



Town of Bladensburg, Maryland

RESOLUTION NO. 02-2025

Date Introduced: September 9, 2024

Date Adopted: September 9, 2024

Date Effective: September 9, 2024

A Resolution of the Town of Bladensburg, Maryland, Supporting Legislative Initiatives that Re-establish Local Land Use Authority

WHEREAS, the Town of Bladensburg is active in the State Legislative process, and in previous years, the Town has provided testimony and continues to support regional efforts that improve access to residents of Bladensburg; and

WHEREAS, other local governments in Prince George’s County are engaging on supporting legislation that examines and re-establishes Local Land Use Authority in Prince George’s County; and

WHEREAS, § 5–213 of the Maryland Code states, “a municipality may adopt zoning regulations, subject to any right of referendum of the voters at a regular or special election as may be provided by the municipal charter;” and

WHEREAS, § 5-212(a)(2) of the Maryland Code states, “it is the policy of the State that planning and zoning controls shall be implemented by local government;” and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bladensburg, Maryland, is subject to the land use decisions of the Prince George’s County Planning Board which is a subset of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and does not have dedicated and specified representation on the Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, with the upcoming legislative session, the following items were modified to enhance the passage of this bill.

- Municipalities that employ or have a certified planner under contract are deemed Qualifying Municipal Corporations and are granted powers to make land use decisions previously delegated to the Zoning Hearing Examiner, Planning Board, and District Council.
- Revise the Land Use Article concerning subdivision approval to specify that a Qualifying Municipal Corporation is authorized to approve subdivisions in addition to zoning actions.

- Exempts Qualifying Municipal Corporations from needing an agreement with the District Council before exercising land use authority.
- Exempts Qualifying Municipal Corporations from requiring an agreement with the District Council to exercise concurrent powers over zoning enforcement.
- Any Party of Record can request judicial review of any decision, including a subdivision decision.

WHEREAS, the Council of the Town of Bladensburg believes that it is in the best interest of the Town's residents, businesses, and other community partners to have direct control over the development patterns, policies, and objectives within the Town; and,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Bladensburg supports legislative initiatives establishing local land use control and authority to municipal governments and will comply with the requirements if passed by the State Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be and is hereby adopted this 9th Day of September 2024 and shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Attest:

Regine Watson
Town Clerk

Takisha D. James, Mayor