

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2021 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-029-2021

Draft No.: 2

Committee: Committee of the Whole

Date: 04/13/2021

Action: FAV(A)

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable as Amended, 11-0 (In Favor: Council Members Turner, Hawkins, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Streeter and Taveras).

The Committee convened on April 13, 2021, to discuss this legislation, which requests a Countywide Flood Assessment and Mapping Study by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), subject to appropriation, in order to assist the County in updating existing flooding and mapping studies as well as to inform and guide future community planning with updated data and flood-risk metrics that provide a comprehensive assessment on the impact of bioretention, sprawl and new development.

Kenneth Battle, TIEE Committee Director, provided an overview of the resolution, outlining the goals of the study and expected outcomes. The legislation requires the participation of the County's Department of the Environment (DOE), Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE), Department of Public Works and Transportation (DPWT), as well as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC), and the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). The legislation allows the Council Chair to appoint additional participants if needed. Alicia Adams (Kettering Civic Association) and Sharon Sims (Birchwood-Clearview Community) spoke in support of the legislation. Julia Baltimore (Concerned Citizen Association of Lyncalan Acres) and Ron Weiss of Fort Washington provided written support.

Kathy Canning, Legislative Officer, reviewed the technical amendments offered by the sponsor. Guy Andes of WSSC, requested an amendment to remove references to the capacity of the Commission's pumping stations, which are not related to the County's stormwater system. This amendment does not remove WSSC from participation in the study, so the Committee accepted the amendment as friendly. The Committee requested that DPIE provide a status report on the short-term measures to address drainage and flooding issues (presented in COW on 3/16/21) and recommended that the County make every effort to identify state and federal funding for the USACE study.

After the discussion, the Committee voted favorably on CR-29-2021 as amended, by a vote of 11-0.