# ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND OFFICE OF THE BUDGET

**BILL NUMBER: 62-25** 

**INTRO. DATE:** June 17, 2025

#### FISCAL NOTE

# BILL: AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING PUBLIC WORKS – WATERSHED PROTECTION AND RESTORATION PROGRAM

#### **SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION**

The purpose of this legislation is to revise definitions and references in the Watershed Protection and Restoration Program (WPRP) to conform to recent changes in the zoning code. The bill also clarifies the method of calculating stormwater remediation fees for common areas of condominium properties, private roads in developments, nonresidential properties with no assessed value, and certain farms. The bill eliminates a deadline for property owners to appeal stormwater remediation fee determinations. The bill also changes the income standard used for property owners to be eligible for an exemption due to financial hardship. The changes apply to fees for the tax year starting July 1, 2026 (FY2027).

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

This legislation is estimated to increase revenues to the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund from stormwater remediation fees by approximately \$250,000 annually, beginning in FY2027:

- \$80,000 attributed to the common elements in condominiums
- \$160,000 attributed to the provisions related to private roads
- \$10,000 attributed to the provisions related to properties with assessed values of zero

Other provisions of the bill may slightly reduce fee revenues, partially offsetting this effect, but the amount cannot be reliably estimated until a full assessment is completed. The total amount of stormwater remediation fee revenue in the most recently completed year (FY2024) was \$25.6 million.

The bill will not affect expenditures. The changes to the appeals and exemption processes will not significantly affect the workloads of the affected County agencies, and can be absorbed within existing appropriations.

Chris Trumbauer
Budget Officer

6/9/2025

Date

Prepared by: Neil Bergsman, Budget Analyst

cc: Billie Penley, Controller