Bill No. 5 -2010

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

AN ACT adopting the International Building Code, 2009, the International Residential Code, 2009, the International Mechanical Code, 2009, and the International Energy Conservation Code, 2009; providing that such codes collectively comprise the Howard County Building Code; regulating the design, construction, alteration, improvement, or modification of a building, structure, or other related equipment; adopting certain local amendments to the Building Code; adopting penalties for the violation of the Building Code; adopting the 2009 edition of the National Standard Plumbing Code Illustrated and the National Fuel Gas Code (NFPA 54-2009), as the Plumbing and Gasfitting Code for Howard County; regulating the design, construction, alteration, improvement, or modification of plumbing and gasfitting systems; adopting local amendments to the Plumbing and Gasfitting Code; altering the period certain types of plumbing permits remain in effect; making certain technical corrections; and generally relating to building and construction regulations in Howard County.

Introduced and read first time _________________, 2010. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order ______________________

Stephen LeGendre, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on _________________, 2010.

By order ______________________

Stephen LeGendre, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on __________, 2010 and Passed ____, Passed with amendments _____, Failed ________.

By order ______________________

Stephen LeGendre, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this ____ day of __________, 2010 at ___ a.m./p.m.

By order ______________________

Stephen LeGendre, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive _________________, 2010

Ken Ulman, County Executive

NOTE: [text in brackets] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.
**Section 1. Be It Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that
Section 3.100. “Howard County Building Code; adoption of international codes”,
Section 3.101 “Amendments to the International Building Code, 2006 Edition”, Section
3.102 “Amendments to the International Residential Code, 2006 Edition”, Section 3.103
“Amendments to the International Mechanical Code, 2006 Edition” and Section 3.104
“Amendments to the International Energy Conservation Code, 2006 Edition”; all of
Subtitle 1 “Building Code” and Section 3.302 “Adoption of plumbing and gasfitting
code” of Subtitle 3 “Plumbing and gasfitting regulations”; all of Title 3 “Buildings” of
the Howard County Code are hereby repealed.

**Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County,
Maryland, that Section 3.100 “Howard County Building Code; adoption of international
Section 3.102 “Amendments to the International Residential Code, 2009 Edition”,
Section 3.103 “Amendments to the International Mechanical Code, 2009 Edition” and
Section 3.104 “Amendments to the International Energy Conservation Code, 2009
Edition” are added to Subtitle 1 “Building Code” of Title 3 “Buildings” of the Howard
County Code to read as follows:

Title 3. Buildings.
Subtitle 1. Building code.

**SECTION 3.100. HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE; ADOPTION OF INTERNATIONAL CODES.**

(A) **In General.** Except as amended in sections 3.101, 3.102, 3.103, and 3.104 of
this subtitle, the codes enumerated in this section are hereby adopted as
the Howard County Building Code as if the codes were set out in full in
this section.

(B) **Adepted Codes.**

(1) The International Building Code, 2009 Edition, Published by the
International Code Council, Inc.
SECTION 3.101. AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2009 EDITION.

(A) In General.

1. As used in this section, the term “this Code” means the International Building Code, 2009 Edition.

2. As used in this Code, the term “building official” means the Director of the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits or the Director’s authorized designee.

3. Where the name of the jurisdiction is to be indicated in any section of this Code, insert “Howard County”.

4. As used in this Code, the term “department of building safety” means the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits.

(B) Local Amendments. The following amendments modify certain provisions of the adopted code.
(1) Subsection 101.1 Title.
Delete this Subsection.

(2) Subsection 101.2 Scope.
Delete the exception and substitute the following:

Exception 1: Detached one-family and two-family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) not more than three stories high with separate means of egress and their accessory structures shall comply with the International Residential Code and Section 3111 of Chapter 31, Special Construction, of this Code.

Exception 2: Existing buildings undergoing repair, alteration, addition, or change of occupancy may comply with the Maryland Rehabilitation Code.

Exception 3: Agricultural Buildings. The provisions of this Code shall not apply to the construction, alteration, addition, repair, removal, demolition, use, location, or maintenance of agricultural buildings. This provision does not exempt the owner of an agricultural building from obtaining required electrical or plumbing permits or from complying with all other applicable local, state, and federal regulations, laws, and ordinances.

(3) Subsection 101.3.1 Nature of Certain Actions.
Add new Subsection 101.3.1 after Subsection 101.3 as follows:

101.3.1 Nature of Certain Actions. The purpose of actions taken by the jurisdiction pursuant to this Code are purely governmental in nature and are conducted solely for the public benefit. Actions taken pursuant to this Code are not to be construed as providing any warranty of design or construction to any person.

(4) Subsection 101.4 Referenced Codes.
In the first paragraph, delete “101.4.6” and substitute “101.4.10”.

(5) Subsection 101.4.1 Gas.
DELETE SUBSECTION 101.4.1 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

**101.4.1 GAS.** Whenever the term “INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE” is used, it shall mean the PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO TITLE 3, SUBTITLE 3 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

(6) **Subsection 101.4.2 Mechanical.**

DELETE SUBSECTION 101.4.2 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

**101.4.2 MECHANICAL.** Whenever the term “INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE” is used, it shall mean the MECHANICAL CODE OF HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.103 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(7) **Subsection 101.4.3 Plumbing.**

DELETE SUBSECTION 101.4.3 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

**101.4.3 PLUMBING.** Whenever the term “INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CODE” is used, it shall mean the PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO TITLE 3, SUBTITLE 3 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE and whenever the term “INTERNATIONAL PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL CODE” is used it shall mean HOWARD COUNTY WATER AND SEWER REGULATIONS ADOPTED IN TITLE 18, SUBTITLE 1, SUBTITLE 12, AND SUBTITLE 15 AND IN TITLE 12, SUBTITLE 1 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

(8) **Subsection 101.4.4 Property Maintenance.**

DELETE SUBSECTION 101.4.4 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

**101.4.4 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE.** Whenever the term “INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE” is used it shall mean the HOWARD COUNTY PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE FOR RENTAL HOUSING ADOPTED PURSUANT TO TITLE 3, SUBTITLE 7 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

(9) **Subsection 101.4.5 Fire Prevention.**

DELETE SUBSECTION 101.4.5 AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:
101.4.5 Fire Prevention. Whenever the term “International Fire Prevention Code” is used it shall mean the Howard County Fire Prevention Code adopted pursuant to Section 17.104 of the Howard County Code.

(10) Subsection 101.4.6 Energy.
Delete subsection 101.4.6 and substitute the following:

101.4.6 Energy. Whenever the term “International Energy Conservation Code” is used it shall mean the Energy Conservation Code of Howard County adopted pursuant to Section 3.104 of this Subtitle.

(11) Subsections 101.4.7 Electrical.
Add new subsection 101.4.7 after subsection 101.4.6 as follows:

101.4.7 Electrical. Whenever the term “NFPA 70 National Electrical Code” is used, it shall mean the Electrical Code for Howard County adopted pursuant to Title 3, Subtitle 2 of the Howard County Code.

(12) Subsection 101.4.8 Accessibility.
Add new subsection 101.4.8 after subsection 101.4.7 as follows:

101.4.8 Accessibility. The provisions of the Maryland Accessibility Code shall apply to all matters affecting handicapped accessibility and use of buildings and sites.

(13) Subsection 101.4.9 Signs.
Add new subsection 101.4.9 after subsection 101.4.8 as follows:

101.4.9 Signs. The provisions of Title 3, Subtitle 5 of the Howard County Code shall apply to the location, installation, and maintenance of signs in Howard County.

(14) Subsection 101.4.10 Residential Code.
Add new subsection 101.4.10 after subsection 101.4.9 as follows:

101.4.10 Residential. Whenever the term “International Residential Code” is used, it shall mean the Residential Code for
ONE-AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS OF HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED
PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.102 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(15) **SECTION 103 DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING SAFETY.**
DELETE THE TITLE OF THIS SECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING AS
THE NEW TITLE:

“SECTION 103
ENFORCEMENT AGENCY”

(16) **Subsection 103.1 Creation of Enforcement Agency.**
DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

**103.1 Enforcement Agency.** The Howard County Department of
Inspections, Licenses and Permits is responsible for enforcing the
provisions of this Code. The Director of the Department of
Inspections, Licenses and Permits or the Director’s authorized
designee shall be known as the Building Official.

(17) **Subsection 103.2 Appointment.**
DELETE THIS SUBSECTION.

(18) **Subsection 103.3 Deputies.**
DELETE THIS SUBSECTION.

(19) **Subsection 104.1.1 Rule-making Authority.**
ADD NEW SUBSECTION 104.1.1 AFTER SUBSECTION 104.1 AS FOLLOWS:

**104.1.1 Rule-making Authority.** In the interest of public health,
safety, and general welfare, the Building Official may adopt
rules and regulations to interpret and implement the provisions
of this Code. Rules and regulations shall not waive structural
or fire performance requirements specifically provided for in this
Code. Rules and regulations shall not violate accepted
engineering practices involving public safety.

(20) **Subsection 104.8 Liability.**
IN THE NEXT TO THE LAST SENTENCE OF THIS SUBSECTION, DELETE “LEGAL
representation of the jurisdiction until the final termination of
THE PROCEEDINGS” AND SUBSTITUTE “HOWARD COUNTY IN ACCORDANCE WITH MARYLAND LAW”.

(21) SUBSECTION 105.1.1 ANNUAL PERMIT.
DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

105.1.1. MASTER PERMIT. INSTEAD OF AN INDIVIDUAL PERMIT FOR EACH ALTERATION TO AN ALREADY APPROVED BUILDING, ELECTRICAL, FIRE, GAS, MECHANICAL, OR PLUMBING INSTALLATION, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY ISSUE A MASTER PERMIT UPON APPLICATION BY ANY PERSON, FIRM, OR CORPORATION REGULARLY EMPLOYING ONE OR MORE QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL OR TRADESPERSON IN THE BUILDING, STRUCTURE, OR ON THE PREMISES OWNED OR OPERATED BY THE APPLICANT.

(22) SUBSECTION 105.1.2 ANNUAL PERMIT RECORDS.
DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

105.1.2. MASTER PERMIT RECORDS. A PERSON WHO IS ISSUED A MASTER PERMIT SHALL KEEP A DETAILED RECORD OF ALTERATIONS MADE UNDER THE MASTER PERMIT. THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL HAVE ACCESS TO THE RECORDS AT ALL TIMES OR THE RECORDS SHALL BE FILED WITH THE BUILDING OFFICIAL. THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY PERIODICALLY INSPECT WORK THAT HAS BEEN PERFORMED UNDER A MASTER PERMIT.

(23) SUBSECTION 105.1.2.1 BUILDING CODE COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE MANUAL.
ADD NEW SUBSECTION 105.1.2.1 AFTER SUBSECTION 105.1.2 AS FOLLOWS:

105.1.2.1. BUILDING CODE COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE MANUAL. AN APPLICANT FOR A MASTER PERMIT SHALL PROVIDE TO THE BUILDING OFFICIAL A BUILDING CODE COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE MANUAL THAT SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

(I) A STATEMENT OF THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES THAT WILL BE USED TO MONITOR AND CONTROL THE ALTERATION AND RENOVATION PROCESS TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE;

(II) A DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE APPLICANT ASSURES CODE COMPLIANCE BY ADHERING TO WRITTEN PROCEDURES OF QUALIFIED
PERSONS TO PERFORM THE SCOPE OF THE WORK COVERED BY THE
APPLICATION;

(III) A DESCRIPTION OF THE APPLICANT’S PROCESS FOR PLAN
DEVELOPMENT, PLAN REVIEW, AND INSPECTION;

(IV) A DESCRIPTION OF THE MEANS TO ASSURE COMPLIANCE WITH FIRE
PROTECTION ELEMENTS OF THE BUILDING AND SYSTEMS AFFECTED
BY THE PROPOSED ALTERATION OR RENOVATION; AND

(V) IF APPLICABLE, A STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE FOR ACCESSIBILITY.

