

CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS

RESOLUTION NO. R-55-84, REVISED

A RESOLUTION concerning

The Severn River Commission

FOR the purpose of establishing a Severn River Commission.

WHEREAS, in 1971, the General Assembly of the State of Maryland recognized that the Severn River is notable for fine scenery and its rich historic heritage, for its many ecologically important sites, and for varied recreational opportunities, and consequently designated the Severn River as one of Maryland's "Scenic Rivers"; and

WHEREAS, the policy established for the State's Scenic Rivers is to preserve and protect the natural values for these rivers, enhance the water quality, and fulfill vital conservation purposes by wise use of resources within the surrounding environment; and

WHEREAS, in 1983, the Severn River Advisory Board in conjunction with the Scenic Rivers Staff of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources completed a study of the Severn River entitled "Maryland Scenic Rivers: The Severn"; and

WHEREAS, the study proposes several recommendations as to how the Severn's natural, scenic, and cultural heritage may be protected; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, a study entitled "A Greenway Strategy for Weems Creek," conducted by the National Park Service in cooperation with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Weems Creek Conservancy, presents a resource inventory and analysis and sets forth options for alternative management strategies for the conservation of Weems Creek; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, the Anne Arundel County Council adopted the General Development Plan which established the policy of protecting and enhancing the scenic qualities of the Severn River; and

WHEREAS, the City of Annapolis has within its boundaries approximately eighteen miles of waterfront along the Severn River and its tributaries which constitute an environmental resource of inestimable value to County and City residents and visitors to the area; and

WHEREAS, in 1984, the General Assembly created the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Protection Program to protect the natural habitats and water quality of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, which include the Severn River; and

WHEREAS, Section 8-403(g) of the Natural Resources Article of the Maryland Annotated Code provides that a political subdivision may establish a scenic river advisory board to further the aims of the Scenic and Wild Rivers Act; and

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 2 WHEREAS, the formation of an advisory body to provide counsel and
 3 advice on the stewardship of the Severn River watershed in accord with the
 4 Act, the studies, and the plans, is a goal which is mutually desirable to the
 5 City of Annapolis and to Anne Arundel County, Maryland.
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7 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL
 8 that a Severn River Commission be and it is hereby established. For the
 9 purposes of defining the jurisdiction of the Commission, the boundaries of the
 10 Severn River shall include the entire watershed, in consonance with both the
 11 study entitled "Maryland Scenic River: The Severn", and with the boundaries
 12 defined in the Anne Arundel County Watershed Management Program as shown
 13 on the map attached to this Resolution and made a part hereof.
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15 AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL
 16 that the purpose and membership of the Commission shall be as follows:
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18 A. The Commission shall provide counsel and advice to Anne Arundel
 19 County, the City of Annapolis, and the State of Maryland. The duties of the
 20 Commission shall be:
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22 1. To adopt policies, procedures and bylaws governing the conduct
 23 of business and the mandatory attendance requirements of its membership.
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25 2. To initiate and recommend policies and regulations to enhance
 26 and protect the natural, historic and scenic quality of the Severn River
 27 watershed.
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29 3. To review studies, policies, and rules formulated by federal,
 30 state and local government agencies that concern the Severn River watershed,
 31 and to comment on such proposals as appropriate.
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33 4. To review and make recommendations concerning the implementa-
 34 tion of the studies entitled the "Maryland Scenic River: The Severn" and "A
 35 Greenway Strategy for Weems Creek".
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37 5. To review and make recommendations on federal, state, county
 38 and local programs, regulations, and public and private projects, including
 39 land use and development proposals, which the Commission believes may have
 40 an impact on the Severn River Watershed.
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42 6. To prepare a written report outlining the activities, goals and
 43 accomplishments of the Commission. This report shall be submitted to both
 44 the Anne Arundel County Council and the Annapolis City Council in January
 45 of 1987 and, again, in January of 1989.
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47 B. Membership
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49 1. The membership of the Commission shall consist of nine (9)
 50 voting members and five (5) ex officio, nonvoting members.
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52 2. The County Executive, in consultation with the Mayor of the
 53 City of Annapolis, shall appoint a Chair from among the nine (9) voting

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2 members.

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4 3. Members shall serve for a term of three (3) years from the
5 date of appointment. The initial term of the voting members shall be as
6 specified in subsection C.
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8 4. A majority of the voting members shall constitute a quorum.

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10 5. Members shall serve without compensation.

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12 6. If a vacancy occurs, the new appointment shall be made in the
13 manner described herein for the position vacated and for the balance of the
14 unexpired term of the preceding member.
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16 C. Voting Members

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18 1. Subject to the confirmation by the City Council, the Mayor of
19 the City of Annapolis shall appoint two (2) City residents as members. For
20 the initial term, one (1) shall be appointed for one (1) year and one (1) for
21 two (2) years.
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23 2. The County Executive shall appoint seven (7) members. For
24 the initial term, two (2) shall be appointed for one (1) year, two (2) for two
25 (2) years, and three (3) for three (3) years. Of the seven (7) members, at
26 least five (5) shall be residents of the Severn River Watershed.
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28 D. Ex Officio, Nonvoting Members

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30 1. The County Executive, in consultation with the Chair of the
31 County Council, shall appoint a County Councilman to serve "ex officio".
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33 2. The Mayor of the City of Annapolis shall appoint a member of
34 the Annapolis City Council to serve "ex officio".
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36 3. In consultation with the Mayor of the City of Annapolis, the
37 County Executive shall invite a member of both the Maryland State Senate and
38 the House of Delegates, representative of the Severn River Watershed, to
39 serve "ex officio".
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41 4. The County Executive shall invite the Secretary of the Depart-
42 ment of Natural Resources to appoint a representative to serve "ex officio".
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44 E. Subject to the appropriation of funds, the County and the City
45 shall provide professional and technical staff assistance to the Commission in
46 performance of its duties.
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48 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL that
49 this Resolution shall become effective from and after the date upon which a
50 substantially similar and essentially compatible resolution is adopted by the
51 Anne Arundel County Council, and thereafter shall remain in effect so long as
52 the County's similar and compatible resolution shall remain in effect but, in
53 any event, shall stand repealed on December 31, 1989, unless re-adopted by

the City Council.

ADOPTED this 19th day of November, 1984.

THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL

BY:

Richard Lazer Hillman
RICHARD LAZER HILLMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Patricia L. Bembe
Patricia L. Bembe, City Clerk

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