



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL
Park and Planning Commission

POSITION STATEMENT

Bill: HB 0007 - Housing Innovation Pilot Program and Housing Innovation Fund – Establishment (Housing Innovation Pilot Program Act of 2024)

Position: Support

Date: January 30, 2024

Contact: Debra Borden, General Counsel

Jordan Baucum Colbert, Government Affairs Liaison

Dear Chair Marc Korman and Vice Chair Regina T. Boyce,

The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC or “the Commission”) has voted to support. The Commission respectfully requests that the Environment and Transportation Committee consider this information and include it in the record.

What this Bill Does. This bill will establish a matching low- or no-interest loan fund for local housing authorities to develop mixed-income, cross-subsidized housing when providing a dollar-to-dollar match.

Investment in Housing is Critical: The Commission strongly supports the goal of this bill. State-wide we are experiencing a housing crisis and critically need to develop additional housing throughout the state. Our public housing authorities are key partners in the development of deeply affordable housing. With an aging public housing stock, it is even more critical that we continue to invest in the redevelopment and new construction of mixed-income communities.

Matching Funds Clarification: While many large public housing authorities are able to self-finance projects, many smaller authorities across the state obtain project funding from various sources. We request the Sponsor consider clarifying the bill’s language, including on page 4 at lines 7-8 and 19-20, such that the dollar-to-dollar match may be from any source to ensure that these funds are leveraged fully throughout the state.

For these reasons, the Commission requests this committee vote to support HB 0007.