(24) **Subsection 105.2 Work exempt from permit.** In the Subsection titled
“Building”:

(I) In Item 1, delete “120 SQUARE FEET (11 M²)” and substitute
“200 SQUARE FEET”;

(II) In Item 4, delete “4 FEET (1219 MM)” and substitute “3 FEET”
and delete “BOTTOM OF THE FOOTING” and substitute “LOWEST
ADJACENT GRADE”;

(III) In Item 11, delete “ACCESSORY TO DETACHED ONE- AND TWO-
FAMILY DWELLINGS”; and

(IV) Add the following as Item 14 at the end of this Subsection:

14. The following work on existing single family
dwellings:

A. **Exterior:**

1. Replacement of roof coverings with no other
   structural repairs;

2. Installation of siding, including, but not
   limited to, aluminum or vinyl siding;

3. Installation of fascia, soffit trim, gutters, or
downspouts;

4. Replacement of windows or doors when there
   is no change in the rough opening size;

5. Installation of canvas or fixed awnings; or

6. Installation of exterior lighting fixtures.
B. INTERIOR:
1. INSTALLATION OF RADON SYSTEMS;
2. PAINTING, WALLPAPERING, OR FLOOR COVERING;
3. INSTALLATION OF KITCHEN OR BATHROOM CABINETS, COUNTER TOPS, APPLIANCES, OR FIXTURES;
4. REPLACEMENT OF PANELING OR WALLBOARD;
5. REPLACEMENT OF DOORS WHEN THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE ROUGH OPENING SIZE;
6. INSTALLATION OF INSULATION;
7. INSTALLATION OF BURGLAR, FIRE, AND OTHER ALARM SYSTEMS AND SMOKE DETECTORS;
8. REPLACEMENT OF ELECTRIC WATER HEATERS; OR
9. INSTALLATION OF CEILING FANS, LIGHT FIXTURES, OR RECEPTACLES.

C. THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL STRUCTURES:
1. ONE STORY DETACHED ACCESSORY STRUCTURES CONTAINING LESS THAN 200 SQUARE FEET IN AREA INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, STORAGE SHEDS, KIOSKS, GAZEBOS, ARBORS, OR PLAYHOUSES;
2. INSTALLATION OF GREENHOUSES;
3. INSTALLATION OF TENTS OR CANOPIES;
4. INSTALLATION OF FENCES, UNLESS THE FENCE IS OVER 6 FEET HIGH OR ENCLOSES A SWIMMING POOL;
5. INSTALLATION OF MAILBOXES.

D. SITE WORK:
1. PAVING DRIVEWAYS;
2. INSTALLATION OF PATIOS, SIDEWALKS, OR LANDSCAPING;
3. **INSTALLATION OF RETAINING WALLS THAT ARE 3 FEET OR LESS IN HEIGHT MEASURED FROM THE LOWEST ADJACENT GRADE TO THE TOP OF THE WALL;**

4. **INSTALLATION OF FLAGPOLES OR FLAGPOLE BASES.**

(25) **SUBSECTION 105.3 APPLICATION FOR PERMIT.**

DELETE THE FIRST PARAGRAPH OF THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

TO OBTAIN A PERMIT, THE OWNER, OWNER’S AGENT, LESSEE, LESSEE’S AGENT, OR THE REGISTERED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYED TO COMPLETE THE PROPOSED WORK ON A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE SHALL APPLY FOR A PERMIT. THE APPLICATION SHALL STATE, AS APPLICABLE, THE FULL NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE OWNER, OWNER’S AGENT, LESSEE, LESSEE’S AGENT, AND THE REGISTERED DESIGN PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYED TO COMPLETE THE PROPOSED WORK. IF THE APPLICANT IS NOT AN INDIVIDUAL, SUCH AS, WITHOUT LIMITATION, A PARTNERSHIP, LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, CORPORATION, LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, OR OTHER SUCH ENTITY, THE APPLICATION SHALL STATE THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING THE BUSINESS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PARTNERS, DIRECTORS, OR OFFICERS. SUCH APPLICATION SHALL:

(26) **SECTION 106 FLOOR AND ROOF DESIGN LOADS**

DELETE THIS SECTION.

(27) **SUBSECTION 107.2.1.1. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED.**

ADD NEW SUBSECTION 107.2.1.1 AFTER SUBSECTION 107.2.1 AS FOLLOWS:

**107.2.1.1 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED.**

(i) **DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED FOR DETACHED ONE- OR TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS INCLUDING NEW CONSTRUCTION, ALTERATIONS, MINOR ADDITIONS, OR OTHER STRUCTURES SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**
A. *EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH B OF THIS SUBSECTION,*

2 SETS OF CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS DRAWN TO SCALE
WITH SUFFICIENT CLARITY AND DETAIL TO SHOW THE
NATURE AND CHARACTER OF THE WORK TO BE PERFORMED
INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:

1. PLANS OF EACH FLOOR LEVEL;
2. 4 ELEVATIONS AND TYPICAL CROSS SECTIONS; AND
3. 7 COPIES OF PLOT PLANS OR 2 COPIES OF THE
APPROVED SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN WHEN A SITE
DEVELOPMENT PLAN IS REQUIRED BY THE HOWARD
COUNTY SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS.

B. 1. THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY WAIVE THE
requirements set forth in Paragraph A of this
SUBSECTION FOR:

   I. ALTERATIONS; OR
   II. OTHER STRUCTURES ACCESSORY TO A ONE-
       OR TWO-FAMILY DWELLING CONTAINING
       LESS THAN 200 SQUARE FEET TOTAL AREA.

2. WHERE WAIVED, THE APPLICATION SHALL BE
ACCOMPANIED BY 5 COPIES OF PLOT PLANS OR 2
COPIES OF THE APPROVED SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN
WHEN A SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN IS REQUIRED BY
THE HOWARD COUNTY SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS.

(II) *EXCEPT AS SET FORTH IN ITEMS B AND C OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH,*
DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED FOR NEW NON-RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS,
ADDITIONS, OR ALTERATIONS TO BUILDINGS OTHER THAN DETACHED
ONE- OR TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

A. 3 COMPLETE SETS OF ARCHITECTURAL, STRUCTURAL,
MECHANICAL (INCLUDING HEATING, VENTILATION, AND AIR
CONDITIONING), PLUMBING, AND ELECTRICAL
construction documents. The documents shall:

1. Be drawn to scale with sufficient clarity and
detail to show the nature and character of
the work to be performed;

2. Be prepared in compliance with this Code; and

3. Bear the seal, signature, and date of the
appropriate Maryland State professional
engineer or architect that shall be affixed to
all sheets of all sets and at least one set
shall bear the original seal, signature, and
date.

B. The building official may allow mechanical,
electrical, or plumbing drawings to be signed by the
licensed contractor doing the proposed work. The
contractor shall provide their name, license
number, daytime phone number, and date of
signature. Each set of plans shall be accompanied
by a copy of the approved and signed site
development plan when a site development plan is
required by the Howard County subdivision
regulations.

C. The building official may waive the requirements of
plans submitted if the work is of a minor interior or
nonstructural nature.

(28) Subsection 107.2.5.2 Subdivision and Land Development
Regulations, Title 16 of the Howard County Code.
Add new subsection 107.2.5.2 after subsection 107.2.5.1 as
follows:

107.2.5.2 Subdivision and Land Development Regulations, Title
16 of the Howard County Code. If a site development plan is
required by the Howard County Subdivision Regulations, a permit
shall not be issued until the site development plan is approved.

(29) Subsection 109.2 Schedule of Permit Fees.

Delete this subsection and substitute the following:

109.2 Schedule of Permit Fees. The County Council shall
annually adopt, by resolution, a schedule of fees for building,
electrical, plumbing, mechanical, fire protection, and grading
permits issued by the Department of Inspections, Licenses and
Permits.

(30) Subsection 109.2.1 Fee Exemptions.

Add new subsection 109.2.1 after subsection 109.2 as follows:

109.2.1 Fee Exemptions. Work on buildings and structures owned
and operated by the Howard County Government, Howard
Community College, Howard County Volunteer Fire
Corporations, the Howard County Fair Association, or the
Howard County Board of Education are exempt from permit fees.

(31) Subsection 109.5.1 Reinspection Fees.

Add new subsection 109.5.1 after subsection 109.5 as follows:

109.5.1 Reinspection Fees. A reinspection fee shall be charged
for each reinspection if the work has to be reinspected because:

(i) The work was not ready for inspection at the pre-arranged
time for inspection;

(ii) The inspector did not have access to the work at the pre-
arranged time for inspection;

(iii) The inspector had to return more than once to inspect a
correction of the same violation of this Code; or

(iv) The inspector discovers a flagrant non-compliance during
a requested inspection, including but not limited to:

A. Cut or broken trusses or joists;

B. Missing load bearing studs; or

C. The omission of fire stopping.
1. **Subsection 110.3 Required Inspections.**
   Deletes this subsection and substitutes the following:
   
   110.3 **Required Inspections.** After issuing a building permit, the building official shall conduct inspections from time to time during and upon completion of the work for which the permit has been issued. Records of inspections and violations shall be maintained by the building official. An inspection may include any of the inspections as set forth in subsections 110.3.1 through 110.3.10 of this section.

2. **Subsection 111.1 Use and Occupancy.**
   After the first sentence, insert the following:
   
   If there is an approved site development plan and grading has occurred, the building official shall not issue a certificate of use and occupancy unless the permittee submits a certification by a registered land surveyor that the site grading and drainage courses are in compliance with the approved site development plan. If there is not an approved site development plan and grading has occurred, the permittee shall submit a certification by a registered land surveyor that the site grading and drainage courses are in compliance with the approved erosion and sediment control plan and grading plan. The certification shall be submitted to the county. The fine grading and soil stabilization may be deferred until the following growing season upon the posting of adequate surety equal to the cost to complete the grading and stabilization.

3. **Subsection 111.2 Certificate Issued.**
   After “occupancy” insert a period and delete the remainder of this section.

4. **Section 113 Board of Appeals.**
   Deletes this section and substitutes the following:
   
   **Section 113 Means of Appeal.**
113.1 **APPLICATION FOR APPEAL.** Except for a notice of violation, a
person may appeal the approval, denial, revocation, suspension,
or extension of a permit to a hearing examiner of the Howard
County Board of Appeals. An application for an appeal shall be
based on a claim that this Code has been incorrectly interpreted,
the provisions of this Code do not apply, or an equally good or
better form of construction is proposed. A notice of violation
may not be appealed.

113.2 **Board of Appeals.** The Howard County Board of Appeals’
hearing examiner shall hear and decide appeals in accordance
with the procedures set forth in title 16, subtitle 3 of the Howard
County Code. Neither the Board of Appeals’ Hearing Examiner
nor the Board of Appeals shall have authority to waive
requirements of this Code.

(36) **Subsection 114.2 Notice of Violation.**

Amend this subsection as follows:

(i) Insert “OWNER OR” before “PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR”; and

(ii) Add the following sentence to the end of this subsection:

A notice of violation may be served in one of the following
methods:

A. **Personal service;**

B. **Certified or registered mail, restricted delivery,**
   return receipt requested;

C. **First class mail to the owner’s address as stated in**
   the records of the State Department of Assessments
   and Taxation; or

D. **When service is not obtained by one of these**
   methods, the notice may be posted in a conspicuous
   place at the job site.

(37) **Subsection 114.4 Violation penalties.**

Delete this subsection and substitute the following:
114.4 Violation Penalties. Alternatively, and in addition to and concurrent with all remedies provided at law or in equity and as set forth in subsection 114.3 of this Code, the Building Official may enforce this subtitle with civil penalties pursuant to title 24 “Civil Penalties” of the Howard County Code. Except for a first violation of section 115 or section 116 of this Code, a first violation of this subtitle is a class C offense. A subsequent violation of this subtitle is a class B offense. Each day that a violation continues is a separate offense.

(38) Subsection 114.5 Withholding of Inspections and Permits.
Add new subsection 114.5 after subsection 114.4 as follows:

114.5 Withholding of Inspections and Permits. If the Building Official finds that an owner or person responsible is in violation of a provision of this Code, this Subtitle, or any regulation that implements this Code in connection with the construction, maintenance, alteration, or repair of any building, equipment, or land within Howard County, the Building Official may refuse to grant an inspection or permit to the contractor, developer, owner, or other person responsible until all violations have been corrected and all fees and fines have been paid.

(39) Subsection 115.2.1 Service of Stop Work Orders.
Add new subsection 115.2.1 after subsection 115.2 as follows:

115.2.1 Service of Stop Work Orders. A stop work order shall be served in accordance with the service provisions set forth in Subsection 114.2.

(40) Subsection 115.3 Unlawful Continuance.
Delete this subsection and substitute the following:

115.3 Unlawful Continuance. A person shall not perform work after service of a stop work order except work that is performed at the direction of the Building Official to abate a violation of this Code or an unsafe condition.
SUBSECTION 115.4 Prosecution for failing to stop work.

Add new subsection 115.4 after subsection 115.3 as follows:

115.4 Prosecution for failing to stop work. The Building Official may request the legal counsel of the jurisdiction to institute the appropriate proceeding at law or in equity to prevent or restrain any work performed in violation of this section.

SUBSECTION 115.5 Violation penalties.

Add new subsection 115.5 after subsection 115.4 as follows:

115.5 Violation penalties. Alternatively, and in addition to and concurrent with the remedies set forth in subsection 115.4, the Building Official may enforce this section pursuant to Title 24, “Civil Penalties” of the Howard County Code. A violation of this section is a Class B offense. Each day that a violation continues is a separate offense.

