

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2019 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-32-2019

Proposed by Council Members Glaros, Turner, Ivey and Dernoga

Introduced by Council Members Glaros, Turner, Ivey, Dernoga, Harrison

Co-Sponsors Streeter, Franklin, Taveras and Hawkins

Date of Introduction May 7, 2019

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 The Baltimore-Washington Parkway

3 For the purpose of declaring the Prince George’s County Council’s opposition to any expansion
4 of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and any proposal to transfer the Baltimore-Washington
5 Parkway from the National Park Service.

6 WHEREAS, the Baltimore-Washington Parkway stretches 32 miles across Maryland; and

7 WHEREAS, the Baltimore-Washington Parkway was first envisioned by Pierre Charles
8 L’Enfant in his original plan for the United States of America’s new capital in 1791; and

9 WHEREAS, the Maryland State government worked with the federal government during
10 the Second World War to construct the Baltimore-Washington Parkway; and

11 WHEREAS, the Baltimore-Washington Parkway’s completion in October 1954 created a
12 scenic entrance into the Nation’s capital; and

13 WHEREAS, the Baltimore-Washington Parkway’s completion linked the cities of
14 Baltimore and Washington, as well as neighborhoods along the route, improving connectivity;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, the Baltimore-Washington Parkway provides convenient access to numerous
17 locations of public interest, such as national and state parks, educational museums, and emerging
18 suburban neighborhoods; and

19 WHEREAS, these locations include the NASA Goddard Visitor Center, the Greenbelt
20 National Park, the National Wildlife Visitor Center, and the Prince George’s Hospital Center;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, free and convenient access to the Baltimore-Washington Parkway has

1 facilitated visitation to these, and many other, locations along the Baltimore-Washington
2 Parkway; and

3 WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Executive and Prince George's County Council
4 submit to the Maryland Department of Transportation annually the County's Priority Projects
5 List for the State Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP), which reflects the County's
6 priorities regarding State highway construction projects, transit, project planning starts, safety
7 improvements, system preservation and gateways projects, and the expansion of the Baltimore-
8 Washington Parkway has never been included on this list; and

9 WHEREAS, despite the substantial development in the 70 years since its construction, the
10 Baltimore-Washington Parkway maintains its picturesque scenery with protected wildlife, forest
11 lined lanes, and preservation of natural aesthetic; and

12 WHEREAS, the scenic and peaceful atmosphere of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway is
13 protected; and

14 WHEREAS, the Baltimore-Washington Parkway is dedicated to the life and work of
15 Maryland Congresswoman Gladys Noon Spellman, who dutifully and honorably served her State
16 and community as President of the PTA, member of the Prince George's County Council,
17 President of the National Association of Counties, and distinguished member of the United
18 States House of Representatives; and

19 WHEREAS, the Baltimore-Washington Parkway continues to provide these notable
20 benefits to all the people of Maryland, and all the people who visit Maryland; and

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
22 County, Maryland that the County Council declares its strong opposition to the proposal to
23 transfer the Baltimore-Washington Parkway from the National Park Service to any other entity
24 as being against the public interest.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Council shall be directed to forward a
26 copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, Director of the U.S. National Park
27 Service, the Maryland members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, the
28 Governor, the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Speaker of the
29 House, the President of the Senate, the Chair of the Prince George's County House Delegation,
30 the Chair of the Prince George's County Senate Delegation, the County Executive of Prince
31

1 George’s County, and the Chair of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government’s
2 Board of Directors.

Adopted this 7th day of May, 2019.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Todd M. Turner
Chair

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council