

Timestamp	First name	Last name	City	State	Zip Code	Are you representing yourself?	If no, what organization or whom do you represent?	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachments
Bill No. 61-26											
2026-09-18 9:44:44	Keith	Verdin	Severn	MD	21144	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Support	My name is Keith Verdin, a lifelong resident of Anne Arundel County. I support Bill 61-26 and its modernization of the county's accessory dwelling unit (ADU) rules, however, I respectfully ask the Council to amend one provision before final passage. Subsection 4 of the ADU section (§ 18-10-126, Dwelling units, accessory) sets the size limit for interior, attached, and garage ADUs at up to 75% of the principal dwelling, consistent with Maryland's HB 1466. However, it keeps detached ADUs capped at the lesser of 800 square feet or 50% of the principal dwelling, which falls below the state's floor. The Maryland Department of Planning's official HB 1466 FAQ addresses this directly (https://planning.maryland.gov/Pages/OurWork/PBP/ADUTF/ADU-FAQ-for-Local-Governments-HB-1466.aspx). It states that because local jurisdictions must authorize ADUs consistent with the state definition, they "may not limit the size of ADUs to anything below the 75% limit" (Q10). The state definition expressly includes detached units. An ADU "can be a separate structure from the primary unit or attached as an addition" (Q2). No carve-out permits detached units to be capped lower. Beyond compliance, HB 1466 was intended to help address the state's housing shortage and affordability crisis. With housing costs climbing, a reasonable detached ADU is one of the few realistic ways for younger generations to afford a start close to home, and for aging parents to remain near the people who care for them. Capping detached units below the state's standard works against that. On a large R1 lot, where there's ample room, a family can currently build a bigger unit attached to the house than as a freestanding one in the yard, which is backwards. Allowing right-sized detached ADUs helps keep families together and builds a community where people aren't forced to leave the state to afford one. I grew up in Anne Arundel County, my family lives here, and we want to stay together. I ask the Council to amend subsection 4 so the detached ADU cap matches the 75% standard applied to all other ADU types. Thank you for your work on this update.	

Timestamp	First name	Last name	City	State	Zip Code	Are you representing yourself?	If no, what organization or whom do you represent?	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachments
2026-09-18 9:54:32	Ronnie	Cox	Severn	MD	21144	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Support	My name is Ronnie Cox, and I am a lifelong resident of Anne Arundel County who currently lives in an accessory dwelling unit. I write in support of Bill 61-26, and I ask the Council to strengthen one part of it before final passage. I have experienced firsthand what an ADU makes possible. It has let me stay rooted in the community I grew up in, close to the people I rely on, while keeping my own independence and privacy. That balance of proximity and autonomy is exactly what these units are for, whether the resident is an older adult aging in place, an adult child getting established, or a caregiver who needs to be nearby. Living in one has shown me that a well built ADU is not a fringe housing type. For many families it is the difference between staying together in the county and being priced out of it. That is why subsection (4) of the ADU section (§ 18-10-126, Dwelling units, accessory) concerns me. The bill sensibly allows interior, attached, and garage units up to 75% of the principal dwelling, matching Maryland's HB 1466. Yet it holds detached units to the older cap of 800 square feet or 50% of the principal dwelling, whichever is less. The Maryland Department of Planning's guidance on HB 1466 states plainly that jurisdictions may not set an ADU size limit below the 75% threshold, and that the state definition covers detached structures as well as attached ones. A lower ceiling for freestanding units does not fit that standard. That distinction makes little sense in practice. A detached unit is often the most livable and accessible option, especially for a resident who benefits from single level living and a private entrance. Yet under this draft, that is the option the county restricts most. I respectfully ask the Council to raise the detached ADU cap so it matches the 75% standard applied to every other ADU type. I appreciate the Council's attention to this issue and urge you to make this change.	
2026-09-19 14:13:53	Lily	Openshaw	Annapolis	MD	21403	No	Bay Ridge Civic Association	BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Bay Ridge Community concerns regarding several proposed amendments to Article 18 through Bill 61-26 The community of Bay Ridge is one of Anne Arundel County's oldest communities, a non-HOA neighborhood on the densely populated Annapolis Neck Peninsula, and we must evaluate these amendments to Article 18 in the context of stressed utilities and our dependence on Forest Drive as our single entry and exit artery, one of the County's most dangerous transportation corridors. Like many older communities without private HOA protections, Bay Ridge relies on Article 18 to guide development and protect its established residential character. As the Council reviews this major overhaul of Article 18, we respectfully request consideration of the following concerns and recommendations to preserve the integrity and original intent of R-2 zoning and the neighborhood character and quality of life it protects: •Retain the 2005 Bed-and-Breakfast Regulatory Map (ID No.s 259 and 292) •Remove Mobile Homes as Primary Dwellings and ADUs in R2 (ID No.s 126, 139, and 277) •Do Not Reclassify Private Conservation Land as Open Space (ID No. 242) •Maintain Strong Outdoor-Supervision Rules for Pet-Care Businesses (ID No.274) •Codify and Enforce the Plan 2040 Peninsula Policy Area The Bay Ridge Civic Association is collaborating with other communities and community-focused organizations to develop constructive amendments to Article 18 that address our shared concerns. We look forward to presenting these proposals to the Council and respectfully ask that they be considered as part of this legislative process.	

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2026-09-19 14:16:27	Lily	Openshaw	Annapolis	MD	21403	No	Bay Ridge Civic	BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Retain the 2005 Bed-and-Breakfast Regulatory Map (ID No.s 259 and 292) The Bay Ridge Civic Association is aware that Councilwoman Fiedler is prepared to introduce Amendment No. 24 to Bill No. 61-26. This Amendment, if adopted, would maintain the current requirement that all Bed & Breakfast Homes and Bed & Breakfast Inns be located within the official map Maintained by the Office of Planning and Zoning. We are strongly in support of this amendment. This map is critical for the Bay Ridge Community. Even a small inn can bring repeated guest turnover, additional vehicles, deliveries, signage, outdoor activity, and late arrivals into streets designed for residential uses. To the extent that Council believes expansion should be considered, we would ask that it be addressed in a separate bill after community outreach to Bay Ridge and other communities in the Annapolis area that could be adversely impacted by the change.	
2026-09-19 14:17:58	Lily	Openshaw	Annapolis	MD	21403	No	Bay Ridge Civic	BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Remove Mobile Homes as Primary Dwellings and ADUs in R2 (ID No.s 126, 139, and 277) The Bay Ridge Community is aware that Councilwoman Fiedler is prepared to introduce an Amendment to Bill No. 61-26 to block the allowance of mobile homes to be used as principal residences or ADUs in R-2 districts. Bay Ridge supports this amendment. A permanent foundation may convert a mobile home to real property for title purposes, but it does not answer the central zoning questions: Is the structure compatible with the district? Does it meet appropriate design, safety, dimensional, access, stormwater, and neighborhood standards? What happens when a mobile-home ADU is added to a lot already containing a single-family house? And what cumulative density and infrastructure impacts could result? R2 is intended for low- density single-family detached home development. Bay Ridge's narrow roads, parking patterns, utilities, drainage, common spaces, and emergency access were not planned for an open-ended increase in dwelling units. Our peninsula location adds environmental constraints and limited ingress and egress. These concerns cannot be resolved by requiring utility connections alone. Please remove these provisions from Bill 61-26. If the County wants to consider manufactured housing or mobile-home ADUs as part of its housing strategy, introduce a separate bill. That process should examine building and fire safety, lot size, setbacks, parking, owner occupancy, utility and septic capacity, appearance, storm resilience, removal or abandonment, and geographic exclusions for constrained peninsula communities.	

