



FREDERICK COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Division of Planning & Permitting

30 North Market Street

Frederick, Maryland 21701

(301) 600-1138

FcPc Transmittal Memorandum

TO: County Council
FROM: Frederick County Planning Commission
THROUGH: Debbie Carpenter, Division Director
DATE: June 26, 2024
RE: Bill No. 24-10 – Design Criteria for Commercial Solar Facilities on Ag Property

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on June 26, 2024 to consider Bill No. 24-10, which proposes to amend Chapter 1-19 of the Frederick County Code (Zoning Ordinance) to provide design criteria for Commercial Solar Facilities on agriculturally zoned land. After discussion of the Bill, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of Bill No. 24-10 to the County Council.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 0 – 0
For: Davis, Hicks, Long, Rensberger, Sepe, Tressler
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

In a second motion, the Planning Commission voted to recommend that the County Council consider making the following changes to Bill No. 24-10:

- In §1-19-8.800 (A), change “financial incentives” to “government funds”.
- In §1-19-8.800 (D), add “Minimum” before the word “Setbacks”.
- In §1-19-8.800 (F)(1)(a), the County Council should review standards regarding buffers.
- In §1-19-8.800 (F)(1)(c), the County Council should review standards for caliper size and height.
- Investigate the submission of Form FAA 7460-1 – Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration.
- Add language regarding agrovoltaic incentives.
- Include language regarding planting of native species and pollinator plants under the panels.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 0 – 0
For: Davis, Hicks, Long, Rensberger, Sepe, Tressler
Against: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None