SUBSECTION 116.6 Disregarding notice.

Add new subsection 116.6 after subsection 116.5 as follows:

116.6 Disregarding notice. Failure to comply with a notice issued under this section is a violation of this Code.

SUBSECTION 116.7 Prosecution.

Add new subsection 116.7 after subsection 116.6 as follows:

116.7 Prosecution. The Building Official may request the legal counsel of the jurisdiction to institute the appropriate proceeding at law or in equity to prevent or restrain any work performed in violation of this section.

SUBSECTION 116.8 Violation penalties.

Add new subsection 116.8 after subsection 116.7 as follows:

116.8 Violation penalties. Alternatively, and in addition to and concurrent with the remedies set forth in Subsection 116.6, the Building Official may enforce this section pursuant to Title 24, “Civil Penalties” of the Howard County Code. A violation of this
SECTION IS A CLASS B OFFENSE. EACH DAY THAT A VIOLATION CONTINUES IS A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

SECTION 117 EMERGENCY MEASURES.

Add new section 117 after section 116 as follows:

SECTION 117 EMERGENCY MEASURES.

117.1 IMMINENT DANGER. WHENEVER THE BUILDING OFFICIAL DETERMINES THAT THERE IS AN EMERGENCY OR IMMINENT DANGER OF FAILURE OR COLLAPSE OF A BUILDING, STRUCTURE, OR ANY PART OF A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE THAT ENDANGERS LIFE, OR WHEN ANY BUILDING, STRUCTURE, OR PART OF A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE HAS FALLEN AND LIFE IS ENDANGERED BY THE OCCUPATION OF THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY ORDER AN OCCUPANT TO VACATE THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE. THE BUILDING OFFICIAL SHALL POST A NOTICE AT EACH ENTRANCE TO THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE. THE NOTICE SHALL STATE AS FOLLOWS: “THIS STRUCTURE IS UNSAFE AND ITS OCCUPANCY HAS BEEN PROHIBITED BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL.” EXCEPT FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING A REQUIRED REPAIR OR DEMOLISHING THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE, A PERSON SHALL NOT ENTER THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE.

117.2 TEMPORARY SAFEGUARDS. WHENEVER THE BUILDING OFFICIAL DETERMINES THAT THERE IS IMMINENT DANGER DUE TO AN UNSAFE CONDITION, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY CAUSE THE NECESSARY WORK TO BE DONE TO MAKE THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE TEMPORARILY SAFE, WHETHER OR NOT THE LEGAL PROCEDURE AS SET FORTH IN THIS CODE HAS BEEN INSTITUTED.

117.3 CLOSING STREETS AND BUILDINGS. IF NECESSARY FOR PUBLIC SAFETY, THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY:

(i) Temporarily close a building or structure;

(ii) Close or order the jurisdiction to close a sidewalk, street, public way, or place adjacent to an unsafe building or structure; and
(iii) **Prohibit the use of a sidewalk, street, public way, or place adjacent to an unsafe building or structure.**

**117.4. Demolition of structures.**

Whenever the Building Official determines that there is imminent danger due to an unsafe structure, the Building Official may cause the structure to be demolished in accordance with Section 118 of this Code.

**117.5 Emergency repairs.** For the purpose of this section, the Building Official may employ the necessary labor and materials to perform the required work as expeditiously as possible.

**117.6 Cost of emergency repairs.** Costs incurred in the performance of emergency work may be paid from the treasury of the jurisdiction. The legal counsel of the jurisdiction shall institute appropriate action to seek reimbursement against the owner of the premises where the unsafe building or structure is or was located for the cost of the repairs or actions necessary to make the premises safe.

**117.7 Unsafe equipment.** Whenever the Building Official determines that equipment is unsafe, the equipment shall not be operated after the date stated in the notice unless the required repairs, replacement, or changes have been made and the equipment has been approved or unless the Building Official has agreed, in writing, to an extension of time to make the required repairs, replacement, or changes.

**117.7.1 Authority to seal equipment.** In the case of an emergency, the Building Official may immediately seal out of service any unsafe device or equipment regulated by this Code.

**117.7.2 Unlawful to remove seal.** Any device or equipment sealed out of service by the Building Official shall be plainly identified in an approved manner. Except by the Building Official, the identification shall not be tampered with, defaced, or
REMOVED. THE IDENTIFICATION SHALL INDICATE THE REASON FOR THE SEALING OF THE EQUIPMENT.

(47) **SECTION 118 DEMOLITION OF STRUCTURES.**

Add new section 118 after section 117 as follows:

**SECTION 118 DEMOLITION OF STRUCTURES.**

118.1 **SERVICE CONNECTIONS.** Before a structure is demolished or removed, the owner or agent shall notify all utilities having service connections within the structure including, but not limited to, water, electric, gas, or sewer. A permit to demolish or remove a structure shall not be issued until a release is obtained from the utilities. The release shall state that the utility’s respective service connections and appurtenant equipment, such as meters and regulators, have been removed, sealed, or plugged in a safe manner.

118.2 **NOTICE TO ADJOINING OWNERS.** A permit to remove or demolish a building or structure may be granted if written notice has been given by the applicant to the owners of adjoining lots and to the owners of wired or other facilities that may need to be temporarily removed due to the proposed work.

118.3 **LOT REGULATION.** Whenever a structure is demolished or removed, the premises shall be maintained free from all unsafe or hazardous conditions by the proper regulation of the lot, restoration of established grades, and the erection of the necessary retaining walls and fences in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 33 of this Code.

(48) **Subsection 308.2 Group I-1.**

In the second to last sentence, between the words “PERSONS” and “shall”, insert the following: “or up to 8 persons when an NFPA 13D sprinkler system is installed”.

(49) **Subsection 310.1 Residential Group R.**

Add a sentence to the end of R-3 as follows:
AN R-3 GROUP SHALL INCLUDE EITHER:

(i) Up to 5 lodgers or boarders;

(ii) 6 up to 8 lodgers or boarders when an NFPA 13D sprinkler system is installed; or

(iii) 9 up to 16 lodgers or boarders when an NFPA 13R sprinkler system is installed.

Subsection 703.6 Marking and Identification.

Amend this subsection as follows:

(i) In item 2:

(A) Delete “30 feet (914 mm)” and substitute “10 feet (3048 mm)”;

(B) After “wall or partition” insert “on both sides”;

(ii) In item 3:

(A) Delete “0.5 inch (12.7 mm)” and substitute “0.5 feet (152.4 mm)”;

(B) After “height” insert “and greater than ¾ inch wide”.

Subsections 903.2.1.1 Group A-1; 903.2.1.3 Group A-3; and 903.2.1.4 Group A-4.

Delete item number 2 in each subsection and substitute the following in each instance:

2. The fire area has a calculated occupant load of 100 or more; or

Subsection 903.2.3 Group E.

Delete this subsection and substitute the following:

903.2.3 Group E. An automatic sprinkler system shall be provided for all Group E occupancies.

Exception: An automatic sprinkler system is not required if a student occupied area has a door directly to the outside.

Subsection 903.2.13 Additional Suppression Requirements.

Add new subsection 903.2.13 after subsection 903.2.12 as follows:
903.2.13 ADDITIONAL SUPPRESSION REQUIREMENTS. Fire suppression systems shall be provided for residential and nonresidential buildings or structures as follows:

903.2.13.1 If an addition or renovation to an existing residential building exceeds 50% of the gross floor area, the entire building shall be protected by an approved fire protection system.

903.2.13.2 Any nonresidential building, structure, or addition to an existing nonresidential building or structure for which the initial building permit was issued on or after July 1, 1992, shall be protected by an automatic fire protection sprinkler system.

903.2.13.3 Applicable conditions and exceptions:

(I) Exception: A building or structure containing less than 5,000 gross square feet in floor area. For the purpose of this section, the gross square feet of a building or addition shall be the sum total of the floor area for all floor levels, basements, and subbasements, measured from outside walls, irrespective of the existence of interior fire-resistant walls, floors, or ceilings.

(II) For purposes of this section, if an addition to an existing building exceeds 5,000 gross square feet in floor area, the addition shall comply with this section.

(III) For purposes of this section, if an alteration to an existing building exceeds 5,000 gross square feet in floor area, the alteration shall comply with this section. If the alteration exceeds 50% of the gross floor area of the building, the entire building shall comply with this section.

(IV) For purposes of this section, if an alteration and addition occur simultaneously in a building, are contiguous, and the total affected floor area exceeds 5,000 gross square
FEET IN FLOOR AREA, THE ENTIRE ALTERATION AND ADDITION AREAS SHALL COMPLY WITH THIS SECTION.

(V) THE BUILDING OFFICIAL MAY GRANT A WAIVER FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION FOR AN UNUSUAL BUILDING, STRUCTURE, OR OCCUPANCY.

(VI) A SPRINKLER SYSTEM REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION SHALL BE INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH NFPA STANDARD 13, 13D, OR 13R, AS APPLICABLE.

(54) **SUBSECTION 903.2.14 HOSE CONNECTIONS.**

ADD NEW SUBSECTION 903.2.14 AFTER SUBSECTION 903.2.13 AS FOLLOWS:

**903.2.14 HOSE CONNECTIONS.** WHERE FIRE SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS ARE REQUIRED IN GROUP M, S-1 AND F-1 OCCUPANCIES, A 2 1/2 INCH HOSE CONNECTION WITH 1 1/2 INCH REDUCERS SHALL BE PROVIDED FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT USE. HOSE CONNECTIONS SHALL BE PLACED NEAR EXIT DOORS THAT DO NOT HAVE FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE ACCESS WITHIN 100 FEET. TWO HOSE CONNECTIONS SHALL BE LOCATED NO MORE THAN 200 FEET APART. EXIT DOORS SHALL BE PLACARDED ON THE OUTSIDE TO INDICATE THE LOCATION OF HOSE CONNECTIONS FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS.

(55) **SUBSECTION 905.11 PIPING DESIGN.**

ADD NEW SUBSECTION 905.11 AFTER SUBSECTION 905.10 AS FOLLOWS:

**905.11 PIPING DESIGN.** THE RISER PIPING, SUPPLY PIPING, AND WATER SERVICE PIPING SHALL BE SIZED TO MAINTAIN A RESIDUAL PRESSURE OF AT LEAST 100 PSI AT THE TOP MOST OUTLET OF EACH RISER WHILE FLOWING THE MINIMUM QUANTITY OF WATER AS SPECIFIED IN NFPA 14. THE PIPE SIZE SHALL BE BASED ON EITHER THE CAPACITY OF THE AUTOMATIC WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM OR THE SUPPLY OF 1000 GPM AT 150 PSI AT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT CONNECTION WHERE AN AUTOMATIC WATER SUPPLY IS NEITHER REQUIRED NOR PROVIDED TO MAINTAIN THE RESIDUAL PRESSURE OF 100 PSI. IF A FIRE PUMP IS REQUIRED TO SUPPLY AN AUTOMATIC
SPRINKLER SYSTEM, THE PUMP SHALL BE SIZED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS
SECTION.

**EXCEPTION:** THE RESIDUAL PRESSURE OF 100 PSI IS NOT REQUIRED IN
BUILDINGS EQUIPPED THROUGHOUT WITH AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEMS
IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 903.3.1.1 OR 903.3.1.2 AND WHERE THE
HIGHEST FLOOR LEVEL IS NOT MORE THAN 75 FEET ABOVE THE LOWEST
LEVEL OF FIRE DEPARTMENT VEHICLE ACCESS.

(56) **SUBSECTION 910.1 GENERAL.**
DELETE EXCEPTIONS 1 AND 2.

(57) **SUBSECTION 910.2.1 GROUP F-1 OR S-1.**
DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

**910.2.1 GROUPS F-1, M, AND S-1.** BUILDINGS OR PORTIONS OF BUILDINGS
USED AS A GROUP F-1, M, OR S-1 OCCUPANCY THAT HAVE MORE THAN
50,000 SQUARE FEET.

**EXCEPTION 1:** BUILDINGS WITH A FLOOR TO FINISHED CEILING HEIGHT OF
20 FEET OR LESS ARE EXEMPT FROM SMOKE VENTING REQUIREMENTS.

**EXCEPTION 2:** BUILDINGS WITH NO FINISHED CEILING THAT HAVE A HEIGHT
OF 20 FEET OR LESS, AT ALL POINTS, FROM THE FLOOR TO THE UNDERSIDE OF
THE ROOF DECK ABOVE ARE EXEMPT FROM SMOKE VENTING REQUIREMENTS.

(58) **SUBSECTION 910.3.2 VENT OPERATION.**
DELETE THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

**910.3.2 VENT OPERATION.** SMOKE AND HEAT VENTS SHALL BE APPROVED,
LABELED, AND CAPABLE OF BEING OPERATED BY APPROVED MANUAL
MEANS.