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2026-09-19 14:19:15	Lily	Openshaw	Annapolis	MD	21403	No	Bay Ridge Civic	BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Maintain Strong Outdoor-Supervision Rules for Pet-Care Businesses (ID No.274) The Bay Ridge community requests a revision to Amendment ID No.274 so that pet-care businesses in residential areas remain subject to clear, enforceable outdoor-supervision requirements. The current concern is that revised language may permit animals to remain outdoors during the day without continuous, on-site human supervision. Outdoor pet activity can generate recurring barking, odors, waste, flies, lighting, and runoff. These effects are not occasional when multiple animals are involved; they can continue for hours and cross property lines. Unsupervised animals also raise welfare and safety concerns, including fighting, escape, heat or cold exposure, and delayed response to distress. Setbacks and fencing are useful, but neither replaces active supervision and prompt intervention. The Code should specify when animals may be outdoors, how many may be outside at once, whether a trained attendant must be physically present in the outdoor area, and what noise, waste, shelter, and lighting standards apply. More protective rules should govern uses adjacent to residences. Please require continuous supervision for group outdoor activity and prohibit animals from being left outdoors unattended. Require prompt waste removal, enforceable noise limits, weather protections, and defined operating hours. If these safeguards cannot be completed now, remove Amendment ID No.274 and address pet-care operations in separate legislation. Businesses need predictable rules, animals need protection, and residents deserve the quiet enjoyment of their homes.	
2026-09-19 14:20:53	Lily	Openshaw	Annapolis	MD	21403	No	Bay Ridge Civic	BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Do Not Reclassify Private Conservation Land as Open Space (ID No. 242) We ask the Council to revise Amendment ID No. 242 so the definition of Open Space does not sweep privately owned conservation land into a classification that diminishes the owner's lawful control and inadvertently implies public access. Bay Ridge owns conserved properties that are not County parks and are not open to the public. Conservation status, ownership, zoning, and public access rights are separate legal concepts. Combining them could create confusion about access, management responsibilities, trespass, and liability while placing additional burdens on community associations that already provide volunteer stewardship, forest management, invasive species control, insurance and rule enforcement. Changing these properties from R-2 to Open Space would also reduce their underlying property value and financially impact the Bay Ridge community which incurred loans to purchase the land and protect it from development. The properties are already protected through conservation easements, so rezoning them as Open Space would provide no additional conservation benefit and is not a State requirement. It would only impose negative financial and administrative consequences on the community that invested its own resources to preserve the land. Because this Council previously and specifically allowed privately owned easement properties to retain their underlying zoning during the Plan2040 approval process, Bill 61-26 should not reverse that decision through a broad definitional amendment. Privately owned conservation easement land should be excluded from the Open Space classification unless the property owner affirmatively elects it.	

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2026-09-19 14:23:55	Lily	Openshaw	Annapolis	MD	21403	No	Bay Ridge Civic	BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Codify and Enforce the Plan 2040 Peninsula Policy Area The Bay Ridge community asks the Council to protect the Peninsula Policy Area adopted through Plan2040 thus giving it clear and enforceable treatment in the County Code. Plan2040 Goal BE4.1 directs the County to prioritize protection of sensitive environmental features on peninsulas, reduce residential densities where appropriate through land-use and zoning decisions, and avoid residential upzoning inconsistent with the adopted land-use plan. Region 7 residents participated extensively in that planning process. The Peninsula Policy Area was not an informal suggestion; it was a deliberate policy choice adopted by the County Council after years of public work. Bill 61-26 proposes new residential uses and density options without providing an effective means of control for development in peninsula communities who are suffering from over-development now. A policy area shown on a plan map provides no protection if residents, property owners, hearing officers, and enforcement staff cannot identify the corresponding standards in the Code. Maryland's Land Use Article requires local implementation laws to be consistent with the jurisdiction's comprehensive plan. (see MD Land Use Code 4-204(b)(1)(iv) and (b)(2)(i)). Peninsula communities face conditions that countywide rules may not capture: limited ingress and egress, constrained emergency evacuation, aging roads and utilities, critical-area resources, tidal flooding, and sensitive waterways. The Peninsula Policy Overlay Area is well-defined in Plan 2040, was approved by this Council, and can be easily adopted by adding a Subtitle 7 to Article 18 under the Title 14, Other Overlays section.	
2026-09-20 14:31:20	Raymond	Greenstreet II	Lothian	Maryland	20711	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Please see attached letter	https://www.aacounty.org/system/files/webform/cc_legislative_testimony/106997/greenstreet-commission-letter.pdf
2026-09-20 18:37:20	Lynda	Kusick	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	This bill would destroy the food truck community and thousands of small businesses!	
2026-09-20 18:40:35	Lynda	Kusick	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	This bill will destroy our communities and small businesses	
2026-09-20 18:41:41	Toby	Denues	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-20 18:53:06	Lauren	McCullough	Millersville	Maryland	21108	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	As a food truck owner licensed in Anne Arundel County, we do not show up uninvited to communities. The community has asked for our services.	
2026-09-20 18:55:59	Rob	Ripley	Hyattsville	MD	20784	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	I am the owner of a food truck and restaurant and this bill will severely affect my business and hurt my employees. County overreach and absolutely ignorant.	
2026-09-20 18:58:06	Amy	Rush	Glen Burnie	MD	21061	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	I oppose Bill 61-26 because it makes more than 300 zoning changes without enough time for residents and small-business owners to fully understand the consequences. These changes could place unfair burdens on local farms and family-run businesses that support our community and economy. I respectfully ask the County Council to vote no or postpone the bill until its effects are thoroughly reviewed and the public has a meaningful opportunity to be heard.	
2026-09-20 19:05:09	Madison	Harden	Glen burnie	Md	21060	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	FOOD TRUCKS ARE A STAPLE.	
2026-09-20 19:15:00	Jessica	guerin	Dundalk	MD	21222	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		

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2026-09-20 19:15:13	Jacob	Howell	Glen Burnie	MD	21061	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Food trucks have been around for ages. Also you are gonna put thousands of taxpayers out of business. You so call " politicians" say "you are for the people." When you're not you are only out for yourselves. I have so many memories with food trucks. I remember when there was a food truck Friday at the Glen Burnie improvement Association on the fair grounds. It was a family tradition to go. If you get rid of food in Anne Arundel County who will provide the food for community events. All I'm saying is you people need to get your priorities straight, cause this is not it.	
2026-09-20 19:17:34	Alyssa	Rosales	Linthicum	Maryland	21090	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-20 19:23:05	Sarah	Easton	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-20 19:25:54	Charles	Barker	Clearwater Beac	MD	21226	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	We depend on local businesses for products and services and we all love our food trucks that show up are farms and fire houses for the community. I urge you to not pass this bill.	
2026-09-20 19:27:53	Kelly	Day	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Food Trucks enhance community events , provide employment and enhance community relations. A bill to ban them is a disservice to the communities they service , a loss in revenue and overall stupid bill	

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2026-09-20 19:30:30	Mark	Edwards	Brooklyn Park	MD	21225	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Testimony in Opposition to the Food Truck Restrictions in Bill 61-26 I am a small-business owner and food-truck operator in Anne Arundel County, and I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed restrictions on food trucks contained in Bill 61-26. As a food-truck owner, I understand the County's responsibility to address legitimate concerns involving public safety, traffic, parking, sanitation, noise, and neighborhood impacts. However, I believe the restrictions proposed in this bill go far beyond addressing those legitimate concerns and would place an unnecessary and significant burden on small businesses. The proposed limitation restricting food trucks to three operating days per calendar week is particularly concerning. A food truck is a small business with substantial fixed costs. The truck, kitchen equipment, insurance, licensing, maintenance, fuel, food inventory, payroll, repairs, and other expenses do not disappear simply because the County limits the number of days the business is allowed to operate. For a small business, the ability to operate and generate revenue when customers are available is critical. Weather, weekends, community events, seasonal demand, and different customer locations all play a major role in whether a food truck can succeed. Limiting a food truck to only three days of operation each week significantly reduces its ability to generate the revenue necessary to cover its expenses and remain a viable business. This is especially troubling at a time when the County should be encouraging entrepreneurship and supporting small, locally owned businesses. A properly licensed and inspected food truck is already subject to health and safety requirements. If the County has concerns about a particular operation creating excessive traffic, parking problems, noise, trash, or another nuisance, those problems should be addressed through reasonable regulations and enforcement—not by imposing a blanket restriction on every food-truck business. Residential Neighborhood Restrictions I am also very concerned about the proposed restrictions concerning food trucks operating in residential districts. The proposed language would limit these operations to land owned by a homeowners association, religious facility, or school. That creates a significant problem for privately owned residential properties that are not owned by an HOA. There is a very important distinction between a property being owned by an HOA and a property owner giving permission for a food truck to operate on his or her own property. An HOA does not own every property in a neighborhood. In many communities, individual homeowners own their own lots. A homeowner may want to host a food truck for residents, a neighborhood gathering, a private event, or simply make his or her property available to a properly licensed business. Under the proposed language, however, the fact that the individual homeowner—not the HOA—owns the property could prevent that food truck from operating there. I do not believe the ownership status of the property is a legitimate way to determine whether a food-truck operation is appropriate. If the County's concern is whether a particular location can safely accommodate a food truck, then regulate the actual impact of the operation. The questions should be:	

