



City of Frostburg

Todd Logsdon
Mayor

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*Interim City Administrator
Deputy City Administrator*

Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair
Senator Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice-Chair
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: *Senate Bill 461: Environment - Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund - Renaming and Alterations – FAVORABLE W/ AMENDMENTS*

February 11, 2025

Dear Chairman Feldman and Committee Members:

On behalf of the City of Frostburg, I humbly write this letter in support of Senate Bill 461; entitled: Environment - Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund - Renaming and Alterations and offer the following friendly amendments.

As originally written, Senate Bill 461, would rename the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund. This legislation would also alter the conditions under which the Maryland Water Quality Improvement Revolving Loan Fund may be used to include supporting certain projects. Finally, it would require the Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration to prioritize certain communities and to use a certain scoring system when creating a certain intended use plan.

As you may know, the City of Frostburg's system is a Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) system - meaning our sewers were combined with our storm water. The State declared this was an environmental problem and declared all systems that are CSOs must be corrected. In 2003, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) created a consent decree with the City of Frostburg and since then, the City has been correcting this issue using state funds to do it through the Maryland Water Quality Revolving Loan Fund.

In 2019, the State expanded eligible projects under this revolving fund. When this change occurred, the City of Frostburg dropped to the bottom of the priority list and nearly stopped receiving funding to complete the projects that the State was mandating us to complete.

While we support this legislation and its legislative intent, we're requesting this committee to respectfully consider our proposed amendments. We believe these friendly amendments would satisfy the City's ongoing environmental obligations, pursuant to our existing consent decree with MDE, while satisfying the bill's provisions, under § 9-1601 (2)(II) (1.)(C.). Most importantly, this adjustment would potentially increase Frostburg's standing on the priority list for funding.

It is for these reasons that the City of Frostburg respectfully requests this committee to support SB461, with our proposed amendments (below).

Thank you for your consideration and if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office at any time.

Sincerely,



Todd J. Logsdon, *Mayor*
City of Frostburg

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS:

On page 6, lines 8-11. We seek to make the following additions to these provisions to read, as follows:

“(II) REVIEWS AND CONSIDERS APPLICATIONS THAT WERE PREVIOUSLY DENIED OR RECEIVED A REDUCED PRIORITY AND THAT INCLUDED PROJECTS THAT:

- 1. ALIGNED WITH THE STATE’S LAWS, CONSENT DECREES, AND GOALS INVOLVING:”**