(59) **SUBSECTION 1607.9 REDUCTION IN LIVE LOADS.**
ADD THE FOLLOWING TO THE END OF THIS SUBSECTION:

**EXCEPTION:** LIVE LOAD REDUCTION SHALL NOT APPLY TO ROOFS.

(60) **SUBSECTION 1607.11.2 REDUCTION IN ROOF LIVE LOADS.**
ADD THE FOLLOWING TO THE END OF THIS SUBSECTION:

**EXCEPTION:** EXCEPT FOR BUILDINGS OF GROUP U, A FLAT, PITCHED, OR
CURVED ROOF SHALL BE DESIGNED FOR A MINIMUM LIVE LOAD OF 30
POUNDS PER SQUARE FOOT (PSF) OR FOR THE MINIMUM SNOW LOAD,
whichever is greater. In buildings of Group U, roofs shall be
designed for a minimum live load of 20 PSF.

Subsection 1803.2 Investigations required.
Insert at the end of the first sentence “or where the building
exceeds 2 stories”.

Subsection 1809.5 Frost protection.
Delete exception number 2 and substitute “2. Area of 400 square
feet or less; and”.

Subsection 1809.5.1 Frost line.
Add new subsection 1809.5.1 after subsection 1809.5 as follows:

1809.5.1 Frost line. The frost line shall be at least 30 inches
below finished grade.

Subsection 3001.2 Referenced standards.
Add the following to the end of the subsection:

Exception: The requirements of the State of Maryland Elevator
Code, ASME A17.1, Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators, as
adopted by the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and
Regulation, shall apply to elevators and conveying systems.

Subsection 3107.1 General.
Insert the following at the end of this sentence:

and the requirements of the Howard County Sign Code set forth
in Title 3, Subtitle 5 of the Howard County Code.

Subsection 3108.3 Radio and television antennas.
Add new subsection 3108.3 after subsection 3108.2 as follows:

3108.3 Radio and television antennas.
3108.3.1 Permits not required. Building permits are not required
for roof installation of antennal structures that are less than
12 feet in height above the roof and used for private radio or
Television reception. Antennal structures shall not be erected
so as to damage the roof covering. When removed from the roof,
THE ROOF COVERING SHALL BE REPAIRED TO MAINTAIN WEATHER AND
WATER TIGHTNESS. THE INSTALLATION OF ANTENNAL STRUCTURES ON THE
ROOF OF A BUILDING SHALL NOT BE NEARER TO THE LOT LINE THAN THE
TOTAL HEIGHT OF THE ANTENNAL STRUCTURE ABOVE THE ROOF.
ANTENNAL STRUCTURES SHALL NOT BE ERECTED NEAR ELECTRIC POWER
LINES AND SHALL NOT ENCROACH UPON ANY STREET OR OTHER PUBLIC
SPACE.

3108.3.2 PERMITS REQUIRED. IF THE APPLICATION MEETS THE CRITERIA
SET FORTH IN THIS CODE, AN APPLICATION FOR ROOF-MOUNTED ANTENNAL
STRUCTURES MORE THAN 12 FEET IN HEIGHT ABOVE THE ROOF SHALL BE
APPROVED. A PERMIT APPLICATION FOR A ROOF-MOUNTED ANTENNAL
STRUCTURE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY DETAILED
DRAWINGS OF THE STRUCTURE AND METHOD OF ANCHORAGE. ALL
CONNECTIONS TO THE ROOF STRUCTURE SHALL BE PROPERLY FLASHED TO
MAINTAIN WATER TIGHTNESS. THE DESIGN AND MATERIALS OF
CONSTRUCTION SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS
SUBSECTION (3108.3) FOR CHARACTER, QUALITY, AND MINIMUM
DIMENSION.

3108.3.3 DISH ANTENNAS. A DISH ANTENNA IS AN ANTENNA THAT
CONSISTS OF A RADIATION ELEMENT THAT TRANSMITS OR RECEIVES
RADIATION SIGNALS GENERATED AS ELECTRICAL, LIGHT, OR SOUND
ENERGY. A DISH ANTENNA IS SUPPORTED BY A STRUCTURE WITH OR
WITHOUT A REFLECTIVE COMPONENT TO THE RADIATING DISH, USUALLY IN
A CIRCULAR SHAPE WITH A PARABOLIC CURVE DESIGN CONSTRUCTED OF A
SOLID OR OPEN MESH SURFACE.

3108.3.3.1 PERMITS. A PERMIT SHALL BE OBTAINED FOR DISH ANTENNAL
STRUCTURES THAT ARE GREATER THAN 3 FEET IN DIAMETER AND THAT ARE
ERECTED ON THE ROOF OF OR ATTACHED TO BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES.
PERMITS ARE NOT REQUIRED FOR DISH ANTENNAS THAT ARE 3 FEET OR LESS
IN DIAMETER AND THAT ARE ERECTED AND MAINTAINED ON THE ROOF OF A
BUILDING.
3108.3.3.2 STRUCTURAL PROVISIONS. Dish antennas larger than 3 feet in diameter are subject to the structural provisions of Sections 1608 and 1609. The snow load provision of Section 1608 shall not apply where the antenna has a heater to melt falling snow.

(67) Section 3111 Floodplain.

Add new section 3111 after section 3110 as follows:

Section 3111 Floodplain.

3111.1 General. For the purpose of this Section, the floodplain is delineated in title 16, subtitle 7 of the Howard County Code.

3111.2 Within designated floodplain.

The construction, reconstruction, modification, alteration, repair, or improvement of buildings, mobile homes, or other structures located within a designated floodplain shall be done in accordance with the requirements set forth in this section.

3111.2.1 New construction. New residential or nonresidential construction shall not occur within a designated floodplain.

Exception 1: Except for mobile homes, an existing nonconforming structure located within a designated floodplain which is destroyed by fire, flood, or other calamity may be restored to the same size and dimension and in the same location on the same lot as the destroyed structure, provided construction begins within 12 months of the date of destruction. Construction shall comply with the elevating and floodproofing requirements of subsection 3111.4 for new construction adjacent to a floodplain. Variances to the requirements set forth in subsection 3111.4 may be granted by the building official in accordance with FEMA regulations, section 60.6(A)(1), (3), (4), (5), and (6). A person shall not intentionally demolish or reconstruct any nonconforming structure is prohibited by this Code.
**Exception 2:** Transportation networks, utility installations, piers, open pier structures, and open decks approved by the Department of Public Works. Streets, sidewalks, pathways, and utility systems in accordance with the Howard County Design Manual and all other applicable codes, ordinances, resolutions, and regulations.

3111.2.2 Additions and enlargements. Existing nonconforming structures located within a designated floodplain shall not be expanded or enlarged.

3111.2.3 Modifications, alterations, and repairs. Modifications, alterations, repairs, or improvements that cost less than 50% of the fair market value of the structure may be made to existing nonconforming structures located within a designated floodplain without floodproofing or elevating if the owner demonstrates through a Maryland State registered professional engineer that floodproofing or elevating is impractical.

3111.3 Substantial improvements within a designated floodplain. Substantial improvements within a designated floodplain shall meet the standards set forth in this subsection.

3111.3.1. Residential. The lowest floor, including a basement, of substantial improvements to existing nonconforming residential structures located within a designated floodplain shall be elevated to at least 2 feet above the 100-year flood elevation.

3111.3.2. Nonresidential. The lowest floor, including a basement, of substantial improvements to existing nonconforming nonresidential structures shall be elevated to at least 2 feet above the 100-year flood elevation or shall be designed so that any area of the building which is lower than 2 feet above the 100-year flood elevation, as determined or approved by the Department of Public Works, is watertight with walls substantially impermeable to the passage of water and
WITH STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS HAVING THE CAPABILITY OF
WITHSTANDING APPLICABLE HYDROSTATIC, HYDRODYNAMIC, IMPACT,
SOIL, AND, WHEN APPLICABLE, HURRICANE AND TIDAL WAVE LOADING
CONDITIONS. THE WATER TIGHTNESS AND STRUCTURAL CAPABILITIES
SHALL BE THOSE DESCRIBED IN FLOODPROOFING REGULATIONS PUBLISHED
BY THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS, U.S. ARMY, WASHINGTON,

3111.4 CONSTRUCTION ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN.
WHERE BUILDINGS ARE LOCATED ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN
THE FOLLOWING SUBSECTIONS SHALL APPLY:

3111.4.1 RESIDENTIAL. IN NEW CONSTRUCTION OF RESIDENTIAL
BUILDINGS OR ADDITIONS OR SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO
RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, ALL FLOORS, INCLUDING THOSE OF BASEMENT
AND STORAGE AREAS, SHALL BE ELEVATED AT LEAST 2 FEET ABOVE THE
100-YEAR FLOOD LEVEL.

3111.4.2 NONRESIDENTIAL. IN NEW CONSTRUCTION OF NONRESIDENTIAL
BUILDINGS OR ADDITIONS OR SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO
NONRESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS, EITHER:

(i) ALL FLOORS (INCLUDING THOSE OF BASEMENT AND STORAGE
AREAS) SHALL BE ELEVATED AT LEAST 2 FEET ABOVE THE 100-YEAR
FLOOD LEVEL, AS DETERMINED OR APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC WORKS; OR

(ii) THE CONSTRUCTION OR IMPROVEMENT (INCLUDING ATTENDANT
UTILITY OR SANITARY FACILITIES) SHALL BE DESIGNED SO THAT ANY
AREAS OF THE BUILDING THAT ARE LOWER THAN 2 FEET ABOVE THE
100-YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION, AS DETERMINED OR APPROVED BY
THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, ARE WATERTIGHT WITH
WALLS SUBSTANTIALLY IMPERMEABLE TO THE PASSAGE OF WATER
AND WITH STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS HAVING THE CAPABILITY OF
WITHSTANDING APPLICABLE HYDROSTATIC, HYDRODYNAMIC,
IMPACT, SOIL, AND, WHEN APPLICABLE, HURRICANE AND TIDAL

3111.4.3. MODIFICATIONS, ALTERATIONS OR REPAIRS. MODIFICATIONS, ALTERATIONS, REPAIRS, OR IMPROVEMENTS THAT COSTS LESS THAN 50% OF THE FAIR MARKET VALUE OF THE STRUCTURE MAY BE MADE TO EXISTING NONCONFORMING STRUCTURES LOCATED ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN WITHOUT FLOODPROOFING OR ELEVATING.

3111.5 SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN.

3111.5.1 RESIDENTIAL. THE LOWEST FLOOR, INCLUDING A BASEMENT, OF SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING NONCONFORMING RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES LOCATED ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN SHALL BE ELEVATED TO AT LEAST 2 FEET ABOVE THE 100-YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION.

3111.5.2 NONRESIDENTIAL. THE LOWEST FLOOR, INCLUDING A BASEMENT, OF SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING NONCONFORMING NONRESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES LOCATED ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN SHALL BE ELEVATED TO AT LEAST 2 FEET ABOVE THE 100-YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION OR SHALL BE DESIGNED SO THAT ANY AREA OF THE BUILDING WHICH IS LOWER THAN 2 FEET ABOVE THE 100-YEAR FLOOD ELEVATION, AS DETERMINED OR APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, IS WATERTIGHT WITH WALLS SUBSTANTIALLY IMPERMEABLE TO THE PASSAGE OF WATER AND WITH STRUCTURAL COMPONENTS HAVING THE CAPABILITY OF WITHSTANDING APPLICABLE HYDROSTATIC, HYDRODYNAMIC IMPACT, SOIL, AND, WHEN APPLICABLE,

3111.6 VERIFICATION. FOR THE PURPOSE OF VERIFYING COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 3111.4 FOR CONSTRUCTION ADJACENT TO A DESIGNATED FLOODPLAIN, THE FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY:

(I) WHEN FLOODPROOFING BY MEANS OTHER THAN ELEVATING, A DOCUMENT STATING THAT THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION HAS BEEN ADEQUATELY DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND THE LOADING CONDITIONS STATED IN SUBSECTION 3111.4.2(II) SHALL BE CERTIFIED BY A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER OR ARCHITECT CURRENTLY REGISTERED IN MARYLAND. THIS DOCUMENT SHALL BE REQUIRED PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF A BUILDING PERMIT.

(II) WHEN FLOODPROOFING BY ELEVATING IS USED, THE OWNER SHALL AGREE, IN WRITING, TO PROVIDE A FEMA ELEVATION CERTIFICATE FORM #81-31, COMPLETED BY A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER OR PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR CURRENTLY REGISTERED IN MARYLAND, CERTIFYING THAT THE AS-BUILT LOWEST FLOOR OF THE STRUCTURE IS ELEVATED AT LEAST 2 FEET ABOVE THE 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN ELEVATION. THE AGREEMENT SHALL BE MADE PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF THE BUILDING PERMIT AND THE COMPLETED CERTIFICATION SHALL BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO FOUNDATION APPROVAL BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL.