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2026-09-20 19:34:41	Kelly	Even	Fort George G M	MD	20755	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-20 19:37:19	Kelly	Sopel	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-20 19:39:50	Angelo	Micklos	Curtis Bay	MD	21226	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-20 19:42:46	Sara	Schilling	Pasadena	Maryland	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Actually do something important to improve the lives of the community. Stop picking winners and losers	
2026-09-20 19:47:02	Margaret	Klappenberger	Crownsville	MD	21032	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	This is crazy. I have a couple of friends that own and operate food trucks in AA county. This bill would significantly reduce their ability to survive as small businesses owners. As a resident that has enjoyed food trucks in many locations- neighborhood events, pool events, church events and so many more...these food trucks bring a much wanted and needed amenity.	
2026-09-20 20:03:03	Beverly	Mayfield	Odenton	MD	21113	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	This will hurt many small businesses in Anne Arundel County and beyond! Stop the nonsense now!	
2026-09-20 20:08:26	Sonia	Miles	Severn	MD	21144	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-20 20:16:13	Jessica	Hernandez	Glen Burnie	MD	21060	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed bill that would limit where food trucks are permitted to operate and how many days we should be able to operate. As a food truck business owner, the ability to travel to different locations is an essential part of our business model. Food trucks depend on serving communities, businesses, neighborhoods, schools, fire departments, community events, and other locations where customers request our services. Restricting food trucks to only certain approved locations would create a significant financial burden on small business owners. We have invested in our trucks, equipment, licenses, permits, insurance, employees, food, and other operating expenses with the understanding that our businesses are mobile. Food trucks also provide a valuable service to organizations and communities that may not have convenient food options available. Many businesses, community organizations, and event organizers specifically invite food trucks onto their properties because they want to provide food options for their employees, customers, and guests. I understand the need for reasonable regulations involving food safety, traffic, parking, sanitation, and public safety. However, these concerns can be addressed through appropriate permitting and operating requirements without severely limiting the locations where properly licensed food trucks can conduct business. I respectfully ask that you oppose this bill as currently proposed and instead work with local food truck owners to develop reasonable regulations that protect public safety while allowing small mobile food businesses the opportunity to operate and grow. Food trucks are small businesses. We create jobs, pay taxes and licensing fees, support community events, and serve residents throughout our communities. Limiting where we can and how much we can operate could threaten the ability of many food truck businesses to remain financially sustainable.	
2026-09-20 20:16:55	Wade	Shive	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-20 20:37:31	Jennifer	Meyer	Glen Burnie	MD	21061	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		

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2026-09-20 20:38:06	Stephanie	Bristol	Pasadena I	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-20 20:52:29	Troy	Helms	Glen Burnie	MD	21060	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-20 21:05:59	John	Sims	Glen Burnie	MD	21060	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	The food trucks in the area are a convenience for many individuals in the area and are a way many male a living. Doing away with them especially when the economy is the way it is would be devastating. But to mention the amount of money the owners of it in to get the trucks up and running. Enough is Enough! Allow these businesses to continue!	
2026-09-20 21:08:51	Brooks	Parce	Bowie	MD	20715	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Small businesses	
2026-09-20 21:11:58	Amber	Zarate	Gambrills	MD	21054	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-20 21:40:38	Kevin	Jones Sr.	Severn	MD	21144	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	I'm a food truck registered in AA County, my wife and I operate this small business to financial help ends meet. If this bill is passed as written it will cause a devastating impact in our efforts to stay afloat during this difficult time when the cost of living from gas, housing, and the basic needs continues to rise causing serious strains on our household. We respectfully ask that you seriously consider the livelihood of small businesses like ours and other food truck owners by not passing this bill as it stands. If this bill becomes law it would impose serious financial hardship on small business food truck operators.	
2026-09-20 21:57:55	John	Shive	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	They are a small Business trying to make a living, it goes against are God given rights to freedom.	
2026-09-20 22:11:18	Frances	Trial	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-20 23:14:07	Diesha	Contee	Annapolis	MD	21403	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-20 23:54:39	Ryan	Bessling	Severna Park	MD	21146	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Food trucks provide an affordable entry point for local entrepreneurs who want to start a food business but cannot afford the substantial costs of opening a traditional restaurant. They allow owners to build a customer base, prove their concept, create jobs, and eventually expand into permanent locations. Restricting food trucks can disproportionately affect small, locally owned businesses, while established restaurants and larger companies are better positioned to absorb high startup and operating costs. Food trucks also keep more money circulating locally. Owners purchase ingredients, fuel, equipment, insurance, maintenance, permits, and other services, often from other businesses in the area. The policy question for Anne Arundel County is therefore not simply whether food trucks should be regulated—they already are—but whether additional restrictions are necessary and proportionate to specific concerns such as traffic, parking, sanitation, or location. Reasonable rules can address those issues without eliminating an accessible path to entrepreneurship.	
2026-09-21 0:07:52	Christopher	Ousley	Annapolis	MD	21401	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Support local food trucks!	
2026-09-21 1:49:04	Anna	Chaney	Lothian	Maryland	20711	No	Anne Arundel Co	BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Please see attached letter. Thank you.	https://www.aacounty.org/system/files/webform/cc_legislative_testimony/107058/bill-61-26-9.20.26-ag-commission-letter.pdf

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2026-09-21 7:54:46	Latonya	Jackson	Halethorpe	Maryland	21227	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	I run a cupcake business and is very successful in AA county. If this bill passes, it will impact my business. This is my only source of income that I provide for my family.	
2026-09-21 8:41:19	Diana	Majewski	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	This is how I make a living	
2026-09-21 8:42:10	Laura	Watson	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Leave the Food Trucks alone and let them operate their small businesses.	
2026-09-21 8:42:56	Shane	Majewski	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	This is how we make a living	
2026-09-21 9:01:43	Victoria	Walsh	Millersville	MD	21108	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	This bill hurts small businesses, farmers, farmer's market, and food truck vendors. I am the owner of Hansel Hill Farm and we offer agriotourism on our 2-acre farm (zoned RLD). This bill adds language to increase the lot size to 3 acres, preventing us from supplementing our farm income with agrotourism activities - it will close our farm.	
2026-09-21 9:05:32	roberto	petrucci	Middle River	MD	21220	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-21 9:15:46	Crystal	Koo	Glen Burnie	MD	21060	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	This is absurd, food trucks are our local residents businesseshow they earn a living! I'm absolutely opposed to this bill the way it is written.	
2026-09-21 9:27:09	Dustin	Ellington	Arnold	MD	21012	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Good Morning, My name is Dustin Ellington, and I'm an Anne Arundel County resident and owner of a small mobile ice cream trailer business. I'm asking the Council to reconsider or clarify the food truck provisions in Bill 61-26, particularly as they apply to small mobile businesses like mine. My trailer is truly mobile. We are hired for birthday parties, neighborhood gatherings, schools, and community events. We are not establishing permanent commercial operations in residential neighborhoods. I'm concerned that these changes could prevent a small business like mine from simply serving a family that hires us for a birthday party at their home. I understand the need for reasonable regulation, but we also need to consider the cumulative impact these decisions have on residents and small businesses. There is already a growing feeling among many Maryland residents that it is becoming increasingly difficult and expensive to live, operate a business, and remain in the state. In Anne Arundel County, adding additional restrictions to small businesses only adds to that frustration. Small businesses should be encouraged to grow here, not continually face new barriers for providing a service that residents want. I ask the Council to distinguish between a food truck establishing an ongoing commercial location and a mobile vendor hired for a temporary private event. I also ask that the three-day-per-week limitation be clarified as applying to a specific location rather than limiting how many days a mobile business can operate. Please consider the real-world impact this language will have on small local businesses and the residents who support them. Thank you for your consideration.	
2026-09-21 9:58:24	Sam	Eby	Arnold	MD	21012	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Don't kill small businesses	

Timestamp	First name	Last name	City	State	Zip Code	Are you representing yourself?	If no, what organization or whom do you represent?	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachments
2026-09-21 10:41:32	Cari	Schuler	Arnold	MD	21012	No	I represent all food trucks	BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	I have been organizing food trucks for our community for 5 years now. I volunteer my time to give support to my community. Everyone thanks me so much cause they love having food trucks. Also I'm a small business owner so I support all the food trucks and their great food.	
2026-09-21 10:45:56	Renee	Parenti	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose		
2026-09-21 10:47:52	Jay	Freschi	Arnold	MD	21012	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Food trucks are critical to our community, no zoning requirements should be needed, this will kill many small businesses	
2026-09-21 10:49:42	Maria	Aguirre	Annapolis	MD	21401	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Dear Members of the Anne Arundel County Council, I am writing to express my strong opposition to Bill 61-26 as currently written. This bill isn't just a routine zoning update it is a direct blow to the heart of our local community. Food trucks, pop-up events, farm stands, and home-based micro-businesses are essential to what makes Anne Arundel County vibrant, unique, and connected. They bring life to our neighborhoods, fund local fire stations, support our farms, and give everyday residents a path to build something of their own. Passing broad blanket restrictions, capping operating days, and limiting locations takes away what brings people together and threatens the hard-working local families who pour their heart into these businesses. Please do not pass regulations that strip away the local culture and small-business spirit that define our county. I urge the Council to protect our community and table or heavily amend Bill 61-26. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Maria Aguirre	

