

**INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM  
OFFICE OF THE ZONING HEARING EXAMINER**

TO: Rana Hightower, Committee Director  
Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee

FROM: Maurene Epps McNeil  
Chief Zoning Hearing Examiner

DATE: May 12, 2025

RE: CB-41-2025

The above-referenced legislation will repeal the green building standards found in Part 6 of the Zoning Ordinance by deleting all references to universal design standards therein, in deference to those found in Division 6 of Subtitle 4 of the Prince George's County Code (the "Building Code").

I suggest that the bill's effective date be delayed until the January 1, 2026, effective date of the Universal Design regulations set forth in the Building Code, so that any pending applications subject to the provisions of Part 6 of the Zoning Ordinance will continue to provide some form of universal design in the interim. The Chair's signature line should also be revised.

Additionally, if the sponsor agrees, it would be ideal not to delete these provisions from the Zoning Ordinance but instead revise Part 6 to note that an applicant may provide universal design standards as a means of achieving green building points if the application is exempt from the universal design requirements in the Building Code. That may result in increased accessibility.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments, and please let me know if you have any questions.