

# CITY COUNCIL

## READ FILE COVER SHEET

Subject: **Ordinance 1082 concerning Creating a Process for  
Establishing Legislative Priorities and Positions  
(Public Hearing)**

Date: **8/16/2022**

**Notice:** Any comments made after 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the Council Meeting will not be seen in the agenda packet.

- Purpose:
- FYI
  - Read and Comment as Needed**
  - Action Required by August 22, 2022**
  - In Confidential File Drawer

Approve:

Casi Boyer  Yes  No  No Comment

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Dave Martin  Yes  No  No Comment

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Jim Ringsaker  Yes  No  No Comment

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Jason Robertson  Yes  No  No Comment

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Tammy Lynn Schneegas  Yes  No  No Comment

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Carolyn Zinner  Yes  No  No Comment

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: N/A

CITY COUNCIL  
OF  
HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND

ORDINANCE NO. 1082

Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_ Council President Ringsaker

**AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND, ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF ARTICLE XI-E OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION, THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, AND SECTIONS 33 AND 34 OF THE HAVRE DE GRACE CITY CHARTER FOR CREATING A PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES AND POSITIONS AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO SPEAK AND ADVOCATE FOR THE PRIORITIES AND POSITIONS ESTABLISHED**

On: August 15, 2022

at: 7:00 p.m.

Ordinance introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

A Public Hearing is scheduled for August 22, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. .

**EXPLANATION**  
Underlining indicates matter added to existing law.  
**[Bold Brackets]** indicate matter deleted from existing law.  
Amendments proposed prior to final adoption will be noted on a separate page with line references or by handwritten changes on the draft legislation.

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34 **WHEREAS**, the city anticipates that the county, state, and the federal government will likely introduce  
35 or consider legislation, regulation, rules, resolutions, bond initiatives, policies or similar legislative or  
36 administrative actions that will have an impact on the operations and functions of the city government;  
37 and

38  
39 **WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the citizens of Havre de Grace for the Mayor and City Council  
40 to create a process to create legislative priorities and positions and to authorize the Mayor or designee  
41 to speak and advocate for the priorities and positions of The Mayor and City Council.

42  
43 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that City Code Chapter 1, General Provisions be**  
44 **amended by adding new Article IV as follows.**

45  
46 IV Government Relations

47  
48 **Definitions:**

49  
50 **City:** “City” means The Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace, a municipal corporation of the  
51 State of Maryland.

52  
53 **City Attorney:** “City Attorney” means the city attorney as described in section 49 of the City Charter.

54  
55 **Chief Advisor to the Mayor:** “Chief Advisor to the Mayor” means a position that has been designated  
56 chief advisor to the mayor.

57  
58 **Council President:** “Council President” means the council president as described in section 24 of the  
59 City Charter.

60  
61 **Doing Business With:** “Doing Business With” has the meaning stated in Chapter 67 of the City Code.

62  
63 **Director of Administration:** “Director of Administration” means the director of administration as  
64 described in section 48 of the City Charter and Chapter 130 of the City Code.

65  
66 **Legislative Liaison:** “Legislative Liaison” means:

67 (1) A career service position as described in Chapter 130 of the City Code who reports to the director  
68 of administration.

69  
70 (2) The liaison between The Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace and the Maryland General  
71 Assembly, and the Government of Harford County, Maryland, who advises the Mayor and City  
72 Council of Havre de Grace on legislative priorities and positions.

73  
74 **Liaison to the Maryland Municipal League:** “Liaison to the Maryland Municipal League” means a  
75 member of the Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace who is a member of the Maryland Municipal  
76 League’s legislative committee or board of directors.

77  
78 **Mayor:** “Mayor” means the mayor as described in section 18 of the City Charter.

79  
80 **§ 1-1 Priorities; authorization established.**

81 The Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace as a legislative body is authorized to establish priorities  
82 for legislation, regulations, rules, resolutions, bond initiatives, or policies to be considered or being  
83 considered by the county, state, or federal government.

84 **§ 1-2 Priorities; authorization to seek introduction; promulgation.**

85 The Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace as a legislative body is authorized to seek the  
86 introduction or promulgation of its established priorities for legislation, regulations, rules, resolutions,  
87 bond initiatives, or policies by the county, state, or federal government.  
88

89 **§ 1-3 Positions; authorization.**

90 a. The Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace as a legislative body is authorized to take  
91 positions on legislation, regulations, rules, bond initiative, or policies being considered by  
92 the county, state, or federal government.

