

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

1999 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-39-1999

Proposed by Council Member Estepp

Introduced by Council Member Estepp

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction July 27, 1999

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Old Crain Highway

3 For the purpose of designating Old Crain Highway in Upper Marlboro, within the limits
4 described herein, as a Scenic Road pursuant to Subtitle 23 (Roads and Sidewalks) of the County
5 Code.

6 WHEREAS, Subtitle 23 (Roads and Sidewalks) in the County Code authorizes the County
7 Council to designate Scenic Roads; and

8 WHEREAS, a Scenic Road, as defined in Section 23-102, is a public or private road which
9 provides scenic views along a substantial part of its length through natural or manmade features
10 such as forest or extensive woodland, cropland, pasturage, or meadows; distinctive topography,
11 including outcroppings, streambeds, or wetlands; traditional building types; historic sites; or
12 roadway features such as curving, rolling roadway alignment and "leaf tunnels;" and

13 WHEREAS, the Master Plan for Subregion VI, approved in 1993, recommends
14 preservation of historic and scenic roads in the Subregion and refers to the *Rural Historic*
15 *Landscapes and Scenic Roads Study, Subregion VI*, December 1988, which also recommends
16 preservation of historic landscapes and scenic roads; and

17 WHEREAS, the Master Plan for Subregion VI specifically names Old Crain Highway
18 southwest of Upper Marlboro as a "significant historic landscape;" notes that the highway "still
19 offers vistas of rolling farmland, continuing the historic usage of this area;" and states that the
20 highway is the location of Weston, "the early 19th-century plantation of the locally prominent
21 Clagett family, with its tree-lined entry drive, its wooded house site and burial ground, and its

1 clearly defined agricultural spaces, as well as a line of Bald Cypress trees planted along Old
2 Crain Highway;” and

3 WHEREAS, the Master Plan for Subregion VI makes the following specific
4 recommendation:

5 Old Crain Highway traverses a landscape that is eligible for the National
6 Register of Historic Places. The area should be preserved through land use
7 policies, complemented with the preservation of the historic road alignment.
8 Special landscape features, such as the Bald Cypress trees near Weston, should
9 be protected.

10
11 WHEREAS, to implement these Master Plan recommendations, the County Council deems
12 it appropriate to designate Old Crain Highway south of Upper Marlboro, between the town
13 boundary and U.S. Rt. 301, as a Scenic Road.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
15 County, Maryland, that Old Crain Highway southwest of Upper Marlboro, between the boundary
16 of the Town of Upper Marlboro and U.S. Rt. 301, is hereby designated as a Scenic Road
17 pursuant to Subtitle 23 of the County Code.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the Council's intention in designating Old Crain
19 Highway as a Scenic Road that the scenic and historic character of this road be preserved to the
20 greatest possible extent consistent with the public health, safety, and welfare, and therefore
21 roadway improvements should be limited to those necessary to meet safety requirements and
22 otherwise satisfy prudent design and construction standards.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Works and Transportation
24 shall apply its Design Guidelines and Standards for Scenic Historic Roads, as most recently
25 approved, to all roadway improvements on Old Crain Highway.
26

Adopted this 27th day of July, 1999.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Dorothy F. Bailey
Vice Chair

ATTEST:

Joyce T. Sweeney
Clerk of the Council