



Maryland Department of Planning

Sustainable Attainable

January 9, 2013

The Honorable David R. Craig
County Executive of Harford County
220 S. Main Street
Bel Air, MD 21014

Dear County Executive Craig:

RE: MDP's review of adopted tier maps; No comments

Thank you for providing the Department of Planning with a copy of the official Harford County Tier Map administratively adopted by Harford County on December 20, 2012. This action establishes growth tiers under the Maryland Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act of 2012 for Harford County.

The Act allows the Department to comment on mapped growth tiers when the Department determines that the growth tiers do not meet the criteria established by the Act.

The Maryland Department of Planning is pleased to advise you that the official Harford County Tier Map administratively adopted by Harford County satisfies the criteria for designation of growth tiers under the Maryland Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act of 2012. The Department therefore has no comments on the adopted map.

Please be advised that the growth tiers shall be incorporated into the County's comprehensive plan or an element of the plan when the County conducts its six year review of the plan. If the growth tiers are not incorporated into the comprehensive plan or an element of the plan during that 6-year review, Senate Bill 236 provides that the growth tiers may not be considered as adopted and the restrictions on major subdivisions outside sewerred areas shall apply.

We received letters from the City of Aberdeen (November 16, 2012), Town of Bel Air (September 24, 2012), and City of Havre de Grace (October 17, 2012) that concur with the County's tier designations for the towns and their municipal growth areas.

Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

Richard Eberhart Hall, AICP, Secretary
Matthew J. Power, Deputy Secretary

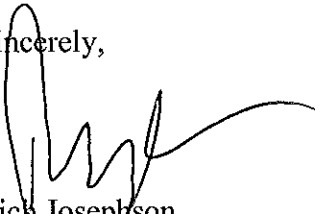
The Honorable David R. Craig
County Executive of Harford County
January 9, 2013
Page 2

Please note that some areas designated as "Agricultural" in the County's Land Use Map from the adopted 2012 Land Use Element Plan are designated as Tier III in the County's adopted Tier map; however these properties are zoned "Rural Residential." As a result, the land use designation and zoning are inconsistent. MDP encourages the County to review and reconcile the land use designation and zoning of these areas.

We would like to recognize the County's staff for their outstanding work in preparing the County's growth tier map.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Josephson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Rich Josephson
Director of Planning Services

cc: Pete Gutwald, Director of Planning and Zoning, Harford County
Richard Hall, Secretary, MDP
Jay Sakai, Director, Water Management Administration, MDE
Matt Power, Deputy Secretary, MDP
Jenny King, Chief-of-Staff, MDP
Peter Conrad, Director, Local Planning Assistance, MDP
Jason Dubow, Director, Environmental Planning, MDP
Stephanie Martins, Analysis Coordinator, MDP
Steve Allan, Central Maryland Regional Planner, MDP