

**From:** Brigitte Kirchhoff <brigglynch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 5:52 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Stop Data Center Overlay Expansion

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear County Council,

I urge you to not to expand the Data Center Overlay Map. I do not want to see data centers expand beyond the current area. It is an undue burden on my area and the neighboring communities to allow the massive expansion that is under consideration.

Sincerely,  
Brigitte Kirchhoff  
Adamstown, MD

**From:** hbgala@aol.com <hbgala@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 7:24 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Which do you want? Data Centers or Food????

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Hello Council Members,  
If Data Centers are built on Frederick County Farms that Grow Food and Fiber for Everyone, then that land will be LOST FOREVER TO ONLY GROW PROBLEMS!!

Remember YOU visit a "Farm" 3 Times a Day to Survive!!

PLEASE Think Very Hard before you Vote!

Thank You for your time.

Robert E. Black, President  
Catoctin Mountain Orchard  
15308 Kelbaugh Road  
Thurmont, Maryland 21788  
Cell 240-409-7491  
Fax 301-271-7415  
[www.catoctinmountainorchard.com](http://www.catoctinmountainorchard.com)

**From:** Bernadette Roche <BRoche@loyola.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 5:59 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Data Centers

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear Frederick County Council Members,

I am writing to implore you to keep data centers to an extreme minimum in Frederick County, limiting it to the Quantum Data Center. As a professor of ecology, I have been looking into the impacts and implications of data centers and what I have seen is beyond disturbing. There are very few permanent jobs created by building data centers, but the infrastructure is tremendously expensive and intrusive, and the environmental and social impacts are costly. The companies generally get a free ride with infrastructure provided by local taxes, and then the real problems begin. Water usage is highest at exactly the time it is most needing to be conserved: the hottest days of summer, for cooling the equipment at the data centers. In areas that are already water stressed, where people are asked to conserve and many on wells find they are nearly dry, we do not need an extremely thirsty data center in our midst. They also take a huge toll on the electrical grid, and may cause problems, again, on hottest days when air conditioners are running constantly, because they need to keep their equipment super cool. With technology advancing so rapidly, it is not even clear that data centers are what we will need in the next decade, and the vast infrastructural costs may not even be paid off before the realization occurs that there is a better way. Virginia local county executives fell for the ruse and now have to deal with rising electricity prices for their residents, where disconnect rates are rising because people just can't afford to pay their bills.

We should be inviting wind and solar to build infrastructure, for clean energy and enhancements of the power and security of our electrical grid. Instead, we seem to be inviting energy and water hogging data centers, somehow emulating Virginia's disastrous decisions to allow them in at epic speeds.

If the data centers do come in and raise our energy and water stresses, they will also add injury to insult to the people living closest to them, issuing noise pollution and air pollution from the diesel backup generators they have to rely on when power demands are higher than power availability. Let's not be Virginia!! Let's be Maryland Strong, and promote healthy life-giving capital projects, like wind and solar installations.

Yours truly,  
Bernadette Roche, PhD  
Middletown MD

**From:** Valerie Fox <vee41582@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 7:20 PM  
**To:** J32407@publicinput.com; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: STOP Data Center CDI overlay Frederick County

Dear Council Members,

I'm writing regarding the vote on Tuesday, December 16th, regarding the expansion of the data center footprint in Adamstown, MD.

I respectfully ask you to **reject any expansion of the CDI Overlay** beyond what is already approved. The environmental, economic, and community consequences are too great and too uncertain to justify. The Planning Commission made the right call. Please follow their sound, well-reasoned recommendation.

I am a Frederick County resident and active voter in **strong opposition to the expansion of the CDI data center overlay in Adamstown**. It's a land grab in disguise that will set a dangerous precedent. As an engaged voter, I will be closely watching how each individual Council Member votes on this issue, and I will act accordingly in future elections. We are all paying attention.

The risks of the decision to expand this zone poses irreversible risks that will impact Frederick County families for generations to come. Here's a recent [article](#) published on December 13th, linking Amazon data centers to miscarriages and rare cancers occurring in central Ohio. We have to stop this sprawl before it's too late.

Dupont just settled for millions of dollars for toxic contamination of an upstate NY town's water supply. That plant was allegedly safe and touted as an economic base for that area. Nothing is worth more than one's health and life. No amount of money will change the heartache, suffering, and loss experienced by those residents. They deserved better and we do too. How can anyone in good conscience move forward with this without in depth environmental impact studies. Both the county and the state appear unable to effectively monitor and regulate environmental violations from the current construction. Since the start of construction the sites have violated over 100 major environmental violations. The space has been given "Stop Work" orders and there are **still** two ongoing Maryland Attorney General's Office investigations. The expansion based on this alone is more than enough reason to vote no.

**The Planning Commission's recommendation was clear and responsible: keep data centers within the already-approved Eastalco footprint and do not expand the growth area. I strongly urge you to uphold that decision.** This is not strategic growth. It's industrial sprawl that will permanently reshape our communities. We've seen the impacts that other counties locally have experienced, resulting in large scale environmental stress, public dissatisfaction and trust- all while generating MINIMAL long term economic or civic benefit. We deserve strong oversight measures. Frederick

County is a beautiful place and has a strong agricultural base. It's important that we be stewards of the land for current and future generations.

**Data center sprawl is not what we want or need in Frederick County. We are not a sacrifice zone for commercial interests. VOTE no on the expansion.**

Thank you as always for your time and service to the people of Frederick County.

Respectfully,

Valerie Fox  
8306 Brookmere Blvd  
Frederick, MD 21702

**From:** hbgala@aol.com <hbgala@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 7:24 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Which do you want? Data Centers or Food????

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Hello Council Members,  
If Data Centers are built on Frederick County Farms that Grow Food and Fiber for Everyone, then that land will be LOST FOREVER TO ONLY GROW PROBLEMS!!

Remember YOU visit a "Farm" 3 Times a Day to Survive!!

PLEASE Think Very Hard before you Vote!

Thank You for your time.

Robert E. Black, President  
Catoctin Mountain Orchard  
15308 Kelbaugh Road  
Thurmont, Maryland 21788  
Cell 240-409-7491  
Fax 301-271-7415  
[www.catoctinmountainorchard.com](http://www.catoctinmountainorchard.com)

**From:** Robert Murray <rlkjm55@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 7:46 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Please No Data Center Expansion

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Hello,

We are asking you to vote no to the data center expansion plan. We are residents of Adamstown Maryland and this expansion will drastically change everything our family loves about our community for the worst. Until recently it had been a very quiet community. In the past few months it has gotten noisy and there has been significantly more traffic due to the data centers already being built. I ask the county council to vote no to the expansion plan so we can see if these data centers offer any benefits to the community or have an extreme negative effects. There is currently two data center sites and we have no way to know how these are going to effect the community. We ask vote no to the expansion plan and give it a few years to determine the effect. If these data centers do not have an impact after a few years then decide on re-zoning then. Please do not make a decision that could have catastrophic consequences that cannot be reversed.

Thanks,  
The Murray Family

**From:** NORMAN APPERSON <bapapper@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 8:20 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Data Center Expansion and Overlay

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

This is a sad situation that a handful of County Council Members get to decide what they want for our neighborhood, I doubt if any of these Council Members would support the Data Center if they lived in our community. The Council Members are only thinking of the money and tax revenue instead of the people that they serve and suppose to represent.

The dump trucks, tractor and trailers, heavy equipment and buses need to be monitored for safety and speed that drive on Ballenger Creek Pike during construction.

Norman and Sharon Apperson  
4302 Dover Drive  
Frederick, MD  
Windsor Estates

**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Cc:** County Council Staff <CountyCouncilStaff@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: An email reply to County Council needs your review  
From: [skb1214@gmail.com](mailto:skb1214@gmail.com)  
Subject: Comments for Public Hearing on Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone and Proposed Zoning Map Amendments - Dec 16, 2025 @ 5:30 pm  
Shawn Brown  
33 Provincial Parkway  
Emmitsburg MD 21727

These written comments are for the Public Hearing on Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone and Proposed Zoning Map Amendments on Tuesday, Dec 16, 2025 at 5:30 pm.

Dear County Council,

I am a lifelong resident of Frederick County, which is known for its biodiversity and rural, agricultural community. We reside in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed which includes habitat for thousands of aquatic, land, winged, and migratory species. The responsibility to preserve and protect this local land for future generations and North America's largest estuary falls upon each of us.

Data center developments have far-reaching impact, well beyond the property lines from which they reside. The CDI overlay expansion and rezoning should not be approved until the original, approved CDI site is fully operational and its impact fully evaluated.

Data centers may create over 8,000 new jobs and they may generate additional tax revenue, but it comes at a cost. Commute delays through Frederick are already burdensome, and with planned roadwork on US 15, this will only worsen. The current approved Eastalco Data Center complex will require extensive power, including electric and diesel generators. Proposed power line projects are slated to impact farms and homeowners throughout Maryland, and additional power resources may be required elsewhere in our county. Cooling requirements could strain existing water supplies for nearby communities. The current construction sites have incurred significant environmental violations, and future expansion will only increase water, air, and noise pollution.

From a research perspective, there is quantitative and qualitative data considered in any evaluation. Quantitative is 'measurable' and includes numbers and standards. It counts how many, how much, and how often. Qualitative is 'descriptive' and cannot be measured or counted as it is based on interpretation. Both quantitative and qualitative data are subject to bias. Bias may not be representative of the actual population or data, causing skewed data interpretation. Bias must be minimized to ensure accurate information is provided to constituents.

Like all communities in the United States, growth and change is inevitable; but a

controlled, pragmatic path forward is essential to preserving our local resources and communities. The stewardship of Frederick County elected representatives shall take precedence and remain committed to both preserving and enhancing the well-being of our community. Methodical planning and resourcefulness are essential to successful growth, waste management, and emergency response.

Please do not expand the CDI overlay area until the approved site becomes fully operational and environmental and resident impact assessment can be completed. Data centers are projected to have short lifespans, and the last thing Frederick County needs is more uninhabitable buildings or contaminated soil sites.

Respectfully,  
Ms. Shawn Brown

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:38 AM

**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**Cc:** County Council Staff <CountyCouncilStaff@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**Subject:** FW: An email reply to County Council needs your review

From: [heidi1717@gmail.com](mailto:heidi1717@gmail.com)

Subject: Data center

Dear Council Members, I'm writing in opposition to the Expanded Data Center Overlay zone. Please vote against this. Frederick County is my home. I've lived here all my life and am raising my family here. The public costs of data centers is high and with little benefit to county residents. I'm most concerned about health and environmental impacts. Data Center sprawl impacts everyone. Thank you for your time, Heidi Sweet 8208 Morning Dew Lane Frederick MD 21702 Sent from my iPhone

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 10:19 AM

**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**Cc:** County Council Staff <CountyCouncilStaff@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**Subject:** Fw: An email reply to County Council needs your review

Subject: Frederick Data Centers

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Expanded Data Center Overlay Zone. Community experiences from existing data centers show that these facilities can pose significant risks to surrounding neighborhoods. The concentration of diesel backup generators results in measurable emissions of particulate matter, nitrogen oxides, and other pollutants. These emissions are contributors to respiratory illness, cardiovascular disease, and impaired air quality. For communities already facing health disparities, this added pollution burden is especially concerning.

Additionally, data centers are among the most water-intensive industrial users, with some established facilities consuming millions of gallons of water per day for cooling. This level of extraction can strain municipal water supplies, increase drought vulnerability, and limit water availability for households, agriculture, and ecosystem needs. The energy demands of data centers further exacerbate environmental pressures; many rely heavily on fossil-fuel-generated electricity, contributing to greenhouse gas emissions and placing stress on local power grids. Together, these factors create a cumulative environmental footprint that is inconsistent with sustainable community development.

I urge you to reconsider approval of the proposed data center expansion and to prioritize projects that align with public health protection, environmental stewardship, and long-term resilience. Communities deserve thoughtful planning decisions that do not introduce avoidable pollution or resource strain. I hope you choose to side with the community and protect our environment.

Wayne Frolich

7 Georgetown Rd. Walkersville.

[wayne.frolich@gmail.com](mailto:wayne.frolich@gmail.com)

(908)239-5402

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:37 AM

**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**Cc:** County Council Staff <CountyCouncilStaff@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**Subject:** FW: An email reply to County Council needs your review

From: [hilarym521@gmail.com](mailto:hilarym521@gmail.com)

Subject: Expanded data center

Dear Council Members, I'm writing in opposition to the Expanded Data Center Overlay zone. I am a longtime resident and am raising my family here. The public costs of data centers are too high and with little benefit to county residents. I'm most concerned about the pollution and loss of land. Please vote to oppose the expansion. Thank you Hilary Gumphrey Sent from my iPhone

From: Matthew Doan <matthew.doan2010@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 1:36 PM

To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

Subject: Data Center concerns

Hello

I am writing to you regarding the Data Center proposal for Frederick County. I want to voice my concern and add it to growing voices. No Data center in Frederick County. This proposal will NOT help the populace of Frederick County, it will ONLY increase the price of power and water. Our precious water does not need to be consumed as a coolant for a building like this only to be pumped back out with chemicals (NPR, 60 minutes, and others have all written and spoke about this problem - it is well known). This will directly endanger your chances of re-election to your positions, I STRONGLY urge you to reconsider. Your actions have the ability to hurt or help Frederick County. Resist the lobbyists influence with their money and connections - should you move forward with this Data Center, it will be noted and the stink of it will follow you for the rest of your career.

Thank you

Matthew Doan

757-694-7031

**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 8:53 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Cc:** County Council Staff <CountyCouncilStaff@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: An email reply to County Council needs your review  
From: [holly.frolich@gmail.com](mailto:holly.frolich@gmail.com)  
Subject: STOP the Adamstown Expanded Data Center Overlay Zone

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to oppose the proposed Expanded Data Center Overlay Zone. Frederick County is my lifelong home, and I am raising my family here. Decisions made today will have lasting consequences for the health and well-being of our community.

Large-scale data center development carries significant public health and environmental costs, including increased air and noise pollution, strain on water and energy resources, and impacts on surrounding neighborhoods. These burdens are borne by residents, while the benefits to the county are limited. Data center sprawl affects everyone, particularly children, seniors, and those with existing health conditions.

I ask you to prioritize public health, environmental protection, and the long-term quality of life for Frederick County residents by voting against this proposal.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Holly Frolich

Frederick County, MD resident

**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 8:54 PM

**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**Cc:** County Council Staff <CountyCouncilStaff@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

From: [vee41582@gmail.com](mailto:vee41582@gmail.com)

Subject: Fwd: STOP Data Center CDI overlay Frederick County

Dear Council Members,

I'm writing regarding the vote on Tuesday, December 16th, regarding the expansion of the data center footprint in Adamstown, MD.

