

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2025 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-109-2025

Draft No.: 2

Committee: PLANNING, HOUSING, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Date: 11/06/2025

Action: FAVORABLE WITH
AMENDMENTS

REPORT: Committee Vote: Favorable with Amendments, 3-0 (In favor: Council Members Dernoga, Adams-Stafford, and Olson)

The Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee met on November 6, 2025, to consider CR-109-2025. PHED Committee Director Rana Hightower summarized the purpose of the resolution.

As presented on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, Draft-1 is for the purpose of establishing the Adequate Public Safety Response Time Test Task Force to thoroughly examine the methodology, data accuracy, and real-world application of the existing response time test and recommend necessary revisions or alternatives that more effectively align with public safety goals and current resources.

Council Member Blegay, the resolution sponsor, thanked Committee Chair Dernoga for all his efforts to resolve the response-time concerns but would like to re-examine the entire process. The current process is artificial, and the response times may not be used as intended. It is time to bring all stakeholders together to create a process that makes sense for the community.

Ms. Owens, County Council Liaison from the County Executive's Office, stated that the County Executive is in favor of the resolution with amendments and requests favorable consideration.

Ms. Hernandez, with the Office of the Law, found the resolution to be in proper legislative form with no legal impediments to its adoption.

The County Council's Budget and Policy Analysis Division submitted a fiscal and policy note explaining that the proposed legislation would continue the intent behind CR-080-2025, which suspended the most recent response-time data sent by the Police Chief in January 2025. CR-080-2025 required the County Executive to work with the Prince George's County Planning Department, in consultation with the County Council, to develop best practices and guidelines within fifteen (15) days to establish a mitigation fee schedule with the intent to improve police response times. This process could address the issue with the current Level of Service (LOS) Standards, which do not consider several incorporated municipal jurisdictions with their own police departments.

The Adequate Public Safety Response Time Test Task Force will be required to convene within 30 days of adoption and deliver a final report with findings and recommendations to the County Council within six months. Baltimore County and Howard County have both completed reviews of their Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances (APFOs) after establishing task forces and review committees. Baltimore County's review was focused on their school system, while Howard County's review of APFO covered twenty-one (21) topics and resulted in twenty-three (23) recommendations to the County.

Concerning the use of APFO, only Prince George's County uses police response times as a metric to approve or disapprove projects within the area. Carroll and Montgomery County include police in their APFOs to measure and determine the ratio of officers to population and whether police services are adequate at police stations.

The adoption of CR-109-2025 should not have a direct or indirect fiscal impact on the County.

The Planning Department concluded that CR-109-2025 would primarily be staffed by residents lacking sufficient emergency services expertise and may not effectively address key issues such as methodology, data sources, technology, and police operations. Staff recommended including additional police representatives, such as an official from the Office of Homeland Security, a police legal advisor, and someone responsible for staffing and facilities. A representative from the Office of Management and Budget should also be added to discuss data collection and fee utilization.

The Prince George's County Office of Budget Management submitted a memo stating that the resolution seeks to create a task force, which, by itself, does not have a fiscal impact. The members are not entitled to any stipends, per diem, or mileage expenses, and the Council provides staffing. Therefore, this legislation is not likely to have a fiscal impact.

On motion of Council Member Adams-Stafford, seconded by Council Member Olson, the PHED Committee voted 3-0 in favor of CR-109-2025 with amendments.