

**James, Karen**

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**From:** Deborah Boots <debboots5@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 6:30 AM  
**To:** Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Proposed data center

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

For your consideration on data center proposal.....If goes through, and I hope it is delayed or abandoned, please consider recommending the decrease of overlay size to present growth limit. Perhaps better environmental management technology will be developed later to minimize impact to proposed rural area. Current buy-in to more technology, AI, expansion of uncontrolled growth is wrong way to to and destroying earth's own mechanisms and human direction. Debby Boots 5955 Quinn Orchard Road, #207, Frederick 21704.

James, Karen

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**From:** Nick Carrera <mjcarrera@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 11, 2025 4:20 PM  
**To:** ClimateActionFrederick@PublicInput.com  
**Cc:** County Executive; Council Members; Planning Commission; Carrera, Nicholas  
**Subject:** CEAP -- climate action plan

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

A question even before I read the county's draft Climate Action plan (see:  
<https://email.publicinput.com/e/eyJzlj01ODIzMjc1NiwiaSl6ljc4ZjM3ODg3ODk1YjQ4NDc4YmJiNGFiODAyZWU5ZmM1liwiZSI6ODk5ODYslmMiOjIzOTYslnUiOjQzNTUyOTIzLCJhIjpmYWxzZX0>)

What has become of the county's clean air goals for 2030 and 2050? According to the August 2, 2023, presentation to the Data Centers Workgroup by the County Division of Energy and Environment (DEE), one GW of power consumption by data centers would bust those clean air goals all to pieces. In case the county has not been paying attention, the power need anticipated for the approved Aligned and Rowan-Bauxite data centers *is already nearly one GW*. Surprisingly (or perhaps not), CE Fitzwater, Governor Moore, and Council Members who are pushing data centers have been unwilling to face this contradiction in county policy -- **approved data centers clash with approved clean-air goals**.

With this study just launched by the county, it's time to 'fess-up to this dark issue. Come "clean" on what the county intends to do (or not to do) about our clean air goals, in the face of the challenge presented by data centers.

Nick Carrera

**James, Karen**

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**From:** Brian R. <brianaricketts@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 1:36 PM  
**To:** Council Members  
**Cc:** County Executive; Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Data Center amendments

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear County Council Members,

I moved to Adamstown in Frederick County 24 years ago for its rural character. We bought a farm down the street from the now data center complex. Adamstown was known as a sought after town to live in because the area was surrounded by farmland, giving you the feeling of being away from the city, but close enough to all amenities in and around Frederick. The current Comprehensive Plan changes would remove hundreds of acres of preserved land from protection—a move that amounts to a speculative land grab.

**1. No Data Centers Next to Homes.**

Restore the original January 7, 2025 language that prohibits data centers from abutting residential-zoned or residential-designated land. Amend CDI Zone Ordinance (25-09) to remove setbacks and reinstate this restriction.

**2. Protect Preservation Areas.**

Pass an amendment to ensure any land designated as a Priority Preservation Area (PPA), Rural Legacy Area (RLA), or Treasured Landscape Management Area as of June 17, 2025, cannot be redesignated during the Comprehensive Plan process for data centers.

Please defend our rural character, protect preserved land, and prevent incompatible industrial development next to our homes and farms.

Sincerely,

*Brian Ricketts*

Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! Cor. 9:24-25

Owner



Locations:

Ballenger Creek, MD

Damascus, MD

Lovettsville, VA

James, Karen

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**From:** Bill Steigelmann <bsteig@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 10:00 AM  
**To:** climateactionfrederick@publicinput.com; Nick Carrera  
**Cc:** County Executive; Council Members; Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Re: CEAP -- climate action plan

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Frederick County Leadership:

The loss of "Clean Air" goes arm-in-arm with "GHG Emissions" and "Power Shortages" with regard to the "gifts" that excessive data center overbuilding are bringing to the 8 billion people living and dying on the globe!

You are not the only cause, but you definitely added to the developing local misery by failing to require strict regulation in all ways. Acting in ignorance is NO EXCUSE -- it is POOR GOVERNMENT!