I respectfully ask you to **reject any expansion of the CDI Overlay** beyond what is already approved. The environmental, economic, and community consequences are too great and too uncertain to justify. The Planning Commission made the right call. Please follow their sound, well-reasoned recommendation.

I am a Frederick County resident and active voter **in strong opposition to the expansion of the CDI data center overlay in Adamstown**. It's a land grab in disguise that will set a dangerous precedent. As an engaged voter, I will be closely watching how each individual Council Member votes on this issue, and I will act accordingly in future elections. We are all paying attention.

The risks of the decision to expand this zone poses irreversible risks that will impact Frederick County families for generations to come. Here's a recent [article](#) published on December 13th, linking Amazon data centers to miscarriages and rare cancers occurring in central Ohio. We have to stop this sprawl before it's too late.

Dupont just settled for millions of dollars for toxic contamination of an upstate NY town's water supply. That plant was allegedly safe and touted as an economic base for that area. Nothing is worth more than one's health and life. No amount of money will change the heartache, suffering, and loss experienced by those residents. They deserved better and we do too. How can anyone in good conscience move forward with this without in depth environmental impact studies. Both the county and the state appear unable to effectively monitor and regulate environmental violations from the current construction. Since the start of construction the sites have violated over 100 major environmental violations. The space has been given "Stop Work" orders and there are **still** two ongoing Maryland Attorney General's Office investigations. The expansion based on this alone is more than enough reason to vote no.

**The Planning Commission's recommendation was clear and responsible: keep data centers within the already-approved Eastalco footprint and do not expand the growth area. I strongly urge you to uphold that decision.** This is not strategic growth. It's industrial sprawl that will permanently reshape our communities. We've seen the impacts that other counties locally have experienced, resulting in large scale environmental stress, public dissatisfaction and trust- all while generating MINIMAL long term economic or civic benefit. We deserve strong oversight measures. Frederick

County is a beautiful place and has a strong agricultural base. It's important that we be stewards of the land for current and future generations.

**Data center sprawl is not what we want or need in Frederick County. We are not a sacrifice zone for commercial interests. VOTE no on the expansion.**

Thank you as always for your time and service to the people of Frederick County.

Respectfully,

Valerie Fox  
8306 Brookmere Blvd  
Frederick, MD 21702

From: Eric Bloom <eric@bloom.net>  
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 9:13 AM  
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
Subject: Adamstown datacenter expansion

Frederick County Council

I am writing concerning proposals to allow the expansion of the datacenter in Adamstown. Before allowing any expansion, I would like to see the existing datacenter up and running for at least a year. This will allow all of us (businesses, residents, and government) to see the impact, both good and bad, and make a smart decision going forward.

Please defer any action on this until we know and understand the impact.

Thank you for your consideration.

Eric S. Bloom  
5796 Morland Dr N  
Adamstown

**From:** Bill Steigelmann <bsteig@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 10:48 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Brandon Moffitt <bmoffit1@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Frederick County CDI Overlay Amendment

Council Members,

The vote you make this evening is important to you as well as to every individual in Frederick County, both those living today and those living in future years -- including those not yet born who will be voters who will be voters a few decades from today. Your vote will have lasting consequences. I have highlighted Brandon's words shown below because they express my opinion and recommendation exactly, and I believe are also the desire that is in the hearts and minds of dozens of other County residents.

There is no urgency to increase in 2025 the acreage designated for future data centers beyond those shown on the map recommended by the Planning Commission (PC) -- this can be done in 2026 if there is an **actual demand for future sites in the County** by firms that are ready to actually acquire a site here (and not merely by individuals who want to sell their property that lies outside of the PC's map). There are currently signs that the power shortage and high prices of future power and land in our County has reduced the relative attractiveness of sites here compared with sites in PA, VA, NJ, as well as in many states further south and west. So please wait to make potential sites available beyond those that are within the outer boundaries of the PC's map. The two firms who have Site Plan approval in our county have stated they are building structures on sites that will be available for data center operators to buy or lease.

I am urging you to wait until there is evidence that additional sites are actually needed.

Bill Steigelmann  
(on a 100-acre farm a few miles south of Middletown MD)

On Tuesday, December 16, 2025 at 12:22:36 AM EST, Brandon Moffitt <bmoffit1@gmail.com> wrote:

**Councilmembers & County Commissioner,**

I write to oppose the CDI overlay amendment. It is toxic for Frederick County, especially for the people of Adamstown.

Regardless of how we got here, the opportunity is yours to end this data center land grab now. You are the arbiters of what gets destroyed and what remains. I do not use the word destroyed lightly; these lands and environments will likely never get restored in my lifetime (I'm 39), and it's clear that the demand for them, at least for now, is limitless.

I know that you've convened countless working groups, heard endless arguments, and that you start each day with the best intentions to always do what is best for Frederick County. We do that too, not because we're elected, but because we've had this situation thrust upon us, and we want to right the ship and set it on a course that lasts beyond our lifetime.

I wish I could adequately convey how many hours have been spent by your constituents, myself included, in these last few years and especially the last 17 months, trying to know and understand the implications of data centers in Frederick County. For many of us, it is all-consuming. There are great minds in our community: FERC regulators, grid and power station engineers, recovering congressional legislators, attorneys. There's also scores of people that feed us, who have dedicated their lives to growing the food we eat, and a lot of those folks wonder how long their generational farm can sustain itself when their county council is inviting in those companies that would see them destroyed in the blink of an eye.

Being a degree of separation or a cycle away from the lost farms, the lost livelihoods, the lost landscapes, the lost places, does not relieve you of the burden of having enabled it. You do have a choice. Data centers aren't solving world peace. They aren't a moralistic crusade. Data centers are about money, or at least the promise of it, and they chew their way through all of us as they come in.

What's best for Frederick County is to stop the bleed. If you care about what Frederick County is today, and what it has been up to now, then join the team that says no. It's not too late. We have a jersey with your name on it and we're ready to welcome you as local heroes. Be one of the informed, forward-thinking councils that doesn't bow to the endless pressure of greedy, reckless, short-sighted gain, and instead stand for integrity, equal representation, and long-term equity.

As has been said many times within the chamber and without, once these things are gone, they are gone. A hollow promise may be shiny, but it doesn't last. I promise you we can find a way to build schools without giving away our kids' future.

Please vote no. If you stand with us, we'll stand with you. Even when you face the hard questions about your decision, which I'm sure you would.

Respectfully,

Brandon Moffitt  
Clifton Road  
Frederick County

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:37 AM

**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**Cc:** County Council Staff <CountyCouncilStaff@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

From: [hilarym521@gmail.com](mailto:hilarym521@gmail.com)

**Subject:** Expanded data center

Dear Council Members, I'm writing in opposition to the Expanded Data Center Overlay zone. I am a longtime resident and am raising my family here. The public costs of data centers are too high and with little benefit to county residents. I'm most concerned about the pollution and loss of land. Please vote to oppose the expansion. Thank you Hilary Gumphrey Sent from my iPhone

**From:** kagalloway@comcast.net <kagalloway@comcast.net>

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:33 AM

**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**Subject:** In support data centers

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

I have seen lots of negative news about the data center growth.

This email is in support of data center growth as good for the country, state and county.

AND, strongly consider new electrical power generation in the county to support Both the data centers and other potential needs.

Thank You

Keith & Cindy Galloway

Mountville Road.

**From:** Brianna Rowse <blleidig@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 8:24 PM

**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**Subject:** Limit the Data Center

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

- Please limit the data center overlay zone to the existing Quantum Frederick data center campus for the present.

From: K.L.Kyde <terraclara@comcast.net>  
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2025 8:24 PM  
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
Subject: Limit CDI Overlay to the Planning Commission Recommended Boundaries

Dear Councilmember,  
I am strongly opposed to further expansion of the CDI Overlay map beyond the current Eastalco site and the properties adjacent as recommended to you by the Planning Commission. There are too many unaddressed issues and unsolved problems with data center construction and operation to overbuild them at the outset, without having a plan in place to minimize impacts to human health, the environment, taxpayer costs and the progress the County had made with respect to greenhouse gas reduction.

Go slowly. I urge you to accept and approve the PC overlay map. Any expansion if necessary can come later.

If amendments are offered, please delay a vote on those amendments until after the holidays, as voting on the 23rd, as currently scheduled, pretty much excludes the public from an opportunity to respond due to the upcoming holiday. This seems less than generous or fair.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

K.L. Kyde  
Myersville MD  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Helen Vo-Dinh <vodinh.helen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 12:12 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** No Expansion of Data Centers

I feel grateful to have lived in beautiful Frederick County for over 50 years thanks to leadership that has protected the rural character of the region. Climate change is an existential threat that the county has been trying to address for 15 years.

I am aghast that you would overturn existing regulations and policies that protect rural land and aim to protect us from the ravages of climate change. The plan to expand beyond the Eastalco Growth Area is radical and rushed. Reject the expansion of data centers in Frederick County.

Sincerely,

Helen Coutant Vo-Dinh  
5520B Burkittsville Rd.  
Jefferson, MD. 21755

From: jennyteeter@comcast.net <jennyteeter@comcast.net>  
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 1:17 PM  
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
Subject: Frederick County CDI Overlay Amendment

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Council members & County Executive,

I am writing to urge the council to oppose the CDI overlay amendment and limit data centers to the currently approved Eastalco site.

I am a strong believer in carefully measured growth of projects that face public outcry locally accompanied by daily media accounts of negative data center impacts and attempts to legislate at the state, local and nation levels. This alone begs the question of a stepwise approach to growth. Will the project owner live up to stated expectations to project the environment and the public? Project management best practices require milestones that must be met in order for further expansion of a new business line to mitigate risk and course correct as necessary, this is no different.

The supply chain for chips, access to water and energy necessary to run operations are all in finite supply in our community. The public is faced with footing the bill in their electricity rates and access to clean water. Concerns have reached the national level. The Dept of Energy is planning to release large load rules in April 2026 that will dictate national policy that will override state and local decisions. If we try to get out ahead of that we are likely to be faced with expensive legal challenges.

There is so much that Frederick County has done right. It is the envy of many counties nationally. Smart minds designed this delicate mix of urban and rural landscapes through purposeful zoning. Once data centers are constructed including miles of high voltage transmission line supporting them it is nearly impossible to undo the damage.

Let's start smart with the current approved land use and develop the roadmap for moving forward with expert and public input based upon that experience.

Thank you for your service to our county, Jenny Teeter

**From:** PHM <phmichael@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 10:54 AM  
**To:** Brandon Moffitt <bmoffit1@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Frederick County CDI Overlay Amendment

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear Mr. Moffitt,

While a growing number of others have stated their cases very well, your eloquent appeal to the Board of County Commissioners is the best exposition yet of why the County needs to confine data centers to Eastalco, if the county is to have data centers at all.

What this entire community threat boils down to is whether the seven Commissioners choose to protect or harm. No one elected them to harm a community.

With best regards,

Peter H. Michael

2455 Ballenger Creek Pike  
Adamstown, Maryland 21710

E> [phmichael@comcast.net](mailto:phmichael@comcast.net)  
T> 301.874.0235  
W> [peterhmichael.com](http://peterhmichael.com)

**From:** Katherine Zitrick <katie.zitrick@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 9:03 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:**

Dear Commissioners,

My house, 5600 Calvert Dr., is 500 feet from the proposed expanded CDI Zone which if passed would envelop my neighborhood and my son's school, Carroll Manor. My husband and I enjoy being active outdoors with our two kids. My son plays sports through Carroll Manor rec league and I help coach the Carroll Manor rec cross country team.

My family and I moved to our house 12 years ago mainly because it offered space for our family to grow and play unrestricted outside. The proposed 2,200 acre expansion of the data center campus will surround our neighborhood and Carroll Manor Elementary taking away our peaceful community, our enjoyment of the outdoors, and risking our health. There currently are no studies on the health effects of data centers and the backup generators that will be placed at each site, and yet the council wants to move forward against the wishes of the community and the recommendations of the planning commission.

I fear that if we continue to build without studying the effects on our health and the health of our environment that we are endangering our community and environment. We fear noise and light pollution, lower property values, higher electric bills, blackouts, a drain on local water sources, pollution of our well water, and damaging the serene beauty of the land. The environment (wildlife, air quality, and water) will be negatively impacted by the building of the data centers and the diesel backup generators that come with the data centers.

One data center site is already seeking a permit for 99 diesel generators that will need to run in order to be tested and maintained. If these diesel generators are permitted at all possible sites, we are looking over a thousand generators. So far, the Maryland Department of the Environment has not been able to answer questions such as, "how long will the generators be run weekly to test and maintain?" "Are we considering the combined impact of each site's generator on air pollution before we approve permits?"

We need to know what impact these generators will have on Carroll Manor Elementary School and the various sports programs run on the fields. Will the various sports teams that use the fields at the school such as (baseball, softball, soccer, cross country be able to have practices and host games or will our youth be breathing in harmful chemicals? Will our cross country team be able to host the 700 youth runners from across the state at their home meet when they are enveloped by diesel generators? Without clear answers, we cannot continue to build.

I am asking the council to consider

- 1. No data centers next to homes.**
- 2. Honoring the commitment to protecting preservation areas.**
- 3. Environmental Impact Studies be completed on the current building sites during and after construction to aid in future decision making.**
- 4. Enforcing backup power for datacenters that do not rely on diesel generators**
- 4. Protect Carroll Manor Elementary School and our children's health**

Thank you,

Katie Zitrick

**From:** Clem <cpfowler13@proton.me>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 9:26 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** [TIME SENSITIVE - 12/16] STOP data center expansion

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear Frederick County Councilmembers, executives, and planning commission,

This message is in regard to the data center land expansion that would impact residential areas in Adamstown, which would have a profound negative effect on us all. **I'm writing today to seek accountability and to remind you that people's safety and health, which intersects and demands the preservation and health of our environment, should be the number one priorities ahead of profit and big tech data centers.** As a resident here, I'm deeply concerned with how this will impact our local environment, including air quality, water use, and depletion of rural land that we as Marylanders should continue to preserve. There isn't effective regulation of these facilities for their environmental impacts, and it's unclear to residents how this data center would economically benefit residents: **residents should NOT be paying the bill for these data centers that we 1) did not ask for, 2) threaten our wellbeing, and 3) will deplete our natural resources and rural land.** Furthermore, **Maryland does not have the infrastructure needed for the energy consumption these data centers require to operate**, which is estimated to use as much electricity as TWO Baltimores. **The council should be more concerned about improving our failing, old electrical grid, finding a way to save residents money on our increasing electricity bills, and not adding more strain on this infrastructure and its residents.** The so-called "profits" that these corporations are claiming to bring in are at the expense of residents - including future generations - and protected and essential land we need to live. It's easy to break things - it takes time, effort, commitment, and even more money to try to fix or undo damage.

