to preserve rural character while insuring that externalities such as traffic are addressed. <u>An overconcentration of</u> <u>industrial uses should be discouraged.</u>"

# Changes made by the Planning Board

Correct minor technical errors or ambiguities identified by various speakers.