Bill Steigelmann  
Jefferson Resident

On Monday, August 11, 2025 at 04:19:34 PM EDT, Nick Carrera <mjcarrera@comcast.net> wrote:

A question even before I read the county's draft Climate Action plan (see:  
<https://email.publicinput.com/el/eyJzIjo1ODIzMjc1NiwiSl6ljc4ZjM3ODg3ODk1YjQ4NDc4YmJiNGFiODAyZWU5ZmM1IiwZSI6ODk5ODYslmMiOjIzOTYslnUiOjQzNTUyOTIzLCJhIjpmYWxzZX0>)

What has become of the county's clean air goals for 2030 and 2050? According to the August 2, 2023, presentation to the Data Centers Workgroup by the County Division of Energy and Environment (DEE), one GW of power consumption by data centers would bust those clean air goals all to pieces. In case the county has not been paying attention, the power need anticipated for the approved Aligned and Rowan-Bauxite data centers *is already nearly one* GW. Surprisingly (or perhaps not), CE Fitzwater, Governor Moore, and Council Members who are pushing data centers have been unwilling to face this contradiction in county policy -- **approved data centers clash with approved clean-air goals.**

With this study just launched by the county, it's time to 'fess-up to this dark issue. Come "clean" on what the county intends to do (or not to do) about our clean air goals, in the face of the challenge presented by data centers.

Nick Carrera



**James, Karen**

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**From:** Darren Andrews <Darren@talon-construction.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 1:51 PM  
**To:** Council Members  
**Cc:** Planning Commission; Young, Brad; Duckett, Kavonte; County Executive  
**Subject:** One Lifetime Inhabitant of Frederick County's View on Critical Digital Infrastructure

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good afternoon,

As a child, I grew up in downtown Adamstown. I have fond memories of the yearly carnivals, firemen's softball games, bailing hay, and the farmlands. I still live in Adamstown and have obviously seen a lot of growth. No more carnival grounds, no more firemen's softball games, and disappearing farmlands. I work in the construction field, so I'm not afraid of construction and to a point..... welcome it. I wasn't a big proponent of the data center, but given all the options, it was probably the best choice. The growth that I have seen has been spread out over the entire county although, I am perplexed as to why it seems that Southern Frederick County seems to bear a sizable brunt of this expansion. The distance between Adamstown and Frederick has grown to such a narrow point that it seems Adamstown is now a part of Frederick. The narrowing of distance can be said for the northern town of Thurmont and the eastern towns of New Market and Monrovia. I'm not sure why there has been little to no expansion into the Middletown Valley, but that's a discussion for another time.

Having said all of this, I would like to make my opinion be made known that I am 100% against expanding the critical digital infrastructure overlay zone outside of the existing growth area. Furthermore, I am against redrawing any Rural Legacy Area or Priority Preservation Area lines period. There should never be any data centers or any industrial buildings next to homes anywhere with a setback of less than 2,640 ft. or ¼ mile.. We have lost so much of our protected lands that I feel it important not to sacrifice any more. Maybe an amendment that prohibits the redesignation of PPA's, RLA's or TLMA's would be a wise idea.

These guidelines were originally drawn for a reason: To Preserve the Ruralness of this picturesque community and to preserve the fertile grounds for any remaining or future farming endeavors. I humbly ask that the powers to be keep this in mind as they discuss this matter in the upcoming August 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Thank you,

**Darren Andrews, Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR)**  
**Remodeling Consultant / Estimator**  
**State of MD - Master Plumber**

Talon Construction, Inc.  
302 East 4th Street  
Frederick, MD 21701  
P-301-620-8604 x202  
Email: [darren@talon-construction.com](mailto:darren@talon-construction.com)  
Web: [www.talon-construction.com](http://www.talon-construction.com)



*"Fall in love with your home all over again"*



**James, Karen**

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**From:** Caroline Salisbury Orlowski <caroline.orkowski23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 1:58 PM  
**To:** Council Members  
**Cc:** County Executive; Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Please do not sacrifice protected land to data centers

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

I am writing to express my concerns about expanding the CDI overlay zone for data centers. Data centers utilize 3 very important and limited Frederick County resources - farmland, water, and power. We do not need to cater to these data centers (and continue to expand their already large potential footprint) at the expense of our county's valuable resources. Please do not expand the overlay zone, and, in particular, please do not allow any redesignations to the existing rural legacy, priority preservation, and treasured landscape management areas.

