

RESOLUTION NO. 20-~~38~~

**RESOLUTION AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE WATER AND
SEWERAGE PLAN FOR WORCESTER COUNTY -
TO
ADDRESS WATER AND SEWER GOALS WITH RESPECT TO POINT
SOURCE DISCHARGES**

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners of Worcester County, Maryland adopted a Comprehensive Water and Sewerage plan for the County on August 23, 1994, pursuant to Section 9-503 of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, the Worcester County Commissioners have received a request from Joseph Moore on behalf of Jim Latchum, applicant, to amend the *Comprehensive Water & Sewerage Plan for Worcester County* ("Plan") to clarify when a point source discharge permit to the bays is permissible and include additional language in Section 1.2 ("Water and Sewer Goals"), specifically Section 1.2.2 D ("Protection of the Environment") to provide for consideration of a point source discharge permit to the bays from existing large multi-use septic systems in the critical area. The added language of 1.2.2 D ("Protection of the Environment") will specify that the surface water discharge to the bays may be considered for existing multi-use systems which are located in the critical area, and are not within or adjacent to existing approved sewer planning areas. The added language also provides the clarification that consideration is subject to conditions that include an enhanced level of treatment will be required which will result in a net reduction in nutrient loading to the receiving waterbody, and the proposed discharge cannot contribute to a degradation of the level of impairment on the receiving waterbody; and

WHEREAS, the Worcester County Planning Commission, at its October 1, 2020, meeting, reviewed the proposed amendment to the Worcester County Water and Sewerage Plan and found the proposal consistent with the *Worcester County Comprehensive Plan*; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners held a duly advertised public hearing on December 1, 2020 to consider the request for this requested change and addition of language to amend the *Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan* ; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners reviewed the recommendation of the Planning Commission and staff report, and as a result of their investigation and evaluation of the proposal in accordance with the provisions of Section 9-503 et.seq. of the Environment Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, determined that the proposed amendment to the *Worcester County Comprehensive Water & Sewerage Plan* to clarify when a point source discharge is permissible, is desirable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commissioners of Worcester County, Maryland that:

1. The *Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan for Worcester County* is hereby amended to include additional language in Section 1.2.2 D (“Protection of the Environment”) described as follows with the added text underlined:

1.2.2 D Protection of the Environment

D. To the greatest possible extent, effluent should be discharged through ocean outfalls or treated/disposed on land (but not discharged into coastal bays, regardless of the level of treatment). Long-term discharges into the coastal bays should be prohibited for any new projects. Surface water discharge to the bays may be considered for existing large multi-use systems that do not have a groundwater discharge permit, and are located in the critical area that are not adjacent to or within approved sewer planning areas, subject to the following conditions:

- (i) An enhanced level of treatment will be required resulting in a net reduction in nutrient loading to the receiving waterbody.
- (ii) The discharge cannot contribute to a degradation of the level of impairment on the receiving waterbody.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this proposed amendment to the *Worcester County Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan* shall be forwarded to the Maryland Department of the Environment (“MDE”) for their review and approval in accordance with the provisions of Section 9-507 of the Environmental Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and that this amendment shall be officially incorporated into the *Worcester County Comprehensive Water and Sewerage Plan* upon approval by MDE.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 1ST day of DECEMBER,
2020.

Attest:

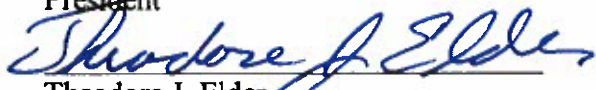


Harold L. Higgins
Chief Administrative Officer

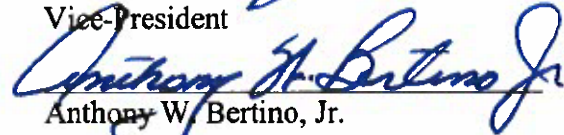
Worcester County Commissioners



Joseph M. Mitreic
President



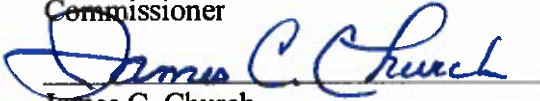
Theodore J. Elder
Vice-President



Anthony W. Bertino, Jr.
Commissioner



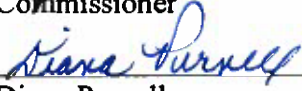
Madison J. Bunting, Jr.
Commissioner



James C. Church
Commissioner



Joshua C. Nordstrom
Commissioner



Diana Purnell
Commissioner