The Future of Agriculture

in Prince George's County, Maryland

May 2005

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
mncppc.org/pgco
Planning for agriculture and protecting farmland provide flexibility for growth and development, offering a hedge against fragmented suburban development while supporting a diversified economic base.

American Farmland Trust
The Future of Agriculture

in Prince George’s County, Maryland

May 2005

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
Prince George’s County Planning Department
14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

mncppc.org/pgco
The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
Derick Berlage, Chairman
Elizabeth M. Hewlett, Vice Chairman

Officers
Trudyte Morgan Johnson, Executive Director
Patricia Colihan Barney, Secretary-Treasurer
Adrian R. Gardner, General Counsel

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission is a bicounty agency, created by the General Assembly of Maryland in 1927. The Commission’s geographic authority extends to the great majority of Montgomery and Prince George’s Counties: the Maryland-Washington Regional District (M-NCPPC planning jurisdiction) comprises 1,001 square miles, while the Metropolitan District (parks) comprises 919 square miles, in the two counties.

The Commission has three major functions:

• The preparation, adoption, and, from time to time, amendment or extension of the General Plan for the physical development of the Maryland-Washington Regional District;

• The acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of a public park system; and

• In Prince George’s County only, the operation of the entire county public recreation program.

The Commission operates in each county through a Planning Board appointed by and responsible to the county government. All local plans, recommendations on zoning amendments, administration of subdivision regulations, and general administration of parks are responsibilities of the Planning Boards.

The Prince George’s County Department of Planning (M-NCPPC):

• Our mission is to help preserve, protect and manage the County’s resources by providing the highest quality planning services and growth management guidance and by facilitating effective intergovernmental and citizen involvement through education and technical assistance.

• Our vision is to be a model planning department comprised of responsive and respected staff who provide superior planning and technical services and work cooperatively with decision-makers, citizens and other agencies to continuously improve development quality and the environment and act as a catalyst for positive change.

Prince George’s County Planning Board
Elizabeth M. Hewlett, Chairman
William M. Eley, Jr., Vice Chairman
John H. Squire
Sylvester J. Vaughns

Montgomery County Planning Board
Derick Berlage, Chairman
Wendy Collins Perdue, Vice Chairman
Allison Bryant
John M. Robinson
Meredith K. Wellington
Prince George’s County
Jack B. Johnson, County Executive

County Council

The County Council has three main responsibilities in the planning process: (1) setting policy, (2) plan approval, and (3) plan implementation. Applicable policies are incorporated into area plans, functional plans, and the general plan. The Council, after holding a hearing on the plan adopted by the Planning Board, may approve the plan as adopted, approve the plan with amendments based on the public record, or disapprove the plan and return it to the Planning Board for revision. Implementation is primarily through adoption of the annual Capital Improvement Program, the annual budget, the water and sewer plan, and adoption of zoning map amendments.

Council Members

Thomas E. Dernoga, 1st District
Will Campos, 2nd District
Thomas R. Hendershot, 3rd District
Douglas J.J. Peters, 4th District
David Harrington, 5th District
Samuel H. Dean, 6th District
Camille Exum, 7th District
Tony Knotts, 8th District
Marilynn Bland, 9th District

Clerk of the Council
Redis C. Floyd