

Prince George's County Council

Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date: 7/24/2007
Reference No.: CB-024-2007
Draft No.: 3
Proposer(s): Dernoga, Bland
Sponsor(s): Dernoga, Bland, Turner, Dean
Item Title: An Act concerning the establishment of a Prince George's County Historic Agricultural Resource Preservation Program to permit the acquisition of historic conservation easements.

Drafter: Margaret M. Addis, Office of Law
Resource Personnel: Judith Thacher, Legislative Aide

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date Presented: 7/2/2007
Executive Action: 7/31/2007 S
Committee Referral: 7/2/2007 - PZED
Effective Date: 9/17/2007

Committee Action: 7/11/2007 - FAV

Date Introduced: 7/2/2007
Public Hearing: 7/24/2007 - 10:00 AM

Council Action (1): 7/24/2007 - ENACTED
Council Votes: MB:A, WC:A, SHD:A, TD:A, CE:A, DCH:A, TK:A, EO:A, IT:A
Pass/Fail: P
Remarks:

AFFECTED CODE SECTIONS:

29-126, 29-127, 29-128, 29-129, 29-130, 29-131, 29-132, 29-133, 29-134, 29-135, 29-136

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

PLANNING, ZONING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Date 7/11/2007

Committee Vote: Favorable, 4-0 (In favor: Council Members Dean, Bland, Dernoga, and Exum)

Staff summarized the purpose of the legislation and informed the committee that a Draft-2 of the legislation bypassed presentation, and was introduced on July 2, 2007. A public hearing is scheduled for July 24, 2007. The Legislative Officer clarified that proposed amendments recommended by the committee would need to be in the form of an amendment sheet for consideration on the day of the public hearing.

Margaret Addis, Office of Law, commented that the bill is in proper legislative form and suggested technical amendments to clarify the reference to "the recommendations of Commission 2000" on lines 3 and 4, page 2, with inclusion of the appropriate Council resolution number, and to remove the definition of "Board" on lines 28 and 29, page 2, since this term is currently defined in another subtitle of the Code. These amendments will be provided as an amendment sheet on July 24, 2007.

Bill Moore spoke in support of the legislation indicating that he supports easement rights and encourages the County to continue its work in obtaining funding for the available agricultural preservation programs.

Council Member Dernoga encouraged M-NCPPC staff present for the meeting to confirm that the funding for historic easements is in the appropriate “fund” of their budget so that there are no difficulties in implementing the Historic Agricultural Resource Preservation Program.

Yates Clagett of the Soil Conservation District (SCD) addressed the committee informing the Members that the property owners are comfortable with M-NCPPC holding easements on a temporary basis; however, they would prefer that the easements be transferred to the County or SCD. Council Member Dean responded that M-NCPPC cannot be removed from the process entirely; however, the Planning Board Chair has committed to making the program work to the benefit of the property owners.

Charlie Richardson and Family submitted a letter dated July 10, 2007 addressed to the County Council in support of CB-24-2007 (Draft-2) “as a short term solution as long as the Soil Conservation District will manage the program with the understanding that this bill is intended to accomplish the same thing as the original PDR legislation.”

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT:

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

This bill will establish the Prince George’s County Historic Agricultural Resource Preservation Program. In furtherance of the recommendations of Commission 2000, the County Council and the Planning Board of Prince George’s County recognize the need and the public value of protecting historic view sheds, vistas, rural culture and character as well as long standing agricultural practices in the Rural Tier in perpetuity through the acquisition of historic conservation easements.

7/2/2007: CB-24-2007 (DR-2) was substituted in lieu of DR-1 prior to introduction.

7/24/2007: CB-24-2007 (DR-2) was amended on the floor;
(DR-3) subsequently enacted

CODE INDEX TOPICS:

INCLUSION FILES:
