



City of Annapolis City Council  
Committee & Commission Referral Action Report

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Date:

To: Jacqueline Lee  
City of Annapolis Office of Law  
Legislative and Policy Analyst

The Maritime Advisory Board (MAB) has reviewed proposed Ordinance O-40-15, with the amendments proposed by Mayor Pantelides and Aldermen Budge and Arnett, and the Board has taken the following action:

Favorable

Favorable with amendments (9-0)

Unfavorable

No Action

Other

Comments:

Commencing with its regular meeting in September, 2015, the MAB reviewed proposed Ordinance O-40-15, and the amendments proposed by Mayor Pantelides, Alderman Budge and Alderman Arnett, during the course of three regular meetings of the MAB. This review included presentations and/or comments by the contract purchasers of 110 Compromise Street (a property affected by the proposed Ordinance), by Aldermen Budge and Arnett, by the current and two previous Directors of Planning and Zoning for the City of Annapolis, and by other interested persons.

At its October, 2015, meeting, the MAB reviewed the history of the WMC zoning, including the purposes thereof, the 1998 Comprehensive Plan, the 2009 Comprehensive Plan, the City Dock Master Plan, and the report of the Maritime Development Subcommittee of the 2014 Mayor's Transition Team.

The purpose of the original WMC ordinance, adopted in 1987, was to “preserve maritime in the heart of downtown” and to be “harmonious with the interrelationship of the historic urban core, the waterfront and adjacent commercial and residential uses.” Subsequent to the adoption of the 1987 maritime zoning, the 1998 and 2009 Comprehensive Plan committees, the City Dock Master Plan committee, and the 2014 Mayor’s Transition Team all recognized the evolving nature of the maritime industry in the City of Annapolis. Each of those bodies, in their own way, recommended that a review of the four maritime zoning districts should be undertaken in a comprehensive, not piecemeal, fashion.

At its October, 2015, meeting, the MAB adopted a motion to recommend a proposed amendment to O-40-15 to include a timely and comprehensive review of the four maritime zones. A draft of proposed language is attached and made a part of this Referral Action Report.

With that additional amendment, the MAB by a vote of 9-0 unanimously recommended the adoption of O-40-15 as amended.

Meeting Date: October 19, 2015

Signature of Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and appears to consist of several loops and a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

AT PAGE 1, LINE 36 OR AFTER AMENDMENT 1, INSERT AS FOLLOWS

WHEREAS, THE 1998 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY “[M]AINTAIN THE EXISTING MARITIME ZONES AND EVALUATE WHETHER ANY CHANGES ARE NEEDED TO STRENGTHEN THE MARITIME INDUSTRY”; AND

WHEREAS, THE 2009 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY “STRIVE TO ENSURE THE MARITIME INDUSTRY’S SUSTAINED HEALTH AND VIABILITY”; AND

WHEREAS, THE 2013 CITY DOCK MASTER PLAN, AS AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2009 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, REQUIRES THAT ANY “REZONING [OTHER THAN WMC] SHOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF A NEW ZONING AND ECONOMIC MARITIME SECTOR STUDY COVERING ALL OF THE CURRENT MARITIME DISTRICTS IN THE CITY; AND

WHEREAS, THE MARITIME ADVISORY BOARD HAS CONSISTENTLY RECOMMENDED THAT ANY CHANGE TO ANY MARITIME ZONE BE UNDERTAKEN AS PART OF A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF ALL MARITIME ZONES; AND

WHEREAS, THE REPORT OF THE MARITIME DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE 2014 TRANSITION TEAM RECOMMENDED A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF MARITIME ZONING.

AT PAGE 5, LINE 11, ADD NEW

THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ZONING SHALL COMMENCE AND COMPLETE ON OR BEFORE MAY 15, 2016, AND IN COOPERATION WITH THE MARITIME ADVISORY BOARD, A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF ALL MARITIME ZONES, AND SHALL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL AS TO WHAT, IF ANY, CHANGES ARE NEEDED TO STRENGTHEN THE MARITIME INDUSTRY AND TO ENSURE THE MARITIME INDUSTRY’S SUSTAINED HEALTH AND VIABILITY.