There is simply not enough meaningful consideration, regulation, or analysis being done on the impacts to residents or the environment to even entertain the idea of expanding data centers for profit corporations. Please remember you serve the people of Frederick County. No part of this expansion puts the people of Frederick County or Maryland first. Please reject this expansion.

Thank you,  
Clementina Fowler

**From:** Deyna Jarrett <deyna79@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 8:26 PM  
**To:** Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** 16 December Adamstown Data Centers Hearing Comment

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Hello, I know there is a hearing about the data centers tomorrow. Is there a way to join virtually? I live in Adamstown, and I'd love to participate, but may not be able to attend in person.

I see a lot of people upset about the data centers, and it does seem a bit unfair they are going up without any input from the locals. I wanted to ask if there is any consideration being given to minimize some of the effects.

I like the idea of the economic benefits, and I think they can be a good thing, if done in moderation. But the fact such a huge data center city is going up so quickly is overwhelming and the fact they are being built so close to town, blocking views and turning the area into an ugly maze of buildings instead of the beautiful valley it used to be, feels disturbing.

I think that if locals want to move, the county and/or companies building the centers should offer above market value so they can move away when our homes become unsellable due to no one wanting to live next to data centers.

I think the buildings should remain a good distance from homes and town. With all this land being turned into data centers, why do the buildings have to be RIGHT NEXT to Adamstown? They could be further away, and they certainly do not need to come any closer.

The lights are absolutely insane and need to be dimmed. There's no need to light up to the moon. It's rude. We live out here because it's dark, we like the dark. I miss the stars.

We need assurances and proof that our water and electricity costs won't be impacted negatively, with water testing and results being provided.

Also, though probably considered unlikely, what is Frederick's plan if the AI market crashes and all the loans being taken out for the building of these centers cannot be paid? Is there a plan for that?

I'd love to see more green space preserved and enhanced in exchange for the burden from the data centers. Frederick county needs more parks and gardens. I'd love to see a botanic gardens and arboretum. I'd love to have more overlooks and scenic drives with places to stop and look at the beautiful views (Mountville Road, just outside of Jefferson comes to mind). Can we get lanes added to 270, especially through Frederick (but NOT tolls)? Can we get another bridge into VA? Can we fix our aging bridges? Can we get more schools? Or traffic circles instead of dangerous intersections that are only getting busier? Can we have public contests to name the new roads? Like, how does this project benefit or even include us?

I don't want us selling our entire souls to data centers. Can we just put some reasonable considerations into place?

Thanks for hearing me, and I am fine with this email being read at the hearing.

Respectfully,  
Deyna Jarrett

**From:** Sonia Demiray <sonia@demirayink.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 1:31 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Additional Comment on Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay and Proposed Zoning Map Amendments

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear Members of the Frederick County Council:

The Data Center Alliance of Maryland has a direct mail campaign around unproven assertions and a skewed “survey”. When all answers are positive and cannot be qualified (i.e. Likert scale which would ask for the level of agreement from 1-5 with any statement), when the sample is not representative of the population, and when we have no margin of error, **this is not a survey but a marketing trick.**

Mailers to Frederick County households feature stock photography of non-Frederick farmland and models posing as Frederick Data Center supporters. The last mailer we received claims without any proof from environmental or economic impact studies that:

- a. Data Centers at Eastalco will generate 40% of the County’s annual property tax revenue;
- b. Will use less than 3% of the County’s water supply; and
- c. \$12 million Data Center tax revenue has gone to farmland preservation.  
Certainly not in Frederick County?

After reading these claims, recipients of the mailers are encouraged to complete a “survey” (to be found here: <https://lp.constantc.com/cu/phLPH4i/frederickheritage>). This so-called survey is disingenuous and misleading. The first two questions ask for the zip code and whether respondents believe that Data Centers in Frederick will have a negative or positive impact. After that, only positive answers are provided, without any possibility of qualifying answers.

Question #3 asks what respondents think is the most important policy. The answers provided are: Requiring 5 acres to be protected for each acre used -or- dedicating 25% of the data center recordation tax to farmland preservation -or- limiting data center growth to less than 1\$ of the county.

Question # 4 asks which community benefit from Data Centers is most important to the respondent. The answers provided are: Funding education and school construction -and/or- funding agricultural preservation -and/or -funding parks and recreation – and/or- alleviating the county residents’ tax burden.

This is not a “survey.” Any “results” presented to you by the Data Center Alliance of Maryland must therefore be rejected.

Respectfully,  
Sonia Demiray  
Climate Communications Coalition  
Petersville, Frederick County, MD

Screenshot:

2. Based on what you know, would you say the Eastalco data center campus will have a positive impact, a negative impact, or no impact on Frederick County's rural landscapes?

- Positive impact
- Negative impact
- No impact

3. What would you say is Frederick County's most important policy on protecting rural landscapes?

- Requiring that 5 acres of farmland be preserved for every one acre rezoned for data centers
- Dedicating 25% of data center recordation tax dollars to farmland preservation
- Limiting data center growth to a single site that is less than 1% of the county's landmass

4. Considering all of the community-wide benefits derived from the Eastalco data center campus, which one is most important to you? (check multiple):

- Funding education and school construction
- Funding agricultural preservation
- Funding parks and recreation
- Reducing tax burden on residents
- Other (please specify)

**Sonia Demiray**  
**Climate Communications Coalition**  
**202-744-2948**  
[ClimateCC.org](http://ClimateCC.org)

**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 5:19 PM

**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**Cc:** County Council Staff <CountyCouncilStaff@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

From: [dtietze@protonmail.com](mailto:dtietze@protonmail.com)

To: [J32407@publicinput.com](mailto:J32407@publicinput.com)

Subject: Public Comment Regarding Tuesday, December 16, 2025 Meeting Agenda Item IX.

Public Hearing on Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone and Proposed Zoning Map

Amendment

Public Comment Regarding Tuesday, December 16, 2025 Meeting Agenda Item IX. Public Hearing on Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Zone and Proposed Zoning Map Amendment

Dear County Council Members McKay, Knapp, Keegan-Ayer, and Donald, Vice-President Duckett, President Young, and Executive Fitzwater,

I am writing to express concerns about the proposed expansion of the CDI zone.

In October, I attended a Frederick County Planning Commission meeting regarding the CDI zone. I was there to advocate against the proposed expansions to the zone. There we witnessed an enormous outpouring of opposition for the expansion of data centers' footprints in Frederick county.

I saw person after person stand up and beg, plead, threaten, and argue that the data centers' expansion won't be in the service of Frederick county. The reasons for the concerns are myriad, and I'm sure the other comments have expanded on them effectively enough, but they include economics, environment, ecology, health, community, raising a family, pollution, traffic, and many more. People asked not to be forced to live in the shadow of these constructions in a place they had called home, or be forced to leave.

I also watched people stand up in favor of the data centers, and the reasons were just one: Money. I watched property owners planning to sell, the construction company building the centers, and lawyers from Bethesda stand up and tell us we should allow these data centers to expand so that the speakers could make more money.

The Frederick County Planning Commission, in its wisdom, decided to recommend a minimal expansion of the zone. I would have preferred none, but still I'm happy with their recommendation, recognizing that the government of Frederick doesn't exist just for me. Now the proposal comes to you, and I'm asking you to accept the Frederick County Planning Commission's recommendation and keep the sprawl of data centers in Frederick as little as possible.

The economic benefits of these data centers, the only ones they offer, are not outweighed by their potential detriments - detriments that we know little about at the moment, but momentum nationwide and in Maryland is shifting against them. More and more companies abandon AI implementations. More and more jurisdictions create limits or require studies for data centers.

Lawyers for Microsoft's data centers have admitted that data centers don't bring long-term jobs to the communities they exist in, and that the entire purpose of community agreements is to convince people to accept these monoliths that offer nothing in return. Well, the community agreement that we want is the lack of a data center.

In exchange for what we don't want, we would have to lose hundreds of acres of farmland, the lifeblood of a nation. With food prices rising we need our agricultural land now more than ever.

The expansion of the CDI zone beyond the already accepted campus is unnecessary, and should be postponed. If data centers truly are a boon to our community, we will be supporting the expansion in the future. If they are safe and good neighbors, our neighborhoods will welcome them. Right now, they are unproven and not properly analyzed for their effects. In fact, thus far their neighbors are decrying them. If they want to expand, let them show that they can be a good neighbor with the land they have first. Please, do not include any additional land in the CDI overlay.

Sincerely,  
Derek Tietze  
Frederick, MD

From: Ann Rosenwald <annrosenwald@gmail.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 7:37 AM  
To: Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
Subject: Data Center Overlay

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear council members, myself & my 88 year old spouse will be at the hearing tonight on the Data Center Overlay. People near us in Adamstown are already experiencing damage to their wells from chemicals being disrupted by construction of the data center being built on Ballenger Creek rd.

We moved to Buckingham's choice to have a peaceful and quiet retirement. Loud generators, lights 24 hours a day, huge concrete boxes around me is NOT what I moved here to experience. Please do not allow more of these monstrosities in our county. Quality of life is very important to us. I look at Loudon county when I have to go to Dulles - they have sold their soul to Data Centers!! Please don't do that to our beautiful county.

Please pardon my iPhone, it likes to spell, even when it doesn't know what I want to say!

**From:** careymurphy@aol.com <careymurphy@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:16 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Comment on Data Center Overlay Zone

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear Frederick County Councilmembers:

I am writing to ask that you follow the Planning Commission's recommendations and not expand the data center footprint at East Alco at this time. **I support a Data Center Overlay Zone that is limited to the existing Quantum Frederick campus.** Expanding into the Rural Legacy and Priority Preservation areas runs counter to the thoughtful planning that is years in the making.

Since the environmental and economic impact of the current data center campus is not yet known, it behooves us to assess this initial impact and adjust accordingly. Data centers, due to their outsized use of resources, including energy and water, will impact our county for years to come. They will also affect our climate goals, as well as the goals of Livable Frederick.

While I appreciate the proposal to keep data centers to one area of the county, it's even more important that we listen to the feedback from the community most impacted now. I have attended some of the public hearings and the Adamstown area residents have expressed very clearly and thoughtfully their experiences thus far. They have also raised many questions for which there are not ready answers - not even from the environmental experts in Maryland government. All of which speaks to a lack of experience and evaluation of this industry.

Let's strike a balance, where we can keep our identity and community strong. Let's demonstrate what we say we value here in Frederick County by acting on the overwhelming feedback from our neighbors and experts by not expanding the Overlay.

Thank you for your consideration.

Carey Murphy  
9125 Bealls Farm Road  
Urbana, MD

**From:** Bert Anderson <everedysquare@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 12:58 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay

Frederick County Council  
12 East Church Street  
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear President Young and Frederick County Commissioners:

As a longtime Frederick County resident, investor, and advocate for thoughtful economic development, I write to express my strong support for the expanded Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay. Over the years, I have worked to revitalize historic properties and support initiatives that grow our local economy while preserving the unique character of our amazing community.

The proposed overlay represents an opportunity to attract significant investment and high quality jobs while protecting the rural landscapes and neighborhoods that make Frederick County special. Data center development - when it is done right, like it's being done now - offers stable, long term tax revenue with minimal impact on traffic and public services, helping to strengthen our schools, infrastructure and public programs.

By directing development to the right locations, we can capture these economic benefits without sacrificing the qualities that define our county. Concentrated, smart development ensures that growth supports both our local workforce and our long-term vision for a vibrant, sustainable community.

I urge the Council to approve the expanded overlay. This is a strategic decision that balances economic opportunity with preservation - positioning Frederick County for continued prosperity while maintaining the character that residents value.

Thank you for your public service and thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Bert Anderson

EAST STREET PROPERTIES  
*Everedy Square & Shab Row District*  
*Monocacy Valley Cannery*  
6 N. East Street, Suite 102  
Frederick, Maryland 21701  
301-662-6200  
[everedysquare@aol.com](mailto:everedysquare@aol.com)

**From:** Jay A. <jannelli@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 10:31 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Data Center Concerns

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Good Morning,

My name is Joseph Annelli, I am an emergency manager who lives in Frederick, formerly the Emergency Operations Manager for Maryland Department of Health, among other roles. I've worked COVID, Ebola, and dozens of hurricanes and other natural disasters. I don't scare easily, but I have serious concerns about any expansions of data centers in Frederick.

1) Infrastructure

As far as I can tell, there's not adequate infrastructure in place for it. The power and water demands are huge - to the point where the recent mailers touted that the planned centers would use 3% of the county's water supply. That may seem like a small number, but when you consider it's for a single business park in a small area, it's actually a pretty insane number. A mid-sized data center used as much water in a day as 1,000 households. A single one of these data centers would create the utility demand of ten new neighborhoods in a much smaller footprint, and these plans would call for MANY of them.

In the rush to expand these data centers, my fear is that it will leave Frederick County residents with more power and water problems that we already have. My power already 'blips' out on a weekly basis, with short black-outs fairly regularly. More demands on power might make it difficult for me to work from home.

It would also drastically raise my home electric prices, just like it has everywhere else these data centers are put up, especially when they're installed quickly and haphazardly. I'm also deeply concerned about the effect on the water in this area. Frederick's water comes from a limestone aquifer and is already 'hard' (within a year at our new house our faucets were all covered with limescale build-up), and given these data centers would be downstream from us, I have concerns about the limescale sludge the cooling towers are going to leave behind, as well as the effect on the environment leaving a build-up of minerals will have.

2) AI Industry

This growth is driven primarily by a dubious industry need for power. Putting aside any of the other ethical and environmental issues surrounding AI (which are significant), the industry is very clearly in a bubble. None of the AI companies are profitable, and have been

spending huge amounts of money to make themselves seem inevitable, paying for it to be integrated into user products rather than companies seeking it out. And to keep up with this artificial demand, they need more data centers.

This rapid data center expansion is happening everywhere in the country. The hardware to fill the demand for these data centers won't exist for years, the infrastructure to support these data centers doesn't exist yet, and my fear is that the county will be left holding the bag when this bubble pops. If these data centers are truly necessary, they'll be just as necessary ten years down the line as they are today, and rushing to be the cheapest option for some tech companies that don't even have the logistics in place to actually fill the buildings with hardware yet isn't a winning long-term strategy.

Take your time, do it right, do not buy into the industry's hype. Let's see the *reality* of this goes (and not just the corporate promises) before we even think of expanding.

--

Joseph (Jay) Annelli  
(443) 864-6333  
[Jannelli@gmail.com](mailto:Jannelli@gmail.com)

**From:** Patricia Catalano <patcatalano1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 10:34 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Data Center Public Meeting today

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

How can I review documents regarding environmental impact, how increased electric and water will be paid. I just heard about this meeting and plan to attend.