Thank you for all the important work you do for our county.

Caroline Orlowski  
Knoxville, MD



**James, Karen**

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**From:** Kimberley Sanford <thesanfordcrew@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 3:08 PM  
**To:** Council Members  
**Cc:** County Executive; Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Urgent: Protect Adamstown Community from Data Center Sprawl

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council Members,

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed CDI Zone Ordinance (25-09) that will be voted on at the County Council's Third Reading on August 19, 2025. As a resident of Adamstown, I urge you to consider the long-term impact of this ordinance, particularly as it pertains to the siting of data centers and the preservation of our rural landscapes.

There are two critical issues that I believe must be addressed before this ordinance is approved:

### **1) No Data Centers Next to Homes**

Data centers should not be allowed to abut residential areas. I strongly support an amendment to return to the County Executive's original protection as presented at the first reading on January 7, 2025, specifically prohibiting data centers from being located next to homes. As currently written, the ordinance allows for 500-foot setbacks from residential zones, but this does not go far enough to protect homeowners from noise, pollution, and other negative impacts. The previous language that prohibited data centers from abutting residential areas must be reinstated to ensure the safety and well-being of families living in our community.

### **2) Protect Our Preservation Areas**

I am particularly concerned about the impact this ordinance could have on the land designated for preservation. The CDI Zone Ordinance as it stands could lead to the removal of critical protections for Priority Preservation Areas (PPA), Rural Legacy Areas (RLA), and Treasured Landscape Management Areas. These lands are vital not only for the environment but also for the farmers and families who rely on them for their livelihoods. It is essential that an amendment is added to ensure that these lands remain protected from being re-designated for industrial use.

I believe that the land preservation laws in Frederick County should be respected and upheld. Allowing the rezoning of lands currently designated as preservation areas for data centers would have devastating consequences for the local environment, economy, and the people who live and work here.

I respectfully ask that you support amendments to the CDI Overlay Ordinance to address these issues and protect the quality of life in our community. Please ensure that the county's comprehensive planning process honors the protections we need, and that data center development does not infringe upon our residential areas or critical preservation lands.



Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to seeing your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Kim Sanford

Green Hill Manor Resident

Adamstown, MD

James, Karen

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**From:** Lauren Bicknell <laurenabicknell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 13, 2025 1:03 AM  
**To:** Council Members  
**Cc:** County Executive; Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Urgent: Amend the CDI Ordinance to Protect Residents, Families & Preservation Lands

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council Members,

I am a Frederick County resident and voter urging you to amend the CDI Zone Ordinance (25-09) to protect our homes, farmland, and preservation lands from industrial overreach. There are two changes I feel strongly need to be made.

1) ***No data centers next to homes***

The County Council **must** return to the County Executive's original protection as presented at the First Reading on January 7, 2025. See *Siting Requirements to Apply to Critical Digital Infrastructure Facilities*, line 24 through 26, page 3., or similar language: (d) The track of land where the Critical Digital Infrastructure use is proposed may not abut land that is zoned residential or is designated residential on the Comprehensive Plan Use map.

Therefore, first, the CDI Zone Ordinance (25-09) should be amended.

- 1- to remove the setbacks, and
- 2- return to the restriction that data centers should not abut residential areas.

2) ***Honor the commitment to protecting preservation areas.-- No sacrificing protected land to data center sprawl.*** An amendment is needed to protect land currently designated as a Priority Preservation Area (PPA), Rural Legacy Area (RLA), or Treasured Landscape Management Areas for any such designated lands as of June 17, 2025. With this amendment, the land currently designated for preservation will be protected and the residents and farmers who live and work adjacent to the threatened land will be assured that their lives will not be turned upside down from data center sprawl. The residents of Frederick County deserve this peace of mind.

This is not just a policy issue—it is deeply personal. My children play in the cornfields behind my parents' home, the same fields generations of Frederick children have grown up exploring, nurturing, and growing up to inherit. These fields, and the peace and heritage they represent, could be lost to data center sprawl if protections are not strengthened. Once this land is gone, it is gone forever.