Timestamp	First name	Last name	City	State	Zip Code	Are you representing yourself?	If no, what organization or whom do you represent?	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachments
2026-09-21 10:49:58	Sarah	Porter	Pasadena	MD	21122	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	Good evening, members of the County Council. My name is Sarah Porter, and I am here to comment on the food truck provisions contained in Bill 61-26, particularly proposed §18-10-139. I appreciate the County's effort to modernize the zoning code and to specifically address food trucks. Food trucks have become an important part of community events and small-business activity throughout Anne Arundel County. However, I am concerned that the language currently proposed could unintentionally exclude many established communities and unnecessarily restrict food truck businesses. 1. Special Community Benefit Districts and community associations need to be included. Proposed §18-10-139 states that, in residential districts, food trucks must be located on land owned by a "homeowner's association, religious facility, or school." The problem is that many older Anne Arundel County communities are not homeowners associations. For example, Rockview Beach/Riviera Isles is a Special Community Benefit District, or SCBD, administered by a community association. We have community property and host activities for the benefit of our residents, but we are not an HOA. This is not simply a technical distinction. Anne Arundel County's own information regarding Special Community Benefit Districts specifically states that an SCBD is not a homeowners association and does not replace a homeowners association. The County Auditor's FY2023 review identified 73 Special Community Benefit Districts in Anne Arundel County. I recognize that some of the associations administering those districts may separately meet the legal definition of an HOA, so I am not suggesting that all 73 would necessarily be excluded. However, the number demonstrates the magnitude of the issue. There are dozens of communities organized through structures other than a traditional HOA, many of which maintain community property and facilities. Older waterfront communities are particularly likely to be organized as civic, improvement, beach, or community associations rather than mandatory homeowners associations. Yet under the current wording of Bill 61-26, an HOA-owned community property could host a food truck while community-owned property in an otherwise similarly situated SCBD or civic association might not. I do not believe that distinction serves the apparent purpose of this provision. I respectfully ask the Council to amend §18-10-139(3) to include property owned or controlled by qualifying community associations, civic associations, improvement associations, and associations administering Special Community Benefit Districts, in addition to homeowners associations. The County already recognizes these organizations in other portions of County law. They should not be inadvertently excluded here simply because their communities were organized under a different legal structure. 2. Please reconsider or clarify the three-day-per-week restriction. I am also concerned about §18-10-139(1), which states: "Food truck operations are limited to no more than three days per calendar week." As written, this does not say three days per week at a particular location. It appears capable of being read as limiting the operation of the food truck itself to three days per calendar week, regardless of where it operates.	

Timestamp	First name	Last name	City	State	Zip Code	Are you representing yourself?	If no, what organization or whom do you represent?	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachments
2026-09-21 10:50:14	James	King	Arnold	MD	21012	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Oppose	This bill will severely limit small business and food truck operation. Our community has come together and supported food trucks at our local park. The support is not only for the business, it also creates and fosters friendship for adults and kids alike. I oppose this legislation.	
2026-09-21 10:51:52	Lawrence	Mitchell	Arnold	MD	21012	Yes		BILL NO. 61-26 (As Amended): AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Safety – Zoning – Article 18 Update	Support	Need to stop pushing legislation that hurts small businesses.	
Bill No. 62-26											
2026-09-14 17:00:14	Cameron	Wilson	Annapolis	MD	21403	Yes		BILL NO. 62-26: AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE concerning: Zoning – Conditional Use Requirements – Licensed Dispensaries of Cannabis	Oppose	I am not sure why this is being introduced again. This was already discussed and defeated. Cannabis is legal in Maryland and has been at least decriminalized for over a decade. Treating normal people who use cannabis like dangerous criminals that can't be near a church or school in 2026 is backwards and harmful at this point. Cannabis is a benign substance that makes you tired and maybe hungry, the fear mongering by the local church where the approved dispensary will be located is hysterical. Vote this down again immediately, Mr. Volke should be embarrassed.	
2026-09-21 10:52:47	Michael	Stumpvoll, AIA, N	Pasadena	MD	21230	Yes		BILL NO. 62-26: AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE concerning: Zoning – Conditional Use Requirements – Licensed Dispensaries of Cannabis	Support	Dear Council Members: I am writing in support of Bill 62-26. The bill provides a clear and reasonable standard requiring cannabis dispensaries to remain at least 500 feet from schools, playgrounds, libraries, parks, childcare facilities, and places of worship. Measuring from property line to property line removes ambiguity and allows residents, property owners, and applicants to understand the requirement consistently. Maryland's drug-free school-zone laws recognize the importance of protecting the areas surrounding schools. The County should apply that same basic principle when deciding where cannabis dispensaries may operate. Including places of worship is also important. Many churches currently operate K–12 schools, and others may establish schools or expand youth programs in the future. These properties regularly serve children throughout the week and deserve appropriate protection that would currently be 1000' as required by Maryland Drug Free School zones. Because this clear measurement language was not incorporated into the broader Article 18 update in Bill 61-26, Bill 62-26 is necessary. I do believe the zoning language should be corrected simply to describe property line to property line on all issues requiring similar measured distances to eliminate all ambiguity and loopholes. This would also eliminate embarrassing mistakes made by zoning in verification letters. I respectfully ask the Council to support and pass Bill 62-26. Sincerely, Michael Stumpvoll Pasadena, Maryland	
Bill No. 63-26											

Timestamp	First name	Last name	City	State	Zip Code	Are you representing yourself?	If no, what organization or whom do you represent?	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachments
2026-09-20 23:50:01	Brenda	Cintron	Hanover	MD	21076	Yes		Bill No. 63-26: AN ORDINANCE concerning: Zoning – Data Storage Center	Support	I am an Anne Arundel County resident and homeowner, and I am writing in support of Bill 63-26. I recently started paying more attention to the growth of large data centers after seeing what has happened in other communities. What concerns me isn't only the data centers themselves, but everything that can come with them, additional power demands, transmission lines and substations, noise, water use, and the potential impact on nearby homes and neighborhoods. Residents in our area are already dealing with concerns about pollution and potentially harmful emissions from existing industrial activity. Airport noise, Route 100 highway noise it's directly behind our homes etc. I believe we need to consider what communities are already living with before adding another major industrial use. I also don't believe protecting one neighborhood should mean moving these developments into lower-income communities or places where residents may have fewer resources to fight them. Every Anne Arundel County resident deserves the same consideration when it comes to their health, their home, and their quality of life, regardless of their ZIP code or income. I understand that technology and infrastructure are necessary, but growth should not come at the expense of the people who already live here. Especially if we are going to give them 90% tax breaks, paying more for our utilities to support their data centers. The owners of these companies are not thinking of the residents only their pockets but we elected our county representatives to protect our resources, communities and homes. I support Bill 63-26 and a cautious approach to future data center development that protects our communities, our environment, and the people who call Anne Arundel County home. I would have preferred to support a bill that banned data centers but this bill is a good start. Thank you for considering my comments.	
2026-09-21 11:00:00	Lauren	Greacen Gygax	Takoma Park	Maryland	20912	No	Chesapeake Clin	Bill No. 63-26: AN ORDINANCE concerning: Zoning – Data Storage Center	Support		https://www.aacounty.org/system/files/webform/cc_legislative_testimony/107118/legislative-testimony-bill-63-26.pdf
Bill No. 65-26											

