





May 7, 2025

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

TO: Jennifer A. Jenkins
Council Administrator

Colette R. Gresham, Esq.
Deputy Council Administrator

THRU: Josh Hamlin 
Director of Budget and Policy Analysis

FROM: David Williams 
Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

RE: Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement
CB-038-2025 Impoundment and Notices to Owners

CB-038-2025 (*Proposed by:* Council Chair at the request of the County Executive)

Assigned to the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy, and Environment (TIEE) Committee

AN ACT CONCERNING IMPOUNDMENT AND NOTICES TO OWNERS for the purpose of amending the impoundment section and notice to vehicular owners to align the notice period with the state law.

Fiscal Summary

Direct Impact

Expenditures: No anticipated expenditure impact.

Revenues: No anticipated revenue impact.

Indirect Impact

No indirect impact anticipated.

Legislative Summary:

CB-038-2025¹, proposed by the Council Chair at the request of the County Executive, was presented on April 29, 2025, and referred to the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy, and Environment (TIEE) Committee. This bill seeks to align the County's towing notification protocols in line with the state standard. It amends the current notification period from "within two (2) full County working days" to "within seven (7) full County working days."

Background/Current Law:

Maryland state Code of Transportation Section 25-204(a)² states "As soon as reasonably possible and within 7 days at most after it takes an abandoned vehicle into custody, police department shall send a notice, by certified mail, return receipt requested, bearing a postmark from the United States Postal Service. The Prince George's County Code, under Subtitle 26. Division 18, Section 26-168(a), dictates that notification of impoundment take place within two full County working days after impoundment. The Prince George's County Police Department or the Revenue Authority is charged with by mail to the last known registered owner of the vehicle."³

Resource Personnel:

- Samara Gomez, Deputy Director (Revenue Authority)
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Discussion/Policy Analysis:

This bill amends Section 26-168 under Subtitle 26. Vehicles and Traffic. Division 18. Impoundment. It changes the notification period from "within 2 full County working days" to within "7 full working County days." Additionally, it adds the Department of Environment as a potential agency of responsibility, along with the Police Department and the Revenue Authority. The Department of Environment is responsible for issuing towing licenses for authorized County tow vendors in Section 5-265 under Subtitle 5. Division 21.⁴ The Department of Environment is already one of the County's primary agencies responsible for overseeing the removal of abandoned vehicles in addition to the Police Department; this bill does not expand the administrative responsibilities of the aforementioned agencies.

¹ Prince George's County- [CB-038-2025](#)

² [Md. Code, Transportation, Sec. 25-204](#)

³ Prince George's County Code- [Sec 26-168](#)

⁴ Prince George's County Code- [Sec 5-265](#)

Technical suggestion: As the stated purpose of the Bill is to align the notice period with State law, the Council may wish to amend page 1, line 16, striking “full County working,” to read as follows: “Within [two (2)] seven (7) [full County working] days after impoundment any vehicle . . .” Making this change would ensure that the County law is totally consistent with State law.

Fiscal Impact

- *Direct Impact*

Enactment of CB-038-2025 will not have a direct fiscal impact on the County. This bill does not require any additional appropriations and therefore will have no fiscal impact.

- *Indirect Impact*

Enactment of CB-038-2025 may have a favorable indirect administrative impact by increasing the number of days an agency has to report an impounded vehicle; this allows County personnel more time for notification, thereby alleviating stress on workloads.

- *Appropriated during the Current Fiscal Year Budget:*

N/A

Effective Date:

CB-038-2025 shall be effective (45) calendar days after it becomes law and includes a sunset provision set for three years following enactment.

If you require additional information or have questions about this fiscal impact statement, please email me.