



Todd M. Turner

Chair
District 4

Service. Community. Progress.

OCT 01 2019

Robert S. McCord, Secretary
Maryland Department of Planning
301 West Preston Street, Suite 1101
Baltimore, MD 21201-2305

Re: Recertification of Prince George's County's Application to the
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program

Dear Secretary McCord:

The Prince George's County Council is pleased to support the enclosed application for recertification of Prince George's County by the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program. On October 1, 2019, the County Council met to consider the application and this correspondence.

The application was developed pursuant with the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Maryland Annotated Code, Title 5, Subtitle 4, Section 5-408 (b)(1) and (2) – Certification of County Agricultural Land Preservation Programs, and the Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR), Title 34 Department of Planning, Subtitle 03, Land Use, Chapter 03 Certification of County Agricultural Land Preservation Programs.

Prince George's County recognizes that preservation of agricultural land is important to achieve the goals of the *Plan Prince George's 2035 Approval General Plan* and the *2017 Resource Conservation Plan (Section III, Agriculture Conservation Plan.)* We have worked hard since certification in 2016 to expand agricultural uses in the Rural and Agricultural Areas of the County, to establish a link between the farming community and the local government through the Agricultural Resources Advisory Committee, and to secure additional revenues for agricultural property owners. The approval of the program will continue to help the County to retain an additional percentage of the County's agricultural transfer tax which will be used to protect agricultural land, open space and other important natural resources.

We look forward to the Maryland Department of Planning's approval of the recertification and thank you in advance for your support and attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact Jeanine Nutter, Prince George's Soil Conservation District, at 301-574-5162 x 3 for additional information.

Sincerely yours,

Todd M. Turner
Chair

Enclosures

cc: Hon. Angela Alsobrooks, County Executive
Michelle Cable, Executive Director, Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Jeanine Nutter, Land Preservation Administrator, Prince George's County Soil Conservation District
Andree Green Checkley, Planning Director, M-NCPPC, Prince George's County Planning Department
Katina Shoulars, Acting Division Chief, Countywide Planning Division, M-NCPPC, Prince George's County Planning Department
Crystal S. Hancock, Acting Supervisor, Special Projects Section, Countywide Planning Division, M-NCPPC, Prince George's County Planning Department