Timestamp	First name	Last name	City	State	Zip Code	Are you representing yourself?	If no, what organization or whom do you represent?	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachments
2026-09-21 9:59:29	Dominik	Prokop	Annapolis	MD	21401	Yes		Bill No. 65-26: AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Ethics – Campaign Contribution Disclosure and Comprehensive Zoning Integrity Act	Oppose	My name is Dominik Prokop. I am a District 6 resident and former Democratic candidate for Anne Arundel County Council. I have read both Bill 23-26 and Bill 65-26 in full, and I am submitting this testimony to identify two specific gaps/issues in Bill 65-26 that I respectfully urge the Council to address before this bill is passed. Issue 1 - The Definition of "Covered Person" Is Too Narrow Bill 23-26 expressly included within its definition of "property owner" the developer's: Spouse, Parents, Siblings, Children, Attorneys, Engineers, Land-use consultants, Traffic consultants and traffic engineers, Registered lobbyists. Bill 65-26 defines "covered person" to include the applicant, associated property owners, certain officers and principals, controlling entities, managing agents, and controlled political committees. Spouses, parents, siblings, and children are not included. Neither are outside attorneys, engineers, consultants, or lobbyists - unless they independently qualify under another provision. This is not a theoretical gap. It is an exploitable loophole. A developer with a pending rezoning application who cannot personally contribute can have their spouse write the check. Their attorney can write the check. Their lobbyist can write the check. Under Bill 65-26, none of those contributions are expressly prohibited simply because of the relationship to the developer. Under Bill 23-26, all of those people were expressly covered. The question the Council should answer on the record is this: if those relationships were important enough to include in the original bill, why were they removed from the Bill 65-26? My request: Restore the broader definition from Bill 23-26. Include spouses, parents, siblings, children, and the professional agents - attorneys, engineers, consultants, and lobbyists. Close this loophole before it is used. Issue 2 - The 12-Month Lookback Period Is Not Long Enough Bill 65-26 requires disclosure of contributions made during the preceding 12 months at the time of application. Bill 23-26 used a two-year lookback period. This difference matters enormously in practice. Development applications in Anne Arundel County are not resolved quickly. Major subdivisions, planned unit developments, and comprehensive rezonings routinely take two, three, or more years from initial filing to final approval. A developer who made significant contributions 13 months before filing - just outside the 12-month window - would have no disclosure obligation under Bill 65-26. Those contributions would be invisible to the public and to the Ethics Commission. But those contributions may have been made in direct anticipation of the application that is now pending. Twelve months does not capture that reality. The development industry understands timelines better than most. A 12-month lookback is a window narrow enough to be planned around. My request: Restore the two-year lookback period from Bill 23-26. It is a reasonable and practical protection that reflects how long these processes actually take in Anne Arundel County. Conclusion These two issues - the narrow definition of covered person and the shortened lookback period - are not minor technical details. They are the difference between a bill that genuinely closes the door on developer influence and one that leaves it open just enough to matter. Residents have been watching this issue since Bill 23-26 was defeated in April. They are watching again now. I respectfully urge the Council to amend Bill 65-26 to: 1.Restore the broader "covered person" definition to include spouses, family members, and professional agents as Bill 23-26 did 2.Extend the lookback period from 12 months to two years These two amendments would make this a bill Anne Arundel County residents can genuinely trust. Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.	

Timestamp	First name	Last name	City	State	Zip Code	Are you representing yourself?	If no, what organization or whom do you represent?	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachments
Bill No. 66-26											
2026-09-20 19:16:41	Alyssa	Rosales	Linthicum	Maryland	21090	Yes		Bill No. 66-26: AN ORDINANCE concerning: Public Ethics – Enforcement – County Council	Oppose		
Resolution No. 27-26											
2026-09-14 16:51:35	Cameron	Wilson	Annapolis	MD	21403	Yes		Resolution No. 27-26: RESOLUTION approving the application of Joan Stockett to sell an agricultural land preservation easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation on 64.66 acres in Lothian, Maryland	Oppose	I reached out to the County Executive's office on September 11 regarding the Agricultural Easement purchase resolutions and did not receive a response that would address my concerns about these legislative actions. Therefore, I am opposed to these resolutions. I understand that the intent is to preserve agricultural land in the County/State. However, from my experience working in Estate Planning ad recording Deeds, 9 times out of 10, homeowners with ag exemptions do not perform agricultural activity on the land receiving such exemptions and they lie on their Declarations of Intent and Agricultural Use Assesments signed under penalties of perjury. Most often, the strategy is to call the County office and social engineer them to tell them what the previous owner filled out and copy the acreage and crops to keep the same exemption after transfer. In fact, I have had an owner state that their neighbor offered to give them a cancelled check for \$2,500 for purchasing hay to show the county if they ever ask about the requirement to make that minimum in gross annual farm revenue for the exemption. My question is whether the executive has done their due diligence in the four specific properties being proposed which the tax payer is being asked to pay for, and in perpetuity will pay for in lost property tax revenue, to ensure that these are being used and will be used for legitimate agricultural purposes. Does the executive ever send assessors to all these properties with \$2M houses in south county with 20 acres of lawn that is ag exempt and penalize them pursuant to the violation of their signed Declarations of Intent? Will the executive properly enforce FMA and FCMA compliance, or like most of such agreements will a copy never be given to the land owner and the land owner will say to law offices that the forester writes it up every 3/5 years and puts it in a drawer somewhere? According to the BLS, for household wealth, measured as the value of the assets of all household members minus debt, the median total for all family farm households was \$1.4 million, compared with the median of \$200,662 for all U.S. households. In 2024, the median income from farming was \$174,933 for households operating commercial family farms, and their median total household income was \$261,149. If we are going to hand over more cash to wealthy private "farm" owners, and allow them to then pay pennies on the dollar in property tax on that acreage each year in the future, what are the enforcement activity being undertaken to ensure the supposed public purposes are being met and the responsibilities being adhered to by the landowner, which is the executive's responsibility?	
Resolution No. 28-26											

Timestamp	First name	Last name	City	State	Zip Code	Are you representing yourself?	If no, what organization or whom do you represent?	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachments
2026-09-14 16:51:59	Cameron	Wilson	Annapolis	MD	21403	Yes		Resolution No. 28-26: RESOLUTION approving the application of Elizabeth Bonner to sell an agricultural land preservation easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation on 60 acres in West River, Maryland	Oppose	I reached out to the County Executive's office on September 11 regarding the Agricultural Easement purchase resolutions and did not receive a response that would address my concerns about these legislative actions. Therefore, I am opposed to these resolutions. I understand that the intent is to preserve agricultural land in the County/State. However, from my experience working in Estate Planning ad recording Deeds, 9 times out of 10, homeowners with ag exemptions do not perform agricultural activity on the land receiving such exemptions and they lie on their Declarations of Intent and Agricultural Use Assesments signed under penalties of perjury. Most often, the strategy is to call the County office and social engineer them to tell them what the previous owner filled out and copy the acreage and crops to keep the same exemption after transfer. In fact, I have had an owner state that their neighbor offered to give them a cancelled check for \$2,500 for purchasing hay to show the county if they ever ask about the requirement to make that minimum in gross annual farm revenue for the exemption. My question is whether the executive has done their due diligence in the four specific properties being proposed which the tax payer is being asked to pay for, and in perpetuity will pay for in lost property tax revenue, to ensure that these are being used and will be used for legitimate agricultural purposes. Does the executive ever send assessors to all these properties with \$2M houses in south county with 20 acres of lawn that is ag exempt and penalize them pursuant to the violation of their signed Declarations of Intent? Will the executive properly enforce FMA and FCMA compliance, or like most of such agreements will a copy never be given to the land owner and the land owner will say to law offices that the forester writes it up every 3/5 years and puts it in a drawer somewhere? According to the BLS, for household wealth, measured as the value of the assets of all household members minus debt, the median total for all family farm households was \$1.4 million, compared with the median of \$200,662 for all U.S. households. In 2024, the median income from farming was \$174,933 for households operating commercial family farms, and their median total household income was \$261,149. If we are going to hand over more cash to wealthy private "farm" owners, and allow them to then pay pennies on the dollar in property tax on that acreage each year in the future, what are the enforcement activity being undertaken to ensure the supposed public purposes are being met and the responsibilities being adhered to by the landowner, which is the executive's responsibility?	
Resolution No. 29-26											