(III) FAIR MARKET VALUE OF A STRUCTURE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BY A RECENT (WITHIN 6 MONTHS) FORMAL APPRAISAL FROM A QUALIFIED
APPRAISER. FAIR MARKET VALUE SHALL NOT INCLUDE LAND VALUE.

(IV) COST TO REPAIR OR IMPROVE A STRUCTURE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BY A RECENT (WITHIN 6 MONTHS) WRITTEN ESTIMATE FROM A LICENSED CONTRACTOR AND SHALL INCLUDE THE COMPLETE COST OF REPAIRS OR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE POINT OF USE OR OCCUPANCY.

3111.7 DEFINITIONS.

ACCESSORY STRUCTURE. A DETACHED STRUCTURE ON THE SAME PARCEL OR PROPERTY AS THE PRINCIPAL STRUCTURE THAT HAS A USE THAT IS INCIDENTAL TO THE PRINCIPAL STRUCTURE INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, A SHED OR DETACHED GARAGE.

BASEMENT. AN ENCLOSURE AREA THAT IS BELOW GRADE ON ALL SIDES.

FLOODPLAIN. SHALL BE AS DELINEATED IN TITLE 16, SUBTITLE 7 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

FLOODPROOFING. ANY COMBINATION OF ADDITIONS, CHANGES, OR ADJUSTMENTS TO A STRUCTURE WHICH REDUCE OR ELIMINATE FLOOD DAMAGE TO REAL ESTATE OR IMPROVED REAL PROPERTY, WATER OR SANITARY FACILITIES, OR STRUCTURES AND THEIR CONTENTS.

HISTORIC STRUCTURE. A BUILDING LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, A STATE INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PLACES, OR AN INVENTORY OF HISTORIC STRUCTURES ADOPTED BY RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

LOWEST FLOOR. THE LOWEST FLOOR OR THE LOWEST ENCLOSED AREA, INCLUDING A BASEMENT. LOWEST FLOOR DOES NOT INCLUDE AN UNFINISHED OR FLOOD RESISTANT ENCLOSURE USED SOLELY FOR PARKING VEHICLES, BUILDING ACCESS, OR STORAGE IN AN AREA OTHER THAN A BASEMENT AREA. THE ENCLOSURE SHALL NOT BE BUILT SO AS TO RENDER THE STRUCTURE IN VIOLATION OF THE APPLICABLE NON-ELEVATION DESIGN REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTIONS 3111.4 AND 3111.6 OF THIS CODE.
MOBILE HOME. A TRANSPORTABLE RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURE THAT IS BUILT ON A PERMANENT CHASIS AND DESIGNED FOR USE WITH OR WITHOUT A PERMANENT FOUNDATION WHEN CONNECTED TO THE REQUIRED UTILITIES.

NEW CONSTRUCTION. A STRUCTURE FOR WHICH:

(I) THE APPLICATION FOR A BUILDING PERMIT WAS RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS ON OR AFTER THE DATE OF ADOPTION OF COUNTY COUNCIL BILL NO. 5-2010, INCLUDING ANY SUBSEQUENT IMPROVEMENTS; OR

(II) IF NO BUILDING PERMIT IS NEEDED FOR THE STRUCTURE, THE STRUCTURE WAS BUILT, CONSTRUCTED, OR INSTALLED ON OR AFTER THE DATE OF ADOPTION OF COUNTY COUNCIL BILL NO. 5-2010, INCLUDING ANY SUBSEQUENT IMPROVEMENTS.

THE REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF A MOBILE HOME BECAUSE OF SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE IS CONSIDERED TO BE NEW CONSTRUCTION.

SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGE. DAMAGE OF ANY ORIGIN SUSTAINED BY A STRUCTURE WHERE THE COST OF RETURNING THE STRUCTURE TO ITS CONDITION PRIOR TO DAMAGE WOULD EQUAL OR EXCEED 50% OF THE STRUCTURE’S FAIR MARKET VALUE BEFORE THE DAMAGE OCCURRED.

SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT. THE REPAIR, RECONSTRUCTION, OR IMPROVEMENT OF A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE, THE COST OF WHICH IS EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN 50% OF THE FAIR MARKET VALUE OF THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE PRIOR TO DAMAGE, IMPROVEMENT, OR REPAIR.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS DEFINITION, "SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT" OCCURS WHEN THE FIRST ALTERATION OF A WALL, CEILING, FLOOR, OR OTHER STRUCTURAL PART OF THE BUILDING BEGINS, WHETHER OR NOT THAT ALTERATION AFFECTS THE EXTERNAL DIMENSIONS OF THE BUILDING OR STRUCTURE. THE TERM DOES NOT INCLUDE ANY PROJECT FOR IMPROVING A BUILDING OR STRUCTURE TO COMPLY WITH EXISTING STATE OR LOCAL HEALTH, SANITARY, OR HOUSING CODE REQUIREMENTS WHICH
ARE NECESSARY TO ASSURE SAFE LIVING CONDITIONS. THIS TERM DOES NOT
INCLUDE AN ALTERATION OF A HISTORIC STRUCTURE.

VARIANCE. THE GRANT OF RELIEF FROM A TERM OF THIS SUBTITLE.

3111.8 VARIANCES AND WAIVERS. A VARIANCE OR WAIVER OF THIS
SECTION IS NOT ALLOWED.

3111.9 OTHER AGENCIES. A PERMIT ISSUED BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL
UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IS NOT VALID UNTIL ALL NECESSARY PERMITS FOR
THE DEVELOPMENT ARE OBTAINED. RECEIPT OF FEDERAL OR STATE
PERMITS DO NOT EXEMPT A DEVELOPMENT FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THIS
SUBTITLE.

(68) Subsection 3306.10 ACCESSIBILITY DURING CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS.
ADD NEW SUBSECTION 3306.10 AFTER SUBSECTION 3306.9 AS FOLLOWS:

3306.10 ACCESSIBILITY DURING CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS. PRIOR TO
AND DURING CONSTRUCTION, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE AND
MAINTAIN AT ALL TIMES A MINIMUM 12 FOOT WIDE VEHICULAR ACCESS
ROADWAY THAT WILL ALLOW THE UNIMPEDED MOVEMENT OF FIRE OR
EMERGENCY RESCUE VEHICLES FROM AN IMPROVED STREET TO WITHIN 200
FEET OF THE MOST REMOTE BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON THE SITE.
THE VEHICULAR ACCESS ROADWAY SURFACE SHALL BE CRUSHER RUN,
STONE BASE, BLACKTOP, OR OTHER SUITABLE COMPACTED SURFACE
MATERIAL APPROVED BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL.

(69) Section 3313 Construction Site Grading.
ADD NEW SECTION 3313 AFTER SECTION 3312 AS FOLLOWS:

3313 Construction Site Grading.

3313.1 Lot Improvements. Lot Improvements shall provide:

(I) Suitable access from an abutting street to dwellings and
accessory buildings subject to a permit;

(II) Grading which will divert water away from buildings and
prevent standing water and soil saturation detrimental
To structures or lot use;
(III) Disposal of water from lots, except as necessary for controlled irrigation;

(iv) Grades for safe and convenient access to and around buildings or lots for use and maintenance; and

(v) Grades that do not adversely affect adjoining lots.

3313.2 Minimum Gradient. The minimum gradient for concrete or other impervious surfaces shall be 1/16 inch per foot (1/2%). The minimum gradient for pervious surfaces shall be 1/4 inch per foot (2%).

3313.3 Maximum Gradient. Except where restricted by property lines, the maximum gradient shall be 2-1/2 inches (21%) for a minimum of 4 feet away from building walls. Slopes not exceeding 30 inches shall be 1-1/2 to 1. Slopes exceeding 30 inches shall be 2 to 1. The top and bottom of banks at the swales shall be rounded for convenient maintenance.

3313.4 Finish Grading. For areas where the installation of lawn or planting is required, the surface layer of the soil shall be workable, free of debris, and lot finished graded to comply with grading design. Finish grading shall be done when the ground is frost-free and the weather is favorable. Lawn covers shall be provided to prevent the erosion of swales and slopes.

(70) Section 3314 Burial of Construction Debris.

Add new section 3314 after section 3313 as follows:

Section 3314 Burial of Construction Debris.

3314.1 When Prohibited or Permitted. The burial of debris on residential lots equal to or less than half an acre is prohibited. Burial of organic or inorganic debris on residential lots greater than half an acre may be permitted by the Building Official provided that the debris is generated on-site. Burial shall not be located in proposed driveways or parking areas and shall not be located closer than 50 feet from existing or proposed buildings.
ADDITIONAL EXCEPTION TO SUBSECTION 3401.1:

**Exception:** The Maryland Building Rehabilitation Code, codified at Title 12, Subtitle 10 of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, shall govern the rehabilitation of existing buildings in Howard County.

**SECTION 3.102. AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE, 2009 EDITION.**

(A) **In General.**

(1) As used in this section, the term "this Code" means the International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings, 2009 Edition.

(2) As used in this Code, the term "Building Official" means the Director of the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits or the Director’s authorized designee.

(3) Where the name of the jurisdiction is to be indicated in any section of this Code, insert "Howard County".

(4) As used in this Code, the term "Department of Building Safety" means the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits.

(B) **Local Amendments.** The following amendments modify certain provisions of the adopted code.

(1) **Subsection R101.2 Scope.**

Add the following at the end of the subsection:

**R101.2.1 Subdivision and Land Development.** If a site development plan is required by the Howard County Subdivision Regulations, a permit shall not be issued until the site development plan is approved.

**R101.2.2 Site Work and Safeguards.** The requirements of the International Building Code, Chapter 33, shall apply for site work and safeguards during construction.
R101.2.3 Swimming pools and barrier requirements. The requirements of Appendix G shall apply for the design and installation of swimming pools and barriers.

Exception: alternative devices. Natural barriers, pool covers, or other protective devices approved by the Building Official shall be an acceptable enclosure if the degree of protection afforded by the substituted device or structure is greater than the protection afforded by the enclosures, gates, and latches described herein.

(2) Subsection R102.2 other laws.

Add the following to the end of this subsection:

R102.2.1 Residential sprinkler. Residential sprinkler systems installed in accordance with Section 903.3.1.3 of the International Building Code, 2009 edition, are allowed for townhouse sprinkler systems required by the fire laws contained in the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

R102.2.2 Industrialized (modular) construction. The construction standards of the Industrialized Building and Manufactured Homes Act, codified at Title 12, Subtitle 3 of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland shall apply to industrialized (modular) buildings.

Exception: the Howard County Fire Prevention Code, Subdivision and Land Development Regulations, Zoning Regulations, and sediment and erosion control regulations apply to the construction of industrial (modular) buildings. The requirements of this Code shall apply to the foundation and site work associated with the installation of industrialized (modular) buildings.

R102.2.3 Manufactured housing. The construction standards of the Federal Mobile Home Act and the Industrialized Building and Manufactured Homes Act, codified at Title 12, Subtitle 3 of the
PUBLIC SAFETY ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND SHALL APPLY.

EXCEPTION: THE HOWARD COUNTY FIRE PREVENTION CODE, SUBDIVISION AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, ZONING REGULATIONS, AND SEDIMENT AND EROSION CONTROL REGULATIONS APPLY TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF MANUFACTURED HOMES. THE REQUIREMENTS OF APPENDIX E OF THIS CODE, FOR DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF FOOTINGS, FOUNDATIONS, SKIRTING AND PERIMETER ENCLOSURES, EXITS, PIERS, AND GROUND ANCHORS SHALL APPLY FOR THE SITING OF MANUFACTURED HOMES.

(3) Subsection R102.4 Referenced codes and standards.
Add the following to the end of this Subsection:

R102.4.1 Whenever in this Code the term “NFPA 70 National Electrical Code” is used, it shall mean the Electrical Code for Howard County adopted pursuant to Title 3, Subtitle 2 of the Howard County Code.

R102.4.2 Whenever in this Code the term “International Plumbing Code” is used, it shall mean the Plumbing and Gasfitting Code for Howard County adopted pursuant to Title 3, Subtitle 3 of the Howard County Code.

R102.4.3 Whenever in this Code the term “International Fire Code” is used, it shall mean the Howard County Fire Prevention Code adopted pursuant to Section 17.104 of the Howard County Code.

R102.4.4 Whenever in this Code the term “International Fuel Gas Code” is used, it shall mean the Plumbing and Gasfitting Code for Howard County adopted pursuant to Title 3, Subtitle 3 of the Howard County Code.

