



FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Jessica Fitzwater
County Executive

John K. Peterson, Chief Administrative Officer

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.: 03-2025

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 11, 2025

TEMPORARY HOLD ON ACCEPTING, CONSIDERING, AND PROCESSING
APPLICATIONS FOR CRITICAL DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES AND
CRITICAL DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE ELECTRIC SUBSTATIONS

WHEREAS, Bill 25-05 Design and Specific Use Regulations for Critical Digital Infrastructure Facilities and Electric Substations (revising Chapter 1-9, sections 6.100, 8.402, and 8.403 of the Frederick County Code) was adopted on May 20, 2025, and will become effective on July 19, 2025.

WHEREAS, a Bill establishing a Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay (proposing to revise Chapter 1-9, sections 5.310, 8.402, 8.403, and 10.1100 of the Frederick County Code) (the "Overlay Bill") will be introduced on June 17, 2025, and if adopted, will not become effective until September 20, 2025, at the earliest.

WHEREAS, currently, Critical Digital Infrastructure Facilities and Critical Digital Infrastructure Electric Substations may be constructed on any Light Industrial (LI) or General Industrial (GI) zoned property as long as certain specific requirements are met, and the Overlay Bill will have a significant effect on the future location of these Critical Digital Infrastructure Facilities and Critical Digital Infrastructure Electric Substations.

WHEREAS, during the process of the Overlay Bill moving through the County Council and the Planning Commission, it would be prudent to place a six-month hold on the acceptance, consideration, and processing of applications for Critical Digital Infrastructure Facilities and Critical Digital Infrastructure Electric Substations, in order to allow time for the Overlay Bill to proceed through the legislative process.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JESSICA FITZWATER, COUNTY EXECUTIVE OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CHARTER OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, AND THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, HEREBY ISSUE THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.

TEMPORARY HOLD ON ACCEPTING, CONSIDERING, AND PROCESSING
APPLICATIONS FOR CRITICAL DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES AND
CRITICAL DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE ELECTRIC SUBSTATIONS

Frederick County: Rich History, Bright Future

Winchester Hall • 12 East Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701 • 301-600-1100 • Fax 301-600-1050

www.FrederickCountyMD.gov

The Frederick County Planning and Permitting Division staff is directed to temporarily discontinue accepting, considering, processing, or reviewing, any application for Critical Digital Infrastructure Facilities and Critical Digital Infrastructure Electric Substations, as determined by County Staff.

This Executive Order does not apply to applications for Critical Digital Infrastructure Facilities or Critical Digital Infrastructure Electric Substations on property that has obtained an approved Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance Letter of Understanding prior to the effective date of this Executive Order.

This Executive Order is issued this 11th day of June 2025, effective immediately, and shall terminate on September 30, 2025, unless changed by further Executive Order.



John K. Peterson
Chief Administrative Officer



Jessica Fitzwater
Frederick County Executive