



Prince George's County Municipal Association

An Association of 27 Municipalities



March 25, 2024

The Honorable Marc Korman, Chair
Environment and Transportation Committee
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Support for HB 372 - Prince George's County Gateway Development Authority Sunset Repeal

Position: SUPPORT

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceeding Committee,

On behalf of Prince George's County Municipalities, I write in strong support of HB0372, which would repeal the sunset provision for the Prince George's Gateway Development Authority.

The Gateway Development Authority, established through Chapters 466 and 467 of the Acts of 2023, has proven to be a vital economic development tool for Prince George's County. This legislation ensures the Authority can continue its important work without an arbitrary end date.

Key reasons to support this legislation:

1. **Continuity of Development:** Removing the sunset provision allows for long-term planning and implementation of development projects crucial to the county's economic growth.
2. **Economic Stability:** The Authority serves as a cornerstone for attracting investment and managing development projects that benefit local municipalities.
3. **Municipal Partnership:** The Authority has demonstrated effective collaboration with local municipalities, supporting coordinated development efforts that benefit our communities.
4. **Project Sustainability:** Long-term development projects require stable oversight and management, which this legislation ensures by removing the sunset provision.

Recent amendments to the Authority's structure through SB0659 (2024) have already strengthened its operational framework by:

- Requiring minimum quarterly meetings
- Establishing support from the Prince George's County Redevelopment Authority
- Enhancing coordination with the Department of Housing and Community Development

For those reasons, PGCMA respectfully urges a favorable report **for HB372**.

Sincerely,

Celina Benitez

Celina Benitez, Mayor Mt. Rainier
PGCMA President