

Prince George's County Council

Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date: 11/20/2007
Reference No.: CB-035-2007
Draft No.: 2
Proposer(s): County Executive
Sponsor(s): Harrington, Dernoga, Bland
Item Title: An Act amending the towing regulations to reduce the time a tow company has to provide notice of a vehicle tow from private property

Drafter: Russell A. King, Jr, Office of Law
Resource Personnel: Vernon R. Herron, DCAO for Public Safety

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date Presented:	9/11/2007	Executive Action:	12/7/2007 S
Committee Referral:	9/11/2007 - THE	Effective Date:	1/22/2008

Committee Action: 9/27/2007 - HELD
10/11/2007 - FAV(A)

Date Introduced: 10/23/2007
Public Hearing: 11/20/2007 - 10:00 AM

Council Action (1) 11/20/2007 - ENACTED
Council Votes: MB:A, WC:A, SHD:A, TD:A, CE:A, DCH:A, TK:A, EO:A, IT:A
Pass/Fail: P
Remarks:

AFFECTED CODE SECTIONS:

26-142.06

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Date 10/11/2007

Committee Vote: Favorable as amended 3-0 (In favor: Council Members Dernoga, Campos, and Turner).

Staff presented an overview of the bill and referral comments that were received. CB-35-2007 (Draft 2) amends the towing regulations to reduce the time a tow company has to provide notice of a vehicle tow from private property. The Committee approved the bill to establish guidelines that establish notification from a tow company.

The following amendment was approved during the worksession

1. On page 2, line 6 add " Immediately prior to the attachment of the subject vehicle, the authorized towing company shall notify the County Police, by phone or computer, of the date and time of the towing, the location of the tow, the make and model of the vehicle, the license plate number and the reason for the tow. Within one (1) hour after removing the subject vehicle from the property, the authorized towing company shall verify to the County Police, by phone, fax or computer, the above information and shall provide the vehicle identification number of the vehicle. The Chief of Police is authorized, pursuant to this section, to issue regulations to implement this provision".

The Office of Law finds CB-35-2007 to be in proper legislative form.

The Office of Audits and Investigations concluded that enacting of CB-35-2007 will not have an actual or potential material adverse fiscal impact on Prince George's County.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT:

(Includes reason for proposal, as well as any unique statutory requirements)

This legislation will amend the County's towing regulations to reduce the time a tow company has to notify the County Police of a tow from "within one hour" to "immediately" after towing a vehicle from private property. An immediate notice requirement will allow the County Police to more promptly separate calls for legal tows from those for illegal tows and vehicle thefts, and to respond accordingly. This amendment also makes the notice required for tows under County law consistent with that required for the repossession of vehicles under State law.

CODE INDEX TOPICS:

INCLUSION FILES:
