



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY OFFICE OF LAW

Legislative Summary

To: Members, Anne Arundel County Council

From: Kelly Phillips Kenney, Supervising County Attorney /s/

Via: Gregory J. Swain, County Attorney /s/

Date: September 5, 2023

Subject: Bill No. 69-23 – Zoning – General Provisions – Amendments to Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance

This summary was prepared by the Anne Arundel County Office of Law for use by members of the Anne Arundel County Council during consideration of Bill No. 69-23.

Background

This Council passed Resolution No. 48-17 on December 18, 2017, proposing a Charter amendment to § 307(e)(1) to add the following language:

A change of zoning by amendment to a comprehensive zoning ordinance, that is not requested by application to or proposed by the Office of Planning and Zoning prior to introduction of the comprehensive zoning ordinance, may not be added by amendment to the bill until one or more signs are posted on the subject property in the manner provided in the County Code.

A question was placed on the ballot as required by law, and the Charter amendment was passed by a majority of votes on November 6, 2018, and thereafter became law.

Purpose

The purpose of the Bill is to codify the manner of posting signs on a property per the Charter amendment.

Bill No. 69-23

“WHEREAS” CLAUSES.

Note: This Legislative Summary provides a synopsis of the bill as introduced. It does not address subsequent amendments to the bill.

The “Whereas” clauses in the Bill set forth the background information on the Charter amendment.

SECTION 1.

Section **18-2-108** is new.¹ Subsection **(a)** requires, per the Charter section, that a change of zoning by amendment to a comprehensive zoning ordinance that is not requested by application to or proposed by the Office of Planning and Zoning (“OPZ”) prior to introduction of the ordinance may not be added by amendment to the comprehensive zoning ordinance until signs are posted. Subsection **(a)(1)** requires that one or more signs in compliance with subsection **(b)** are posted for a period of not less than five calendar days before the introduction of the amendment. Subsection **(a)(2)** requires that proof of posting is provided to the County Council and is included with the amendment at the time of introduction.

Subsection **(b)(1)** provides that the signs shall contain information about the proposed change in zoning and include the date, time, and location of the hearing on the comprehensive zoning ordinance. Subsection **(b)(2)** provides that OPZ will furnish the signs to the property owner or their authorized agent, and that the owner or authorized agent is responsible for posting and maintaining the signs.

Subsection **(b)(3)** sets forth the criteria for proper posting of the signs, which mirrors existing Code language for the posting of other similar notice signs.

SECTION 2.

This section provides that the Ordinance shall take effect 45 days from the date it becomes law.

The Office of Law is available to answer any additional questions regarding this Bill. Thank you.

cc: Honorable Stuart Pittman, County Executive
Christine Anderson, Chief Administrative Officer
Jeff Amoros, Chief of Staff
Peter Baron, Chief Strategy Officer
Chris Trumbauer, Budget Officer
Janssen Evelyn, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Ethan Hunt, Government Relations Officer
Jenny Jarkowski, Planning and Zoning Officer
Christina Pompa, Deputy Planning and Zoning Officer
Lynn Miller, Assistant Planning and Zoning Officer

¹ [Bill No. 22-23](#) repealed the current § 18-2-108 “Administrative zoning district line adjustments” and upon codification of Bill No. 22-23, § 18-2-108 will show as “Reserved” as a placeholder.