Timestamp	First name	Last name	City	State	Zip Code	Are you representing yourself?	If no, what organization or whom do you represent?	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachments
2026-09-14 16:52:14	Cameron	Wilson	Annapolis	MD	21403	Yes		Resolution No. 29-26: RESOLUTION approving the application of Kilian Kagle to sell an agricultural land preservation easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation on 110.459 acres in Lothian, Maryland	Oppose	I reached out to the County Executive's office on September 11 regarding the Agricultural Easement purchase resolutions and did not receive a response that would address my concerns about these legislative actions. Therefore, I am opposed to these resolutions. I understand that the intent is to preserve agricultural land in the County/State. However, from my experience working in Estate Planning ad recording Deeds, 9 times out of 10, homeowners with ag exemptions do not perform agricultural activity on the land receiving such exemptions and they lie on their Declarations of Intent and Agricultural Use Assesments signed under penalties of perjury. Most often, the strategy is to call the County office and social engineer them to tell them what the previous owner filled out and copy the acreage and crops to keep the same exemption after transfer. In fact, I have had an owner state that their neighbor offered to give them a cancelled check for \$2,500 for purchasing hay to show the county if they ever ask about the requirement to make that minimum in gross annual farm revenue for the exemption. My question is whether the executive has done their due diligence in the four specific properties being proposed which the tax payer is being asked to pay for, and in perpetuity will pay for in lost property tax revenue, to ensure that these are being used and will be used for legitimate agricultural purposes. Does the executive ever send assessors to all these properties with \$2M houses in south county with 20 acres of lawn that is ag exempt and penalize them pursuant to the violation of their signed Declarations of Intent? Will the executive properly enforce FMA and FCMA compliance, or like most of such agreements will a copy never be given to the land owner and the land owner will say to law offices that the forester writes it up every 3/5 years and puts it in a drawer somewhere? According to the BLS, for household wealth, measured as the value of the assets of all household members minus debt, the median total for all family farm households was \$1.4 million, compared with the median of \$200,662 for all U.S. households. In 2024, the median income from farming was \$174,933 for households operating commercial family farms, and their median total household income was \$261,149. If we are going to hand over more cash to wealthy private "farm" owners, and allow them to then pay pennies on the dollar in property tax on that acreage each year in the future, what are the enforcement activity being undertaken to ensure the supposed public purposes are being met and the responsibilities being adhered to by the landowner, which is the executive's responsibility?	
Resolution No. 30-26											

Timestamp	First name	Last name	City	State	Zip Code	Are you representing yourself?	If no, what organization or whom do you represent?	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachments
2026-09-14 16:52:31	Cameron	Wilson	Annapolis	MD	21403	Yes		Resolution No. 30-26: RESOLUTION approving the application of Chad B. Baldwin and Rebecca J. Rose to sell an agricultural land preservation easement to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation on 55.04 acres in Lothian, Maryland	Oppose	I reached out to the County Executive's office on September 11 regarding the Agricultural Easement purchase resolutions and did not receive a response that would address my concerns about these legislative actions. Therefore, I am opposed to these resolutions. I understand that the intent is to preserve agricultural land in the County/State. However, from my experience working in Estate Planning ad recording Deeds, 9 times out of 10, homeowners with ag exemptions do not perform agricultural activity on the land receiving such exemptions and they lie on their Declarations of Intent and Agricultural Use Assesments signed under penalties of perjury. Most often, the strategy is to call the County office and social engineer them to tell them what the previous owner filled out and copy the acreage and crops to keep the same exemption after transfer. In fact, I have had an owner state that their neighbor offered to give them a cancelled check for \$2,500 for purchasing hay to show the county if they ever ask about the requirement to make that minimum in gross annual farm revenue for the exemption. My question is whether the executive has done their due diligence in the four specific properties being proposed which the tax payer is being asked to pay for, and in perpetuity will pay for in lost property tax revenue, to ensure that these are being used and will be used for legitimate agricultural purposes. Does the executive ever send assessors to all these properties with \$2M houses in south county with 20 acres of lawn that is ag exempt and penalize them pursuant to the violation of their signed Declarations of Intent? Will the executive properly enforce FMA and FCMA compliance, or like most of such agreements will a copy never be given to the land owner and the land owner will say to law offices that the forester writes it up every 3/5 years and puts it in a drawer somewhere? According to the BLS, for household wealth, measured as the value of the assets of all household members minus debt, the median total for all family farm households was \$1.4 million, compared with the median of \$200,662 for all U.S. households. In 2024, the median income from farming was \$174,933 for households operating commercial family farms, and their median total household income was \$261,149. If we are going to hand over more cash to wealthy private "farm" owners, and allow them to then pay pennies on the dollar in property tax on that acreage each year in the future, what are the enforcement activity being undertaken to ensure the supposed public purposes are being met and the responsibilities being adhered to by the landowner, which is the executive's responsibility?	



Kaley Schultze <ccschu24@aacounty.org>

Testimony request

3 messages

Chris Pedersen [REDACTED]

Mon, Sep 21, 2026 at 12:11 PM

To: "ccschu24@aacounty.org" <ccschu24@aacounty.org>

Good afternoon Miss Schultz,
I sincerely apologize; I missed the 11 a.m. cutoff for testimony and was hoping you could send this out to council members before tonight's meeting. I know you are probably slammed but I truly appreciate any help you could give.

I strongly support the current amended version of Bill 61-26, particularly the provisions that allow recovery residences and group homes as permissible uses across the County's residential zoning districts.

I believe the current version of Bill 61-26 is an important step toward bringing Anne Arundel County's zoning code into greater alignment with those federal protections while still allowing the County to enforce legitimate building, fire, health, and safety requirements.

For people in recovery and people living with disabilities, access to housing should not depend on whether a particular neighborhood or community is comfortable with who they are. Federal protections under the Fair Housing Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act exist for a reason: people with disabilities, including many individuals in recovery from substance use disorders, are entitled to equal access and cannot be singled out through discriminatory zoning practices.

As a provider operating residential behavioral health and recovery services in Anne Arundel County, I strongly support having clear, predictable zoning rules that treat recovery residences and group homes fairly and allow these homes to exist throughout our communities rather than being pushed into limited areas simply because of the population they serve.

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Sincerely,
Chris Pedersen

Executive Vice President

Evolve Life Centers
2528 Mountain Road
Suite 201
Pasadena, MD 21122



This e-mail may contain confidential information. It should not be shared with anyone other than the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete this e-mail and notify the sender.

Kaley Schultze <ccschu24@aacounty.org>

Mon, Sep 21, 2026 at 12:13 PM

To: Chris Pedersen [REDACTED]

Hi Chris,

I will share it with the Council and add it to the record for tonight. Thank you.

Kaley

[Quoted text hidden]

Kaley Schultze <ccschu24@aacounty.org>

Mon, Sep 21, 2026 at 12:14 PM

To: Kaley Schultze <ccschu24@aacounty.org>

Cc: Pamela Groves <ccgrov26@aacounty.org>, Meredith Beach <ccbeac24@aacounty.org>

Bcc: Peter Smith <ccsmit23@aacounty.org>, Linda Harris <ccharr00@aacounty.org>, Allison Pickard

<ccpick33@aacounty.org>, Kristin Etzel <ccetze33@aacounty.org>, Nathan Volke <ccvolk33@aacounty.org>, Sara Gannon

<ccgann33@aacounty.org>, Julie Hummer <jhummer@aacounty.org>, Brian Kemmet <bkemmet@aacounty.org>, Amanda

Fiedler <ccfied33@aacounty.org>, Pam Scarbro <ccscar00@aacounty.org>, Lisa Rodvien <lisa.rodvien@aacounty.org>,

Courtney Buiniskis <ccbuin24@aacounty.org>, Shannon Leadbetter <sleadbetter@aacounty.org>, Jessica Ewing

<jewing@aacounty.org>

Good afternoon Council,

Please see the testimony below. Thank you.

Kaley

[Quoted text hidden]

Bill 61-26

1 message

Hunter Messineo [REDACTED]

Mon, Sep 21, 2026 at 11:31 AM

To: jhummer@aacounty.org, petersmith@aacounty.org, allison.pickard@aacounty.org, nathan.volke@aacounty.org, amanda.fiedler@aacounty.org, lisa.rodvien@aacounty.org, Shannon Leadbetter <SLeadbetter@aacounty.org>, ccschu24@aacounty.org

Dear Council Member,

Bill 61-26 is being presented as an update to the County's zoning code, but its implications for farms and agritourism businesses are far more significant than simple housekeeping. The legislation makes numerous changes, including definitions, permitted and conditional uses, accessory uses, structures, and other zoning requirements.

For Anne Arundel County's farmers, these are not simply words in a zoning code. **They affect how farms survive.**

Farming today is incredibly challenging. Weather, labor, insurance, equipment, land costs, and other operating expenses continue to put pressure on family farms. Agritourism has become an important way for farms to diversify their income while keeping agricultural land in production.

Agritourism is not separate from farming. **It is an extension of farming.**

Pick-your-own operations, farm stands, farm stores, farmers' markets, educational programs, farm-to-table meals, seasonal festivals, and community events provide opportunities for farms to generate additional income while introducing our community to agriculture and helping preserve working farmland.

Anne Arundel County has already recognized the importance of agricultural diversification. The County's current Agricultural and Woodland Preservation Program recommendations specifically identify increased flexibility for agricultural activities, including agritourism, as a potential way to strengthen agricultural preservation.

That makes it especially important that new zoning regulations do not unintentionally move us in the opposite direction.

