



POSITION STATEMENT

Bill: SB 552/HB 1452 Economic Development - Prince George's County Suitland Development Authority – Established

Position: Support with Amendments

Date: March 5, 2026

Contact: Debra Borden, General Counsel

Jordan Baucum Colbert, Senior Government Affairs Analyst

Dear Chair Pamela Beidle,

The Prince George's County Planning Board has voted to support this bill.

What this bill Does. This bill establishes a Suitland Development Authority in Prince George's County. It requires the Authority to support and develop a certain neighborhood revitalization plan in coordination with certain residents. It also authorizes the Authority to modify certain boundaries, subject to a certain vote. The bill requires the Authority to take certain actions regarding the finances of the Authority. The bill exempts the Authority from certain taxation or assessments under certain circumstances.

M-NCPPC's Vested Interest. The Commission has a vested interest in the growth and economic development of Suitland, Maryland.

In January 2025, the M-NCPPC Prince George's County Planning Department together with consultant firm Designing Local and the M-NCPPC Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County, invited residents and stakeholders to participate in a community design charette to identify ways to shape the future of cultural arts in Suitland. The three-day charette for the Suitland Cultural Arts Implementation Strategy took place over the course of three days at the Suitland Community Center in District Heights, MD. Through fast-paced, collaborative

sessions, charette participants were able to provide input on new and existing spaces where creative arts and placemaking projects can enhance the community. This study identified Suitland as a priority location for cultural and economic development. It also aims to leverage cultural arts as a driver for community revitalization, economic growth, and placemaking.

Amendment to Include M-NCPPPC on the Development Authority Board. Establishing a Suitland Development Authority will increase economic development and allow the Commission elected officials and community members to continue efforts to grow the Suitland area. As discussed with the bill sponsor, the Commission respectfully requests a friendly amendment to include “**M-NCPPPC, Prince George’s County Planning Board Chairman or designee**” to be added to the list of authority board members.

Recommended Amendment

(A) A BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL MANAGE THE AUTHORITY AND 15 EXERCISE ITS POWERS. 16 (B) THE BOARD CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

- **Add:** (15) “The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Prince George’s County Planning Board Chairman or designee”

We therefore urge this committee to vote favorably with amendments on this bill.