I am on your website and can't find documents.

Patricia Catalano  
5685 Crabapple Drive  
Frederick MD 21793

Sent from Gmail Mobile

**From:** Christopher Wolcott <chris.wolcott@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:45 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Data Center Overlay Plan

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Council,

I haven't sent a email since August, but wanted to reiterate my approval for the current Data Centers being built on the old Alcoa property, but **NOT** for any additional land being allocated to Data Centers until Bauxite I and II (both being developed by Rowan) are operational and information can be collected to determine if what was promised is actually occurring (noise, water usage, community engagement, electricity).

If you haven't noticed google maps recently updated their satellite images over the area so you can now see the footprint of the data centers rather than just open fields.

[https://www.google.com/maps/@39.324851,-77.4743529,3614m/data=!3m1!1e3?entry=ttu&g\\_ep=EgoyMDI1MTIwOS4wIKXMDSoASAFQAw%3D%3D](https://www.google.com/maps/@39.324851,-77.4743529,3614m/data=!3m1!1e3?entry=ttu&g_ep=EgoyMDI1MTIwOS4wIKXMDSoASAFQAw%3D%3D)

I have had several meetings with Michael Kuykendall of Catellus and participated in a tour by him of Bauxite II and III in October. He has been very open and responsive to questions I have asked.

I have recently reached out to Ron Cramer, Rowan Community Affairs, to discuss further engagements with the Adamstown community directly. We plan to meet on Wednesday.

I am excited about the reach out both Catellus and Rowan have made to the local community and Frederick county as a whole, but still concerned that we should not expand the currently approved data center area any larger until we can see the actual impact. Please figure out a way to put on hold any expansion of land for 1 to 2 years until we can determine if the data centers will be good neighbors.

Thank you,  
Chris Wolcott  
(301) 471-3350  
[chris.wolcott@comcast.net](mailto:chris.wolcott@comcast.net)

5861 Goldenwood Place  
Adamstown, MD 21710

**From:** JAMES ARNOLD <jamesarnoldj@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 6:03 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Data Center Overlay Zone

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

To Whom It May Concern,

I believe it would be advisable to limit the growth of data centers (including any overlay zone) until additional information is available to make an informed decision.

Currently there are concerns surrounding energy requirements and water requirements for these facilities. From an energy perspective, news reports indicate powering these facilities requires opening old nuclear power plants, running diesel generators, installing new power lines, etc. The environmental impacts alone raise significant concerns. As we are seeing worldwide, climate change impacts are devastating to communities – floods in Washington state, more frequent polar vortex's (<https://sebsnjaesnews.rutgers.edu/2024/02/how-climate-change-may-be-affecting-the-polar-vortex/>) , droughts in the American west, and some of our more divergent weather patterns in Frederick county (the extremes are more extreme than in the past including both flooding and drought).

Additionally, we are gradually losing our rural heritage to development of all kinds. Data centers will have an unusually large impact due to their need for power and water. To take tracts of land that are in Priority Preservation and Rural Legacy Areas undermines the County's agricultural preservation goals. The areas in which these facilities are allowed should be limited until the impacts are fully understood and available to the public as well as decision makers.

I'll also note that one of the reasons Alcoa shuttered the Eastalco site was due to energy cost. With more data centers over an ever-larger area, will energy costs go up for county residents? News reports would indicate that is what is happening.

It is also important to note that the recent survey from the "Data Center Alliance of Maryland" (<https://mdtechcouncil.com/data-center-alliance-of-maryland/>) and "powered by the Maryland Tech Council" (<https://mdtechcouncil.com>) mailed to county residents seeking to "gather community perspectives on the Eastalco data center campus in Frederick" is terribly biased. The survey asks three basic questions. First, is there a positive, negative, or no impact to Frederick County's rural landscape? Next it asks about policies on protecting rural landscapes and offers three alternative responses of

which none are true tradeoffs. And third, looking at County benefits that makes the assumption these benefits exist without any supporting evidence.

Before dismissing my assessment, please review the study Maryland Tech Council did for Prince Georges County (<https://mdtechcouncil.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Sage-PG-DC-Impact-Report-Final.pdf>). They base their positive impact only on jobs created and tax revenue. While these are important, public health is as well. What is the cost to the public in terms of dirtier air, increased energy costs, and a host of other potential impacts? As I write this, the temperature outside is 11 degrees Fahrenheit. How many of our County residents can afford the electricity or oil to heat their homes?

From a different perspective, one could make the argument that if the data centers aren't built in Frederick County, they will be built elsewhere. That is not the decision here. The decision here is whether Frederick County's leaders make decision based on a full understanding of the impacts of those decisions.

There are several studies that should be completed prior to any expansion of the overlay area. First, what is the economic impact of the potential data center growth? It could be positive, but it could also be negative. Next, what is the energy, climate and environmental impacts? Any economic benefits or cost must be balanced against these impacts. Only when this information is available publicly can we all be informed on the best way forward to make an informed decision.

In conclusion, insufficient data is available to the public for a full assessment of the impacts of an expanded data center overlay. Until this data is available, the County should not expand the area available in the overlay zone.  
Sincerely  
James A. Arnold

**From:** Kyle O'neill <kytioneill92@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:30 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Data Center thoughts

Hi,

I've only been in Frederick county for a little over a year and half but I felt the need to write when I heard about the data center county council meeting tonight. Please do not let our beautiful area get polluted by a data center. I understand it brings jobs but the damage it will do to the people and the environment is unknowable. I know it hasn't been studied enough but the early data shows nothing good. A report about a data center in Oregon found increased cancer rates close to a data center (<https://www.rollingstone.com/culture/culture-features/data-center-water-pollution-amazon-oregon-1235466613/>). Additionally, strange illnesses and miscarriages linked to nitrates contaminating water coming from a data center.

On a more visual level, these centers can choke water supplies and simply remove it from members of the county. Please watch just seconds into this video for the impact on a local to a center in Georgia.

<https://youtu.be/DGjj7wDYail?si=EYQsGhjCgPkZXgN3>

Please don't sell out the county for profit. You'd destroy the beauty of one of the nicest places I've personally seen in the country and potentially poison thousands of people.

Thank you  
Kyle O'Neill

**From:** Claire Garner <ccg10743@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 9:55 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Data center

Please vote against data centers in Frederick County. They are terrible for our environment, and they will probably be obsolete within the decade.

Thank you!  
Claire Garner  
10743 Lake Point Court  
New Market, MD 21774

**From:** Cody Cervenka <codycervenka@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 10:49 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Data Centers Are Not In Frederick's Best Interests  
**Importance:** High

Hello! I'm writing to the Frederick County Council,

My name is Cody Cervenka and I am a life long citizen of Frederick County, and since 2021 in Downtown Frederick, District 4. I am emailing in regards to the proposal to expand the zone for data centers in Frederick county. As a tax paying citizen who has worked within Frederick County for over five years, I am deeply concerned about any data center expansion.

There's no denying that the "AI Boom" is here, there's also no denying that some of the most powerful companies we have on earth, as well as some of the wealthiest people we have on earth, are investing in AI and AI relevant endeavors, BUT that does not mean that it is the right thing to do, for everyone, everywhere. Data centers use an enormous amount of resources that can really cripple a community and have negative long-term affects that do not outweigh the positive for a vast majority of community members (see [stale job creation, health implications](#)).

I urge you to reject this expansion, which will have massive ramifications for the economic and environmental health of the residents of our beautiful county. The potential short term gain (or influx of cash from whatever companies/investors) is not worth the long term impacts of what these data center will do to our communities.

I know your job is not easy. It is often full of difficult demands with a lack of acknowledgement for all the work you do. I appreciate your time and consideration today. I would like to leave you all with the first three words of our constitution which is *we the people*. It may sound simple, but *we the people* are the ones that guide you, our elected officials. I urge you to oppose any data center expansion for the sake of all the citizens in Frederick County who depend on you. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Cody

Cody Cervenka  
[www.crvnka.com](http://www.crvnka.com)  
[codycervenka@gmail.com](mailto:codycervenka@gmail.com) | (301) 471-4169

**From:** Brandon Moffitt <bmoffit1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 12:22 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Frederick County CDI Overlay Amendment

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Councilmembers & County Commissioner,

I write to oppose the CDI overlay amendment. It is toxic for Frederick County, especially for the people of Adamstown.

Regardless of how we got here, the opportunity is yours to end this data center land grab now. You are the arbiters of what gets destroyed and what remains. I do not use the word destroyed lightly; these lands and environments will likely never get restored in my lifetime (I'm 39), and it's clear that the demand for them, at least for now, is limitless.

I know that you've convened countless working groups, heard endless arguments, and that you start each day with the best intentions to always do what is best for Frederick County. We do that too, not because we're elected, but because we've had this situation thrust upon us, and we want to right the ship and set it on a course that lasts beyond our lifetime.

I wish I could adequately convey how many hours have been spent by your constituents, myself included, in these last few years and especially the last 17 months, trying to know and understand the implications of data centers in Frederick County. For many of us, it is all-consuming. There are great minds in our community: FERC regulators, grid and power station engineers, recovering congressional legislators, attorneys. There's also scores of people that feed us, who have dedicated their lives to growing the food we eat, and a lot of those folks wonder how long their generational farm can sustain itself when their county council is inviting in those companies that would see them destroyed in the blink of an eye.

Being a degree of separation or a cycle away from the lost farms, the lost livelihoods, the lost landscapes, the lost places, does not relieve you of the burden of having enabled it. You do have a choice. Data centers aren't solving world peace. They aren't a moralistic crusade. Data centers are about money, or at least the promise of it, and they chew their way through all of us as they come in.

What's best for Frederick County is to stop the bleed. If you care about what Frederick County is today, and what it has been up to now, then join the team that says no. It's not too late. We have a jersey with your name on it and we're ready to welcome you as local heroes. Be one of the informed, forward-thinking councils that doesn't bow to the endless

pressure of greedy, reckless, short-sighted gain, and instead stand for integrity, equal representation, and long-term equity.

As has been said many times within the chamber and without, once these things are gone, they are gone. A hollow promise may be shiny, but it doesn't last. I promise you we can find a way to build schools without giving away our kids' future.

Please vote no. If you stand with us, we'll stand with you. Even when you face the hard questions about your decision, which I'm sure you would.

Respectfully,

Brandon Moffitt  
Clifton Road  
Frederick County

**From:** Krista Ochlech <kochlech@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 11:03 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** HALT the data center expansion!

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

All,

PLEASE apply common sense and stop the data center growth until we can fully realize the impact -- just how much will it devastate the local communities and send electric bills through the roof!

Thank you,

Krista Ochlech  
5809 Underwood Ct  
Adamstown, MD 21720

**From:** Elyse Wilson <elysewilsonhk@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 1:32 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Venable, Victoria <VVenable@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Cc:** Jim Ballard <comusmail-yahoo@yahoo.com>; Elizabeth Law <bettybob1758@gmail.com>; Theresa Furnari <tafurnari10@gmail.com>; Elizabeth Bauer <cdnlizard@gmail.com>; William Steigelmann <bstieg@aol.com>; Grayzeck Ed <egrayzec833@gmail.com>; Kevin Sellner <ksellner@gmail.com>; Steve Black <steveblack2313@gmail.com>; Todd Jones-Prettyman <deco3899@hotmail.com>; Brandon Hill <bhill@rollingdoorsllc.com>; Patrice Gallagher <pgallj@aol.com>; Kai Hagen <kaihagen@gmail.com>; Karen Russell <ccwgfredco@gmail.com>; rkaltenbaugh <rkaltenbaugh@mac.com>; Mary LaRocco <mellenlaroc@gmail.com>; susan lauterbach <salauterbach@comcast.net>; Renee Hamidi <reneee@thevpc.org>; David Lillard <david.lillard@catoctinlandtrust.org>; Faith Klareich <faith@klareich.com>; James Wagner <james.wagner@gmail.com>; steven jakubczyk <jakubczyksteven@gmail.com>; Marjorie Rosensweig <marjorierosensweig@gmail.com>; Mark Faris <mark.faris@stopmprp.org>; Joanne Frederick <joanne.frederick@stopmprp.org>; Brandon Moffitt <bmoffit1@gmail.com>; Dave Arndt <roseca2010@gmail.com>; Jenny Teeter <jennyteeter@comcast.net>; Betsy McFarland <betsymcfarland@gmail.com>; Shawn McIntosh <smhasler14@gmail.com>; glenschulze <glenschulze@comcast.net>; Gallegos Carl <gallegos.carl332@gmail.com>; James Coulombe <duetto14@gmail.com>; Grayscale2 <grayscale2@protonmail.com>; Brian Sweeney <briansweeney8911@gmail.com>; Anneblack515@gmail.com; Sonia Demiray <soniademiray@climatecc.org>; Bill Crouch <brcrouch@conservationfund.org>; CJW Date Center Work Group <cjw-data-center-group@googlegroups.com>; twheeler@bayjournal.com; Jennifer Alcorn <friendsofjennalcorn@gmail.com>; Jerry Donald <jerrydonald371@gmail.com>; Scott Lasher <scott.lasher@yahoo.com>; Elyse Wilson <elysewilsonhk@gmail.com>; PHM <phmichael@comcast.net>; pbrehm <pbrehm@comcast.net>; Laila Riazi <lailariazi@gmail.com>; Sarah Hempel Irani <hello@sarahforfrederick.com>; Hope Green <hope.green76@yahoo.com>; Gene Butler <rollbackfarmer@comcast.net>; Paula damico-Hollewa <pdhollewa@yahoo.com>; FRANK HOLLEWA <fjhollewa@gmail.com>; Linda Everett <linda@edgedesigngroupllc.com>; Mary Dague <mhdague@gmail.com>; santahsu@comcast.net; Marwa Barakat <mbarakat@newspost.com>; Andrew Schotz <aschotz@newspost.com>; mgregory@wusa9.com; Spencer, Darcy (NBCUniversal) <darcy.spencer@nbcuni.com>; Dustin Branch <dustin@chesapeakeclimate.org>; Elizabeth Bauer <smartergrowthfc@gmail.com>; STEVE MCKAY <stevemckay@comcast.net>; linda@edgedesigngroup.com; Fox5News - Alena Oakes <alena.oakes@foxtv.com>; firefighterdeb53@aol.com; Heather Fletcher <heathertravels@yahoo.com>; Jenkins, Chuck (Sheriff) <CJenkins@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Jennifer@CharltonCommunications.com; Mikayla DC News Now <MNewton@dcnewsnow.com>; tips@nbcuni.com; tips@nbcwashington.com; tips@propublica.org; tips@baltimorestun.com; wyz.tips@cbs.com; News Channel 8 <newsdesk@wjla.com>; Metro Network News <metronews\_wdc@metronetworks.com>; Fox 45 <news@foxbaltimore.com>; Fox 5 <wttg.desk@foxtv.com>; fox5dc@fox.com; CBS-Scott Macfarlane <macfarlanes@cbsnews.com>; WJLA - Kellye Lynn <kllynn@wjla.com>  
**Subject:** IMMEDIATE CALL TO PAUSE: SB 116 Veto Override Mandates Waiting for Data Center Impact Study!!

