**ORDINANCE NO. ORD-2025-**

**AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE WASHINGTON COUNTY CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PLAN**

The Cross Connection Control Ordinance is a Maryland Department of the Environment (“MDE”) mandated requirement that regulates cross connections with the public water system, i.e., connections or arrangements of piping or appurtenances through which water of questionable quality, wastes, or other contaminants can enter the public water system.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland, as follows:

1. Washington County adopts by reference the “Washington County Cross Connection Control Plan”, in conformance with the MDE Cross Connection Regulations under Code of Maryland Regulations Section 26.04.01.32, as may be updated and amended from time to time and which is incorporated herein by reference. Compliance with the manual and the cross-connection program contained therein is hereby required.

2. That it shall be the duty of the County to cause surveys to be made of all properties served by the public water system where cross connections with the public water supply is deemed possible. The frequency of surveys and resurveys based on potential health hazards involved shall be as established by the County as approved by the Division.

3. That the representative of the County shall have the right to enter at any reasonable time any property served by a connection to the public water system of the County for the purpose of surveying the piping system or systems thereof for cross connections. On request, the owner, lessees, or occupants of any property so served shall furnish to the survey agency any pertinent information regarding the piping system or systems on such property. The refusal of such information or refusal of access, when requested, shall be deemed evidence of the presence of cross connection.

4. That the County is hereby authorized and directed to discontinue water service after reasonable notice to any property wherein any connection in violation of this ordinance exists and to take such other precautionary measures deemed necessary to eliminate any danger of contamination of the public water system. Water service to such property shall not be restored until the cross connection(s) has been eliminated in compliance with the provisions of this ordinance.

5. That all testable backflow prevention assemblies shall be tested initially upon installation, repair or relocation to be sure that the assembly is working properly. Subsequent testing of assemblies shall be performed on an annual basis as required by the County and in accordance with Division requirements. Only individuals that are approved and certified by the State of Maryland shall be qualified to perform such testing. That individual(s) shall certify the results of his/her testing.

6. That the potable water supply made available on the properties served by the public water supply be protected from possible contamination as specified by this ordinance and by the state and County plumbing code. Any water outlet which could be used for potable or domestic purposes, and which is not supplied by the potable system must be labeled in a conspicuous manner such as:

WATER UNSAFE FOR DRINKING

7. That this ordinance does not supersede the state plumbing code, and County plumbing ordinance most recently adopted by the County, but is supplementary to them.

8. That any person or customer found guilty of violating any of the provisions of this ordinance or any written order of the County in pursuance thereof, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine for each violation as established by the Board and published each year. An established fee will be applied for each disconnect and reconnect of water service required due to any violations of this ordinance. Each day upon which a violation of the provisions of this act shall occur shall be deemed a separate and additional violation for the purposes of this ordinance.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

Effective the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

ATTEST: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Dawn L. Marcus John F. Barr, President

County Clerk

Approved as to form

and legal sufficiency:

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Zachary J. Kieffer

County Attorney

After recording mail to:

Office of the County Attorney

100 W. Washington Street, Suite 1101

Hagerstown, Maryland 21740