R102.4.5 Whenever in this Code the term “International Private Sewage Disposal Code” is used, it shall mean Howard County water and sewer regulations adopted in Title 18, Subtitle 1,
Table R301.2(1) Climate and Geographical Design Criteria.
IN TABLE R301.2(1) INSERT THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

(i) In the column for “GROUND SNOW LOAD”, insert “25 LB”;
(ii) In the column for “WIND DESIGN”, insert “90” under “SPEED” and “NO” under “TOPOGRAPHIC EFFECTS”;
(iii) In the column for “SEISMIC DESIGN CATEGORY”, insert “B”;
(iv) In the column for “SUBJECT TO DAMAGE FROM”, under “WEATHERING” insert “SEVERE”, under “FROST LINE DEPTH” insert “30” and under “TERMITE” insert “MDD-HEAVY”;
(v) In the column for “WINTER DESIGN”, insert “13”;
(vi) In the column for “ICE BARRIER UNDERLAYMENT REQUIRED”, insert “YES”;
(vii) In the column for “FLOOR HAZARDS”, insert “SEE FLOOD MAPS”;
(viii) In the column for “AIR FREEZING INDEX” insert “500”; AND
(vix) In the column for “MEAN ANNUAL TEMP” insert “55”.

(8) Subsection R301.2.4 Floodplain construction.

In the exception to this subsection, delete “ASCE 24” and substitute “SECTION 3111, FLOODPLAIN, OF THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE”.

(9) Subsection R301.2.4.1 Alternative provisions.

Delete this subsection.

(10) Subsection R308.4 Hazardous locations.

In number 2, at the end of the last sentence of Exception Number 5, insert “OR SAFETY GLAZE FILM IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANSI Z97.1”.

(11) Subsection R310.1 Emergency escape and rescue required.

Add a second exception to this subsection as follows:

**Exception 2:** Residences with NFPA 13D sprinkler systems shall meet the requirements of this section and do not need additional bedroom or basement egress.

(12) Subsection R311.7.1 Width.

Amend this subsection as follows:
(i) In the last sentence, delete “27 inches (698 mm)” and substitute “28 inches”; and

(ii) Add a second exception to this subsection as follows:

**Exception 2:** Secondary or auxiliary stairways shall not be less than 28 inches wide.

(13) **Subsection R311.7.7.2 Continuity.**

Add a third exception as follows:

**Exception 3:** Where walls are non-continuous, alternative non-continuous handrails may be accepted subject to the approval of the building official.

(14) **Subsection R311.7.7.3 Handrail Grip Size.**

Delete the last sentence of both Type I and Type II and substitute, in each instance:

Edges shall have a cross section of dimension of 3 ¼ inches.

(15) **Subsection R312.1 Where Required.**

At the end of this subsection insert the following:

Decks, porches, screened porches, and balconies or raised floor surfaces shall have guards as follows:

(A) When the elevation difference between floor or grade levels is 48 inches or greater, a guard rail at least 36 inches high shall be affixed to the structure.

(B) When the elevation difference between floor or grade levels is greater than 30 inches and less than 48 inches, a guard rail at least 36 inches high shall be erected or a fixed barricade such as planters, seats or benches shall be placed around the perimeter.

(C) When the elevation difference between floor or grade levels is 30 inches or less guards are not required.
(15) **Subsection R313.2 One- and Two-Family Dwellings Automatic Fire Systems.**

After “Effective” insert “for all building permits applied for on or after”.

(16) **Subsection R320.1 Scope.**

Delete this subsection and substitute the following:

**R320.1 Scope.** Accessible dwelling units shall comply with the provisions of the Maryland Accessibility Code.

(17) **Subsection R322.1 General.**

In the exception to this subsection, delete “ASCE 24” and substitute “Section 3111, Floodplain, of the Howard County Building Code”.

(18) **Section R324 Sound Transmission.**

Add new section R324 after R323 as follows:

**R324 Sound Transmission.** The requirements of Appendix K shall apply to the construction of all new residential buildings.

(19) **Appendix K, Section AK102.1 General.**

In the first sentence, delete “45” and substitute “50”.

(20) **Appendix K, Section AK103.1 General.**

In the first sentence, delete “45” and substitute “50”.

(21) **Section R325 Radon Control.**

Add new section R325 after Section R324 as follows:

**Section R325 Radon Control.** Radon control methods set forth in Appendix F, shall apply to the construction of new residential buildings.

(22) **Section R326 Option to Install Residential Automatic Sprinkler Systems.**

Add new section R326 after R325 as follows:

**R326 Option to Install Residential Automatic Sprinkler Systems.**
R326.1 Option to Buyer. A seller of a new single family dwelling shall offer the initial buyer an option to install a residential automatic sprinkler system. At the time of signature of the real estate sales contract the buyer shall acknowledge receipt of the disclosure information required in subsection R326.2 of this section and shall indicate whether the buyer intends to exercise the option to install a residential automatic sprinkler system to improve the life safety of the occupant and to reduce property damage from fire.

R326.2 Disclosure of Information. At the time of signature of a real estate sales contract, a seller shall give the initial buyer information regarding a residential automatic sprinkler system on a form provided by the Department of Fire and Rescue Services. A seller shall disclose the estimated cost of installing a residential automatic sprinkler system to a buyer.

R326.3 Notice. After signature of a real estate sales contract and prior to the issuance of a permit for the construction of a new single family dwelling, a seller shall notify the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits, with a copy to the Department of Fire and Rescue Services, that the seller complied with the requirements of subsections R326.1 and R326.2 of this section. The notification shall be on a form provided by the Department of Fire and Rescue Services.

R326.4 Penalty for Failure to Provide Option and Notice. Failure to offer the buyer the option to install an automatic sprinkler system, or failure to provide the required notification to the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits is cause to withhold the issuance of the building permit for the dwelling.

R326.5 Applicability. This section shall not apply to:

(i) New homes constructed on lots where the water and sewer construction plans received final approval prior to
JANUARY 1, 2005, IF THE HOUSE CONNECTION OR WATER PRESSURE
WILL NOT SUPPORT A RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLER SYSTEM; OR

(ii) NEW HOMES FOR WHICH THE CONTRACT OF SALE WAS SIGNED PRIOR
to JANUARY 1, 2005.

R326.6 SELLER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT. THE SELLER IS DEEMED TO BE THE
buyer, may exercise the option required in subsection R326.1, and
sign the disclosure form required in subsection R326.2 only if:

(i) THERE IS NO SIGNED CONTRACT OF SALE AT THE TIME THE SELLER IS
issued a permit for the construction of the single family
dwelling; or

(ii) THERE IS NO BUYER AT THE TIME THE SELLER IS ISSUED A PERMIT
for the construction of the single family dwelling.

(23) Subsection R403.1.4.1 Frost protection.
Delete exception numbers 1 and 3.

(24) Table R404.1.2(8) Minimum vertical reinforcement for 6-, 8-, 10-inch
and 12-inch nominal flat basement walls.
In the column titled “Minimum vertical reinforcement bar size
and spacing”, for the soil class “GM, GC, SM, SM-SC and ML”:

(i) In the sub-column titled “Minimum nominal wall thickness
(inches)”, for 8 inches:

A. For maximum wall height of 8 feet and maximum
unbalanced backfill height of 7 feet, change the
minimum vertical reinforcement size and spacing,
minimum nominal wall thickness from “5 @ 41” to
“NR”; and

B. For maximum wall height of 9 feet and maximum
unbalanced backfill height of 7 feet, change the
minimum vertical reinforcement size and spacing,
minimum nominal wall thickness from “5 @ 37” to
“NR”; and
(II) In the sub-column titled “Minimal Nominal Wall Thickness (inches)”; for 10 inches, for a maximum wall height of 9 feet and a maximum unbalanced backfill height of 8 feet, change the minimum vertical reinforcement size and spacing minimum wall thickness from “5 @ 37” to “NR”.

(25) Subsection R405.1 Concrete or Masonry Foundations.

Amend this subsection as follows:

(I) delete the exception to this subsection; and

(II) add new subsection R405.1.2 after subsection 405.1.1 as follows:

R405.1.2 Foundation Drains. Subsoil drains having a minimum 3 inch diameter or other approved drains of equivalent cross sectional area shall be provided around foundations enclosing usable spaces located below grade. Drains shall be installed on the exterior of the foundation or on the interior of the foundation with pipes of at least a 2-inch diameter leading to the exterior every 4 feet around the perimeter of the foundation. In each case, the top of the drain shall be below the bottom of slab. Drains for poured concrete foundation may be placed on top of the footing. Subsoil drains shall be covered with a minimum of a 4-inch depth of gravel or washed stone and building paper, filter cloth, or other approved material. The end of a subsoil drain shall discharge by gravity or by mechanical means to an approved drainage outfall.

(26) Subsection R602.10.3 Minimum Length of Braced Panels.

After the first sentence insert the following:

WSP method is the preferred method of sheathing. If a method other than WSP method is used, then detailed site-specific plans showing the specific location, length, and nailing methods of
PANELS AND WHETHER ANY SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT/HARDWARE, ETC. WILL BE REQUIRED. SUCH DETAILED PLANS SHALL ALWAYS BE REQUIRED, EVEN IF UTILIZING THE WSP METHOD, FOR WALLS WITH LARGE-OPENINGS (E.G. SUNROOM/MORNING ROOMS AND GARAGE OPENINGS). IN ADDITION, ALL PROJECTS WITH SITE-SPECIFIC DETAILED PLANS (I.E. ALL PROJECTS NOT BRACED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE WSP METHOD AND THE PORTION OF LARGE-OPENING WALL SECTIONS MENTIONED ABOVE) WILL REQUIRE INSPECTION PRIOR TO THE INSTALLATION OF EXTERIOR WALL WEATHERPROOFING (E.G. HOUSE WRAPS, SIDING, ETC).

(27) **Subsection M1401.1.1 HVAC Permit Required.**

Add new subsection M1401.1.1 after subsection M1401.1 as follows:

**M1401.1.1 HVAC Permit Required.** A HVAC permit is required for every system installed in a new single family dwelling or new single family addition.

(28) **Subsection M1401.3.1 Plans and Information Required.**

Add new subsection M1401.3.1 after subsection M1401.3 as follows:

**M1401.3.1 Plans and Information Required.** Each permit application shall be accompanied by a simplified, but accurate, plan drawn to scale which shall include:

(i) An information block with the:

A. Specific building address (not lot number);

B. Name of the company or person doing work;

C. Name of the licensee and their signature;

D. State license registration number;

E. Scale used; and

F. North arrow;

(ii) Rooms, windows, exterior doors, or other relevant construction features including, but not limited to, skylights, porches, attic access to equipment that may
AFFECT THE INTEGRITY OF THE HVAC SYSTEM AND ITS INSTALLATION; AND

(III) A LINE DRAWING OF HVACR SYSTEM COMPONENTS SUPERIMPOSED ON THE PLAN SHOWING THE LOCATION, DIMENSION, AND RELEVANT ELEMENTS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

A. INTERIOR OR EXTERIOR HVACR EQUIPMENT;
B. DUCT TRUNK LINES AND TRANSITIONS;
C. BRANCH DUCTS/RUN-OUTS, DAMPERS, AND REGISTERS WITH CFM RATINGS;
D. THERMOSTATS;
E. RETURN DUCTS AND GRILLS; AND
F. DUCT INSULATION; AND

(IV) A SUMMARY OF MANUAL J CALCULATIONS FOR THE PROPOSED WORK.

(29) **CHAPTER 24 THROUGH CHAPTER 43.** DELETE THESE CHAPTERS, INCLUSIVE AND IN THEIR ENTIRETY.

**SECTION 3.103. AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE, 2009 EDITION.**

(A) **IN GENERAL.**

(1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, THE TERM “THIS CODE” MEANS THE INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE, 2009 EDITION.

(2) AS USED IN THIS CODE, THE TERM "BUILDING OFFICIAL" MEANS THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS OR THE DIRECTOR’S AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE.

(3) WHERE THE NAME OF THE JURISDICTION IS TO BE INDICATED IN ANY SECTION OF THIS CODE, INSERT "HOWARD COUNTY".

(4) AS USED IN THIS CODE, THE TERM "DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL INSPECTION" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS, LICENSES AND PERMITS.
(B) LOCAL AMENDMENTS. THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS MODIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ADOPTED CODE:

(1) **SUBSECTION 101.2 SCOPE.**

Add a second exception to this subsection as follows:

**EXCEPTION:** EXISTING BUILDINGS UNDERGOING REPAIR, ALTERATION, ADDITION, OR CHANGE OF OCCUPANCY MAY COMPLY WITH THE MARYLAND REHABILITATION CODE.

(2) **SUBSECTION 101.5 ADMINISTRATION.**

Add new subsection 101.5 after subsection 101.4 as follows:

**101.5 ADMINISTRATION.** SECTIONS 103 THROUGH 118 OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE, 2009 EDITION, ADOPTED IN THIS SUBTITLE, SHALL GOVERN THE ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THIS CODE.

