

ORDINANCE NO. ORD-2020-28

**AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A CONSERVATION  
EASEMENT UNDER THE MARYLAND CONSERVATION RESERVE  
ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP)**

*(Re: Zimmerman CREP Easement)*

RECITALS

1. The Maryland Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program ("CREP") is a federal-State natural resources conservation program that addresses state and nationally significant agricultural related environmental concerns related to agriculture.

2. CREP provides financial incentives to program participants to voluntarily remove cropland and marginal pastureland from agricultural production in order to improve, protect, and enhance water quality in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and replacing it with the best management practices including establishment of riparian buffers, grass plantings, forbs, shrubs and trees, stabilization of highly erodible soils, habitat restoration for plant and animal species, and restoration of wetlands.

3. Protection is provided through the acquisition of easements and fee estates from willing landowners currently holding a fifteen (15) year CREP contract and the supporting activities of CREP Sponsors and local governments.

4. For FY2021, the State of Maryland ("State") is awarding CREP grants to eligible Counties (the "CREP Funds").

5. Ronnie R. Zimmerman is the owner of real property consisting of 33.49 acres, more or less, (the "Property") in Washington County, Maryland. The Property is more particularly described on Exhibit A attached hereto.

6. The County has agreed to pay the approximate sum of NINETY-ONE THOUSAND, FOUR HUNDRED NINETY-SEVEN DOLLARS AND SIXTY-SIX CENTS (\$91,497.66), which is a portion of the CREP Funds, to the Property Owner in exchange for a Deed of Conservation Easement on the Property (the "Zimmerman CREP Easement").

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County, Maryland that the purchase of the Zimmerman CREP Easement is approved and that the President of the Board and the County Clerk be and are hereby authorized and directed to execute and attest, respectively, all such documents for and on behalf of the County relating to the purchase of the Zimmerman CREP Easement.

ADOPTED this 1<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2020.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Krista L. Hart, Clerk

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey A. Cline, President

Approved as to legal sufficiency:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
B. Andrew Bright  
County Attorney

Mail to:  
Office of the County Attorney  
100 W. Washington Street, Suite 1101  
Hagerstown, MD 21740

## EXHIBIT A--DESCRIPTION OF EASEMENT AREA

ALL those lots or parcels of land, and all the rights, ways, privileges and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining, situate in Election District No. 5, Washington County, Maryland, being part of the parcel identified by tax account no. 05-010764, and being depicted as CREP CONTRACT EASEMENT Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, and ADDITIONAL EASEMENT AREA on the Plats entitled "CREP EASEMENT PLAT ACROSS THE LANDS OF RONNIE R. ZIMMERMAN LIBER 5128, FOLIO 385" recorded at Plat Folios 822-823 among the Miscellaneous Plat Records of Washington County, Maryland.

BEING part of the property which was conveyed from Beverly L. Zimmerman to Ronnie R. Zimmerman by Deed dated November 15, 2015, and recorded in Liber 5128, folio 385 among the Land Records of Washington County, Maryland.