

## No. 14

## (House Joint Resolution 2)

Joint Resolution requesting the State Planning Department to give close study and consideration to the establishment and development of a public park area in Dundalk.

The Maryland Port Authority's expansion into the Dundalk area of Baltimore County makes it imperative that immediate steps be taken to protect the beauty and well-being of Dundalk.

Dundalk is Maryland's second largest community. What is needed is a public park to serve as a buffer zone between the rapidly expanding port of Baltimore and the large area known generally as Greater Dundalk.

A public park at this location would not only establish a much needed and highly desirable cushion between the spreading industrial area of the port and the residential area of the community, but would provide also an essential public improvement to the well planned township of Old Dundalk.

Areas are available for this park project. One of them is a 22-acre parcel of land which is known as the Central Foundry Property. This is located west of Dundalk Avenue, south of Woodley Road, and east of Willow Spring Road. Another parcel of land of approximately 17 acres lies west of Willow Spring Road, south of Riverview Avenue and northeast of Broening Highway; and this also is available, making a total of 39 acres that could be devoted to a public park in Dundalk to provide a necessary buffer zone and also to contribute much to the welfare and improvement of the entire community.

Since the Maryland Port Authority is an agency of the State, the State of Maryland should take part in this vital project. There are possibilities, in addition, that Baltimore County would participate on an equal basis with the State, with the joint result of protecting the beauty of the community as well as the safety, health, welfare, and happiness of the citizens of Maryland's second largest community.

Specifically, there are proposals that the State and Baltimore County each appropriate the sum of \$500,000 for carrying out this project, and that any surplus funds remaining from this total after the property has been acquired be devoted to its development as a park and recreational facility.

The Legislative Council held a hearing on this project, and very broad interest was expressed in it. The Council received endorsements from the Logan Village Improvement Association, Inc., the Community Press, St. Rita's Parish of Dundalk, Dundalk Council-Knights of Columbus, St. Rita's Rectory, Optimist Club of Dundalk, Loyal Order of Moose-Sparrows Point-Dundalk Lodge No. 1228, Greater Dundalk Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Dundalk Lions Club, and the Greater Dundalk Recreation Council. In addition, the possible establishment of this park with State cooperation deserves full and complete study by a State agency. Accordingly, the State Planning Department is being requested to add this project to its list for study and report; now, therefore, be it