A RESOLUTION of the Baltimore County Council requesting the Planning Board to recommend to the County Council the manner in which open space waiver fees may be used to meet the County’s local open space needs as those needs are identified in the Baltimore County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan.

WHEREAS, the County Council has previously requested the Planning Board to develop a comprehensive formula for the manner of establishing local Open Space waiver fees (Resolution 44-13); and

WHEREAS, the Council requested that, in devising such a formula, the Planning Board “identify the open space needs of the County with the goal of using waiver fees to meet those needs”; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board’s response, delivered to the Council on April 27, 2015, was to recommend that the Council “consider an increase in Local Open Space Waiver Fees”; and

WHEREAS, on February 7, 2015, the Council approved an update to the Baltimore County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan (Resolution 6-15); and

WHEREAS, Master Plan 2020 is the overarching County policy on the management of growth and development and the conservation of resources, including open space, that contribute to livability within the County; and

WHEREAS, the Plan contains a detailed analysis of the County’s open space needs, including an analysis of the process that permits a developer to pay a fee to the Open Space Revenue Account in lieu of providing open space; now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, by the County Council of Baltimore County, Maryland, that the Baltimore County Planning Board is requested to review the Master Plan 2020 and Baltimore County Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan and to recommend to the County Council the manner in which open space waiver fees, or fees in lieu, may be utilized to meet the County’s local open space needs as those needs are identified in Master Plan 2020 and the County’s Land Preservation, Parks and Recreation Plan; and be it further

RESOLVED, that, in order to complete the requested review, the Planning Board is requested to establish an advisory committee composed of representatives of the Departments of Planning and Permits, Approvals, and Inspections, and Recreation and Parks, NeighborSpace of Baltimore County, Inc., the Home Builders Association of Maryland, Maryland Building Industry Association, the Baltimore County Land Trust Alliance, and a representative, selected by the County Council, from the Baltimore County Bar Association Real Property Committee and State, Local Laws and Zoning Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Planning Board is requested to submit a report to the County Council on or before April 30, 2016.