There have been copious reports of the harm these data centers bring, including the depletion of electricity in areas where they are built and the environmentally detrimental lengths power companies have to go to make up the difference. We can no longer afford to put our planet and our beautiful county at risk for the financial windfall of the few.

Please stand with residents, families, and farmers in protecting Frederick County's homes, history, and landscapes from irreversible industrial development.

Sincerely,  
Lauren Bicknell  
2242 Wetherburne Way,  
Frederick, MD 21702

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Lauren Bicknell  
Canisius College, M.S. Class of 2014  
University of Virginia, B.A. 2012

**James, Karen**

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**From:** Kim Westervelt <kim.westervelt@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 13, 2025 9:33 AM  
**To:** councilmembers@frederickcountymd.com; byoung@frederickcountymd.gov; Duckett, Kavonte; Keegan-Ayer, MC; Carter, Mason; Donald, Jerry; McKay, Steve; Knapp, Renee  
**Cc:** County Executive; Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Vote FOR Proposed Amendments to the CDI Overlay Ordinance

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good morning,

I live in Clarksburg, 18 miles from the proposed expanded CDI Zone. Having a data center near my home will result in the destruction of a prized rural area used by hundreds within the area and thousands of others from the surrounding parts of Maryland, DC, and Virginia.

I am writing to implore the Council to pass the proposed amendments to the CDI Overlay ordinance and ensure no data centers are built next to homes.

I am asking the County Council to return to the County Executive's original protection as presented at the First Reading on January 7, 2025, specifically:

(d) The track of land where the Critical Digital Infrastructure use is proposed may not abut land that is zoned residential or is designated residential on the Comprehensive Plan Use map.

Therefore, first, the CDI Zone Ordinance (25-09) should be amended.

- 1- to remove the setbacks, and
- 2- return to the restriction that datacenters should not abut residential areas.

An amendment is needed to protect land currently designated as a Priority Preservation Area (PPA), Rural Legacy Area (RLA), or Treasured Landscape Management Areas for any such designated lands as of 17 June 2025. This means that these lands cannot be redesignated out of these preservation categories during the Comprehensive Plan action currently underway for the purpose of placing the Overlay there. If this amendment passes the land currently designated for preservation will be protected and the residents and farmers who live and work adjacent to the threatened land will be assured that their lives will not be turned upside down from data center sprawl.

Allowing the sprawl of data centers is especially problematic when Visit Montgomery is working to draw people from all over Maryland, DC, and Virginia to this rural area with the promise of trails, green spaces, quiet, farms, crafts, and local food and drink. The data centers are in complete opposition to the desired branding of this and the surrounding areas.

Issues:

1. Why should the financial windfall of a few land speculators be more important to the council members than the welfare of their constituents?



2. The proposed CDI Zoning Map could be amended by any County Council in the future. What protection is there that a future map will not abut the village of Adamstown? Only returning the language to restrict data centers from abutting residential areas will relieve our anxiety and provide lasting protection.

3. A 500-foot setback is especially outrageous given that the council members voted to remove protection for the public from noise, vibration or pollution contained in an earlier data center bill. It removed complaint driven action, testing at the time of construction completion and prior to operation, changed reporting by the industry from twice a year to every two years and finally did not provide enforcement or fines for non-compliance with stated noise and vibration limits. The level of pollution from diesel generator testing is not measured or reported periodically.

I chose to live near Frederick County because of its rural character. An amendment is needed so that any Priority Preservation Area (PPA), Rural Legacy Area (RLA), or Treasured Landscape Management Areas lands cannot be redesignated out of these preservation categories. The Comprehensive Plan action currently underway is a specular land grab as it removes hundreds of acres of preserved land from protection.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my request.

Kendra Westervelt  
12306 Houser Drive  
Clarksburg, MD 20871

**James, Karen**

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**From:** Comcast Email <andrexes@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 13, 2025 10:38 AM  
**To:** Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Fwd: CDI siting ordinance

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

To the Planning Commission Members

I chose to live in Frederick County because of its rural character. An amendment is needed so that any Priority Preservation Area (PPA), Rural Legacy Area (RLA), or Treasured Landscape Management Areas lands cannot be redesignated out of these preservation categories. The Comprehensive Plan action currently underway is a land specular land grab as it removes hundreds of acres of preserved land from protection.