(3) **SUBSECTION 101.6 REFERENCED CODES.**

Add new subsection 101.6 after subsection 101.5 as follows:

**101.6 REFERENCED CODES.** THE CODES LISTED IN THIS SECTION AND REFERENCED ELSEWHERE IN THIS CODE SHALL BE CONSIDERED PART OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS CODE TO THE PRESCRIBED EXTENT OF EACH SUCH REFERENCE.

**101.6.1** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE HOWARD COUNTY BUILDING CODE ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBTITLE.

**101.6.2** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “NFPA 70 NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE ELECTRICAL CODE FOR HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO TITLE 3, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.

**101.6.3** WHENEVER IN THIS CODE THE TERM “INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CODE” IS USED, IT SHALL MEAN THE PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE FOR HOWARD COUNTY ADOPTED PURSUANT TO TITLE 3, SUBTITLE 3 OF THE HOWARD COUNTY CODE.
101.6.4 Whenever in this Code the term “INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE” is used, it shall mean the Howard County Fire Prevention Code adopted pursuant to Section 17.104 of the Howard County Code.

101.6.5 Whenever in this Code the term “INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE” is used, it shall mean the Plumbing and Gasfitting Code for Howard County adopted pursuant to Title 3, Subtitle 3 of the Howard County Code.

101.6.6 Whenever in this Code the term “INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE” is used, it shall mean the Energy Conservation Code of Howard County adopted pursuant to Section 3.104 of this Subtitle.

(4) Subsection 102.1 General.

Add an exception to subsection 102.1 as follows:

Exception: Alternative features which are accepted by the Building Official shall be considered in conformance with all codes, provided that the overall level of health, safety and welfare of the Code requirement is not diminished by the alternative feature.

(5) Section 103 through Section 109.

Delete Section 103 through Section 109, inclusive and in their entirety.

(6) Subsection 301.13 Flood hazard.

In the exception to this subsection, delete “INTERNATIONAL BUILDING Code” and substitute “Section 3111 of the Howard County Building Code.”

(7) Subsection 307.2.2 Drainpipe materials and sizes

In the third sentence, delete “the applicable provisions of Chapter 7 of”.

(8) Subsection 513.12.3 Automatic control.

Delete “INTERNATIONAL FIRE Code” and substitute “INTERNATIONAL BUILDING Code”.

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SECTION. 3.104. AMENDMENTS TO THE ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE, 2009 EDITION.

(A) **In General.**

(1) As used in this section, the term “this Code” means the International Energy Conservation Code, 2009 edition.

(2) As used in this Code, the term "Code Official" means the Director of the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits or the Director’s authorized designee.

(3) Where the name of the jurisdiction is to be indicated in any section of this Code, insert "Howard County ".

(B) **Local Amendments.** The following amendments modify certain provisions of the adopted code:

(1) **Subsection 101.1 Title.**

Delete this subsection and insert the following:

**101.1 Title.** These regulations shall be known as the Energy Conservation Code of Howard County.

(2) **Subsection 101.6 Referenced Codes.**

Add new subsection 101.6 after subsection 101.5 as follows:

**101.6 Referenced Codes.** The codes listed in this section and referenced elsewhere in this Code shall be considered part of the requirements of this Code to the prescribed extent of each such reference.

**101.6.1** Whenever in this Code the term “International Building Code” is used, it shall mean the Howard County Building Code adopted pursuant to this subtitle.

**101.6.2** Whenever in this Code the term “NFPA 70 National Electrical Code” is used, it shall mean the Electrical Code for Howard County adopted pursuant to Title 3, Subtitle 2 of the Howard County Code.

**101.6.3** Whenever in this Code the term “International Plumbing Code” is used, it shall mean the Plumbing and Gasfitting Code for
Howard County adopted pursuant to Title 3, Subtitle 3 of the Howard County Code.

**101.6.4** Whenever in this Code the term “International Fire Code” is used, it shall mean the Howard County Fire Prevention Code adopted pursuant to Section 17.104 of the Howard County Code.

**101.6.5** Whenever in this Code the term “International Fuel Gas Code” is used, it shall mean the Plumbing and Gasfitting Code for Howard County adopted pursuant to Title 3, Subtitle 3 of the Howard County Code.

**101.6.6** Whenever in this Code the term “International Mechanical Code” is used, it shall mean the Mechanical Code of Howard County adopted pursuant to Section 3.103 of this Subtitle.

**(3)** Section 101.7 Administration.

Add new subsection 101.7 after subsection 101.6 as follows:

**101.7 Administration:** Sections 103 through 118 of the International Building Code, 2009 edition, adopted in this subtitle, shall govern the administration and enforcement of this Code.

**(4)** Section 103 through section 109.

Delete sections 103 through 109, inclusive and in their entirety.

**(5)** Section 202 General Definitions.

Delete the definition of “code official” and substitute “the Building Official as defined in the Howard County Building Code.”

**(6)** Section 401.3 Certificate.

Delete this section.

**Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted** by the County Council of Howard County,

Maryland, that Section 3.302 “Adoption of plumbing and gasfitting code” is added;

subsection (c) of Section 3.303 “Administration and enforcement” is amended;
subsection (e) of section 3.305 “Permits” is amended; all of Subtitle 3 “Plumbing and Gasfitting Regulations” of Title 3 “Buildings” of the Howard County Code as follows:

Title 3. Buildings.
Subtitle 3. Plumbing and Gasfitting Regulations.

SECTION 3.302. ADOPTION OF PLUMBING AND GASFITTING CODE.

(A) ADOPTION OF NATIONAL CODES AS COUNTY CODE. The 2009 edition of the National Standard Plumbing Code Illustrated, published by the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors-National Association including Appendix G, all as modified by local amendments, and the National Fuel Gas Code (NFPA54-2009), published by the National Fire Protection Association, are adopted as the Plumbing and Gasfitting Code for Howard County as if the National Standard Plumbing Code Illustrated and the National Fuel Gas Code were set out in full in this subtitle.

(B) LOCAL AMENDMENTS TO THE NATIONAL STANDARD PLUMBING CODE ILLUSTRATED. The following local amendments modify certain provisions of the National Standard Plumbing Code Illustrated:

(1) SECTION ADM 1.4.6 MOVED BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES.
At the end of this section, insert the following:

An industrialized structure approved by the State of Maryland is exempt from the provisions of this subtitle.

(2) SECTION ADM 1.6 ORGANIZATION AND ENFORCEMENT.
Delete this section.

(3) SECTION ADM 1.7 VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES.
Delete this section.

(4) SECTION ADM 1.8 PERMITS.
Delete this section.

(5) SECTION ADM 1.9 PROCESS FOR OBTAINING PERMITS.
Delete this section.
SECTION ADM 1.10 PERMITS.

DELETE THIS SECTION.

SECTION ADM 1.11 INSPECTIONS.

DELETE THIS SECTION.

SECTION ADM 1.12 FINAL CONNECTIONS.

DELETE THIS SECTION.

SECTION ADM 1.13 UNCONSTITUTIONALITY.

DELETE THIS SECTION.

BASIC PRINCIPLES.

ADD PRINCIPLE NO. 23 AFTER PRINCIPLE NO. 22 AS FOLLOWS:

PRINCIPLE NO. 23 - PIPING THROUGH ADJACENT PROPERTY. Sewer, water, and gas piping shall not be installed through property other than the property to be served.

EXCEPTION: Piping proposed to pass through property other than the property to be served may be installed through a right-of-way or recorded easement with the permission of the authority having jurisdiction, provided that:

(i) All privileges of a right-of-way or recorded easement are obtained by the property owner desiring service, without any cost, liability, or damage to Howard County;

(ii) The recorded easement or right-of-way meets all requirements of the authority having jurisdiction; and

(iii) The recorded easement or right-of-way shall be granted and conveyed by formal deed recorded in the land records of Howard County.

SECTION 1.2 DEFINITION OF TERMS.

(i) AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION.

Delete the definition and substitute the following:

AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION: The authority having jurisdiction is the Director of the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits or the Director’s
AUTHORIZED DESIGNEE.

Insert the following definitions in alphabetical order, as appropriate:

A. **GASFITTING:** The installation or maintenance of gas piping and equipment designed for the utilization of gas.

B. **GASOLINE SERVICE STATION:** A facility offering retail sales to the public of gasoline, motor oil, lubricants, motor fuels, travel aids, and minor automobile accessories. A gasoline service station may also provide motor vehicle service, repairs, and maintenance including, but not limited to, painting and body work.

C. **LICENSED MASTER PLUMBER:** An individual licensed by the Maryland State Board of Plumbing to provide plumbing services.

D. **MASTER GASFITTER:** An individual licensed by the Maryland State Board of Plumbing to provide gasfitting services.

E. **ON-SITE UTILITY:** A water, sewer, or storm drain system serving private property extending from the property line to a distance of 5 feet from any newly constructed improvement on a property. An on-site utility shall include a final connection to a public or private water, sanitary sewer, or storm drain system. An on-site utility shall not include a connection that is within 5 feet from any newly constructed improvement on the property.

F. **ON-SITE UTILITY CONTRACTOR:** A person, company, firm, or corporation whose official holds a Howard County On-Site Utility Contractor's License.
G. **ON-SITE UTILITY WORK:** The installation, repair, or maintenance of any on-site utility.

H. **PLUMBING PERMIT, EXPRESS:** A prepaid residential permit that can be used by a master plumber for the installation of up to 5 plumbing fixtures.

I. **PLUMBING PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS:** Any plan or specification required by the authority having jurisdiction and by Section 107.2.1.1 of the Howard County Building Code prior to issuance of a plumbing permit.

(12) **SECTION 2.6.10 TRENCHLESS PIPE REPLACEMENT SYSTEMS.**
DELETE THIS SECTION.

(13) **SECTION 2.10 EXCLUSION OF MATERIALS DETRIMENTAL TO THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM.**
DELETE THIS SECTION AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:

2.10. **DISCHARGES TO THE PUBLIC SEWER SYSTEM.** Any discharge to the public sewer system shall conform to the standards and requirements of Section 18.122A, “REGULATION OF DISCHARGES TO THE PUBLIC SEWER SYSTEMS”, of the Howard County Code.

(14) **SECTION 2.16 FREEZING OR OVERHEATING.**
AMEND THIS SECTION AS FOLLOWS:

(i) IN NUMBERED LINE “A1.”, INSERT “36” BEFORE “INCHES”; AND,

(ii) IN NUMBERED LINE “A2.”:

A. INSERT “30” BEFORE THE FIRST “INCHES”; AND

B. DELETE THE SECOND SENTENCE THAT BEGINS “MINIMUM EARTH”.

(15) **SECTION 2.19 CONNECTION TO WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS.**
DELETE THIS SECTION.

(16) **SECTION 3.4.2 WATER SERVICE PIPING.**
AFTER THE LAST SENTENCE INSERT THE FOLLOWING:

WHEN USED UNDERGROUND, COPPER TUBE OR COPPER PIPE SHALL NOT BE
LESS THAN TYPE L.

SECTION 3.5.4 PLASTIC PIPING.
DELETE THE SECOND SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPHS A AND B AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH INSTANCE:
PIPE AND FITTINGS WITHIN BUILDINGS SHALL BE SCHEDULE 40.

SECTION 3.6.3 PLASTIC PIPING.
DELETE THE SECOND SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPHS A AND B AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH INSTANCE:
PIPE AND FITTINGS WITHIN BUILDINGS SHALL BE SCHEDULE 40.

SECTION 3.7.5 PLASTIC PIPING.
DELETE THE SECOND SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPHS A AND B AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH INSTANCE:
PIPE AND FITTINGS WITHIN BUILDINGS SHALL BE SCHEDULE 40.

TABLE 3.1.3 PART III NON-METALLIC PIPE AND FITTINGS.
IN ITEM 59, DELETE THE COMMENT UNDER “ASTM F714-2008”THAT BEGINS WITH “SEE” AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:
(MINIMUM SDR VALUES FOR TRENCHLESS SYSTEMS –SEE TABLES 3.4.3.5, AND 3.7).

TABLE 3.5 MATERIALS FOR SANITARY WASTE AND DRAIN.
AMEND THIS TABLE AS FOLLOWS:
(i) IN ITEM 13, AFTER “ASTM F714”, DELETE “(6)” AND
(ii) IN THE NOTES FOR TABLE 3.5, DELETE NOTE NUMBER 6.

TABLE 5.2 MINIMUM SIZE OF NON-INTEGRAL TRAPS.
IN THE ROW FOR “SHOWER STALL OR SHOWER DRAIN (SINGLE SHOWER HEAD)”, DELETE “1-1/2” AND SUBSTITUTE “2”.

SECTION 5.4.2 BUILDING SEWER.
DELETE “VERTICALLY TO OR ABOVE” AND SUBSTITUTE “TO”.

