

1 CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS

2
3 RESOLUTION NO. R-55-84, REVISED

4
5 A RESOLUTION concerning

6
7 The Severn River Commission

8
9 FOR the purpose of establishing a Severn River Commission.

10
11 WHEREAS, in 1971, the General Assembly of the State of Maryland recog-
12 nized that the Severn River is notable for fine scenery and its rich historic
13 heritage, for its many ecologically important sites, and for varied recreational
14 opportunities, and consequently designated the Severn River as one of Mary-
15 land's "Scenic Rivers"; and

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

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

26
27 WHEREAS, the study proposes several recommendations as to how the
28 Severn's natural, scenic, and cultural heritage may be protected; and

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

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

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

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

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50 WHEREAS, Section 8-403(g) of the Natural Resources Article of the
51 Maryland Annotated Code provides that a political subdivision may establish a
52 scenic river advisory board to further the aims of the Scenic and Wild Rivers
53 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.
14

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:

21 1. To adopt policies, procedures and bylaws governing the conduct
22 of business and the mandatory attendance requirements of its membership.
23

24 2. To initiate and recommend policies and regulations to enhance
25 and protect the natural, historic and scenic quality of the Severn River
26 watershed.
27

28 3. To review studies, policies, and rules formulated by federal,
29 state and local government agencies that concern the Severn River watershed,
30 and to comment on such proposals as appropriate.
31

32 4. To review and make recommendations concerning the implementa-
33 tion of the studies entitled the "Maryland Scenic River: The Severn" and "A
34 Greenway Strategy for Weems Creek".
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36 5. To review and make recommendations on federal, state, county
37 and local programs, regulations, and public and private projects, including
38 land use and development proposals, which the Commission believes may have
39 an impact on the Severn River Watershed.
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41 6. To prepare a written report outlining the activities, goals and
42 accomplishments of the Commission. This report shall be submitted to both
43 the Anne Arundel County Council and the Annapolis City Council in January
44 of 1987 and, again, in January of 1989.
45

46 B. Membership
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48 1. The membership of the Commission shall consist of nine (9)
49 voting members and five (5) ex officio, nonvoting members.
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51 2. The County Executive, in consultation with the Mayor of the
52 City of Annapolis, shall appoint a Chair from among the nine (9) voting
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1
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.

7
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.

22
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".

43
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.

47
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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