



Maryland Department of Planning

Sustainable _____ Attainable

December 13, 2012

The Honorable Robert E. Bruchey, II
City of Hagerstown
City Hall
1 East Franklin Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740

RE: MDP's review of adopted tier maps; No comments

Dear Mayor Bruchey,

Thank you for providing the Department of Planning with a copy of Resolution #R-12-42, adopted by the City of Hagerstown on October 23, 2012. This resolution establishes growth tiers under the Maryland Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Act of 2012 for the City of Hagerstown and references the official map displaying the Growth Tier areas.

The Act allows the Department to comment on mapped growth tiers when the Department determines that the growth tiers do not meet the criteria established by the Act.

The Maryland Department of Planning is pleased to advise you that the map adopted by the City of Hagerstown satisfies the criteria for designation of growth tiers under the Maryland Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Act of 2012. The Department therefore has no comments on the adopted map.

Please be advised that the growth tiers shall be incorporated into the City's comprehensive plan or an element of the plan when the City 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 6-year review, Senate Bill 236 provides that the growth tiers may not be considered as adopted and the restrictions on major subdivisions outside sewer areas shall apply.

Washington County may be submitting growth tier maps to the Department. To date, we have not received a tier map from the County. Should there be any conflicts between the City's mapping and that of the County, the Act provides a process for resolution. We do not anticipate that such maps would be in conflict with the criteria under the Act or with the County's adopted map.

Martin O'Malley, Governor
Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

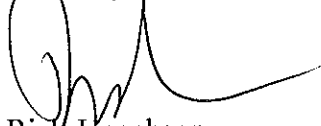
Richard Eberhart Hall, AICP, Secretary
Matthew J. Power, Deputy Secretary

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We would like to recognize the City for being among the first jurisdictions in the State to have adopted a Growth Tier map as called for under the Maryland Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Act of 2012.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rich Josephson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rich Josephson
Director of Planning Services

cc: Stephen Goodrich, Director, Washington County Department of Planning & Zoning
Bill Atkinson, Director, MDP Western Maryland Regional Office
Jay Sakai, Director, Water Management Administration, MDE
Jason Dubow, Director, Environmental Planning Division, MDP