

Office of Planning and Zoning

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

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September 3, 2025

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

RE: Resolution 22-25: Resolution confirming the  
adoption of the Anne Arundel County  
Hazard Mitigation Plan - 2025 Update

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 June 25, 2025 and received a briefing on the draft of the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) from the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). The briefing summarized the Plan in the following parts:

- Background information on hazard mitigation and the planning process
- Profiles for natural hazards and human-made hazards identified in 2025 update
- Explanation of flooding as an example hazard, including steps for emergency management and mitigation
- Public outreach during the development of the HMP
- Next steps for the draft HMP and future planning efforts

After the staff presentation of the HMP, the PAB opened the public hearing. No members of the public offered verbal comments. The PAB accepted written testimony from June 25 through July 15, 2025, during which no written comments were submitted to the PAB.

The PAB deliberated about the HMP during a public meeting on July 23, 2025. The PAB voted unanimously 5-0 to recommend that the HMP move forward to the County Council for review and adoption. The PAB stressed the importance of the HMP for protecting community members, businesses, and local institutions like the US Navy Annapolis facility, Fort Meade, and the BWI Airport.

The PAB provided the following specific recommendations on the Hazard Mitigation Plan.


**PAB Recommendations for the Hazard Mitigation Plan of Anne Arundel County**

1. The PAB encourages OEM to continue to collaborate in hazard mitigation planning with the US Navy Annapolis facility, Fort Meade, and the BWI Airport.
2. The PAB recommends that future updates of the HMP include information on microbursts under the thunderstorm category.
3. The PAB recommends that OEM analyze the timeframe for HMP updates and determine if a shortened timeframe is necessary to adequately address emerging hazards.

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, [PlanningAdvisoryBoard@aacounty.org](mailto:PlanningAdvisoryBoard@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  
Kaley Schultze, Administrative Officer, Anne Arundel County Council  
Members of the Planning Advisory Board  
Preeti Emrick, Director, Office of Emergency Management OEM  
Kerry Topovski, Project Development Administrator, OEM  
Alexander Sperling, UASI Planner, OEM  
Jenny B. Dempsey, Planning and Zoning Officer, Office of Planning and Zoning (OPZ)  
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