May 6, 2013

The Honorable Blaine R. Young, President
Frederick County Board of County Commissioners
Winchester Hall
12 E. Church Street,
Frederick, MD 21701

Dear Commissioner Young:

RE: MDP’s review of adopted tier maps

Thank you for providing the Maryland Department of Planning with a copy of the official Frederick County Tier Map adopted by the Frederick County Board of County Commissioners on February 26, 2013 and additional supplemental information from the Frederick County Division of Community Development on April 19, 2013. This action establishes growth tiers under Title 1, Subtitle 5 of the Land Use Article (“LU”) of the Annotated Code of Maryland for Frederick County.

The Maryland Department of Planning is pleased to advise you that the Department has no comments on the official Frederick County Tier Map adopted by the Frederick County Board of County Commissioners on February 26, 2013; therefore, no public hearing is required.

Please be advised that LU §1-509 requires the growth tiers are to 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 six-year review, this section provides that the growth tiers may not be considered as adopted and the restrictions on major subdivisions outside sewered areas shall apply.

Please confirm that Emmitsburg, Myersville, Middletown and Walkersville concur with the County’s February 26, 2013 adopted tier map. To date, we have received this concurrence from Frederick City (April 29, 2013 letter).
Other municipalities within Frederick County may be submitting growth Tier maps to the Department. Should there be any conflicts between municipalities’ tier mapping and that of the County, the law provides a process for resolution.

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

Sincerely,

Richard Josephson, AICP
Director of Planning Services

cc: Eric Soter, Frederick County Planning Director
    Richard Hall, Secretary, MDP
    Jay Sakai, Director, Water Management Administration, MDE