Dear County Council Members,

I am writing today regarding the urgent need to halt all action on expanding the CDI Overlay Zone until the findings of the newly revived **State-mandated data center impact study (SB 116)** are made public.

The Maryland General Assembly has acted decisively: on **[Today's Date: December 16, 2025]**, the State Senate successfully overrode Governor Wes Moore's veto of **SB 116**, the bill funding a critical, comprehensive study into the environmental, energy, and economic impacts of data center development across the state.

## 1. The New Mandate: Frederick County Cannot "Fly Blind"

- **Bipartisan Consensus:** The successful override demonstrates a **strong, bipartisan consensus** in Annapolis that Maryland is currently "flying blind" on data center policy. The legislature agrees with the citizens: we must quantify the true cost of the AI boom before committing land and resources.
- **The Purpose of the Study:** SB 116 will compel the Department of the Environment, the Maryland Energy Administration, and the University of Maryland to produce the **exact, objective data** Frederick County needs to answer its most critical questions:
  - What will be the impact on **utility rates** for residents?
  - Is our **power grid and water supply** adequate for this scale of expansion?
  - What are the **true costs** to our environment and public health (e.g., diesel generator pollution)?
- **The Political Message:** The State of Maryland is taking the time to conduct due diligence. For the Frederick County Council to move forward now and unilaterally expand the CDI Overlay Zone to an additional **2,200 acres** before this essential information is available is to **act in bad faith** against the spirit and intent of the entire General Assembly.

## 2. Procedural Recklessness vs. Prudent Planning

You are currently proposing expansion without having the data for the first \$text{1,600 acres} already approved. Why accelerate this risky expansion when the State is about to provide you with the necessary roadmap?

- **The Goal is Responsible Zoning:** The study will define the **appropriate guardrails** and identify **appropriate sites**—areas that can withstand the energy and water demands without harming existing communities. Without this data, approving the expansion is the equivalent of permanently sacrificing prime land based on outdated, incomplete, and industry-funded speculation.
- **Political Consequences:** The state legislature has rejected the approach of moving forward without data. For the County Council to reject the same principle signals a deliberate disregard for prudent governance and puts you directly at odds with the will of the state—and your local constituents.

We demand that the Frederick County Council **immediately postpone all votes and decisions** related to the expansion of the CDI Overlay until the comprehensive SB 116 study is completed and its findings can inform truly responsible, site-specific zoning decisions.

Sincerely,

Elyse Wilson

Adamstown MD

**CC:** Maryland Senator Karen Lewis Young (SB 116 Sponsor), [Key local media outlet, e.g., The Frederick News-Post], The Broader Adamstown and South Frederick Community

**From:** Patrice Gallagher <pgallj@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 11:28 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Cc:** County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** NYT: How Tech's Biggest Companies Are Offloading the Risks of the A.I. Boom

Dear County Council members,

The following link is a "gift link" to a story in the New York Times today, so you can read the article while avoiding the paywall.

The story demonstrates why it's important for you to be cautious about data center development here.

[https://www.nytimes.com/2025/12/15/technology/ai-risks-debt.html?unlocked\\_article\\_code=1.9E8.ZLl6.aKaUBLp9covj&smid=url-share](https://www.nytimes.com/2025/12/15/technology/ai-risks-debt.html?unlocked_article_code=1.9E8.ZLl6.aKaUBLp9covj&smid=url-share)

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## How Tech's Biggest Companies Are Offloading the Risks of the A.I. Boom

The data centers used for work on artificial intelligence can cost tens of billions to build. Tech giants are finding ways to avoid being on the hook for some of those costs.

Excerpt:

"Trillions of dollars are at stake as tech companies try to predict how much computing power A.I. will demand years down the line. If the big companies decide they don't really need all that computing after the deals are over, the smaller companies and their lenders will be stuck with the consequences."

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And so would Frederick County be "stuck with the consequences."

Patrice Gallagher  
Frederick

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**Patrice Gallagher**  
Gallagher Design  
[www.patricegallagher.com](http://www.patricegallagher.com)  
102 W Church Street  
Frederick MD 21701  
301.471.3720

**From:** Sherman Johnson <shermanajohnson@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 8:38 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Cc:** County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Please approve the map recommended by the Frederick County Planning Commission

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

A data center moratorium would be best, but absent that I support the map recommended by the Frederick County Planning Commission.

Some concerns about data centers are:

- \* Excessive water use.
- \* Electricity bills are skyrocketing, in part to support existing regional data centers' enormous energy draw. If data centers are allowed to continue to proliferate our utility bills will increase even further.
- \* New power lines will be needed to support more data centers' humongous energy draw. Where will they go?
- \* The large carbon footprint generated by data centers' power demands (to the extent the electricity is produced by coal fired plants).
- \* More tax breaks will be awarded to big tech corporations. What will that cost us?
- \* Some states lose revenue due to large tax incentives offered to attract them, making the net benefit debatable.
- \* The number of permanent jobs is negligible.
- \* Short server lifecycles (3-5 years) create substantial electronic waste.
- \* Constant humming and vibrations can disrupt nearby residents' sleep and health.

For those reasons it is best to minimize the number and size of data centers.

Sherman Johnson  
Middletown

**From:** Susan Trainor <sue.trainor.music@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 10:51 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Cc:** County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Please Support Mr. McKay's Overlay Zone Amendments

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Council Member McKay says: “....We need to go slow and understand how this use will impact this community. We need to understand the impact on County water resources. We need to understand the ability of the electric grid to support these data centers without new power line projects taking our land. Anything else is willful ignorance.”

I echo Mr. McKay’s position. Slow down! Learn more. This supposed solution causes a lot of significant problems and potential harm.

Mr. McKay notes, "Catellus has more than half of their buildable property still uncommitted with site plans, leaving a lot of additional room for development without adding more acreage." Exactly. Let's find out what really happens. Will we learn from our first disappointment, as we discovered - after the county drank their Koolaid - that the Quantum Loophole folks' promises weren't kept?

Please apply the Overlay to the existing approved Catellus properties and not more.

Thank you,  
Sue Trainor  
Hemingway Drive, Frederick 21702

**From:** Darlene Brown <darlenerobert@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 1:35 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Hearing on the Data Centers Plan - Prevent the Expansion of the Data Center Overlay and Rezoning

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear County Council,

Again, I urge you to **HALT any** approval of requests for any property owners to be included in the Overlay Zone, and rezoning of any of the properties listed in your July 2025 (FCPC) Draft Areas between and around New Design Road and Ballenger Creek Pike (expanding the zones for data centers).

I am very concerned about the impact of the already approved data centers, let alone the chance of increasing the number of data centers in Adamstown and further up New Design Rd and Ballenger Creek Pike.

I feel we are being manipulated and discounted. When will be informed about the true impact of these proposed data centers (the good and the bad)? The bad not until it is too late? I live in Adamstown since 1999, and did not receive any of the flyers about the benefits of data centers creating jobs and improving the schools (what are the benefits for Carroll Manor Elementary?) that a friend of mine who lives much closer to them. Is it because the flyers contradict what we were told when the Eastalco was sold for the purpose of the datacenters, especially the low impact to roads, scenery, white noise, etc.? These flyers indicate that the data centers will create 8,100 jobs for local workers during construction, and once they are fully operational, the campus will create 9,800 permanent jobs from skill trades. How can this be managed? How are our roads going to handle that many jobs? We were told that there would only be about 19 people in each building (shift work) and would not impact the roads and of course where is our beautiful landscape. Frederick roads can't handle the amount of traffic now. When I moved here in 1999 and worked in Frederick (7 miles away), I may have passed 1 or 2 cars going to work on New Design. By the time I retired, it was heavier, but now, no matter the time of day, traffic going in both directions is unbelievable and dangerous. Trucks and other vehicles ago down the road taking up more than there lane, And this does not include Ballenger Creek Pike, Buckeystown Pike and Rt. 15. I could go on and on....

I urge you to not approve any expansion of data centers until we really see the full impact of what has been approved. We will not be able to undo the changes/impact to the Adamstown residents and community if you proceed at this pace. Why now? Don't buy into the promise of money...it does not buy happiness. Please do not discount our concerns and sacrifice our quality of life. Let's take the wait and see approach.

Mary Brown  
Adamstown, MD Resident

**From:** Mark Gunnell <urolld@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 11:43 AM  
**To:** Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Request to Oppose Zoning Changes Allowing New Data Centers

Dear Members of the Frederick County Council, members of the Planning Commission and Frederick County Executive Ms Jessica Fitzwater,

I am writing as a concerned citizen to express my opposition to any changes in Frederick County zoning that would permit additional data centers to be located in our county.

Prior to my retirement, I spent more than twenty years managing a small data center on the NCI Frederick campus at Fort Detrick. As a result, I have firsthand, practical experience with the infrastructure demands and environmental impacts associated with data centers. While I recognize that such facilities can increase local tax revenues, those short-term financial benefits must be weighed against their long-term consequences.

In my experience, data centers place substantial demands on water resources, contribute to air pollution through increased energy generation, and drive higher overall energy consumption. Over time, these impacts can strain local infrastructure and degrade the quality of life for nearby residents. I am deeply concerned that the cumulative effect of additional data centers would ultimately outweigh any economic gains.

I have lived and voted in Frederick County since 1981, and I care deeply about preserving the environmental health and character of our community. I respectfully urge you, in the interests of the citizens you represent, to reject zoning changes that would allow additional data center sites in our beautiful county.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Mark Gunnell

806 Apache Ct.

Frederick, MD 21701

[urolld@gmail.com](mailto:urolld@gmail.com)

240-285-4256

**From:** smordensky@aol.com <smordensky@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 5:13 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive Fitzwater <updates@frederickcountymd.gov>; Stan Mordensky <smordensky@aol.com>  
**Subject:** Requesting East Alco Data Centers & Overlay follow FC Planning Comission Recomendations

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Good evening Frederick County Council Members and County Executive,

I recommend the Overlay and any data center construction approvals be limited to what our County Planning Commission has recommended to Council with no changes.

There is much uncertainty related to data center development and the many costs to the residents for Frederick County.

Those two to three precious years of controlling construction limited to the East Alco Site & recommended Overlay will allow the County to better study the impacts of data centers on our residents and their communities.

Impacts include both the pluses and the minuses beyond just dollars.

Any land preservation should take place in the same "voting district" that provided the land for data center development. It is so wrong that one small part of Frederick County be sacrificed for the entire County.

The general election in Prince William County followed the approval of data centers in that county. The election results voted out every BoCC member who voted to approve data centers.

Frederick County residents are already upset that we shall be asked to pay increased electric bills to upgrade transmission lines for the benefit of data centers in Virginia.

Your vote related to data center development will determine your political future in our County.

Please do the responsible thing and vote to follow the FC Planning Commission recommendation.

Sincerely,

Stan

Stan Mordensky  
11401 Meadowlark DR.  
Ijamsville, MD 21754

**Cell Phone: 301-639-8584 (Best choice)**

**From:** Barbara Luchsinger <blagluch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 2:43 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Cc:** barbara luchsinger <blagluch@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** SAVE OUR FARMLAND !

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Dear Council Members,

Beautiful, disappearing farmland, once the hallmark of this county is falling victim to concrete, to the detriment of life here. If county residents cannot live in the pleasant and productive surroundings that enticed them here, then life is not worth living.

Please reign in data centers and all that goes with them before what we love of Frederick county and what makes it stand apart in Maryland, just disappears.

Barbara Luchsinger-----at this farm since 1947

2750 Thurston Road

21704

**From:** Brud Bicknell <brudbicknell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 6:57 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Say No to Overlay Expansion

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Please do not vote to expand the overlay map. I have seen the proposed data center proposed for the land adjacent to my property. To even suggest that 500 feet is an ample buffer is ridiculous. I live well over 1 mile from the current construction and the constant noise is never ending. These buildings have no business being next to residential areas.

Thank you for your consideration.

Harrison Bicknell  
595 Char Leigh Circle  
Fredrick, MD 21703

**From:** Manuel Maldonado <manuel.ma2150@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 1:27 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Say No to Data Center Projects

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Councilmembers,

My name is Manuel Maldonado. I have not been a resident of Frederick County Maryland for very long, just touching on 4 years here, and I perhaps do not have the deepest roots or connections to this place's institutions. However, I write to you nonetheless to convince you that it is at best foolhardy and at worst evil, to consider changing zoning laws to allow for future Data Center projects to exist and be constructed.

I say this as a young man who wants a habitable environment for his children, that future construction of these places is a promise to destroy further the dwindling environment that we hold so dear, and are otherwise a colossal waste of resources and space. I do not know what exactly the plans are but I have no doubt that the public will simply be expected to sacrifice more and more for the stakeholders so invested in these projects. Why the common man should have to suffer the insatiable greed of the rich is unconscionable to me.

For those of you unfamiliar, there is a growing body of evidence that these projects are extremely wasteful of natural resources, are deeply harmful to the environment, do not return the investment they require, and otherwise worsen everyday life for the people around them.

[Report links data center to rare cancers, raising questions about central Ohioans' safety | NBC4 WCMH-TV](#)

If we do not act now, then it will be Frederick next that has unknown cancers caused by wastewater. The Potomac will suffer, every single ecosystem that we are so damn proud of will suffer. I urge you to re-consider any agreements that have been made, and that you close off opportunities to outside investment from data center stakeholders. They do not have the best interest of the residents in their minds, and are more interested in what can be extracted from the place we call home.

Best,  
Manuel Maldonado

**From:** Caitlin Lowery <cdmlowery@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:52 AM  
**To:** MPRP@pseg.com; ason.kalwa@pseg.com; piedmontcomments.psc@maryland.gov; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Say NO to the MPRP line!!

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

To Whom It Should Concern,

I am heartsick to hear of the potential MPRP line that will impact Gaver farm. We have two young children and Gaver farm is part of our yearly holiday traditions - any change will be devastating to our kids. We are also incredibly upset to learn that not only will this hurt our state and the wonderful Gaver farm - but that folks in Maryland will not benefit from this ridiculous development. I also refuse to consent to be charged for the "privilege" of developing this line. These lines will destroy natural scenic assets, decrease property values and harm the environment. We strongly believe that there are better alternatives that should be explored or considered by PJM and the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC).

