

RESOLUTION NO. RS-06-016

**ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE TEXT OF THE 2002 COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND**

RECITALS

The Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland (the "Board"), adopted the 2002 Comprehensive Plan for Washington County, Maryland on August 27, 2002, effective August 27, 2002 (hereinafter the "Plan") in accordance with Md. Code, Article 66B, Section 3.07.

The Washington County Planning Commission (the "Planning Commission"), under the provisions of Md. Code, Article 66B, may recommend adoption of any amendment to the Plan.

Amendments to the Plan have been recommended by the Planning Commission and the proposed amendments would adjust the text of the Plan to include more specific references to the Management Plan for the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area.

It is the opinion of the Planning Commission and the Board that the amendments are consistent with the goals and objectives of the Plan.

The Board and the Planning Commission held a joint public hearing for the purpose of taking testimony on the proposed amendments on March 13, 2006 pursuant to public notice duly given as required by Md. Code, Article 66B, Section 3.07.

A copy of the recommended amendments was referred to all adjoining planning jurisdictions, and to all affected State and local jurisdictions that have responsibility for financing or constructing public improvements necessary to implement the Plan.

The Board has considered all recommendations of the Planning Commission, the Planning Staff, those comments received as part of the public hearing before the Planning Commission and the Board, and also reviewed any written communications which were submitted concerning the proposed amendments to the Plan, and the Board conducted this review process in public session(s).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the 2002 Comprehensive Plan for Washington County, Maryland is hereby amended as follows:

CP-06-001

(1) **Chapter 1, Economic Development, is hereby amended as follows:**

Section B.5. is amended to read as follows:

B. Analysis

5. Tourism

Tourism is a major part of the Washington County economy. Unlike other industries it transcends the bounds of the rural and urban areas providing economic opportunities all across the County. Active and passive recreation areas, National and State Parks, restaurants, hotels, outlets and specialty shops, spectator sports, performing arts, museums, and a variety of scenic and historic sites support the tourism industry.

The major non-retail tourism attraction in Washington County is the Antietam National Battlefield. Efforts by the State of Maryland to create a "Civil War Trails" program highlight this attraction as well as other Civil War sites in Washington County. The creation of the South Mountain State Civil War Battlefield should also add to the promotion of the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area of Washington County.

Washington, Carroll and Frederick Counties and their incorporated municipalities have cooperatively developed a management plan for the *Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area*. (See Map 52, Special Program Areas for Boundaries) Certification of the Heritage Area by the Maryland Heritage Area Authority, which includes approval of the management plan, will provide opportunities to promote conservation of historical sites as well as target certain growth area neighborhoods for future investments that promote and support heritage tourism.

(2) Chapter 12, Land Use Plan, is hereby amended as follows:

Section C.5. is amended to read as follows:

C. RECOMMENDATIONS

5. Special Program Areas

Special Program Areas are areas in the County where the federal, state or local governments have established rules or regulations to support specific programs, preservation projects or policies. In these special program areas, additional land use or development restrictions or guidance policies may be encountered. In some cases, direct reference within the Comprehensive Plan is required for participation in a program. Six (6) special program areas have been identified and included as part of the elements of the Land Use Plan. They are: The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area, National Scenic Road, and American Heritage River, Greenways, Rail to Trails and Watershed Areas.

a) The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area

The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area takes in all of the southern part of the County from Hagerstown to Sandy Hook. It includes all the municipalities in the County as well as the Greencastle Pike and Leitersburg Pike corridors. The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area in Washington County is a portion of a larger program being developed in cooperation with Carroll and Frederick Counties as part of the Maryland Heritage Areas Program. The Heritage Areas Program is designed to promote preservation of historic and cultural resources and to encourage heritage tourism.

Certification of the *Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area* by the Maryland Heritage Area Authority is one of two steps that will create the opportunity for government, organizations and citizens to access financial and program development assistance for heritage resource protection and heritage tourism development. Certification of the heritage area is also dependent upon approval of the *Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area* Management Plan.

The second step required to create eligibility for program benefits is the incorporation of the approved Management Plan into the jurisdiction's comprehensive plan. The *Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area* Management Plan, as

approved by the Maryland Heritage Area Authority, is included in Washington County's Comprehensive Plan and shall serve as the guidance document for activities supported by the Heritage Area Program incentives. The boundaries of the Heritage Area and the limits of the jurisdiction of the Management Plan are shown on Map 52, the Special Program Areas Map.

Adopted this 2nd day of May, 2006.

Effective the 2nd day of May, 2006.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

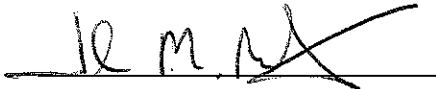


Joni L. Bittner, Clerk



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Approved as to form
and legal sufficiency:



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