



STAFF REPORT ON PROPOSED LEGISLATION

To: Mayor Gavin Buckley

From: Jacqueline Guild, Deputy City Manager for Resilience & Sustainability

Date: April 22, 2021

Subject: O-14-21, Resilience Authority of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County

Ordinance 14-21 establishes the Resilience Authority of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County. It provides for articles of incorporation and their amendment, establishes its powers and authority, provides for the composition, terms and removal of Resilience Authority members, and the duties, compensation, and appointment of the Resilience Authority Director and Chief Financial Officer, provides for the issuance of bonds by the Resilience Authority, and requires an annual report concerning the activities and financial position of the Resiliency Authority O-14-21 shall take effect immediately upon its passage, contingent upon Anne Arundel County enacting enabling legislation of its own establishing the Resilience Authority within 120 days of O-14-21 becoming law.

The purpose of O-14-21 is to undertake and support resilience infrastructure projects in the City of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County to avoid and mitigate the effects of climate change upon the environmental, economic, and cultural assets of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County, their respective transportation, stormwater, wastewater treatment, drinking water and energy infrastructures, and the quality of life of their residents. In pursuit of this goal, the Resilience Authority may acquire and lease property for resilience projects, establish, construct, alter, improve, equip, repair, maintain, operate, and regulate resilience infrastructure, receive money, charge and collect fees for its services and support its bond issuances, hire employees and consultants, and engage the services of other governmental units. The Resilience Authority will raise the funds necessary to bridge the delta between City and County funds available currently and in the future, through current funding mechanisms, for resilience infrastructure construction and improvements. In the City alone, such infrastructure is estimated in the range of \$80 to \$100 million by 2050 to avoid and mitigate climate change impacts if immediate and significant global actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions do not occur.

The Resilience Authority consists of 12 members. Nine shall be residents of Anne Arundel

County, appointed by the County Executive, and three members shall be residents of the City of Annapolis, appointed by the Mayor. Non-voting advisors to the Resilience Authority from the City include the Directors of the Departments of Public Works, Emergency Management, and Planning & Zoning. Note that the Deputy City Manager for Resilience & Sustainability is not included. Since this position was created to ensure that resilience is woven into all City services, projects, and initiatives, I recommend that this position be included as a non-voting advisor in the Membership section of O-14-21 (2.58.040A.5.). Non-voting advisors from the County are the Directors of Public Works, Emergency Management, and the County Planning and Zoning Officer. The County staff does not include an equivalent position to the City's Deputy City Manager for Resilience & Sustainability.

In the Powers section at 2.58.080B. (6), the ordinance states that the Resilience Authority has the power to “*have* employees and consultants as it considers necessary;” (emphasis added). Recommend that the word “hire” replace the word “have” to effect the intent of this power.

“Drought” should be included in the definition of “climate change” in the Definitions section at 2.58.010C.

Impact on Staff: Staff from the Departments of Planning & Zoning, Public Works, and Emergency Management, and the City Manager's office will spend significant time in preparing necessary information concerning infrastructure projects to submit to the Resilience Authority and in participating as non-voting advisors to the Resilience Authority. However, is not expected that fulfilling these responsibilities will require additional staff.

Prepared by: *Jacqueline Guild, Deputy City Manager for Resilience & Sustainability*

