



February 24, 2021

Senate Bill 650

Workgroup to Evaluate the Establishment of a Regional Waste Disposal Facility

Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Position: FAVORABLE

The Anne Arundel County Administration supports the development of comprehensive waste disposal solutions for the Baltimore region. According to population forecasts published by the Baltimore Metropolitan Council, the region's population is expected to increase by about 9% between 2020 and 2045.¹ This increasing population will generate more municipal waste of all kinds, and will likely require additional disposal capabilities that have yet to be designed.

The Administration welcomes the opportunity to be part of the workgroup tasked with designing these solutions. As participants on this workgroup, we will endeavor to ensure that such solutions do not burden communities with pollution for generations to come, but minimize potential environmental and human health impacts. We will also work with other workgroup members to thoroughly evaluate environmental justice and equity impacts on any potentially affected community. Finally, we will insist upon solutions that focus on recycling, reuse, composting and the advancement of zero waste principles.

For all these reasons, the Anne Arundel County Administration requests a **FAVORABLE** vote on SB 650.

¹ Baltimore Metropolitan Council, 2020. Round 9A Cooperative Forecasts available at: https://baltometro.org/sites/default/files/bmc_documents/general/community/demo-and-socio-forecasting/Round-9A_Jurisdictional.pdf.