

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Alfred D. Lott, ICMA-CM, CPM
City Manager

DATE: October 3, 2019

SUBJECT: *Status Report*

Status Report

1. City Ordinance Regarding Fence Height Variances

On Tuesday, the Prince George's County Council approved CR-84-2019, a Resolution approving the City's Ordinance regarding fence height variances. The approval allows the City to grant permits for fences up to six feet in height, typically on corner lots and through lots, without the need for a zoning variance. The City's Ordinance (O-5-19) took effect upon the County's approval.

2. CB-45-2019, Mill Branch Crossing

Today, the Prince George's County Council's Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee reviewed CB-45-2019, a zoning text amendment bill sponsored by Council Chair Todd Turner that will affect the Mill Branch Crossing property. On June 3rd, the City Council conducted a public hearing and chose to support the concept of an amendment that would permit mixed-use development to occur on the vacant, 74-acre property located at US 301/Mill Branch Road, which is currently zoned C-S-C (Commercial Shopping Center). On September 3rd, City Council recommended approval of the proposed legislation. At the PHED Committee today, an attorney representing BJ's Wholesale Club on Ballpark Road raised some general concerns about future residential development being located too close to the business. He pointed out, however, that in the case of Mill Branch Crossing, the business on Ballpark Road is buffered by a conservation parcel and a stream valley, so it is likely that there will be no negative impacts on their store. Committee Vice-Chair Calvin Hawkins moved a FAVORABLE recommendation for CB-45-2019. His motion was seconded by Council Member Derrick Davis and passed by a vote of 4-0-1 (Dernoga abstained). The public hearing on CB-45 will be scheduled before the end of November.

ADL:lfr