I urge you to NOT approve this project. Do not devastate the farmland - and DO NOT ruin my kids' childhood - this is such a beautiful area and to ruin it for Northern Virginia is absolutely ridiculous.

Caitlin Lowery

**From:** Caroline Dato <cdato@terpmail.umd.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 2:43 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** STOP data center expansion NOW!

To the Frederick County Council,

My name is Caroline Dato and I am a citizen in Downtown Frederick, District 4. I am emailing in regards to the proposal to expand the zone for data centers in Frederick county. As a tax paying citizen who has worked within Frederick County for over four years, I am deeply concerned about any data center expansion. I urge you to reject this expansion, which will have massive ramifications for the economic and environmental health of the residents of our beautiful county. One of my favorite parts of living in Frederick is the diversity. Within the span of 15 minutes, I can drive from the bustling city of Frederick, to the beautiful rolling hills and farmlands of Adamstown. I can shop at farmers markets in the summer, pick pumpkins with my family in the fall and purchase a Christmas tree in the winter. All from local farms whose livelihood depends on the land they own and community support. With the proposed data center expansion, over 1,000 acres of prime farmland in Priority Presentation and Rural Legacy areas could be lost. The beauty of our county, including the farm lands and those who work on those farm lands, MUST be protected.

Data centers wreck havoc for the working class citizens in which they operate while filling the pockets of those who lobby for and build them. Most jobs that are "created" by data centers are low-paying and inconsistent, while the environmental impacts are vast and long lasting. A 2024 research project at the University of California Riverside and Calteach, found that data centers could contribute to 600,000 asthma-related symptom cases by 2030, with overall public health costs exceeding \$20 billion. I personally have suffered from asthma my entire life. With the recent wildfires over the past couple of summers, there are many times where I have difficulty breathing just sitting in my own house due to the decreased air quality. I get headaches and brain fog, and have to take my inhaler multiple times a day. If the air quality got worse within our county from data centers, this would significantly decrease my quality of life and ability to function normally.

These corporations are dangling a tiny fraction of the profit they hope to gain in front of you. There has been no objective economic analysis done, we are doing away with 1000 acres of protected and essential land, we cannot effectively regulate these facilities for their environmental impact, and there has been no plan in place to offset the energy usage of the existing complex, which is equivalent to two Baltimores.

I know your job is not easy. It is often full of difficult demands with a lack of acknowledgement for all the work you do. I appreciate your time and consideration today. I would like to leave you all with the first three words of our constitution which is *we the people*. It may sound simple, but *we the people* are the ones that guide you, our elected officials. I urge you to oppose any data center expansion for the sake of all the citizens in Frederick County who depend on you. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Caroline Dato

--  
Caroline Dato, MSW  
Community Engagement and Prevention Lead, [Heartly House](#)  
Social Work Adjunct Professor, [Hood College](#)  
Pronouns she/her  
[LinkedIn](#)

**From:** Jenice Nusbaum <jennus77@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:02 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Stop the data sprawl

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

**From:** Annmarie Winkler <winklerah@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 10:07 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** STOP the Expansion of the Data Center Overlay

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear County Council Members:

Well, today is the day, so this is my last attempt to try to sway you from voting forward on the overlay expansion. I am extremely nervous about tonight's meeting.

So, I just wanted to point out that politicians that are "anti-data centers" in Loudoun County are winning elections in landslides against the pro-data centers candidates. That says a lot. These data centers are not something people want. I understand there's a need for them, however, they shouldn't be put in people's backyards and also you should be looking at the effects these data centers have on their neighbors - doing studies etc. If these study requests are being vetoed, then why are people rushing it and what are they trying to hide?

It has also just been announced that Rowan is currently exploring a sale of their company or a massive capital raise and that they are looking to sell for up to \$10 Billion! They are pushing through permits for hundreds of diesel generators and now they are looking to "cash out" and flip the entire project to the highest bidder. Where is their loyalty now? If they are selling the company, the application and consideration for the overlay should be stopped. This decision to expand is too rushed with these latest developments.

Plus, data centers really don't add jobs to the local economy, they take very little manpower to operate while consuming a LOT of the area's resources. Water and electricity in particular. Most of the jobs are construction and once those buildings are completed, there goes the construction jobs.

Please vote against expanding the overlay zone to beyond the East Alcoa site.

**From:** Nancy Smith <nlsmith@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 5:16 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Cc:** County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Stop the expansion of the overlay

Esteemed Council Members,

From what I understand, the value of increasing the volume of land for the data centers and attendant high tech paraphernalia to the residents of Frederick County has not been effectively analysed. My eyes and ears tell me that the tech companies reap the value of extraction, not the humans who live near them. ( "The Age of Extraction: How Tech Platforms Conquered the Economy and Threaten Our Future Prosperity" by Tim Wu)

Do not increase the land overlay.

Yours,

Nancy Smith  
10910 Harp Hill Road  
Myersville, Md

**From:** Meredith Stafford <meredith.stafford@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 6:25 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Vote No on Data Center Expansion

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Good morning Council Members,

I write after waking up at 4am, worried about what a data center expansion next to my neighborhood, Wellington Trace, would mean. I don't mind construction, I know it usually means more housing and anything that helps bring down housing costs is welcome. To be honest I don't mind a data center bringing in tax revenue, as long as it is thoughtfully planned. But this expansion is anything but thoughtful, and anything but thoughtfully placed. These should be put far away from neighborhoods, near surface water sources (river, not drinking water) and the companies should be made to shoulder the cost for accompanying infrastructure built out to isolated areas as well as ongoing increased electricity prices. Given that none of these issues has been addressed, at this time I request that you oppose the data center overlay expansion.

Sincerely,  
Meredith Stafford, RN

**From:** kellyod518@aol.com <kellyod518@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 10:20 PM  
**To:** PHM <phmichael@comcast.net>  
**Cc:** Knapp, Renee <RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Young, Brad <BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Donald, Jerry <JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; McKay, Steve <SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <McKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Duckett, Kavonte <KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carter, Mason <MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; vicki07@hotmail.com; whitesands12@gmail.com; santahsu@comcast.net; olssons@gmail.com; Dogmom65412@gmail.com; billbeam4th@gmail.com; briansweeney8911@gmail.com; coseycool@gmail.com; dale.franklin@yahoo.com; Eschaub101@aol.com; elysewilsonkhk@gmail.com; Jackqle@hotmail.com; jason\_norris301@hotmail.com; Rymer67@msn.com; csanddenterprisesllc@gmail.com; jprosey@hotmail.com; 1momof5@gmail.com; beamery@comcast.net; rachel.frymark@gmail.com; gillie111@gmail.com; satuomey@comcast.net; steveblack2313@gmail.com; ctv1027@gmail.com; tonylchecchia@gmail.com; vickimichael@comcast.net; wsrkwest@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Re: Vote NO on Overlay and Rezoning for Suzanne Irrevocable Trust

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Thanks, Pete! Jack is planning to speak tomorrow and will reiterate these points since they reflect both of our thoughts on all this. I should've included him in the email signature too.

On Monday, December 15, 2025 at 10:39:43 AM EST, PHM <[phmichael@comcast.net](mailto:phmichael@comcast.net)> wrote:

Supurb, Kelly. Let me encourage you to speak Tuesday evening.

What this boils down to is whether any now-fully informed County Commissioner will knowingly vote to harm. They were elected to protect, not harm

With best regards,

Pete

2455 Ballenger Creek Pike  
Adamstown, Maryland 21710

E> [phmichael@comcast.net](mailto:phmichael@comcast.net)  
T> 301.874.0235  
W> [peterhmichael.com](mailto:peterhmichael.com)

**From:** Ellen Loerke <eloerke@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:14 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Vote to restrict Data Center Overlay Zone to the current site - Quantum Frederick campus

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear Council Members,

Please slow down the decision-process on the Eastalco expansion plan in order to fully study the environmental effects of its operation on our county's land and water resources as well as truth behind the purported financial benefits in the near-term and long-term. Other parts of this country with large data centers have seen increased electrical bills for the nearby communities - hardly a benefit to your voters. The center claims it will use less than 3% of our water supply but is that sustainable and enforceable for our county.

The promotional mailers recently sent out by the Data Center Alliance of Maryland struck me as a whitewash attempt to make this development sound like a panacea to our county's school budget. Has a detailed cost-benefit analysis been done on the plan to expand the size of this operation? When can we, the citizens of Frederick County, see this analysis?

The fact that the company is named Quantum Loophole should give anyone pause. What are loopholes for except to find ways to bypass regulations. This would be amusing except that it isn't.

Please do not support the expansion of the data center at this time,

Thank you,  
Ellen Loerke  
Middletown MD

**From:** Karen Lazo <contact@truststory.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 9:00 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** STOP the extended data centers

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Frederick County Council and Executive Team,

Last night I talked with a friend who was telling how a region of Ohio was destroyed by data center buildings. It depleted their water and made property values plunge because of the noise and also cancer diagnoses increased in this region. Also, they ended up paying more in taxes to fix the roads, etc. Also, the data centers became obsolete by the time they were finished.

Please don't let this happen to Frederick County!! We want to keep our green and we don't want these things to happen.

Thank-you for taking our views into account. Charles Lazo and family

**From:** Hannah Allen <challen@mdchamber.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 4:00 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Maryland Chamber of Commerce Letter of Support for Critical Digital Infrastructure Overlay Legislation

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear President Young and Members of the Frederick County Council,

Please find attached a letter from the Maryland Chamber of Commerce expressing our support for the Critical Digital Infrastructure (CDI) overlay zone legislation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,  
Hannah

**Hannah Allen**

Sr. Director, Government Affairs | Maryland Chamber of Commerce  
60 West Street, Ste. 100, Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(302) 423-0264 (cell)  
(410) 269-0642 (x1112)

[LinkedIn](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

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***Via Electronic Mail***

December 15, 2025

Frederick County Council  
12 East Church Street  
Frederick, MD 21701

**RE: Support for Critical Digital Infrastructure Legislation in Frederick County**

Dear President Young and Members of the Frederick County Council,

Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce (the Chamber) is the leading voice for business in Maryland. We are a statewide coalition of more than 7,000 members and federated partners working to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

I am writing to express our strong support for the Critical Digital Infrastructure (CDI) Overlay legislation under consideration. This policy framework is essential for ensuring that data center development occurs in the right locations, with clear rules, predictable processes, and responsible land-use standards that benefit both Frederick County and the State of Maryland.

Frederick County is home to one of the largest data center investments in Maryland, and the economic impact of this emerging sector is substantial. Once fully built out, data center development is projected to generate \$215 million in annual revenue for the county, providing stable, long-term funding that supports education, infrastructure, and community services — while strengthening the fiscal health of the entire state.

In addition, the industry is expected to support more than 6,000 permanent jobs, with on-site positions averaging over \$111,000 in annual wages. These are high-skill, high-wage careers that expand Maryland's talent pipeline, anchor workers in our state, and help businesses of all sizes benefit from a more resilient local economy.

The CDI overlay legislation ensures that this growth occurs thoughtfully, directing development to appropriate areas, protecting community character, and giving both residents and employers clarity about where and how this industry can responsibly operate. It strikes the right balance between supporting economic opportunity and maintaining strong land-use standards.

For Maryland's business community, this isn't just about a single project or sector. It's about ensuring that Maryland remains competitive in attracting future-focused industries, diversifies its economic base, and secures long-term revenue streams that benefit every region of the state.



**MARYLAND**  
Chamber of Commerce

We appreciate your leadership and strongly encourage passage of the Critical Digital Infrastructure overlay as a framework that positions Frederick County – and the entire state of Maryland – for sustained economic success.

Sincerely,



Mary Kane  
President & CEO  
Maryland Chamber of Commerce

**From:** Patrice Gallagher <pgallj@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 8:44 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Cc:** County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Please follow the Planning Commission's recommendations on the CDI Overlay Map

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear Frederick County Council members,

Attached are my comments for the Dec. 16 County Council workshop meeting.

Thanks for considering them.

Patrice Gallagher  
Frederick

---

**Patrice Gallagher**  
Gallagher Design  
[www.patricegallagher.com](http://www.patricegallagher.com)  
102 W Church Street  
Frederick MD 21701  
301.471.3720

**To: Frederick County Council**  
**Fr: Patrice Gallagher, Frederick**  
**Dt: Dec. 14, 2025**

Dear Members of the Frederick County Council,

I'm writing to you regarding the CDI Overlay Map you'll be considering on Dec. 16, 2025.

### **Comments, Part 1**

**I request that you follow the recommendations of the Frederick County Planning Commission when you vote on the overlay map.** There are so many unresolved financial and environmental concerns that have been raised in the long-running discussions about data centers in Frederick, but I believe the Planning Commission has presented a reasonable path forward after carefully considering the many factors brought forward to them by opponents *and* proponents of building data centers in Frederick County.

**In a year or so, the State will have conducted a study of the pros and cons of data center development in our State (Sen. Bill 116), and we'll have more information about how the data center business is doing nationally, and here in Frederick.**

We've committed to building at least some data centers in our County, and the number of acres that will be devoted to that enterprise is already significant. **Let's tread carefully and gather knowledge that we can build upon, and then decide to allow for more acreage if it's warranted.**

### **Comments, Part 2**

**I raised the issue of electronic waste in a Planning Commission hearing, but want the County Council also to have this issue in mind going forward, as regulations for data center developments are formulated.**

I've been interested in waste policies for a number of years, and like most people am aware that e-waste is a monumental problem in the US and world-wide, and not one we as a society have dealt with very well. The research I've done on e-waste generated by the data center industry is sobering, because the magnitude is so great.

There are companies who assist data center developers with handling e-waste, with a lot of variation in how sustainably they handle it. Some e-waste ends up overseas, or in landfills, but some is recycled or reused. Because there really is no federal regulation of this waste, and limited state regulation, especially for a data center-level of e-waste, it will be up to the County to establish good policies.

I recently had a pleasant conversation with Michael Kuykendall about the e-waste problem, and while he acknowledged that it is a considerable problem, his company is not the responsible party, when it comes to properly dealing with the e-waste produced at the Catellus-owned property —

that will be up to the companies operating the data centers, like Amazon. Can we trust them? Kuykendall was open to receiving information about good plans and regulations for e-waste, but so far, my searches for such information haven't yielded very much.

Here are some excerpts from articles I've read that will give you a sense of the problem.

**Excerpts from a Clean Energy Leadership Institute (CELI) article in December 2024:**

"While discussions about data centers' energy consumption and environmental impact are widespread, far less attention has been given to the mounting problem of electronic waste (e-waste) generated by these facilities. **Servers and GPUs, essential to data center operations, are typically replaced every 2-5 years, producing millions of tons of outdated equipment — more than 80% of which is discarded.** A recently published Nature study warned that generative AI alone could contribute an additional 1.2-5 million tons of annual e-waste, posing serious environmental and health risks globally.

