



*Gregory J. Swain, County Attorney*

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Council Members, Anne Arundel County Council

**From:** Christine B. Neiderer, Senior Assistant County Attorney /s/

**Through:** Gregory J. Swain, County Attorney /s/

**Date:** June 6, 2022

**Subject:** Bill No. 59-22, Adoption of the Anne Arundel County 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan

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### Legislative Summary

This summary was prepared by the Anne Arundel County Office of Law for use by members of the Anne Arundel County Council during consideration of Bill No. 59-22.

**Background.** Section 5-905(b)(2) of the Natural Resources Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland requires a local governing body to revise its land preservation, parks and recreation plan (“LPPRP”) at least every 5 years and submit the revised local plan to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (“MDNR”) and the Maryland Department of Planning (“MDP”) for joint approval. The regular update of the LPPRP is a prerequisite for county participation in Maryland’s Program Open Space (POS) Local.<sup>1</sup>

As part of the process to update the County’s LPPRP, the Department of Recreation and Parks (“R&P”) conducted a web based survey from March 6, 2021, through May 15, 2021, to

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<sup>1</sup> In 2008, pursuant to Bill No. 33-08, the the Anne Arundel County 2006 Land Preservation, Parksand Recreation Plan (“2006 LPPRP”) was added as an amendment to the 1997 General Development Plan and to the documents listed under § 18-2-103(a) of the County Code used to guide future development of land, and the location of public services and facilities in the County. In 2013, pursuant to Bill No. 17-13, Council approved and adopted the 2013 LLPRP, which superseded the 2006 LPPRP. Per Bill No. 21-18, § 18-2-103(a) of the County Code was amended to delete certain plans from the list of documents, including the LPPRP, and replaced the list of guide documents with a “catch-all” provision that now refers to “all current master plans, concept plans, preservation plans, and management plans adopted by the County Council.” The County Council most recently approved and adopted the 2017 LPPRP pursuant to Bill No. 58-18, which superseded the 2013 LPPRP.

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

obtain citizen input on the topics of land acquisition for recreation and open space purposes, as well as the development, condition, and safety of County park and recreation facilities. R&P also conducted nine (9) virtual town hall meetings, including one with each County Councilmember and focusing on their respective Council district, to discuss the County’s recreational, agricultural, and conservation needs.

R&P subsequently prepared an update of its land preservation, parks and recreation plan entitled “Anne Arundel County 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan” (“2022 Plan”), using the 2022 State of Maryland Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan Guidelines. The 2022 Plan was posted online and copies were made available at thirty-three (33) parks, senior activities centers, and branch libraries throughout the County to provide an opportunity for comments. In addition, R&P met with the Planning Advisory Board, the Recreation Advisory Board, and the Citizens Environmental Commission to solicit feedback on the 2022 Plan. The 2022 Plan was also submitted to MDNR and MDP for comments.

**Purpose.**

**Section 1** repeals the 2017 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan.

In **Section 2** of the Ordinance, Council approves the Anne Arundel County 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan.

**Sections 3** provides that the Anne Arundel County 2022 Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan is incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth, and requires that certified copy of the Plan shall be permanently kept on file with the Administrative Officer to the County Council and the Office of Planning and Zoning (“OPZ”).

**Section 4** provides that the Ordinance shall take effect 45 days from the date it becomes law.

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

Thank you.

cc: Honorable Steuart Pittman, County Executive  
Matthew Power, Chief Administrative Officer  
Dr. Kai Boggess-de Bruin, Chief of Staff  
Peter Baron, Legislative Liaison  
Steve Kaii-Ziegler, Planning and Zoning Officer  
Jessica Leys, Director of Recreation and Parks  
Chris Trumbauer, Budget Officer