- I am a resident and voter in Frederick County. The CDI Siting Ordinance (25-05) looks like it was written by the data center industry the privileges are many and the protections for residents so few. The follow-up CDI Zoning Ordinance (25-09) as currently written is a land grab for speculators. The way the bill reads now, it makes you think that the Overlay won't sit over these lands designated for preservation - but it's misleading, because if the Planning Commission and then the Council agree to remove those lands from these preservation areas, then the Overlay would be fine there. An amendment protecting the currently designated Priority Preservation Area (PPA), Rural Legacy Area (RLA), or Treasured Landscape Management Areas needs to pass so that this can't happen.

Also no residents should have to live next to this kind of development now or in the future. Family farms must be preserved.

I will not be able to attend live on Sept 19. I will be attending a memorial service for my brother in law in Montana

I sincerely hope you vote the right way

From Ann Andrex

**James, Karen**

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**From:** Amanda Haddaway <amanda@hranswerbox.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 13, 2025 11:02 AM  
**To:** Council Members; Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Support for the Proposed Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear Members of the Frederick County Council and Planning Commission,

As a Frederick County business owner, community contributor, Chamber board member, and advocate for thoughtful economic development, I am writing to express my support for the proposed Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone (CDI-OZ) as presented by County planning staff in July 2025.

The County's plan to limit data center development to the Eastalco property north of Adamstown, covering less than 1% of Frederick County's 424,000 acres, demonstrates a balanced approach to growth.

This targeted strategy protects our agricultural heritage while positioning the County to capture a significant, future-focused economic opportunity.

The Eastalco site's existing infrastructure, prior zoning considerations and proximity to Northern Virginia's global data center corridor make it uniquely suited for this use. Development here can bring diversified revenue streams and substantial tax benefits that help fund essential public services, all while avoiding the sprawl and farmland loss that have impacted other regions.

As someone who works closely with organizations across the County, I see the direct connection between a healthy local economy and the ability of businesses to grow, attract talent and invest in our community. The CDI-OZ represents a strategic way to strengthen our economic base while reaffirming Frederick County's leadership in farmland preservation. With nearly 90,000 acres already protected and a goal of 160,000 acres in sight, designating a small, well-defined area for modern infrastructure is both reasonable and forward-thinking.

I respectfully urge you to approve the CDI-OZ and help guide our County toward a future that balances innovation, fiscal responsibility and preservation of the rural character that makes Frederick such a special place to live and work.

Thank you for your service and thoughtful consideration.

**Amanda Haddaway**, MA, MJ, SPHR, SHRM-SCP  
Managing Director, **HR Answerbox**  
You ask. We solve.  
o: 240.394.9439  
c: 703.338.7176



James, Karen

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**From:** Alyssa H <alyssa.1224@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 3:36 PM  
**To:** Council Members; Young, Brad; Duckett, Kavonte; Keegan-Ayer, MC; Carter, Mason; Donald, Jerry; McKay, Steve; Knapp, Renee  
**Cc:** Planning Commission; County Executive  
**Subject:** CDI Zoning Ordinance

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

My name is Alyssa Hanus and I live in Point of Rocks, MD and chose to live in Frederick County because of its rural character. An amendment is needed so that any Priority Preservation Area (PPA), Rural Legacy Area (RLA), or Treasured Landscape Management Areas lands cannot be redesignated out of these preservation categories. The Comprehensive Plan action currently underway is a land specular land grab as it removes hundreds of acres of preserved land from protection. The CDI Siting Ordinance (25-05) looks like it was written by the data center industry the privileges are many and the protections for residents so few. The follow-up CDI Zoning Ordinance (25-09) as currently written is a land grab for speculators. The way the bill reads now, it makes you think that the Overlay won't sit over these lands designated for preservation - but it's misleading, because if the Planning Commission and then the Council agree to remove those lands from these preservation areas, then the Overlay would be fine there. An amendment protecting the currently designated Priority Preservation Area (PPA), Rural Legacy Area (RLA), or Treasured Landscape Management Areas needs to pass so that this can't happen.

**Following are the two changes I am for:**

**1) No data centers next to homes!**

The County Council must return to the County Executive's original protection as presented at the First Reading on January 7, 2025. See *Siting Requirements to Apply to Critical Digital Infrastructure Facilities*, line 24 through 26, page 3., or similar language:

**(d) The track of land where the Critical Digital Infrastructure use is proposed may not abut land that is zoned residential or is designated residential on the Comprehensive Plan Use map.**

Therefore, first, the CDI Zone Ordinance (25-09) should be amended.

- 1- to remove the setbacks, and
- 2- return to the restriction that datacenters should not abut residential areas.

**2) Honor the commitment to protecting preservation areas.**

**No sacrificing protected land to data center sprawl**

**The way the CDI Zone Ordinance (25-09) reads now is misleading.** It looks like the Overlay will not sit over lands designated for preservation. But if the Planning Commission and then the Council agree to remove those lands from these preservation areas, the Overlay would change these protected lands to an industrial zone for data centers.

I ask that you stress that an amendment is needed to protect land currently designated as a Priority Preservation Area (PPA), Rural Legacy Area (RLA), or Treasured Landscape Management Areas for any such designated lands as of 17 June 2025. This means that these lands cannot be redesignated out of these preservation categories during the Comprehensive Plan action currently underway for the purpose of placing the Overlay there. If this amendment passes the land currently designated for preservation will



be protected and the residents and farmers who live and work adjacent to the threatened land will be assured that their lives will not be turned upside down from data center sprawl. We need everyone and their neighbors to write the county council, Planning Commission and County Executive.

Thank you for your time,

Alyssa Hanus

**James, Karen**

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**From:** Sue Kunkel <sckunkel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 13, 2025 1:49 PM  
**To:** Council Members  
**Cc:** Planning Commission  
**Subject:** CDI Zone Ordinance (25-09)

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hello County Council Members,

I am a resident and voter in Frederick County and am concerned about the CDI Zone Ordinance (25-09). This bill will restrict data center development to tracts of land that are designated Limited or General Industrial and cap the total future size of the Overlay Zone to “less than 1% of the total land area of the County” – the equivalent of approximately 4,200 acres. As proposed, the bill would confine data center development to a single Overlay Zone in the Adamstown area that extends beyond the existing 2,200-acre footprint of the Quantum Frederick campus into tracts of land that are currently located in Priority Preservation and Rural Legacy Areas.

It is my opinion that expansion of data center development beyond the Quantum Frederick campus should wait until completion of a comprehensive study of the economic, energy, and environmental impacts of data centers. There are important unanswered questions about the future availability of adequate electricity and water for cooling needs and the impact of data centers on the County’s ability to meet its climate goals and renewable energy targets. I also agree with Mobilize Frederick to cap the size of the current Overlay Zone at .5 percent of the County’s land acreage (roughly the size of the existing Quantum Frederick campus).

Additionally, several of the tracts proposed for inclusion in the Overlay Zone are zoned agricultural and located in Priority Preservation or Rural Legacy Areas. Allowing rezoning of these tracts for future data center development undermines the goals of the County’s agricultural land preservation programs.

There should be no data centers next to homes. Therefore, I recommend that the CDI Zone Ordinance (25-09) should be amended to return to the restriction that the datacenters not be built in residential areas.

Also, an amendment is needed to protect land currently designated as a Priority Preservation Area (PPA), Rural Legacy Area (RLA), or Treasured Landscape Management Areas for any such designated lands. This means that these lands cannot be redesignated out of these preservation categories during the Comprehensive Plan action currently underway for the purpose of placing the Overlay there. If this amendment passes the land currently designated for preservation will be protected and the residents and farmers who live and work adjacent to the threatened land will be assured that their lives will not be turned upside down from data center sprawl.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Susan Kunkel  
35 E All Saints St.  
Frederick, MD 21701

**James, Karen**

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**From:** S. Delaney <susanmarie.delaney@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 13, 2025 10:00 PM  
**To:** Council Members  
**Cc:** County Executive; Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Data Center