E-waste recycling and handling are poorly regulated, with limited infrastructure to support circular practices. Privacy and security concerns often prompt companies to destroy outdated hardware rather than reuse or recycle it. Addressing this growing issue requires a better understanding of its scale, societal impacts, and systemic gaps.

.....  
In the U.S. ... no federal regulations govern e-waste management. Although 25 states have some form of e-waste legislation, these laws vary widely, with only 16 states banning e-waste from landfills.

.....  
E-waste is hazardous, capable of releasing up to 1,000 different chemical substances during improper disposal or recycling. In developing countries, where much e-waste is dumped or handled, workers are routinely exposed to contaminants such as lead, mercury, cadmium, and arsenic. These chemicals can cause cancers, miscarriages, and irreversible neurological damage."

<https://medium.com/@celions/the-hidden-environmental-cost-of-data-center-growth-millionsof-tons-of-e-waste-0bb4a18dbaa1>

**Excerpts from an online article on the NCS Global website, May 2025:**

"Data centers are the backbone of modern digital infrastructure, but their rapid hardware refresh cycles contribute significantly to global e-waste. Racks, computing equipment, monitors, circuits, and other electronic components within data centers are often refreshed on cycles as short as three to five years.

A recent study published in Nature Computational Science estimated that, with the advent of generative AI and its associated computational resource consumption, the amount of e-waste generated could potentially reach a total accumulation of 1.2-5.0 million tons during the decade of 2020 through 2030.

.....  
Improper disposal of IT hardware leads to hazardous waste in landfills, contaminating soil and water with toxic chemicals. According to the United Nations, e-waste is the fastest-growing

waste stream globally. Data centers must implement sustainable IT asset recovery services to reduce their environmental footprint.”

<https://ncsglobalinc.com/insights/e-waste-in-data-centers/>

**Excerpts from Human-i-t's website, September 2025:**

*Are Data Centers Bad for the Environment?*

Data centers produce all kinds of e-waste. Whatever the type, it impacts the environment negatively in at least two ways: equipment disposal, and data center energy consumption. And the equipment disposed of often isn't according to best practice.

*What kinds of e-waste components that need recycling are used in Data Centers?*

Data center networking equipment

These devices facilitate communication and data transfer within networks. Their primary function is to manage and direct data traffic between different devices and systems. Examples include routers, switches, firewalls, load balancers, and network cables.

Server equipment

These are powerful computers designed to process endless requests, store data, and run applications 24/7. They are the workhorses of a data center, handling computational tasks, as well as storing and handling large amounts of data. Examples include web servers, database servers, application servers, and file servers.

Other data center equipment

This includes everything else that is contained in data center architecture. There are monitors, computing equipment, circuits, and any other electrical components within the infrastructure. Examples include storage systems (like SANs and NAS), power distribution units (PDUs), uninterruptible power supplies (UPS), cooling systems, and racks to house all of the equipment.

<https://www.human-i-t.org/data-center-recycling/#:~:text=Refurbishing%20and%20reusing%20equipment%20where,the%20circular%20economy%20at%20work.>

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In the articles above, some solutions are offered, but as discussed in the articles, these solutions require vigilance by the developers and operators of data centers, oversight from governments, and the best solutions are expensive.

**What is the plan for the data centers in Frederick County to deal with their e-waste? Until we know what the plans are, and how they work (or don't) for a period of time, it would be wise to be cautious about data center development, and that's why I support the Planning Commission's recommendations regarding the CDI Overlay map.**

**Thank you for considering my comments, parts 1 and 2. And thank you for your service to our County.**

Patrice Gallagher  
115 E. 5th Street  
Frederick, MD 21701

**From:** Sheila Jones <[sheila\\_rose@msn.com](mailto:sheila_rose@msn.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 10:23 PM  
**To:** Young, Brad <[BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:BYoung@FrederickCountyMD.gov)>; Council Members <[CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov)>; Duckett, Kavonte <[KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:KDuckett@FrederickCountyMD.gov)>; Keegan-Ayer, MC <[MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:MCKeegan-Ayer@FrederickCountyMD.gov)>; Carter, Mason <[MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:MCarter@FrederickCountyMD.gov)>; Donald, Jerry <[JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:JDonald@FrederickCountyMD.gov)>; McKay, Steve <[SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:SMcKay@FrederickCountyMD.gov)>; Knapp, Renee <[RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:RKnapp@FrederickCountyMD.gov)>  
**Cc:** County Executive <[CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov)>; Planning Commission <[PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov)>  
**Subject:** Please Don't (Data Center)

December 15, 2025

Dear Council Members of Frederick County Government,

I have been living in the Green Hill Manor development in Adamstown since 2001. This letter is being emailed to you to voice my concern over the data centers being constructed in this area.

I was fine with the original plans using the contaminated East Alco property but am now very concerned with the expansion of these data centers. I do not see any regulations of these plans, only efforts to change restrictions to make it easier for more data centers to be built. Sounds like the goal is 26 data centers each of the size of a football field. **Focusing only on the potential money this may bring to Frederick defies common sense.** These structures should **not** be allowed close to residential, school areas or roads. Would you really want this next to your home? The data centers should be north and west of the railroad tracks to give the residents, churches and Carroll Manor Elementary school buffer from the impact of these massive structures. Preservation land should be protected as well. I hope that you will be **in favor of the planning commission recommendations.** It is such a shame how Adamstown could become Data town! This expansion will forever change the landscape and feel of this area and not for the better.

Based on what I have been researching, there has not been any impact studies being conducted. The use of water to cool this data system is concerning. If there is a drought, which occurs often in this area, are they going to have to adhere to water restrictions like us residents? The only other option to cool this data center is air, and then it becomes extremely noisy.

What about the use of energy? These buildings need massive amounts of energy to run efficiently. Right now, it seems they do not even have a plan to power the centers currently under construction on the East Alco property. Now they want to expand. It makes no sense to me. If they need so much power, why not put solar panels on all the building roofs and have a battery backup system too. That way maybe data centers would not need to run the diesel generators as often! **In addition, the data center permit article says they can operate the generators up to 50 hours per calendar year under non-emergency conditions, with no limit on emergency operations. Please tell me who decides when an emergency will exist? This is very vague; they can call anything emergent and run them as long as they want!**

The community here in Adamstown is not getting the answers to alleviate their concerns. I feel we are being dismissed. Residents here work very hard for their homes and

community and are concerned about their quality of life. At the end of our day, we want peace in our community. Twenty-six data centers will be eyesore, make noise and potentially pollute the air. The welfare of your constituents should be your priority.

Finally, planning to have a final vote on this overlay two days before Christmas is wrong.

Thank you for considering my thoughts.

Sincerely,

Sheila and Steve Jones

5639 Denfield Place, Adamstown, MD 21710

**From:** Kimberly Roberts <kroberts@plamondon-cos.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 11:17 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Cc:** talborg@rowan.digital; Michael Henningsen <michaelh@plamondon-cos.com>  
**Subject:** CDI Letter of Support - Plamondon Companies

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Good morning,

Please find attached a letter of support from Peter Plamondon Jr. for the CDI bill under consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to respond to this email.

Thank you,

**Kimberly Roberts**

**Office Administrator**

**PLAMONDON COMPANIES**

7490 New Technology Way, Suite A, Frederick, Maryland 21703

**DIRECT:** (301) 695-5051 **ext:** 150

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# PLAMONDON COMPANIES

7490 New Technology Way, Suite A • Frederick, MD 21703 • T: 301-695-5051 F: 301-695-5066

Peter Plamondon  
Plamondon Hospitality Partners  
7490 New Technology Way, Suite A  
Frederick, MD 21703

December 16, 2025

Frederick County Council  
12 East Church Street  
Frederick, MD 21701

Dear President Young and Members of the Frederick County Council,

As a long-time Frederick County business owner, I am writing to share my strong support for smart data center development in our community. While each project should be evaluated on its own merits, the economic potential of this sector is too significant to overlook. Independent economic impact studies show that, once fully built out, data centers could generate nearly \$215 million in annual revenue for Frederick County – a scale of benefit that lifts every business and resident.

Data centers represent a rare combination in local economic development: low-impact, high-value growth. These facilities require little in the way of public services, place minimal demand on schools and roads, and create stable long-term revenue streams that help keep taxes predictable for both families and employers like us. At a time when many counties are struggling to balance growth with quality of life, data centers offer a responsible path forward.

For local businesses like ours, the benefits of this industry are clear: stronger county revenues, more opportunities for workers, and a more stable economic foundation that supports everything from hospitality to retail to professional services. Responsible data center development positions Frederick County to succeed in a competitive region while preserving the character we all value.

Companies entering this sector - including Rowan and others - have also demonstrated a willingness to engage as community partners. Their investments in workforce training, nonprofit support, and local initiatives show the kind of collaborative spirit that strengthens our business ecosystem. While Rowan is just one example, it illustrates how data center operators can integrate into the community, not simply operate alongside it.

Thank you for your leadership and your thoughtful consideration of an opportunity that can help Frederick County continue to thrive.

Sincerely,  
Peter Plamondon

**From:** Charles Seymour <cseymour@tpreinc.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 1:20 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Noffsinger Family Farm inclusion in CDI Overlay and Councilman McKay Amendments to Exclude on Facebook

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear Council Members, I read this morning on Councilman McKay's Facebook that he plans to propose an amendment to exclude the Noffsinger Property. I am disappointed by his position but I thank you nonetheless for supporting the inclusion of the Noffsinger Property (and subsequent rezoning) into the CDI Overlay. Please explore the history below so you can see what a long and continued struggle this has been for the Noffsinger family in many, many ways. Attached is a signed letter of support from their family to have the farm and houses included in the overlay and to be rezoned. Please help them!

Mrs. Lois Noffsinger raised her 5 children (David now 60, Jim now 58, Dan now 57, John now 55, and Dolly now 53) on the family farm where her husband (the children's father) was tragically killed. A painful and lasting memory.

Mrs. Noffsinger gave each of the children a lot to build a home (now zoned AG), to get them to stay on the farm.

The farm property has been zoned GI for many years and also houses John's welding business.

The property is located between the Stanford Industrial Park and Agro Industrial Park and has a comp-planned road dividing their farm into two pieces.

Four of the children constructed homes and raised their children on the AG lots at the front of the farm, and one lived in the old farmhouse and held an undeveloped lot.

In 2017, Mrs. Noffsinger asked me (Charles Seymour) to start working with her and her family members, to dispose of the family farm. The farm had been placed in a Trust and she gave me instructions to plan to liquidate. She explained that she didn't want her children to argue about selling the farm or about money after her death.

The farm was placed on the market after it was site planned for 11 industrial lots and after tremendous engineering and other expenses. The property was being explored by several industrial users at that time.

Around 2019, Mrs. Noffsinger fell ill and was placed into an assisted care facility. We continued to have regular communication, and she expressed her desire to expedite the process to liquidate the property prior to her death. Her children David and Dolly (Trustees) expressed the need to sell half of the farm in order to cover debts and to be able to keep their mother in nursing care, which was exceedingly growing in cost as her health continued to deteriorate. The sale would also help with their family relocations to other properties, after a final sale of the remaining lands.

To accommodate her request, I helped sell 60 acres (the Northern portion) of the farm where the comp-planned road divided the property, leaving about 40 acres of the GI zoned land and the 5 lots with 4 homes zoned AG.

On October 18th, 2021 the 60 acre portion of the Noffsinger Family Trust land was sold/settled.

On October 20th, 2021 Mrs. Lois Noffsinger passed away.

During this time, as you know, senate Bill 397 had changed the dynamic of GI land, and the Noffsinger land was included as a property being marketed for a potential future Data Center by Frederick County Economic Development. As part of that sale, the Noffsinger children began the process of relocation, not wanting to be in the middle of industrial development, but mainly because their lives all changed after the death of their Mother. Unfortunately, the Noffsingers have been delayed in the final sale process for years now, causing them real economic and emotional hardship. The Noffsingers each purchased relocation properties in Frederick County, believing that their remaining lands would soon be sold. However, they have been trapped by moratoriums and the "overlay" discussion, which has changed their ability to complete the final sale of the remaining land, which they had financially counted on for their relocation. They have been through years of hearings and hurdles while they have watched their future dreams evaporate. These delays continue to plague them financially and emotionally. They have tried to move on with their lives, their children's lives, their equipment, their businesses, their cattle, and their legacy, all based on the early approval of Data Centers in GI land and APFO approval of the sold portion of their farm.

The Family Trust is unable to be closed due to these delays. Taxes continue to accrue as do other expenses with legal, accounting, maintenance, etc. Monies are unable to be distributed, and the family is unable to fulfill their remaining life plans.

As you can imagine, each of the families' spouses and children are being impacted as well. They were committed to a well crafted land disposition plan, but have had only turmoil for the last 4 years. The Noffsingers are not big developers, they are simple hardworking people. Please allow them to complete the sale of their remaining lands and support the rezoning of their homes and the inclusion of their land into the CDI Overlay. Please see the attached letter. Thank you very much, Charlie Seymour

**Charles Seymour, President**  
**240-436-6040 Direct | 301-831-8232 Office | 240-436-6041 Fax**

**Turning Point Real Estate | 8923 Fingerboard Road, Frederick, MD 21704**  
Find us on the web: [www.TurningPointCommercial.com](http://www.TurningPointCommercial.com)

October 8, 2025

By email to: [planningcommission@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:planningcommission@frederickcountymd.gov)

Members of the Frederick County Planning Commission  
Winchester Hall  
12 E Church Street  
Frederick, MD 21701

Re: The Noffsinger property and the CDI Overlay

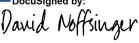
Dear Planning Commission Members;

We are writing to confirm on behalf of our family that we fully support the request by Manor Woods Road Properties, LLC to have the Noffsinger property included in the CDI Overlay Zone and for the five Ag zoned lots to be rezoned to General Industrial.

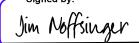
While we have made our homes and run our businesses on the property for many years, we have always known that at some point the area would be developed with major industrial uses, including those that have already developed around us on Agro Drive and Stanford Business Park. Approximately 95 of the 103 acres of our original farmstead is already zoned General Industrial. Only the five agricultural lots are not currently zoned GI. However, the five lots are surrounded by properties with current and planned industrial zoning.

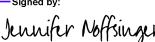
We have been working with the Natelli family for several years now on a transition plan that permits our family to relocate to areas more suitable for residential, and permits the entirety of the Noffsinger property to be developed as General Industrial. We fully support their efforts to consolidate the zoning across the property and to finalize the plans for development within the newly created CDI Overlay Zone.

