



M A R Y L A N D

Office of Planning and Zoning

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**Gustav S. Kurtz, Jr.**  
**Chair, Planning Advisory Board**

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October 17, 2023

The Honorable Stuart Pittman, County Executive  
Anne Arundel County  
Arundel Center, P.O. Box 2700  
Annapolis, Maryland 21404

RE: Bill 80-23: 10-Year Solid Waste  
Management Plan

Dear County Executive Pittman:

The Planning Advisory Board (PAB) is a citizen advisory board created by §532 of the Anne Arundel County Charter. Under § 533 (b) of the Charter, the PAB shall make advisory recommendations to the Planning and Zoning Officer and the County Council relating to various matters including Master Plans.

The PAB met on July 26, 2023, and received a briefing on the PAB draft update to the 10-Year Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan) from the Department of Public Works (DPW). The briefing summarized the Plan in the following parts:

- State requirements from Environmental Article, Title 9, Subtitle 5 of the Maryland Code and Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 26.03.03;
- Background information on the County's current landfill capacity and waste generation rates;
- Goals, policies, and objectives, including improving operational efficiencies, ensuring excellent customer service, avoiding excessive costs, and generating revenue; and
- An action plan for the next ten years and the twelve core principles to guide the action plan.

After the staff presentation of the Plan on July 26, the PAB opened the public hearing. No members of the public provided oral testimony. The PAB also accepted written testimony from July 26 through August 2, 2023, during which no testimony was received.

The PAB deliberated about the Plan during a second public meeting on August 9, 2023. The PAB voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend the Plan move forward to the County Council for review

and adoption. The PAB commends DPW on the quality of this plan and recognizes the importance of solid waste management for the quality of life in Anne Arundel County.

After its vote, the PAB described the following areas of emphasis for DPW to consider and pursue under the core principles of the Plan.

**PAB Recommendations for certain areas of emphasis for work under the 10-Year Solid Waste Management Plan**

1. The PAB recommends the County study ways that other States and municipalities handle end of life processing for electric vehicle batteries and similar technologies. While manufacturers are expected to lead this process, it is important that the County have a plan to safely dispose of these materials in the interim.
2. The PAB encourages DPW to be forward thinking about ways to divert waste and reduce the amount of waste that ends up at landfill or is sent to out of County facilities. This aligns with the County's zero waste priority as listed in Chapter 5 of the Plan.
3. The PAB urges DPW to continue their studies on food waste to determine the best process for collecting and disposing of food waste in Anne Arundel County.

The PAB appreciates the opportunity to provide you with its recommendations on the Plan.

If there are any questions regarding these comments, please contact Michael Stringer in the Office of Planning and Zoning, [pzstri20@aacounty.org](mailto:pzstri20@aacounty.org).

Sincerely,



Gustav S. Kurtz, Jr.  
Chair

CC: Christine Anderson, Chief Administrative Officer, Office of the County Executive  
Janssen Evelyn, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Office of the County Executive  
Laura Corby, Administrative Officer, Anne Arundel County Council  
Members of the Planning Advisory Board  
Karen Henry, Director, Department of Public Works (DPW)  
Richard Bowen, Recycling and Waste Reduction Manager, Bureau of Waste Management, DPW  
Rhody Holthaus, Deputy Director, Bureau of Waste Management, DPW  
Jenny Jarkowski, Planning and Zoning Officer, Office of Planning and Zoning (OPZ)  
Christina Pompa, Deputy Planning and Zoning Officer, Planning Division, OPZ  
Cindy Carrier, Planning Administrator, Long Range Planning Section, OPZ  
Michael Stringer, Planning Board Administrator, Long Range Planning Section, OPZ