RESOLUTION NO. 59-2020

Title of Resolution: Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway – Zoning Regulations

Synopsis: A Resolution to request that the Planning and Zoning Division to develop zoning regulations for scenic byways; and to request the extension of the Chesapeake County Scenic Byway to begin at Long Creek on Augustine Herman Highway.

Introduced by: Council President Meffley

Introduced and ordered posted on: September 1, 2020

Public Hearing scheduled on: October 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Consideration scheduled on: October 20, 2020

By: ____________________________________________
   Council Manager

PUBLIC HEARING

Notice of time and place of public hearing and title of Resolution, having been posted by (date) at the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elkton, Maryland, and having been published, according to the Charter on (date), a public hearing was held on (date) and concluded on (date).

By: ____________________________________________
   Council Manager

EXPLANATION:


Strike through indicates language deleted from existing Resolution

Underlining indicates language added to Resolution by Amendment

Double Strike Through indicates language stricken out of Resolution by Amendment.
WHEREAS, the United States Congress established the National Scenic Byway program in 1991 to preserve and protect the nation’s scenic, but often less-traveled roads, and to promote tourism and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Transportation recognizes a road as a National Scenic Byway for its intrinsic qualities of archeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational and scenic qualities; and

WHEREAS, under the Maryland Department of Transportation, Maryland Scenic Byways were established including Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway in 1998, and a national scenic byway in 2002; and

WHEREAS, under the national and state scenic byway program, a corridor management plan must be developed to identify the corridor boundaries, land use qualities, strategies to maintain and enhance while preserving the intrinsic qualities of the corridor; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway Alliance, a partnership of Cecil, Kent and Queen Anne’s Counties prepared the corridor management plan for the Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway in July 2001; and

WHEREAS, Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway begins at the Chesapeake City bridge over the C&D Canal and follows Augustine Herman Highway, MD Route 213, through Cecil County and into Kent County and Queen Anne’s County, where it terminates in Stevensville MD; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway was a joint effort of the Departments of Tourism and Business Development and Planning and Zoning of Cecil, Kent and Queen Anne’s Counties; and

WHEREAS, the County Council of Cecil County, Maryland, “Council”, received a request from the Chesapeake Country Byway Alliance on February 12, 2020, to support an application to expand the Chesapeake Country National Scenic Byway to become an All American National Road; and

WHEREAS, the Council requested the Chesapeake Country Byway Alliance to designate that the northern gateway of this scenic byway should begin at the intersection of the Augustine Herman Highway, MD Route 213, with Long Creek; and
WHEREAS, the Town of Chesapeake City has also requested that the northern gateway of the Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway be extended to include the scenic approach to the C&D Canal Bridge at the intersection of Augustine Herman Highway, MD Route 213, with Long Creek; and

WHEREAS, the Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan was never officially adopted by Cecil County Government; and

WHEREAS, the Council is seeking to officially incorporate the Chesapeake Country Scenic Byway and corridor management plan into the Cecil County Zoning ordinance so that adequate zoning regulations can be considered, as to ensure the intrinsic quality of the region.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Cecil County Planning and Zoning Division of the Department of Land Use and Development Services shall develop zoning regulations for scenic byways by July 1, 2021.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND, that Cecil County Government shall pursue State Scenic Byway officials to request the extension of the Chesapeake County Scenic Byway so that it can begin at the intersection of Long Creek on Augustine Herman Highway, MD Route 213, in order that the visual approach to the C&D Canal Bridge can be preserved in natural beauty.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND, that all provisions of this Resolution shall take effect on the date the Resolution is adopted by the Council.

INTRODUCED: September 1, 2020

ADOPTED: ____________________

__________________________
President of the Council

ATTEST:

__________________________
Council Manager