SECTION 5.4.10 MANHOLES FOR LARGE PIPES.
AMEND THIS SECTION AS FOLLOWS:
(i) IN ITEM A, DELETE “12” ” AND SUBSTITUTE “8 INCHES”;
(ii) IN ITEM A, DELETE “300” AND SUBSTITUTE “400”; AND
(iii) Amend figure 5.4.10, Location and Spacing of Manholes to reflect the amendments included in this paragraph.

(25) Section 5.5.1 Where Required.
In item c, after “public”, insert “or private”.

(26) Section 6.2.10 Interceptor Sizing.
Add new subsection c to read as follows:
c. The minimum size allowed for hydro-mechanical interceptors and grease removal devices shall be 35 GPM. The minimum size allowed for gravity interceptors shall be 750 gallons.

(27) Section 7.2 Fixtures for Accessible Use.
Delete this section and substitute the following:

7.2 Fixtures for Accessible Use. Plumbing fixtures, materials, and clearances shall comply with the Maryland Accessibility Code.

(28) Section 7.10.4 Shower Waste Outlet.
In item a, in the first sentence, delete “1-½”” and substitute “2”.

(29) Section 7.15.2 Residential Sink and Dishwasher.
Delete the last sentence.

(30) Section 7.15.3 Residential Sink, Dishwasher and Food-Waste-Grinder.
Delete the last sentence.

(31) Table 7.21.1 Minimum Number of Required Plumbing Fixtures.
Amend this table as follows:

(I) In item number 6 “Mercantile”, under “see notes” add note number 21.

(II) In “Notes for Table 7.21.1.”, add the following:
21. All gasoline service stations shall provide toilet facilities to the public when open for business. There shall be a separate toilet facility for men and women.

(32) Section 7.21.4 Separate Facilities.
In exception number (4), delete “1500” and substitute “3000”.

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(33) **SECTION 7.21.7 FACILITIES IN MERCANTILE AND BUSINESS OCCUPANCIES**

SERVING CUSTOMERS.

In item E, delete “1500 square feet in total floor area” and substitute “3000 square feet in total floor area or of net sales area in mercantile occupancies”.

(34) **SECTION 9.3.1 General.**

Delete subsection C and the exceptions and substitute the following:

C. Except in a dwelling where a kitchen sink trap or food waste disposer may receive discharge from a dishwasher, a plumbing fixture that is used for a domestic or culinary purpose shall not be used as a receptor for indirect waste.

(35) **SECTION 9.3.1.1 In a Single Family Detached Dwelling Unit, Inside Drains for Condensate and Pressure/Temperature Relief Valves.**

Add new section 9.3.1.1 after section 9.3.1 as follows:

**SECTION 9.3.1.1 In a Single Family Detached Dwelling Unit, Inside Drains for Condensate and Pressure/Temperature Relief Valves.** An inside drain for condensate or a pressure/temperature relief valve is required to go to an indirect waste receptor inside a building. The indirect waste receptor shall be a 2-inch diameter, **deep seal trap of not less than 6 inches**, located under the floor slab. A 3-inch by 2-inch increaser may be installed and cut flush to the floor after pouring the slab. Breaking off the receptor pipe by other means such as with a hammer or by kicking will result in a failed inspection and the damaged pipe shall be cutout and repaired. The deep seal trap shall be piped to the sump crock.

The pressure/temperature relief valve may be discharged into the center of the increaser, as long as a visible air gap is maintained. The air gap shall be at least twice the diameter of the discharge pipe. A condensation line may be inserted into the
INCREASER WITHOUT AN AIR GAP. THE SEAL HAS THE EFFECT OF CONFINING THE RADON TO THE CONTROL SYSTEM. A HOME BUYER SHOULD BE REMINDED DURING THEIR WALK-THROUGH THAT THE TRAP SHOULD BE FLUSHED FROM TIME TO TIME WHEN IT IS NOT OTHERWISE BEING PRIMED BY CONDENSATION.

(36) **SECTION 9.3.3 PROHIBITED LOCATIONS.**
DELETE THE EXCEPTION.

(37) **SECTION 9.3.4 STANDPIPES.**
DELETE THE SECOND SENTENCE AND FIGURE 9.3.4C LABELED AS “LAUNDRY TRAY AND CLOTHES WASHER DRAIN”.

(38) **SECTION 9.4.3 AIR CONDITIONING CONDENSATE.**
AMEND THIS SECTION AS FOLLOWS:

(i) DELETE 9.4.3C.1.;
(ii) INSERT THE FOLLOWING AT THE END OF 9.4.3C.4.:
A SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING UNIT SHALL NOT DISCHARGE CONDENSATE UNDERGROUND TO A FRENCH DRAIN.
(iii) DELETE 9.4.3C.5.; AND
(iv) DELETE FIGURE 9.4.3-B, EXAMPLE C (THE BOTTOM HALF OF THAT FIGURE TITLED “EXAMPLES OF LAVATORY OR BATHTUB CONDENSATE CONNECTIONS”).

(39) **SECTION 10.5.9 PROTECTION FROM FIRE SYSTEMS.**
IN EXCEPTION NUMBER (4), AFTER “CONNECTION”, INSERT “CONNECTED TO A POTABLE WATER SUPPLY LOCATED WITHIN 1700 FEET OF A NON-POTABLE WATER SOURCE”.

(40) **SECTION 10.15.8 PLASTIC PIPING.**
DELETE ITEM E.

(41) **SECTION 10.15.9.1 WHERE REQUIRED.**
INSERT THE FOLLOWING AT THE END OF THIS SECTION:
A DRIP PAN SHALL BE INSTALLED TO PREVENT LEAKAGE UNDER AN AUTOMATIC CLOTHES WASHER.

(42) **SECTION 10.15.9.3 DRAINAGE.**
IN ITEM A, DELETE “, OR EXTEND TO” THROUGH THE END OF THE SENTENCE.

SECTION 10.16.6 RELIEF VALVE DISCHARGE PIPING.
AMEND THIS SECTION AS FOLLOWS:
(i) DELETE SUBSECTION 10.16.6.E; AND
(ii) RENUMBER ITEMS F AND G TO BE E AND F, RESPECTIVELY.

SECTION 11.2.3 BUILDING SEWER AND BUILDING DRAIN SIZE.
INSERT THE FOLLOWING AFTER THE FIRST SENTENCE:
A BUILDING DRAIN SHALL BE A MINIMUM OF 4 INCHES IN DIAMETER TO THE
FIRST 3-INCH DIAMETER STACK, RUNNING UNDIMINISHED IN SIZE WITH NO
MORE THAN A 45 DEGREE OFFSET FROM THE VERTICAL THROUGH TO THE
OPEN AIR ABOVE THE ROOF.

TABLE 11.4.1 DRAINAGE FIXTURE UNIT (DFU) VALUES.
UNDER THE HEADING “INDIVIDUAL FIXTURES”, DELETE THE ENTIRE ROW
“SHOWER STALL, 1-1/2” TRAP”

SECTION 11.5.5 MINIMUM SIZE OF UNDERGROUND DRAINAGE PIPING.
DELETE THE EXCEPTION.

SECTION 11.7.1 BUILDING SUBDRAINS.
ON FIGURE 11.7.1 “A BUILDING SUBDRAIN AND SEWAGE PUMP”, DELETE
NOTE 1.

SECTION 11.7.11 HIGH WATER ALARMS.
DELETE THIS SECTION.

SECTION 12.8.2 PROVISION FOR VENTING FUTURE FIXTURES.
DELETE “INSTALLED” THROUGH THE END OF THE SENTENCE AND
SUBSTITUTE: “CONNECTED TO THE VENT PIPING IN THE BASEMENT AND
EXTENDED THROUGH THE ATTIC TO THE OPEN AIR ABOVE THE ROOF”.

SECTION 12.12.1 RESERVED.
DELETE “RESERVED” AND SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING:
12.12.1 WHERE REQUIRED.
WHERE FIXTURES OTHER THAN WATER CLOSETS DISCHARGE INTO A
HORIZONTAL DRAIN BRANCH DOWNSTREAM FROM A WATER CLOSET, EACH
FIXTURE CONNECTING DOWNSTREAM SHALL BE INDIVIDUALLY VENTED.
EXCEPTIONS:

1. FIXTURES HAVING A COMMON VENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12.9.1.

2. LAVATORIES OR SINKS ON HORIZONTAL BRANCHES COMPLYING WITH SECTION 12.12.2.

3. FIXTURES CONNECTED TO A STACK ABOVE THE HIGHEST WATER CLOSET OR BATHTUB IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12.12.3.

4. FIXTURES THAT ARE PERMITTED TO WASH DOWN VENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12.12.4.

5. FIXTURES THAT ARE BATTERY-VENTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12.13.

(51) SECTION 12.16.6 AGGREGATE SIZE OF VENT TERMINALS.

DELETE ITEM D.

(52) SECTION 12.16.7 UNDERGROUND VENT PIPING.

DELETE “1-1/2” AND SUBSTITUTE “2 INCHES”.

(53) SECTION 12.21 RELIEF VENT FOR BUILDING SEWER.

ADD NEW SECTION 12.21 AFTER SECTION 12.20 AS FOLLOWS:

**12.21 RELIEF VENT FOR BUILDING SEWER.**

**12.21.1 WHERE REQUIRED.**

(i) A RELIEF VENT SHALL BE PROVIDED ON A BUILDING DRAIN BETWEEN A BUILDING SEWER AND THE FIRST FIXTURE CONNECTION IF:

A. THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM DISCHARGES TO A SEPTIC TANK; OR

B. THE BUILDING SEWER CONNECTS TO A PUBLIC SEWER THAT IS SUBJECT TO OVERLOAD OR SURCHARGE AND A RELIEF VENT IS REQUIRED BY THE AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION; OR

(ii) THE SUBMERGED CONDITION IN EITHER THE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE POINT OF DISPOSAL IS A FORM OF “DOUBLE TRAPPING” OF THE SYSTEM. THE AIR IN THE BUILDING DRAIN AND THE BUILDING SEWER SHALL BE RELIEVED AS THE DISCHARGE FLOWS DOWNSTREAM. THE AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION IS USUALLY FAMILIAR WITH SITES
WHERE THE SEWER SYSTEM IS OVERLOADED.

12.21.2 Vent Size. A relief vent for a building sewer shall not be less than half the size of the building drain to which it connects or less than 2 inches in size.

12.21.3 Vent Washdown. A relief vent required under section 12.19.1 may serve as a branch drain for one or more fixtures provided that no more than 2 DFU drain to a 2-inch relief vent or provided that no more than 4 DFU drain to a 3-inch relief vent.

(54) Section 13.1.1 Where Required.

Amend this section as follows:

(I) In the first sentence, delete “, a combined sewer where necessary,”; and

(II) In the exception delete “or streets”.

(55) Section 13.1.5 Foundation Drains.

In the first sentence of item D, delete “street, alley,”.

(56) Chapter 16 Regulations Governing Individual Sewage Disposal Systems for Homes and Other Establishments Where Public Sewage Systems Are Not Available.

Delete this chapter in its entirety.

(57) Chapter 17 Potable Water Supply Systems.

Delete this chapter in its entirety.

(58) Chapter 18 Mobile Home & Travel Trailer Park Plumbing Standards.

Delete this chapter in its entirety.

Section 3.303. Administration and enforcement.

(c) Stop work order. A stop work order shall be administered as set forth in section [114] 115 of the Howard County Building Code.

Section 3.305. Permits.

(e) Duration of permit. Unless work authorized by a permit is commenced within [[one year]] 180 days after its issuance, the permit shall become invalid. If work
authorized by a permit is suspended or abandoned for a period exceeding [[one year]] 180 DAYS after the work is commenced the permit shall become invalid. The authority having jurisdiction is authorized to grant, in writing, one or more extensions of time, for periods of not more than 180 days each. The extension request shall be in writing and shall demonstrate reasonable cause. An express plumbing permit shall [[have no expiration date]] EXPIRE ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF ISSUANCE.

Section 4. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that Section 3.102(b)(22), Option to Install Residential Automatic Sprinkler Systems and Section 17.108, Option to Install Residential Automatic Sprinkler Systems, both of the Howard County Code shall terminate and be of no effect after December 31, 2010.

Section 5. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that, until January 1, 2011, for purposes of Subsection R311.7.4.1 Riser height, the maximum riser height shall be 8 ¼ inches (210 mm) and for purposes of Subsection R311.7.4.2, Tread depth, the minimum tread depth shall be 9 inches (229 mm), both of the International Residential Code, 2009 Edition; and after January 1, 2011, riser height and tread depth shall be those indicated in the International Residential Code, 2009 Edition.

Section 6. And Be It Further Enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland, that this Act shall become effective 61 days after its enactment.