93 b. The Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace as a legislative body is authorized to take  
94 a position on legislation, regulations, rules, resolutions, bond initiatives, or policies being  
95 considered by the county, state, or federal government with another government.  
96

97 **§ 1-4 Mayor; authorization.**

98 The Mayor is hereby authorized to:

99 a. Speak on behalf of the Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace on the priorities and  
100 positions which have been established under this article as approved by the Mayor and City  
101 Council of Havre de Grace; and

102 b. Advocate on behalf of the Mayor and City Council of Havre de Grace for the priorities and  
103 positions established under this article as approved by the Mayor and City Council of Havre  
104 de Grace.  
105

106 **§ 1-5 Coordination of testimony.**

107 The Mayor may coordinate testimony for priorities established under this article by city staff and  
108 community stakeholders before any lawmaking body, rule-making body, or executive office of the  
109 county, state, or federal government or its members.  
110

111 **§ 1-6 Coordination of communication.**

112 The Mayor may coordinate communication for priorities established under this article between city  
113 staff/community stakeholders and any lawmaking body, rule-making body, or executive office of the  
114 county, state, or federal government or its members.  
115

116 **§ 1-7 Amendments.**

117 The Mayor is hereby authorized to work with any lawmaking body, rule-making body, or executive  
118 office of the county, state, or federal government or its members to seek amendments or take positions  
119 on amendments to legislation, regulation, rules, or policy.  
120

121 **§ 1-8 Processes established.**

122 a. Prior to when the Maryland General Assembly convenes, the Mayor may prepare a list  
123 proposing legislative priorities and positions for the upcoming session, which the council  
124 may adopt.

125 b. The Legislative Liaison at the Mayor's direction is to provide timely updates regarding  
126 legislation introduced in the Maryland General Assembly and the actions taken by the  
127 Harford County Delegation to the following: (1) the Mayor, (2) the Council President, (3)  
128 the Council Member who serves as a liaison to the Maryland Municipal League, (4) the  
129 Director of Administration, (5) the City Attorney, (6) the Chief Advisor to the Mayor.

130 c. The Legislative Liaison at the Mayor's direction is to provide timely updates regarding  
131 legislation introduced by the Harford County Council to the following: (1) the Mayor, (2)  
132 the Council President, (3) the Council Member who serves as a liaison to the Maryland

133 Municipal League, (4) the Director of Administration, (5) the City Attorney, (6) the Chief  
134 Advisor to the Mayor.

135 d. After the Mayor submits written or oral testimony, a copy of the written testimony or a  
136 summary of the oral testimony submitted will be made available to the Mayor and City  
137 Council and may be accompanied by an oral report given by the Mayor at the next  
138 scheduled City Council meeting.

139 e. The City’s Legislative Liaison will be the primary point of contact between the City of  
140 Havre de Grace and the Maryland General Assembly unless another staff member is  
141 selected by the Mayor.

142 f. The City’s Legislative Liaison or such other staff person designated by the Mayor will  
143 attend all meetings of the Harford County Delegation as it relates to the legislative priorities  
144 established under this article.

145 g. The City’s Legislative Liaison or such other staff person designated by the Mayor will  
146 attend all bill hearings for bills for which the Mayor and City Council have taken a position  
147 as it relates to the legislative priorities established under this article.  
148

149 **§1-9 Mayor; designation of authority.**

150 The Mayor may delegate to the Director of Administration, the City Attorney, or the Legislative  
151 Liaison the authority granted to the Mayor under this article.  
152

153 **§1-10 Personal expression; not prohibited.**

154 The provisions found in this article should not be interpreted as to prohibit or limit any city elected  
155 official, appointed official, employee or anyone who does business with the city from expressing their  
156 personal opinion or position on government relations or any legislation being considered by the county,  
157 state or federal government.  
158

159 **NOW THEREFORE**, it is determined, decided, and ordained by the City Council that the foregoing  
160 amendments to the City Code are hereby approved.  
161

162 ADOPTED by the City Council of Havre de Grace, Maryland this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.  
163

164 SIGNED by the Mayor and attested by the Director of Administration this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
165 2022.