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

I am a Frederick County resident and am against anymore data center expansion. This includes the proposed expanded CDI Zone. I purchased my home and chose to live in this county because of its rural character. I am very much against this proposed transmission line, which is routed to disrupt and go through the beautiful wetland farms and creek area near me. I am a resident and voter In Frederick County. Why should the financial windfall of land speculators be more important to the council members than the welfare of your constituents? The CDI Siting Ordinance (25-05) looks like it was written by the data center industry. The privileges are many and the protections for residents are few. The follow-up CDI Zoning ordinance (25-09) as currently written is a land grab for speculators and should be amended. Please, no data centers near homes! A 500-foot setback is especially outrageous given that the council members voted to remove protection for the public from vibration, noise or pollution found in an earlier data center bill. This is unconscionable. How would you feel if this was in your neighborhood? Let's slow down and protect our beautiful county. Thank you. Susan Delaney



**James, Karen**

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**From:** Kristin Ricketts <kadricketts@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 14, 2025 8:34 AM  
**To:** Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Data Centers

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear County Council Members,

I moved to Adamstown in Frederick County 24 years ago for its rural character. We bought a farm down the street from the now data center complex. Adamstown was known as a sought after town to live in because the area was surrounded by farmland, giving you the feeling of being away from the city, but close enough to all amenities in and around Frederick. The current Comprehensive Plan changes would remove hundreds of acres of preserved land from protection—a move that amounts to a speculative land grab.

**1. No Data Centers Next to Homes.**

Restore the original January 7, 2025 language that prohibits data centers from abutting residential-zoned or residential-designated land. Amend CDI Zone Ordinance (25-09) to remove setbacks and reinstate this restriction.

**2. Protect Preservation Areas.**

Pass an amendment to ensure any land designated as a Priority Preservation Area (PPA), Rural Legacy Area (RLA), or Treasured Landscape Management Area as of June 17, 2025, cannot be redesignated during the Comprehensive Plan process for data centers.

Please defend our rural character, protect preserved land, and prevent incompatible industrial development next to our homes and farms.

Sincerely,

*Kristin Ricketts*

*1242 New Design Road, Adamstown, MD 21710*

"So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up." Galatians 6:9

James, Karen

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**From:** Gibbs, Betsy <bgibbs@fullerton.edu>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 14, 2025 9:09 AM  
**To:** Council Members; Young, Brad; Duckett, Kavonte; Carter, Mason; Donald, Jerry; McKay, Steve; Knapp, Renee; Keegan-Ayer, MC  
**Cc:** County Executive; Planning Commission  
**Subject:** CDI Siting Ordinance 25-05

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

I am a resident and voter in Frederick County and I am aware of the extensive work that has gone into designing a plan for the accommodation of data centers in the county. I'm concerned that **in the current iteration of the Ordinance, there is insufficient consideration of the data center's damaging effects on the county environment and its residents, especially those who live near the facility.**

As written, the CDI Siting Ordinance (25-05) benefits the data industry at the expense of quality of life for the people of the county and has deleterious effects on the environment for the very long term. It sacrifices invaluable agricultural land which cannot be replaced. It allows unlivable vibrations, noise and pollution to infiltrate the homes and workplaces of people in the area without enforceable restrictions.

The way the bill reads now is misleading because if the Planning Commission and Council were to remove protected lands from established preservation areas, the Overlay as currently written would encroach on residential protections.

It is imperative, for the sake of the people of the county, that an amendment protecting the currently designated Priority Preservation Area (PPA), Rural Legacy Area (RLA), or Treasured Landscape Management Areas pass, so that this can't happen.

**I urge you to ensure that 1) there will be no data center land abutting residential zones, and that 2) established protected lands will be permanently preserved.**

Elizabeth Campbell-Gibbs

ing Ordinance (25-09) as currently written is a

[countyexecutive@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:countyexecutive@frederickcountymd.gov)

[PlanningCommission@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:PlanningCommission@frederickcountymd.gov)

Please forward this email to your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers. The impact of this massive data center zone will be felt by everyone in Southern Frederick County. We all need to make our views known to the county government!

Thank you everyone!!

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**James, Karen**

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**From:** Deborah Portney <dlportney@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 14, 2025 9:45 AM  
**To:** Council Members  
**Cc:** County Executive; Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Data Center Overlay

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

To the Council Members of Frederick County,

I urge you to think and plan carefully for our future. Please pass these proposed amendments to the CDI overlay  
-

- 1) No data centers in residential areas
- 2) The data center overlay should remain in the Eastalco area. 4,400 acres of data centers is too much!
- 3) Honor the commitment to preserve Priority Preservation Areas and Rural Legacy Areas.

