

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**

**2000 Legislative Session**

Resolution No. CR-40-2000

Proposed by Council Member Estepp

Introduced by Council Member Estepp

Co-Sponsors \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Introduction July 11, 2000

**RESOLUTION**

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 The Patuxent River Policy Plan Addendum

3 For the purpose of adopting the plan as submitted by the Patuxent River Commission and the  
4 Maryland Department of State Planning.

5 WHEREAS, the population within the Patuxent Watershed has increased significantly,  
6 resulting in the loss of forest cover, agricultural land and open space, with a corresponding  
7 increase in impervious surfaces causing nutrient and sediment pollution of the Patuxent River  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, as a result of the declining condition of the river, economic and recreational  
10 resources are less productive; and

11 WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Council has worked to improve the quality of  
12 water in the Patuxent River; and

13 WHEREAS, the 1980 Patuxent River Watershed Act required the Department of State  
14 Planning to prepare a Patuxent River Policy Plan to be submitted for approval by the seven  
15 counties of the watershed, and;

16 WHEREAS, the Department of State Planning worked closely with county officials in  
17 preparation of the plan, and the Patuxent River Commission held public hearings on the plan  
18 throughout the watershed; and

19 WHEREAS, in 1984 Prince George's County and the six other counties in the Patuxent  
20 Watershed and the State of Maryland adopted the Patuxent River Policy Plan; and

21 WHEREAS, in 1988, in accordance with the Patuxent River Policy Plan, the Prince  
22 George's County Council adopted CR-13-1988, which directed the preparation of legislation to

1 establish a Primary Management Area (PMA) for the Patuxent River Watershed of Prince  
2 George's County; and

3 WHEREAS, in 1989, the Prince George's County Council adopted CB-121-1989, which  
4 implemented the policy adopted in CR-13-1988 for the management of land use within the  
5 Patuxent River watershed and established criteria for stream and wetland buffers; and

6 WHEREAS, CR-13-1988 also directed that the policies expressed therein shall be  
7 considered in the preparation of Master Plans as implemented by Sectional Map Amendments;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Council subsequently approved Master Plans for  
10 those portions of Prince George's County within the Patuxent River Watershed, including the  
11 Master Plans for Subregion I, Glenn Dale-Seabrook-Lanham, Bowie-Collington-Mitchellville,  
12 Landover and Vicinity, Largo-Lottsford, Subregion VI and Melwood-Westphalia; and

13 WHEREAS, each of these Master Plans included policies to protect the Patuxent River  
14 Watershed in accordance with CR-13-1988 and the Patuxent River Policy Plan; and

15 WHEREAS, Prince George's County has designated almost 35,000 acres of the Patuxent  
16 River Watershed within Prince George's County as a Rural Legacy Area; and

17 WHEREAS, the Patuxent River Watershed Act calls for periodic review and, if appropriate,  
18 revision of the Patuxent River Policy Plan; and

19 WHEREAS, in November 1997, the Patuxent River Commission, working with County  
20 officials and the Maryland Office of Planning, reviewed the Patuxent River Policy Plan,  
21 reaffirmed the ten recommendations contained therein, and approved an addendum to the Plan;  
22 and

23 WHEREAS, this addendum and its six key findings are intended to be used in conjunction  
24 with the original 1984 plan; and

25 WHEREAS, the Patuxent River Commission's legislation provides for updating the plan via  
26 the amendment process; and

27 WHEREAS, the County Council expresses support for the overall plan and addendum as a  
28 policy framework for guiding our continuing efforts to protect and enhance the Patuxent River  
29 and its watershed; and

30 WHEREAS, it is understood that achievement of the plan's and addendum's goals will  
31 require refinement and flexible implementation of its stated policies in order to recognize the

1 particular local conditions and needs of existing and planned development throughout the  
2 watershed; and

3 WHEREAS, implementation of the plan's and addendum's recommendations for local  
4 programs will require additional consideration, public review and local approval; and

5 WHEREAS, this amended Patuxent River Policy Plan, upon adoption, is to serve as a  
6 policy guide for State agencies and local governments in carrying out programs in the watershed.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's  
8 County, Maryland, that the County Council hereby approves the addendum to the Patuxent River  
9 Policy Plan.

Adopted this 25th day of July, 2000.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dorothy F. Bailey  
Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joyce T. Sweeney  
Clerk of the Council