

CHARTER RESOLUTION
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLLEGE PARK, TO
DELETE ARTICLE XIII, URBAN RENEWAL, IN ITS ENTIRETY

A Charter Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park, adopted pursuant to the authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and §4-301 *et seq.*, Local Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended.

WHEREAS, the Maryland State Constitution in Article III, Section 61, authorizes the General Assembly to empower local governments to carry out urban renewal authority; and

WHEREAS, §5-215 of the Local Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, authorizes municipalities to enact laws and to carry out urban renewal projects; and

WHEREAS, the City enacted Article XIII, Urban Renewal, §§C13-1 through C13-7 in order to undertake urban renewal projects; and

WHEREAS, Article XIII was used after adoption only to enable and carry out an urban renewal in the Lakeland area of the City, an historically black neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, the urban renewal process in Lakeland demolished many family homes, displaced 104 of 150 households, and replaced much of the neighborhood with a mix of subsidized townhouses, high-density apartments largely inhabited by students, and an elder housing facility. The result was the decimation of a thriving community and the removal of generational wealth available through homeownership. Two-thirds of the families who made this once thriving community their homes were displaced; and

CAPS : Indicate matter added to existing law.

[Brackets] : Indicate matter deleted from law.

Asterisks * * * : Indicate matter remaining unchanged in existing law but not set forth in Resolution.

CAPS :Indicate matter added in amendment

[Brackets] :Indicate matter deleted in amendment

WHEREAS, no additional urban renewal project has been proposed or undertaken since that time, and none is contemplated for the City; and

WHEREAS, based on this history, and its commitment to racial equity and the need for restorative action, the Mayor and Council have determined that it is in the public interest to delete the urban renewal law from the City Charter.

Section 1. **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park that Article XIII, “Urban Renewal”, §§C13-1, “Definitions”, C13-2, “Powers of City”, C13-3, “Establishment of Agency”, C13-4, “Initiation of Project”, C13-5, “Preparation of Plan”, C13-6, “Disposal of Property”, and C13-7, “Eminent Domain” be and they are hereby repealed in their entirety.

Section 2. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park that this Charter Resolution was introduced on the 18 day of July, 2023. A public hearing was held on September 5, 2023, after at least 21 days of prior public notice of the public hearing. This Charter Resolution is adopted this 12th day of December, 2023, and shall be and become effective upon the fiftieth (50th) day after its passage by the City unless petitioned to referendum in accordance with §4-304 of the Local Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland within forty (40) days following its passage. A complete and exact copy of this Amended Charter Resolution shall be posted in the City offices located at 7401 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 201, College Park, Maryland for forty (40) days following its passage by the Mayor and Council and a fair summary of the Charter Resolution shall be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City not less than four (4) times, at weekly intervals, also within the forty (40) day period following its adoption by the City.

23-CR-02

Section 3. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that, within ten (10) days after the Charter Resolution hereby enacted becomes effective, either as herein provided or following referendum, the City Manager for the City of College Park shall send separately, by mail, bearing a postmark from the United States Postal Service, to the Department of Legislative Services, one copy of the following information concerning the Amended Charter Resolution: (i) the complete text of this Resolution; (ii) the date of referendum election, if any, held with respect thereto; (iii) the number of votes cast for and against this Resolution by the Council of the City of College Park or in the referendum; and (iv) the effective date of the Charter Resolution.

Section 4. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Manager of the City of College Park be, and hereby is, specifically enjoined and instructed to carry out the provisions of Sections 2 and 3 as evidence of compliance herewith; and said City Manager shall cause to be affixed to the minutes of this meeting (i) an appropriate Certificate of Publication of the newspaper in which the fair summary of the Charter Resolution shall have been published; and (ii) shall further cause to be completed and executed the Municipal Charter or Annexation Resolution Registration Form.

Section 5: **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that if any provision of this Charter Resolution or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or any other application of this Charter Resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end, all the provisions of this Resolution and of the Charter are hereby declared to be severable.

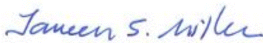
INTRODUCED by the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park at a regular meeting on the 18th day of July 2023.

23-CR-02

ADOPTED by the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park at a regular meeting
on the 12th day of December 2023.

EFFECTIVE the 31st day of January, 2024.

ATTEST:


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Janeen S. Miller, CMC, CERA, City Clerk

CITY OF COLLEGE PARK

DocuSigned by:

014A7C2D7FDC458...
By S.M. Fazlul Kabir, Mayor

**APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:**

DocuSigned by:

9E60CA2B2F264B2...
Suellen M. Ferguson, City Attorney