Sincerely,  
Deborah Portney  
822 Mews Lane  
Frederick, MD 21701



**James, Karen**

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**From:** Kerri Easterbrook <kerri.easterbrook@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 14, 2025 10:53 AM  
**To:** Council Members  
**Cc:** County Executive; Planning Commission  
**Subject:** CDI Overlay

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear Council Members,

I am a Frederick Country resident. I writing to express my desire for no large data centers used for AI to be built in Maryland. This destroys the environment, harms local residents (financially and physically), and poisons our water systems. It is inhumane to prioritize the well-being of the data center over the well-being of our community. For that reason, I encourage you to oppose all data center proposals.

Thank you,

Kerri

**James, Karen**

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**From:** Carl gallegos <gallegos.carl332@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 14, 2025 10:55 AM  
**To:** Donald, Jerry  
**Cc:** County Executive; Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Proposed Amendments to the CDI Overlay Ordinance

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Mr. Donald,

I am a resident and voter in Frederick County. And I am a resident of Buckingham's Choice Continuing Care Retirement Center (CCRC), which closely abuts the Critical Digital Infrastructure (CDI) Overlay Zone. The CDI Siting Ordinance (25-05) looks like it was written by the data center industry the privileges are many and the protections for residents so few. The follow-up CDI Zoning Ordinance (25-09) as currently written is a land grab for speculators. The way the bill reads now, it makes you think that the Overlay won't sit over these lands designated for preservation - but it's misleading, because if the Planning Commission and then the Council agree to remove those lands from these preservation areas, then the Overlay would be fine there. An amendment protecting the currently designated Priority Preservation Area (PPA), Rural Legacy Area (RLA), or Treasured Landscape Management Areas needs to pass so that this can't happen.

Carl M. Gallegos  
3374 Upland Court  
Adamstown, MD 21710  
Email: [carlmgallegos@aol.com](mailto:carlmgallegos@aol.com)

**James, Karen**

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**From:** patg123000@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 14, 2025 11:12 AM  
**To:** Young, Brad; Duckett, Kavonte; Knapp, Renee; Donald, Jerry; McKay, Steve; Keegan-Ayer, MC; Carter, Mason; Planning Commission; County Executive  
**Subject:** Geisinger Farm CDI overlay

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Good Morning,

My name is Jeff Geisinger. Some people have referenced to the area around Adamstown being some of richest farmland in the county and therefore should it should be preserved. But with todays nutrient management standards set by the Maryland Department of Agriculture in an effort to protect the waterways and the Chesapeake Bay all farms in Frederick and surrounding counties are basically the same. It take the same levels of nutrients to grow crops in all parts of the county. The Maryland Department of Agriculture requires all farmers to keep accurate records and use only the level of nutrients that are needed to grow crops in an effort to avoid runoff to waterways during winter months. So to say the preserving land in Adamstown is more important then other areas in the county is just really not completely accurate anymore.

On behalf of my family we are requesting that our property be restored back to its original zoning. Which was changed in 2010 during the comprehensive Frederick County rezoning and included our farm in the CDI overlay.

Thank you,  
A. Jeffrey Geisinger

**James, Karen**

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**From:** Diane Bill <bill3610@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 14, 2025 11:56 AM  
**To:** Planning Commission  
**Subject:** Fwd: CDI Overlay

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Diane Bill <bill3610@comcast.net>  
**Subject:** CDI Overlay  
**Date:** August 14, 2025 at 11:33:16 AM EDT  
**To:** councilmembers@frederickcountymd.gov  
**Cc:** countyexecutive@frederickcountymd.gov,  
planningcomission@frederickcountymd.gov

Dear Frederick County Councilmembers,

I am writing today to ask you to please pass the proposed amendment to the CDI overlay and honor the commitment to protecting the land preservation areas.

I hope you will keep the data centers from abutting residential areas and that you will contain them to the Eastalco area.

I also ask that you hold the PPA and RLA management areas as they are and not rezone them. These preservation commitments were made and thought to be honored in perpetuity. Please keep it that way.

Kind Regards,

Diane Bill  
8408 Stonehouse Road