



Bill No. 18-15

Concerning: Frederick County Sustainability
Commission

Introduced: May 1, 2018

Revised: _____ Draft No. _____

Enacted: _____

Effective: _____

Expires: July 30, 2018

Frederick County Code, Chapter 1-2

Section(s) 141-147

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Council President Bud Otis on behalf of County Executive Jan Gardner

AN ACT to: Establish the Frederick County Sustainability Commission.

Executive: _____ Date Received: _____

Approved: _____ Date: _____

Vetoed: _____ Date: _____

By amending:

Frederick County Code, Chapter, 1-2 Section(s) 141-147

Other: _____

Boldface

Underlining

[Single boldface brackets]

* * *

Heading or defined term.

Added to existing law.

Deleted from existing law.

Existing law unaffected by bill.

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The County Council of Frederick County, Maryland, finds it necessary and appropriate to amend the Frederick County Code to establish the Frederick County Sustainability Commission; providing for the composition, meeting standards, term, and compensation of members, and powers and duties of the Commission; and matters generally relating to the Sustainability Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Frederick County Code be, and it is hereby, amended as shown on the attached Exhibit 1.

Harold F. (Bud) Otis, President
County Council of Frederick County,
Maryland

CHAPTER 1-2: ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE XI. SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

§1-2-141. ESTABLISHMENT, POWERS.

(A) There is a Frederick County Sustainability Commission, which was initially created by Resolution 09-02.

(B) Among its powers and duties, the Commission shall:

(1) Identify and prioritize concerns and issues relating to long-term environmental, social, and economic sustainability of the Frederick County community;

(2) Frame sustainability priorities for the County that balance environmental protection, judicious use of resources, economic vitality, healthy communities, and social equity, and that are appropriate to the specific challenges and constraints of the region, and develop and propose a comprehensive set of sustainability principles to inform County policies;

(3) With input from other County advisory committees, establish methods and indicators to measure progress in meeting established sustainability goals;

(4) Assist the County Executive and OSER with implementation of the *Star Communities* program, certification of Frederick County as a *Star Community*, and development of metrics to track the success of Commission defined *Star Community* sustainability initiatives;

(5) Review and report to the County Executive on progress toward achieving certification as a *Star Community* with input from the County Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources (OSER), County Divisions and Departments, and other sources of information necessary for such review;

(6) Support and sponsor community programs and projects to provide information and education to the community on ways to improve individual, business, or organizational sustainability;

(7) Develop and encourage community efforts and resources for action on sustainability; and

(8) Consult with the County Executive as requested relative to specific sustainability issues and needs that may arise.

(C) In fulfilling its duties and responsibilities under this Article, the Commission may consult and cooperate with federal, state, county, city, town, or other governmental or public agencies, commissions, and committees, citizens, community groups, academic institutions, and other entities on matters relating to sustainability.

Underlining indicates matter added to existing law.

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*** - indicates existing law unaffected by bill.

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(D) Members of the Commission will meet with the County Executive and appropriate staff on a quarterly basis, or more frequently as needed, to review Commission activities and County sustainability priorities and initiatives.

(E) Commission members will advise the County Executive and staff on issues related to photovoltaics, transportation electrification, energy efficiency in residential and commercial buildings, forestry, water and air quality, agriculture, environmental education, waste management, and as the need arises, other areas within their subject matter expertise.

(F) In addition to the activities identified above, members of the Commission will:

(1) Within their individual areas of expertise, serve as subject matter policy experts and liaisons to the County Executive, OSER, and County agencies and units in conjunction with the development of sustainability policies and initiatives;

(2) Facilitate citizen and stakeholder convening processes to provide input on existing and proposed sustainability policies and initiatives; and

(3) Serve as a liaison to the Frederick County Forestry Board and other stakeholder groups closely tied to promoting sustainable practices across a range of sectors.

(G) The Commission shall not engage in any advocacy activities as a representative of County Government.

§1-2-142. COMPOSITION.

(A) Subject to confirmation by the County Council, the County Executive shall appoint up to 13 members to the Commission, each of whom shall be registered voters and residents of Frederick County.

(B) The membership of the Commission shall ensure fair representation from a balanced range of interests including non-profit, academic, and private sectors.

(C) Members of the FCSC shall have a professional affiliation with, or expertise in, one or more of the following areas:

- (1) Energy;
- (2) Sustainable land use and transportation;
- (3) Open space and land preservation;
- (4) Green building practices;
- (5) Air quality/climate;
- (6) Water quality;
- (7) Recycling/waste reduction;
- (8) Environmental justice;
- (9) Education;
- (10) Small and/or local business;

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- (11) Green jobs/workforce training;
- (12) Human/environmental health;
- (13) Agriculture/food security;
- (14) Community, grass-roots environmental efforts; or
- (15) Finance and governance.

§1-2-143. TERMS, REAPPOINTMENTS, VACANCIES.

(A) The term of office of each of the members of the Commission shall be for a period of 3 years, based on the County's fiscal year, July 1 to June 30. The terms of the members shall be staggered so that no more than 5 members are replaced each year.

(B) Members may be reappointed, but may not serve more than 2 full consecutive 3-year terms.

(C) Any member may resign at any time by giving written notice of such resignation to the County Executive.

(D) Vacancies shall be filled on the same basis as the original appointments for the unexpired terms. Members shall continue in office until their successors are appointed and qualified.

(E) A Commission member may be removed by the County Executive for cause.

§1-2-144. CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR AND SECRETARY.

(A) The Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary will be selected by the members of the Commission.

(B) The terms of officers shall be one (1) year or until a successor shall be elected and qualified.

(C) The duties and eligibility of officers shall be established by the Bylaws of the Commission.

§1-2-145. MEETINGS AND QUORUM.

(A) The Commission shall meet monthly, or more frequently, as determined by the Commission members at a location in Frederick County that is open to the public and is ADA accessible.

(B) Meeting notices shall be publicized and be part of the public record.

(C) A majority of the Commission members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of regular business.

(D) Any member of the Commission who shall fail to attend at least 50% of the meetings during any period of 12 consecutive months shall be considered to have resigned. Subject to confirmation by the County Council, the County Executive shall appoint a replacement.

§1-2-146. BYLAWS.

The Commission shall adopt bylaws to govern its procedures and activities.

§1-2-147. COMPENSATION.

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Members of the Commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

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