Sincerely, David Noffsinger, Jeanette Noffsinger, Jim Noffsinger, Jennifer Noffsinger, Tim Sullivan, Dolly Noffsinger Sullivan, John Noffsinger, Laura Noffsinger, Danny Noffsinger

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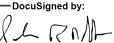
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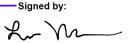
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cc by email: County Executive Jessica Fitzwater – [countyexecutive@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:countyexecutive@frederickcountymd.gov)  
Frederick County Council – [councilmembers@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:councilmembers@frederickcountymd.gov)

**From:** AC Malinak <acmalinak@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 9:02 AM  
**To:** County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Cc:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Mitchell, Kathy (Legal) <KMitchell2@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Wilkins, Michael <MWilkins@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Black, Bryon <BBlack@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Gaines, Kimberly <KGaines@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; DeSa, Tolson <TDeSa@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Sinton, Thomas <TSinton@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Murray, Patrick <PMurray@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Venable, Victoria <VVenable@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Carpenter, Deborah <DCarpenter@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; aschotz@newspost.com; mbarakat@newspost.com  
**Subject:** Inaccurate Zoning Verification Letters for Data Centers issued in Dec. 2025 by Frederick County, MD

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Good morning,

Please see the attached documents.

Thank you,

A.C. Malinak  
Adamstown, Maryland



## FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

### DIVISION OF PLANNING & PERMITTING

Department of Development Review

Jessica Fitzwater

County Executive

Deborah A. Carpenter, AICP, Division Director

Michael Wilkins, Acting Director

December 12, 2025

Tess MacMorris  
1800 Wazee Street  
Suite 300  
Denver, DE 80202

Re: 5601 Manor Rd  
Frederick MD 21703  
Tax Map 94, Parcel 0070, Lot 100  
Tax ID #01000152, **V278266**

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is in response to your zoning verification application submitted on November 17, 2025. In your application, you requested zoning confirmation for the above referenced property and that "*Critical Digital Infrastructure Facility*" is an allowed use under the subject properties zoning.

The property referenced above is zoned General Industrial (GI).

#### **§ 1-19-5.250. INDUSTRIAL ZONING DISTRICTS.**

(A) The purpose of the industrial districts is to provide for the development of varied industrial uses that would supply needed employment opportunities for the county. Industrial development has inherent characteristics that require special attention and protection. Due regard must be given to industrial needs for adequate site locations with concentration on terrain, availability of water and sewer systems, transportation, and compatibility with surrounding development.

(C) The General Industrial District (GI) is intended to provide areas for industries involving manufacturing or processing and for those industrial uses which cannot meet the performance criteria of the Limited Industrial District.

**CRITICAL DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITY.** A facility consisting of one or more buildings used primarily for the storage, management, processing, and transmission of digital data, and which houses computer or network equipment, systems, servers, appliances, and other associated components related to digital data operations. The facility may also include customary accessory uses such as an office use, air handlers, power generators and storage, water cooling and storage facilities, and associated utility infrastructure needed to support sustained operations of the digital infrastructure.

A "*Critical Digital Infrastructure Facility*" is an allowed use within the General Industrial zoning district, subject to site plan approval as well as approval of all State of Maryland and Frederick County permits

A review of the records in this office does not reflect any existing zoning violations at this Property at this time. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact me at 301-600-1491.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tolson DeSa".

Tolson DeSa  
Zoning Administrator

Cc: M. Wilkins  
K. Michell  
T. Sinton

December 15, 2025

County Executive Jessica Fitzwater  
Winchester Hall  
12 East Church Street  
Frederick, MD 21701

Dear County Executive Fitzwater,

As a resident of Frederick County, I am writing to express concern regarding recent inaccurate Zoning Verification Letters issued by the Frederick County Zoning Administrator to Rowan Digital Infrastructure. I believe these official communications convey specious information about the permissibility of Critical Digital Infrastructure facilities (data centers) under current county law. Such discrepancies not only risk misleading stakeholders and raise the issue of potential legal liability for the County, but also undermine the integrity of the ongoing legislative process of the CDI Overlay Zone. I urge you to evaluate this matter promptly and take corrective action to preserve public trust and democratic principles.

Zoning Verification Letter request V278266 was submitted on November 17, 2025, and replied to on December 12, 2025, for Lot 100 (Tax Map 94, Parcel 0070, Tax ID 01000152) at 5601 Manor Woods Road, Frederick, MD 21703. This lot (also referred to in other documents as "Bauxite VII") is part of the Quantum Frederick project on the former Eastalco site, but has not yet been developed. In his response letter, the Zoning Administrator writes to Rowan Digital Infrastructure: "This letter is in response to your zoning verification application submitted on November 17, 2025. In your application, you requested zoning confirmation for the above referenced property and that 'Critical Digital Infrastructure Facility' is an allowed use under the subject properties zoning" .... "A 'Critical Digital Infrastructure Facility' is an allowed use within the General Industrial zoning district, subject to site plan approval as well as approval of all State of Maryland and Frederick County permits. A review of the records in this office does not reflect any existing zoning violations at this Property at this time." (See attached letter, dated December 12, 2025, from Frederick County.)

As you know, this letter is incorrect because no new data centers are permitted at this time in Frederick County: Bill 25-09, which took effect on November 1, 2025, explicitly requires that CDI facilities be located on land zoned Limited Industrial (LI) or General Industrial (GI) **and within a designated CDI Overlay Zone**. Under § 1-19-5.310 (Use Table), CDI facilities are listed as a principal permitted use only when subject to site development plan approval **and within the CDI Overlay Zone**.

However, no such overlay zone(s) have been formally established or mapped to date. The Planning Commission has recommended limiting CDI development to specific areas, including portions around the former Eastalco site; but until boundaries are officially adopted and incorporated into the zoning map, the overlay requirement effectively prohibits any new CDI approvals countywide for applications filed after the effective date. The public hearing on this

issue is scheduled for December 16, 2025, with a potential Council vote on December 23. Until these required steps are completed, no property in the county qualifies under the CDI-OZ designation. Therefore, this zoning verification is incomplete – and noncompliant with the current code, as it fails to address the mandatory CDI Overlay Zone requirement.

A public search via the County permitting portal further shows similar Zoning Verification Letters (see table below) were requested by Rowan in November 2025 and issued last week by the County for Lots 202, 203, 204, and 301, with one new letter now pending for Lot 112c. All of these letters overlook the restrictions imposed by Bill 25-09, which should apply to all post-effective-date applications.

**Table of Relevant Zoning Verification Letters (from online public portal)**

Application number	Date added	Date approved	Parcel	Lot
V278353	12/12/25	—	01000152	112c
V278269	11/14/25	12/11/25	01005391	204
V278268	11/14/25	12/10/25	01005391	203
V278267	11/14/25	12/11/25	01005391	202
V278266	11/14/25	12/12/25	01000152	100
V278260	11/14/25	12/11/25	01000152	301

Of further note, a “Bauxite VII” site plan for Lot 100 (SP287201) was submitted on November 1, 2025, proposing two new data center buildings, an auxiliary water building, and affiliated stormwater management, infrastructure, and security improvements. The Permit Office’s decision to void this application on November 3, 2025, specifically noting the absence of a currently designated CDI Overlay Zone, as well as voiding SP278204 for Bauxite II (2nd Revision), which proposed data center expansions on Lot 302, was entirely consistent with the law. This raises an important question: Why did the County deviate from this earlier precedent and instead agree to issue letters last week, incorrectly affirming the current permissibility of new CDI use for five Quantum/Rowan lots?

The recent issuance of these Zoning Letters is troubling. Any Frederick County citizen learning about these documents might reasonably conclude that the County has already sanctioned data center development on these properties, preempting the decisions now ostensibly slated for public debate and Council deliberation. This perception renders the public hearing on December 16th superfluous, diminishes the value of community input, and erodes the transparency

essential to our democratic process. It further suggests undue haste to facilitate development before the legislative framework is finalized, potentially fostering inconsistencies in enforcement and public mistrust.

To safeguard the legitimacy of this process, the Zoning Administrator should immediately retract these inaccurate letters, and the County should cease efforts to facilitate data center development until the CDI Overlay Zone boundaries are formally adopted. Such reasonable measures would reaffirm the County's commitment to fair, accountable governance and ensure that decisions of this magnitude accurately reflect the will of the community impacted by this portentous matter.

I look forward to your response and to participating in the public hearing.

A.C. Malinak  
Adamstown, Maryland

**From:** Sean Kirchhoff <tptboy@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 15, 2025 3:43 PM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Do Not Expand Data Center Overlay Beyond Planning Commission Recommendation

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear County Council,

I urge you to adopt the recommendations from the Planning Commission regarding the CDI Overlay.

You (the County Council) and the Planning Commission have heard many hours of input and feedback from constituents in Frederick County. The vast majority of stakeholders do not want to see data centers expand beyond the current area. It is an undue burden on the neighboring communities to allow the massive expansion that is under consideration.

I urge you to adopt the recommendations made to you by the Planning Commission. Their thorough and thoughtful review appears to take into consideration the tremendous impact of the data centers.

- Their recommendation allows data centers to exist on a large amount of land, without destroying our fertile rural farmland in this area of the county.
- The Planning Commission recommendation allows data centers to exist near but not to encroach upon neighborhoods and schools around Adamstown, Buckeystown, and nearby southern Frederick.
- The recommendation keeps the data centers primarily in the East Alco footprint, while also considering a few adjoining parcels without additional sprawl.

The Planning Commission recommendation is well-thought-out, and again, I urge you to adopt their recommended map.

A reminder to you as our elected decision-makers: it is up to YOU to be stewards of the land, community, history, and people in Frederick County. I urge you to keep the data center zones to the recommendations you received from the Planning Commission.

Sincerely,  
Sean Kirchhoff  
Adamstown, MD

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 16, 2025 8:40 AM  
**To:** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Cc:** County Council Staff <CountyCouncilStaff@FrederickCountyMD.gov>  
**Subject:** Fw: New voicemail for County Council

From: +12406268458

Message Transcription: Hi, my name is James Schneider, and I would like to enter into the queue for live public comments during the Maryland Council, Maryland County Council meeting on Legislative Day for Tuesday, Ste Ste, December 16th, 2025 at 5:30 PM That's all I have to say, and thank you.



## CDI overlay public hearing

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**From** Lori Williams <reed.lori28@gmail.com>

**Date** Mon 12/15/2025 4:25 PM

**To** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

Dear County Council Members:

I appreciate you taking the time to hear the concerns of the citizens of Frederick County regarding the CDI overlay. I strongly urge you to not expand the growth area beyond what the planning commission recommended. There has been no study conducted of how much power and water the data center uses. Also, there has been no analysis done of the economic impacts of the data centers. They do not provide long term jobs, nor do they provide jobs to people that live here in Frederick County.

Please adopt the Planning Commissions recommendation and keep the CDI overlay to the area that was approved by them at their public meeting in October.

Kind Regards,  
Lori Williams  
7739 Emerson Burrier Road  
Mt. Airy, MD 21771



Outlook

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## Data Center Expansion

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**From** Kathryn Johnston <johnstonkathryn3@gmail.com>  
**Date** Mon 12/15/2025 3:49 PM  
**To** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

To whom it may concern,

As a Frederick County resident, tax payer, and involved citizen, I highly urge you to say no to the additional spread of Data Centers. I live in the Ballenger Creek area and will be directly affected by the additional Data Centers expansion proposed. I bought in our beautiful county 15 years ago to get away from the "city life" and find balance in a beautiful town like Frederick. I'm all for expansion and have enjoyed seeing Frederick grow while maintaining its small town and farm focus feel that make Frederick unique. These Data Centers go against everything our County has to offer. We don't need more huge Data Centers taking up space, polluting our air, water, and ground. The residents get no benefit from it, other than risks and noise, construction and harm. Data Centers don't build jobs, let's be real. Yes, short term there will be a need for building, installing and creating infrastructure. But the reality is, these Data Centers employ a minimal amount of employees to keep it running, there is no long term employment opportunities for our county. Please think of your constituents, who are sad and angry at the continued abuse and lies of these companies. Please think of us in Ballenger who did not agree to live next to these massive structures. Please think of the farms, the livestock, the nature that will be compromised. Please vote for us, not for the corporations trying to move in to Frederick County.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Johnston  
Concerned Citizen in Wellington Trace



Outlook

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## Stop the datacenter propaganda

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**From** Cecilia Plante <ceciliaplante@verizon.net>

**Date** Mon 12/15/2025 4:33 PM

**To** Council Members <CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; County Executive <CountyExecutive@FrederickCountyMD.gov>; Planning Commission <PlanningCommission@FrederickCountyMD.gov>

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]**

I just don't think the scale, the size, and impact, of what is being proposed are firmly and universally understood and communicated. I worry, in fact, that the board is failing to hold a strong perspective relative to what is about to be approved. According to the county council, they are committed to avoiding the "sprawl" plainly exists in Virginia at this point. That is great. But "sprawl" is not just about the physical footprint of a building.

True, data centers are HUGE. According to county documents, if the new site is approved and built to capacity, it will have approval to create data centers covering about 20 MILLION square feet of space. Again, just to put this in perspective, if built as a single square, such a structure would be about 9 tenths of a mile long and 9 tenths of a mile wide, and would probably be a hundred or so feet tall. But even such a monstrous eyesore is not the point.

That is because there is another sort of "sprawl" that the new site will inflict on us all.

It would use approximately the same amount of water as the entire city of Frederick every day. It would use electricity at a rate equal to that of 30,000 homes and its use would be constant -- all day, all night (and with hundreds of backup diesel generators that would kick in during power outages). And while it consumes those resources, it would only generate the same amount of tax revenue for the county as about 2,700 homes similar to the one I live in. And it would create a number of jobs that is (generously, in my view) estimated to be on the order of 1700.

I offer that someone somewhere is perhaps failing to appreciate the true size of what they are about to agree to, the water resources that are about to be consumed, and the impact on the electricity demand that will result in higher costs for us all. That someone may also be confused about the number of jobs that may result.

I recommend that any approval for a data center in Frederick county be given only when these perspectives of scale, cost, and impact, are addressed such that there will be a much lower impact on the county's human residents than is currently the case. So, please note, in spite of all of the above, I don't object to the idea of new data centers. What I struggle with is the impact that will be foisted onto us by it not being made to pay its share of that impact that it will surely cause to us all.

There are creative ways to solve that. I urge those ways to be explored.

What happened to solar for power, and battery storage for backup power? What happened to thinking about building underground? What happened to using technology to recycle water? None of these things are on the table because they are more expensive than having the residents of this

county suffer instead. This is a boondoggle for the extremely wealthy companies that want the data centers.

Please push back. Make them come up with plans that don't hurt the families that live here.

Thanks!

Cecilia Plante  
1021 Holden Road  
Frederick, MD 21701