



AERIAL RENDERING OF DOWNTOWN COLUMBIA

# Downtown Columbia News

March 17, 2016

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The Downtown Columbia Plan provides recommendations about its future redevelopment by continuing the evolution of Downtown Columbia into a mixed-use urban center supported by a variety of open spaces and amenities in a pedestrian-friendly environment.

Visit the [website](#) to read the Plan.

### DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AGREEMENT & JOINT RECOMMENDATIONS ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Howard Research and Development Corporation (HRD) has submitted to the County Executive a petition to negotiate and execute a Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreement for Downtown Columbia. The purpose of the DRRA is to ensure the development of Downtown Columbia fulfills the vision in the Downtown Columbia Plan. Click [here](#) to read the letter submitted to the County Executive.

The County Council had requested that HRD work with the Columbia Downtown Housing Corporation to develop joint recommendations to realize the full spectrum of housing required by the Downtown Columbia Plan. The organizations have submitted Draft Joint Recommendations to Howard County. To view the document, click [here](#).

On March 11, 2016, the County Executive proposed amendments to the Downtown Columbia Plan and PlanHoward 2030 to address affordable housing in Downtown Columbia. Subsequently, the Department of Planning and Zoning announced a Planning Board Hearing scheduled for April 14, 2016 at which the Planning Board will consider the Executive's proposal as well as the proposal which Councilwoman Jen Terrasa submitted in October, 2015.

### [County Executive Kittleman's General Plan Amendment](#)

Councilwoman Terrasa's General Plan Amendment and Zoning Regulations Amendment, [ZRA-162](#)

The Director of Planning and Zoning has submitted a Zoning Regulation Amendment for affordable housing in Downtown Columbia, [ZRA-170](#).

### [Planning Board Schedule](#)

MERRIWEATHER DISTRICT AREA 3  
DRAWING

All of the documents are posted on the [Howard County Council's Affordable Housing in Downtown Columbia webpage](#). This webpage will be updated with additional information and materials as they are received.

### MARY KAY SIGATY

Howard County Council, District 4  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
(410) 313-2001

✉ [mksigaty@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:mksigaty@howardcountymd.gov)