166  
167 ATTEST:

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF HAVRE DE GRACE

170 \_\_\_\_\_  
171 Stephen J. Gamatoria  
172 Director of Administration

\_\_\_\_\_  
William T. Martin  
Mayor

173  
174 Introduced/First Reading: 8/15/2022

175 Public Hearing: 8/22/2022

176 Second Reading/Adopted:

# CITY COUNCIL

## READ FILE COVER SHEET

Subject: **Ordinance 1083 concerning a Temporary Tax Waiver  
for Habitat for Humanity Properties**

**(Public Hearing)**

Date: **8/16/2022**

**Notice:** Any comments made after 5:00 p.m. on the Thursday before the Council Meeting will not be seen in the agenda packet.

Purpose:

- FYI  
 **Read and Comment as Needed**  
 **Action Required by August 22, 2022**  
 In Confidential File Drawer

Approve:

Casi Boyer  Yes  No  No Comment

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Dave Martin  Yes  No  No Comment

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Jim Ringsaker  Yes  No  No Comment

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Jason Robertson  Yes  No  No Comment

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Tammy Lynn Schneegas  Yes  No  No Comment

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Carolyn Zinner  Yes  No  No Comment

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: N/A

CITY COUNCIL  
OF  
HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND

ORDINANCE NO. 1083

Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_ Council President Ringsaker

**AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HAVRE DE GRACE, MARYLAND, ADOPTED PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF ARTICLE XI-E OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION, THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARTICLE OF THE ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, AND SECTIONS 33 AND 34 OF THE HAVRE DE GRACE CITY CHARTER TO TEMPORARILY WAIVE PROPERTY TAXES FOR CERTAIN PROPERTIES OWNED BY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

On: 8/15/2022  
at: 7:00 p.m.

Ordinance introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

A Public Hearing is scheduled for 8/22/2022 at 6:00 p.m.

**EXPLANATION**  
Underlining indicates matter added to existing law.  
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32 **WHEREAS**, Habitat for Humanity was founded in Americus, Georgia, USA, in 1976; and

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34 **WHEREAS**, Habitat for Humanity today operates around the globe and has helped build,  
35 renovate and repair more than 600,000 decent, affordable houses sheltering more than 3  
36 million people worldwide; and

37  
38 **WHEREAS**, Habitat for Humanity was founded on the conviction that every man, woman  
39 and child should have a simple, durable place to live in dignity and safety, and that decent  
40 shelter in decent communities should be a matter of conscience and action for all; and

41  
42 **WHEREAS**, Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna is part of a global, nonprofit housing  
43 organization operated on Christian principles that seeks to put God’s love into action by  
44 building homes, communities, and hope; and

45  
46 **WHEREAS**, Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna is dedicated to eliminating substandard  
47 housing locally and worldwide through constructing, rehabilitating and preserving homes; by  
48 advocating for fair and just housing policies; and by providing training and access to resources  
49 to help families improve their shelter conditions; and

50  
51 **WHEREAS**, Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna is an ecumenical Christian housing  
52 organization devoted to building and repairing homes in partnership with qualifying families.  
53 HHS is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit supported by government, community, and private funding;  
54 and

55  
56 **WHEREAS**, Habitat for Humanity has constructed more than one dozen homes in the City since  
57 2006, and is currently constructing homes at 511 Stokes Street and 808 Erie Street, and plans to  
58 construct two more dwellings at 416 and 420 Ohio Street, and considering one at 932 Warren  
59 Street.

60  
61 **NOW, THEREFORE**, it is determined, decided and ordained that the Mayor and City of Council  
62 agree to waive City Property taxes for the properties purchased by Habitat for Humanity,  
63 specifically 416 and 420 Ohio Street and 932 Warren Street, from the time the property is  
64 purchased, until the property is transferred to the new owners. In no case shall the waiver extend  
65 more than 18 months, regardless of the transfer or extenuating circumstances relative to supply  
66 chain issues.

67  
68 **ADOPTED** by the City Council of Havre de Grace, Maryland this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

69  
70 **SIGNED** by the Mayor and attested by the Director of Administration this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
71 2022.

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73 [Signatures to follow on the next page.]



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ATTEST:

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
OF HAVRE DE GRACE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen J. Gamatoria  
Director of Administration

\_\_\_\_\_  
William T. Martin  
Mayor

Introduced/First Reading: 8/15/2022  
Public Hearing: 8/22/2022  
Second Reading/Adopted:  
Effective Date:

Public Hearing