

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND
LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2023-08**

RESOLUTION NO. 26-2023

Title of Resolution: Enterprise Zone – Re-designate

Synopsis: A Resolution to re-designate the existing Cecil County Enterprise Zone for an additional 10 years. The Enterprise Zone provides real property and income tax credits to businesses located within the designated geographic area. The proposed Zone is comprised of 8,140+/- acres.

Introduced by: Council President on behalf of the County Executive

Introduced and order posted on: April 18, 2023

Public Hearing schedule on: May 9, 2023 at 7:00 pm

Consideration scheduled on: May 16, 2023

By: _____
Council Manager

Notice of time and place of public hearing and title of Resolution having been posted by April 18, 2023 at the County Administrative Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd, Elkton, and having been published according to the Charter on April 19, 2023 and April 26, 2023, a public hearing was held on May 9, 2023 and concluded on May 9, 2023.

By: _____
Council Manager

Explanation: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING ORDINANCE.
~~Strike through~~ indicate matter deleted from existing ordinance.
Underlining indicates language added by amendment.
~~Double Strike through~~ indicates language deleted by amendment.

RESOLUTION NO. 26-2023
Enterprise Zone – Re-designate

1 **WHEREAS**, Maryland’s Enterprise Zone Tax Credit Program is a joint effort between the State and local
2 governments to provide tax incentives to businesses and property-owners located in economically distressed
3 communities; and

4 **WHEREAS**, the Cecil County Enterprise Zone is set to expire on June 14, 2023, thus eliminating an
5 important economic development tool for the County and the towns of Port Deposit, Perryville, North East and
6 Elkton; and

7 **WHEREAS**, The Cecil County Office of Economic Development desires to have the current Enterprise
8 Zone re-designated to allow existing businesses in Cecil County and prospective new businesses to utilize
9 incentives provided under Maryland’s Enterprise Zone Tax Credit Program for an additional 10 years; and

10 **WHEREAS**, The primary benefits to businesses that are located within an Enterprise Zone are eligibility
11 for local property tax credits and State income tax credits; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Eligible businesses in an enterprise zone may claim a ten-year credit against local real
13 property taxes on a portion of real property improvements. The credit is 80 percent of the assessment increase
14 during the first five years. The credit then decreases 10 percent annually thereafter to 30 percent in the tenth
15 year; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Eligible businesses in an enterprise zone may claim one-year or three-year credits for wages
17 paid to new employees in new positions. The general income tax credit is a one-time \$1,000 credit per new
18 worker. For economically disadvantaged employees, the income tax credit increases to a total of \$6,000 per
19 worker distributed over three years. Businesses claim the enterprise zone income tax credits on the 500CR form
20 when they submit their business or individual income tax returns to the Comptroller; and

21 **WHEREAS**, The Enterprise Zone is an important incentive for the County to access to encourage existing
22 businesses to expand and attracting new businesses to locate within Cecil County.

23 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Resolution shall take effect on the date of its passage by the
24 County Council of Cecil County, Maryland.

INTRODUCED: April 18, 2023

ADOPTED: June 6, 2023

President of the Council

ATTEST:

Council Manager