

## **Planning Commission of Cecil County**

**November 17, 2025**

### **2025 - 2030 Nuisance Flood Plan**

#### **Nuisance Flood Plan**

Bryan Lightner, Chief of Planning & Zoning, appeared and presented an overview of the plan. This updated plan was prepared by the Division of Planning & Zoning in consultation with the Steering Committee, made up of other various County departments.

The Land Use Article of the annotated Code of Maryland requires the County Council to adopt a Nuisance Flood Plan every five years and file it with the Maryland Department of Planning by October 1<sup>st</sup>. In summary, this plan includes updated information since the original plan was adopted in 2020, specifically, nuisance flooding locations, procedures, and implementation strategies.

The Appendices include inventories of roads and critical facilities that are vulnerable to nuisance, flooding, the current roster of the Steering Committee and the staff of the Department of Land Use & Development Services, and the nuisance flooding location maps.

The towns were more involved in the 2020 review of the plan only because there were not many changes to the flooding locations in the towns.

Through discussion it was discovered that suggestions such as improving the maintenance of stormwater conveyance systems along roads, unclogging pipes, regrading swales, converting some turf grass into trees or forest, and creating retention facilities to help hold water in park areas, the towns can reduce flooding in their areas.. Additionally discussion ensued regarding how the County prioritizes nuisance flooding areas when determining capital improvement projects. Also discussed were that procedures can be improved to better document the flooding events by the County and Towns and sharing that information with each other in hopes of maintaining more specific records. Lastly, discussion ensued regarding how the County and Towns can get grant funding for improvements to critical facilities.

Suggested revision by the Commission were as follows:

Mr. Johnson suggested revising Section 7 to include more credible sources related to predicted flooding; and

Consider presenting a review of the implementation strategies to County Council annually.

Mr. Hicks suggested adding Meadow Park and Howard Street in Elkton to the more frequent flooding in Section E.

#### **WATER & SEWER PLANNING COMMENTS:**

Properties located in the 100-year floodplain and coastal areas are prone to flooding. Onsite well water quality can be exposed to nonpotable water causing water supply to be

contaminated. Onsite septic systems can be saturated with flood waters causing potential sewage discharge onto the ground surface which will flow into local waterways.

1. COMAR 26.04.04.24 discusses disinfection of wells and water supply systems
2. COMAR 26.04.02.05 (E)(3) manufacturers shall certify septic tanks to be watertight and demonstrate how to conduct water tight test through a vacuum test or water pressure test.

COMMENTS IN FAVOR: None.

COMMENTS IN OPPOSITION: None.

Staff recommendation:

Staff recommends the adoption of the 2025-2030 Nuisance Flood Plan.

A motion for the adoption of the 2025-2030 Nuisance Flood Plan with the following revisions was made by Mr. Johnson:

- Section 7 – Include more credible sources related to predicted flooding;
- Section E – Add Meadow Park and Howard Street in Elkton to the more frequent flooding section;
- Consider presenting a review of the implementation strategies to County Council Annually.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Carey.

All approve. Motion carried.

The next meeting for the Nuisance Flood Plan will be Tuesday, December 2, 2025, before the County Council.

### **Subdivision**

**No subdivisions were received for review by the Planning Commission.**

### **Special Exception**

**No special exception applications were received for review by the Planning Commission.**

### **General Discussion**

None.

## **Adjournment**

### **Motion for adjournment**

Motion for adjournment made by Mr. Perry and seconded by Mr. Johnson. All approved.  
Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

NEXT PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING: The next meeting will be on Monday, December 15, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Elk Room at the County Administration Building.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Bakeoven". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer Bakeoven  
Administrative Assistant, Division of Planning & Zoning  
Department of Land Use & Development Services