

**Certification of County Agricultural Land Preservation Programs**  
**Re-Certification Request – Howard County**  
**(Conditional Certification Approval**  
**of the MALPF Board of Trustees, March 22, 2005)**

**MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL LAND PRESERVATION FOUNDATION**  
**MINUTES**  
**March 22, 2005**

Re-certification of County Programs

Howard County

Approved Motion #3: "I move the Board of Trustees will grant conditional recertification to Howard County's Agricultural Land Preservation Program (ALPP) for the two-year period starting July 1, 2005. This recertification is conditioned on Howard County's adoption and implementation of legislation to increase the protection of farmland by reducing the potential for non-agricultural development in the Rural West prior to the next recertification request. The County will adopt and implement three types of revisions:

1. Adequate public facilities regulation modifications to slow the pace of rural development.
2. Zoning regulation revisions to the eligibility criteria and incentives for density exchange between sending and receiving parcels, specifically eliminating the ability of landowners to transfer density within the Rural West area zoned for rural conservation.
3. ALPP refinements to promote greater use of county funding to purchase development rights on high priority farm properties.

Documentation of the County's success in implementing these improvements must be submitted to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation by July 1, 2006. If this deadline is not met, the distribution of the agricultural transfer tax revenues will revert to the non-certified allocation of 33% retained by the County and the balance forwarded to the State, and any agricultural transfer tax revenues collected after July 1, 2005, will be distributed based on the non-certified formula until a non-conditional certification or recertification is approved.

This general motion and its specific implementation will be subject to a memorandum of understanding or contract to be agreed to by the governing authority of Howard County, the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation, and the Maryland Department of Planning by June 30, 2005."