

City of Annapolis Planning Commission Department of Planning & Zoning 145 Gorman Street, 3rd Floor

Annapolis, MD 21401-2535

410-263-7961 • Fax 410-263-1129 • www.annapolis.gov
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April 15, 2015

To:

Annapolis City Council

From:

Planning Commission

Re:

Findings for R-38-14: Forest Conservation Act Fees and Fines

SUMMARY

The proposed legislation establishes fees and fines for the forest conservation act.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

On January 21, 2015, the Planning Commission convened in a public meeting to hear testimony and receive information on R-38-14. The legislation was deferred to the February 5, 2015 meeting.

At the February 5, 2015 meeting, staff from the Department of Neighborhood & Environmental Programs (DNEP) presented their report on the legislation, stating that the proposed fees and fines will capture some of the staff costs associated with forest conservation review and enforcement. There are currently no fees or fines. The DNEP staff spends significant time on reviews and DNEP would like to impose fees consistent with other permit applications.

Attorney Elson presented an amendment to the legislation (as recommended by Alderman Littman) to include a \$250 fee for a Final Forest Conservation Plan. The fee schedule as proposed does not include any fee. The Planning commission by a vote 5-1 moved to approve the amendment.

PUBLIC HEARING AND DELIBERATION

On February 5, 2015, the Planning Commission accepted public testimony on the legislation. Alderman Littman and Alderman Arnett commented on the legislation. The Planning Commission deliberated on the legislation.

RECOMMENDATION

Finally, the Planning Commission voted 5-1 to recommend APPROVAL of R-38-14 as revised to the City Council.

Adopted this 15th day of April, 2015

William Herald, Chair