My concern with Bill 61-26 is that additional restrictions, definitions, approval requirements, and regulatory discretion could create uncertainty and additional costs for farms that are simply trying to remain viable. A large commercial development and a family farm offering a seasonal event, educational program, farm stand, or other agricultural activity should not be treated the same. They have completely different needs and impacts.

If Anne Arundel County wants to preserve its farms and farmland, it must allow those farms to remain economically sustainable.

Once a family farm is no longer financially viable, we cannot simply replace it. Agricultural land that is lost to development is extraordinarily difficult, if not impossible, to recover.

I respectfully ask the County Council to **vote NO on Bill 61-26** and take the time necessary to work directly with farmers, agricultural organizations, and agritourism businesses to develop legislation that supports—not restricts—the future of agriculture in Anne Arundel County.

Please listen to the people who are operating these farms and businesses. Give them a meaningful seat at the table before imposing additional regulations that could affect their livelihoods.

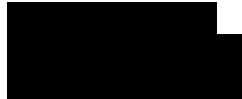
Our farmers are already working hard to preserve open space, produce local food, educate our children, and maintain the agricultural character of our county.

They need support, not additional barriers.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to Anne Arundel County.

Sincerely,

Hunter Messineo



Agent for



EQUINE INSURANCE

MD #3994959929

Re: Member Alert: Public Hearing on Anne Arundel County Bill 61-26

1 message

Nathan Volke <ccvolk33@aacounty.org>

Mon, Sep 21, 2026 at 9:32 AM

To: Hayley Bowerman <info@pasadenabusinessassociation.com>

Cc: nathan.volke@aacounty.org, cecs@aacounty.org, Kaley Schultze <ccschu24@aacounty.org>

Hi Hayley, sharing this with Kaley so she can add it to the public record. Thanks, Nathan

Sent from my mobile device. Please excuse typos.

Nathan Volke
Anne Arundel County Councilman
District 3
Nathan.Volke@aacounty.org

Sara Gannon
Legislative Aide - District 3
ccgann33@aacounty.org
410-222-2413

Visit my blog for up to date information:

<https://www.aacounty.org/departments/county-council/councilmembers/district-3>

** Communications with the County Council office, County Council Member or Legislative Aide become part of the public domain and may be subject to disclosure under the Maryland Public Information Act or the Anne Arundel County Charter - www.aacounty.org

On Mon, Sep 21, 2026 at 9:14 AM Hayley Bowerman <info@pasadenabusinessassociation.com> wrote:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Truck of Deliciousness** <truckofdeliciousness@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Sep 20, 2026 at 10:54 PM

Subject: Re: Member Alert: Public Hearing on Anne Arundel County Bill 61-26

To: Pasadena Business Association <info@pasadenabusinessassociation.com>

Good evening I am not able to make the meeting but I would like my voice to be heard. As this would certainly hurt our business as a food truck.

Testimony on Bill 61-26

Good evening, Councilmembers. My name is Chris Robertson, and I own and operate Truck of Deliciousness Food Truck & Catering here in Anne Arundel County.

I've been a food truck business owner in this community for over 13 years. I'm asking you to reconsider the proposed restrictions on food trucks in Bill 61-26. Specifically the limit of three operating days per week and the 7 AM to 8 PM operating hours.

I absolutely understand the County's responsibility to regulate businesses. Food trucks should be safe, sanitary, properly inspected, and respectful of the communities where they operate. I have no problem with reasonable regulations that address actual concerns like traffic, parking, noise, fire safety, sanitation, or public safety.

My concern is that this bill places a blanket restriction on an entire industry without accounting for the very different ways food trucks operate.

My business does everything from breakfast events and corporate catering to weddings, festivals, private parties, neighborhood events and evening food-truck events. A breakfast truck and an evening food truck don't operate the same way. A food truck operating at a private event isn't the same as one operating every day at a busy commercial location.

My business also isn't simply a food truck sitting in one location every day. We travel to different communities, businesses, private events and venues throughout Anne Arundel County. A three-day-per-week limitation could mean turning down legitimate work simply because of the day of the event. Even when that event has no negative impact on the surrounding community.

For example, if we have a Monday corporate employee appreciation event, a Wednesday private party, a Friday neighborhood event and a Saturday festival, the proposed three-day limit could force us to turn down one of those events. Not because there is a safety, traffic, noise or sanitation problem, but simply because we've already operated three days that week.

The County is already requiring mobile food vehicles to comply with health requirements and undergo Fire Marshal inspection, including requirements involving propane, fire suppression, electrical systems and cooking equipment.

So I would respectfully ask what specific problem is the three-day limit intended to solve?
Why three days? What evidence shows that operating more than three days creates a problem?
And why 7 AM to 8 PM for every food truck, regardless of the type of business or location?

If the concern is noise, then regulate noise. If the concern is traffic, regulate traffic. If the concern is parking, establish reasonable parking requirements. If the concern is operating near residential areas, establish reasonable setbacks.

But limiting every food truck in the County to three days a week and 7 AM to 8 PM may restrict legitimate businesses that aren't creating any of those problems.

Food trucks are small businesses. I thought Anne Arundel County was the best place for all? Why are food truck businesses excluded from the county's motto? We also don't operate like a traditional brick and mortar business open all year long. Most food trucks make their money from the spring to fall. You would greatly impact our ability to survive as a business.

I'm not asking the County to eliminate regulation. I'm asking the County to make the regulations targeted toward actual impacts rather than imposing a blanket limit on every food truck.

At a minimum, I would ask the Council to remove or reconsider the three-day restriction and the blanket 7 AM to 8 PM restriction, can you produce the data and reasoning that led to those specific limits.

I would also ask the Council to clearly explain how the new requirements will affect food trucks that are already legally operating in Anne Arundel County.

Thank you for your time.

Chris Robertson

[REDACTED]

www.truckofdeliciousness.com

On Sun, Sep 20, 2026 at 9:01 PM Pasadena Business Association <donotreply@chambermate.com> wrote:



BILL 61-26

This 239 Page Bill Packed As A Zoning Modernization
Actually Threatens Our Quality of Life

Anne Arundel County Zoning Overhaul Highlights



1. AGRICULTURE & AGRITOURISM

- New restrictions on farm stands, events & value-added activities
- Extra conditions and minimum lot sizes
- More hurdles for family farms to diversify income



2. SMALL/HOME BUSINESSES

- Sweeping changes to permitted uses & zoning rules
- Increased uncertainty & regulatory burden
- Higher costs and delays for independent operators



3. FOOD TRUCKS

- Limited to only 3 days per week
- Hours restricted to 7 AM – 8 PM
- Severe location limits in residential & mixed-use areas

Harder to operate & stay profitable.

TESTIFY MONDAY SEPT 21

6 PM • ARUNDEL CENTER, 44 Calvert Street, Annapolis, MD



Protect our agriculture, small/home businesses, food trucks, and the overall quality of life for residents of District 7 and Anne Arundel County.

Speak up before the vote!

Dear PBA Members,

The Pasadena Business Association is closely following Anne Arundel County Bill 61-26, a proposed update to the County's zoning code. The County Council will hold a public hearing on the amended bill **Monday, September 21, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.** at the Arundel Center, [44 Calvert Street](#) in Annapolis.

This proposal covers a wide range of land uses. We are concerned about its potential effects on small and home-based businesses, food trucks, farms, and agritourism operations. Before the Council acts, members should have an opportunity to explain how the proposed rules would affect their work.

For example, the amended bill would limit food truck operations to three days per calendar week and hours between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. It would also place conditions on where food trucks may operate in residential, mixed-use, and open-space districts. Other provisions revise standards for agricultural activities and change zoning requirements that may affect businesses across the county. The practical impact will depend on each business and its location, which makes firsthand input especially valuable.

We encourage you to review the [amended Bill 61-26](#) and share any concerns with the County Council. You can:

1. **Attend and testify on September 21.** [Register through the County Council's meeting participation page](#). Online registration closes at **3:00 p.m. Monday**, and spoken testimony is limited to **two minutes per person**. You may also submit written testimony through the County's process.
2. **Contact your councilmember or the County Executive.** The [County Council website](#) provides councilmember contact information. Pasadena is represented by District 3 Councilmember Nathan Volke, who can be reached at nathan.volke@aacounty.org or **410-222-2413**. County Executive Steuart Pittman's office can be reached at CECS@aacounty.org or **410-222-1821**.

Whether you testify or write, specific examples will help councilmembers understand how a proposed requirement could affect your hours, customers, events, property, or plans for growth.

Our local businesses and farms are an essential part of Anne Arundel County's economy and community life. Thank you for taking the time to review this proposal and make your voice heard.

