

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND  
Legislative Session 2008, Legislative Day No. 3

Bill No. 6-08

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Councilmembers Kamenetz, Moxley, Olszewski, Bartenfelder, Oliver & Gardina

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By the County Council, February 4, 2008

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A BILL  
ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Zoning Regulations - Museums

FOR the purpose of permitting museums to be located as a matter of right in the R.C. zones of the County; defining a museum; and generally relating to museums in R. C. zones.

BY adding

Section 101, the definition of “museum”

Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, as amended

BY adding

Section 402D

Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, as amended

1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE  
2 COUNTY, MARYLAND, that Section 101, the definition of “museum”, be and it is hereby added  
3 to the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, as amended, to read as follows:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.  
[Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.  
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from bill.  
Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

1 Section 101 - Definitions.

1 MUSEUM - A BUILDING OR BUILDINGS SERVING AS A REPOSITORY FOR A  
2 COLLECTION OF NATURAL, SCIENTIFIC, HISTORIC, ARTISTIC, OR LITERARY OBJECTS  
3 DESIGNED TO BE VIEWED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, WHICH COLLECTION HAS  
4 AN APPRAISED VALUE IN EXCESS OF TWENTY MILLION DOLLARS. THE FOLLOWING  
5 ACTIVITIES ARE INCLUDED IN THE DEFINITION OF A MUSEUM: ACQUISITION,  
6 CONSERVATION, DOCUMENTATION, STUDY, EXHIBITION, AND EDUCATIONAL  
7 INTERPRETATION OF SUCH OBJECTS.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that Section 402D be and it is hereby  
9 added to the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, as amended, to read as follows:

10 SECTION 402D. MUSEUMS IN R.C. ZONES.

11 A MUSEUM IS PERMITTED BY RIGHT IN ANY R.C. ZONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
12 THIS SECTION. IF A CONFLICT ARISES BETWEEN THIS SECTION AND OTHER  
13 SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THESE ZONING REGULATIONS, THIS SECTION SHALL  
14 GOVERN.

15 1. THE PROPERTY ON WHICH A MUSEUM IS TO BE LOCATED MUST BE 200  
16 ACRES OR MORE AND MAY HAVE ANY COMBINATION OF R.C. ZONING.

17 2. A MUSEUM INCLUDES ANY OFFICES OR OTHER SPACE NECESSARY TO  
18 CONDUCT ACTIVITIES THAT ARE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE DEFINITION OF  
19 MUSEUM AND MAY INCLUDE A CARETAKER OR CURATOR QUARTERS, EITHER  
20 WITHIN THE MUSEUM ITSELF OR IN A SEPARATE HOUSE. ADDITIONALLY, A  
21 MUSEUM MAY INCLUDE ACCESSORY USES FOR THE ACCOMMODATION OF ITS

1 PATRONS ON THE PREMISES DURING MUSEUM HOURS PROVIDED THE AREA OF ALL  
2 SUCH ACCESSORY USES ~~OCCUPY~~ OCCUPIES NO MORE THAN 15% OF THE TOTAL  
3 SQUARE FOOTAGE OF ~~ALL MUSEUM~~ THE EXISTING BUILDINGS.

4 3. BUILDINGS USED FOR MUSEUM PURPOSES MAY BE BUILT TO A MAXIMUM  
5 HEIGHT OF 50 FEET.

6 4. THE REMAINDER OF THE PROPERTY, OUTSIDE OF THE ENVELOPE FOR THE  
7 MUSEUM USE, ~~MAY~~ SHALL BE USED FOR FARM OR COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURAL  
8 USES, INCLUDING ACCESSORY USES OR STRUCTURES SUCH AS TENANT HOUSES, OR  
9 FOR OPEN SPACE USES.

10 5. A MUSEUM MAY INCLUDE THE OUTDOOR DISPLAY ~~OR~~ OF SCULPTURE OR  
11 OTHER ARTWORK.

12 6. NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 450, A MUSEUM IS  
13 PERMITTED ONE ~~FREESTANDING OR~~ MONUMENT SIGN WITH A SURFACE AREA OF  
14 NO MORE THAN 25 SQUARE FEET PER SIDE AND A MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF 6 FEET.  
15 THE SIGN SHALL BE INTEGRATED WITH THE LANDSCAPING, AND THE LOCATION  
16 SHALL BE APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF PLANNING. THE SIGN  
17 ~~SHALL NOT BE INTERNALLY ILLUMINATED UNLESS APPROVED BY THE ZONING~~  
18 ~~COMMISSIONER AFTER A HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 402D.8 BELOW.~~  
19 WILL NOT BE INTERNALLY ILLUMINATED.

20 7. A MUSEUM SHALL PROVIDE AT LEAST 25 BUT NOT MORE THAN 65 OFF-  
21 STREET PARKING SPACES. ALL OFF-STREET PARKING SPACES SHALL BE SCREENED  
22 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BALTIMORE COUNTY LANDSCAPE MANUAL.

1           8. A MUSEUM SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC NO EARLIER THAN 10:00 A.M.  
2 ~~AND NO LATER THAN 9:00 P.M., AND THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PATRONS PERMITTED~~  
3 ~~AND NO LATER THAN 6:00 P.M. A MAXIMUM OF SIX DAYS PER WEEK. THE TOTAL~~  
4 ~~NUMBER OF PATRONS PERMITTED IN THE MUSEUM AT ANY ONE TIME SHALL BE~~  
5 LIMITED TO 125.

6           ~~9. NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 307, THE ZONING~~  
7 ~~COMMISSIONER, THROUGH A SPECIAL HEARING, MAY APPROVE A MODIFICATION~~  
8 ~~OF ANY OF THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS UPON A FINDING THAT THE PROPOSED~~  
9 ~~MUSEUM MEETS THE STANDARDS OUTLINED IN SECTION 502.1.~~

10           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that this Act shall take effect 45 days  
11 after its enactment.