Sincerely,

Pasadena Business Association

SIGN UP TO TESTIFY

Pasadena Business Association

PO Box 861

Pasadena, Maryland 21122

(410) 360-4722

<https://www.pasadenabusinessassociation.com/>

[Unsubscribe](#)



Hayley Bowerman

Executive Director

E: info@pasadenabusinessassociation.com |

[pasadenabusinessassociation.com](https://www.pasadenabusinessassociation.com)

[f](#) [@](#) | Join The PBA

September 20, 2026

Anne Arundel County Council
44 Calvert St.
Annapolis MD 21401

Dear Madam Chair and Council Members,

The Anne Arundel County Agriculture Commission met Thursday the 17th day of September 2026, at which time we voted unanimously to respectfully request that the Council vote “no” on Bill 61-26 so that critical stakeholders of Anne Arundel County (such as the Agriculture Commission) may further study this 239-page bill.

This bill, as written at the time of this meeting, may impose potentially unintended and onerous restrictions on locally owned small businesses including family farms, food trucks, kennels, landscape businesses, new and existing businesses seeking certificates of use, and overnight lodging while paving the way for large-scale telecommunications companies.

It is an extraordinarily comprehensive bill and one that deserves public awareness, including county commissions and advisory boards review, town hall meeting(s), solicitation of feedback, and understanding of any/all impacts to the residents, farmers, business owners, and employees of Anne Arundel County.

Without comprehensive and thorough understanding of the intended and unintended consequences of Bill 61-26, there is a greater possibility for error, missed needs, and lack of clarity as to the social, financial, and economic impact on the county itself as well as all stakeholders who work, live, and recreate in Anne Arundel County.

To support our County Executives’ mission of Anne Arundel County being the ***Best Place for All***, we hereby request a pause in the process of this bill. This will provide the time for transparent processes, fiduciary responsibility, and for prudent review, discussion, analysis, and for the potential introduction of additional reflective amendments, of and to Bill 61-26 by informed stakeholders of Anne Arundel County.

Respectfully,

Anna Chaney
Chair, Anne Arundel County Agriculture Commission





September 21, 2026

Anne Arundel County Council
44 Calvert Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Opposition to Bill 61-26 Recovery Residence Provisions

Dear Members of the County Council:

On behalf of Project Chesapeake, I respectfully ask the Council not to adopt the recovery-residence provisions of Bill No. 61-26 in their current form. Project Chesapeake supports recovery housing, access to behavioral health treatment, and the right of people with substance use disorders to live in communities free from discrimination. Our concern is not with residents in recovery. It is with eliminating reasonable oversight of the commercial operators that control their housing.

As amended, Bill 61-26 would make recovery residences permitted uses throughout every residential zoning district in Anne Arundel County. The bill also changes related zoning protections affecting group homes and behavioral health facilities. Those changes risk treating fair-housing compliance as a reason to remove ordinary safeguards concerning an operator's identity, occupancy and capacity, concentration of commonly controlled properties, parking, life safety, and whether a property is actually functioning as housing rather than as part of a larger treatment enterprise.

Federal law does not require that result. The Fair Housing Act protects individuals with disabilities from discriminatory land-use practices, but it does not displace local zoning authority. Joint guidance from the U.S. Departments of Justice and Housing and Urban Development recognizes that local governments may enforce nondiscriminatory zoning requirements, impose legitimate health-and-safety standards, and consider reasonable-accommodation requests based on the facts of each case. The appropriate objective is equal housing opportunity with reasonable, neutral oversight - not unrestricted operation. That distinction is especially important in the substance-use-disorder system. Maryland defines a recovery residence as alcohol- and drug-free housing that does not include clinical treatment services. Yet housing can become intertwined with an affiliated outpatient program. When the same or related organizations control both housing and treatment, a resident may have little practical freedom to select a provider, change



providers, step down from an unnecessary level of care, or stop treatment without jeopardizing housing.

This is not a theoretical regulatory concern. The State's proposed 2026 revisions to COMAR 10.63 would expressly prohibit a certified recovery residence from conditioning housing on participation in another licensed behavioral health program or an affiliated business. The Behavioral Health Administration's licensing process also requires outpatient providers to disclose associated housing and affiliated organizations receiving housing referrals. Those measures reflect the need to preserve a genuine separation between recovery housing and reimbursable clinical services, particularly where Medicaid or another third-party payer funds the treatment.

Anne Arundel County should retain a reasonable mechanism to confirm who operates a recovery residence, how many residents it houses, whether required State certification exists, whether commonly controlled properties are concentrated in one area, and whether housing is being used to channel residents into an affiliated outpatient program. These are safeguards directed at operators and business practices, not at the disability of the people who live there.

We therefore respectfully request that the Council remove or defer the recovery-residence provisions of Bill 61-26 and develop more tailored language that protects residents from discrimination while preserving neutral oversight of recovery-residence operators. Project Chesapeake would welcome the opportunity to work with the County, residents, advocates, treatment providers, and recovery-housing operators on a lawful and workable framework.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joseph Rogers

Chief Executive Officer

Project Chesapeake



September 21, 2026

The Honorable Julie Hummer, Chair
Anne Arundel County Council
44 Calvert Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Bill 63-26, Zoning – Data Storage Center - POSITION: UNFAVORABLE

Dear Chair Hummer and Members of the Council,

On behalf of the Maryland Tech Council (MTC), I write to respectfully oppose Bill 63-26. MTC is Maryland's largest technology and life sciences trade association, representing over 800 member companies spanning companies across Maryland's innovation economy, including many of the technology, defense, and cybersecurity employers that make Anne Arundel County their home.

Bill 63-26 removes data storage centers from every district in which the County Code allows them today and repeals the conditional use standards the County adopted for the BWI/Fort Meade Growth Area. In practice, it is a permanent prohibition on new data centers in Anne Arundel County, and it would eliminate the potential to significant local revenue and jobs.

Anne Arundel's position is unique in Maryland. Fort Meade is one of the largest military installations in the country and the largest single employer in the state, with more than 64,000 jobs. It supports more than 190,000 direct, indirect, and induced jobs and more than \$13 billion in annual wages, and it is home to the National Security Agency, U.S. Cyber Command, and the Defense Information Systems Agency. Around it, the County has built an ecosystem of more than hundreds of technology companies and tens of thousands of technology professionals. That ecosystem depends on secure computing located close to the mission. Bill 63-26 exempts facilities owned and operated by a government for its own use, but not the commercial and contractor facilities that serve the defense and intelligence community. Those facilities would be forced to locate elsewhere, and the employers who rely on them will factor that into where they grow next.

The revenue at stake is substantial. The Office of the Budget's fiscal note reports no effect on revenues, but it acknowledges that a zoning bill prohibiting development may affect future property tax revenues and permitting fees. That future revenue is exactly what this bill dismisses, and recent Maryland analyses show its scale. Sage Policy Group studied a single 800,000 square foot, 300 megawatt facility in Prince George's County and found it would generate nearly \$20 million in county tax revenue each year and about \$17 million for the State. The real property tax alone would exceed what 1,800 median-priced homes pay, and the county total is enough to fund 175 police officers annually. In Frederick County, an HR&A Advisors estimates that the Frederick Digital Campus will generate about \$215 million a year for the County at full buildout, equal to 16 percent of the County's FY2025 budget. Anne Arundel does not need a campus of that size to benefit. A single facility in the Growth Area would add a commercial tax base that eases pressure on residential taxpayers while placing little demand on schools and county services.



MARYLAND TECH COUNCIL

ADVANCING LIFE SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

The jobs follow the same pattern. The Prince George's County facility would support more than 4,800 jobs during construction, most of them in the building trades, with compensation averaging about \$72,000. Once operating, it would directly employ about 100 people in management, engineering, and security, with pay approaching \$100,000, and support more than 300 jobs statewide.

We understand that residents have raised questions about noise, water use, backup generator emissions, and the effect of new demand on the electric grid. We are not asking the Council to set those questions aside. We ask the Council to recognize that it already holds the authority to answer them. The conditional use standards in Section 18-10-124 exist because the County chose to direct this use to the part of the county built for it and to attach conditions to it. The Council can update those standards to ensure that any data center choosing to locate in Anne Arundel is designed and operated in a way that minimizes its impact on the surrounding community. That path protects residents and keeps the County open to investment. A repeal does neither, instead moving projects, their tax base, and jobs, elsewhere in the region.

MTC and its members would welcome the opportunity to work with the Council standards that fit Anne Arundel County. For these reasons, we respectfully urge an unfavorable vote on Bill 63-26.

Respectfully,

Kelly M. Schulz
Chief Executive Officer