

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: 3/3/98

Reference No.: CB-14-1998

Proposer: Planning Board

Draft No.: 2

Sponsors: Bailey, Del Giudice

Item Title: An Ordinance amending the sign posting requirements

Drafter: Dale Hutchison, M-NCPPC

Resource Personnel: Dale Hutchison, M-NCPPC

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date Presented: 1/20/98

Executive Action: __/__/__ __

Committee Referral: 1/20/98 PZED

Effective Date: 5/18/98

Committee Action: 2/25/98 FAV (A)

Date Introduced: 3/3/98

Pub. Hearing Date: 3/31/98 1:45 P.M.

Council Action: 3/31/98 ENACTED

Council Votes: RVR:A, DB:A, SD:-, JE:A, IG:-, TH:A, WM:A, AS:A, MW:A

Pass/Fail: P

Remarks: _____

PLANNING, ZONING & ECON. DEV. COM. REPORT

DATE: 2/25/98

Committee Vote: Favorable as amended, 3-0 (In favor: Council Members Bailey, Del Giudice and Maloney).

Staff gave an overview of CB-14-1998 indicating that the bill, which was presented by request of the Planning Board, amends the sign posting requirements and consolidates the sign posting standards in one location in the Zoning Ordinance. The legislation also proposes a reduction in the required information on the signs so that the design will not be as cluttered and the signs will be more legible.

Dale Hutchison, M-NCPPC, showed the Committee three new color-coded, public notice signs for Planning Board, Zoning Hearing Examiner and Board of Appeals hearings. Mr. Hutchison indicated that the signs, which identify the particular type of application at a specific date, time and place, are more noticeable than the signs previously used for public notice.

The Executive Branch supports the legislation. The Office of Audits and Investigations has determined there should be no negative fiscal impact on the County if the bill is enacted. The Office of Law finds the bill to be in proper legislative form and recommended that the following language be inserted on line 22, page 15: "or Board of Appeals where applicable." This amendment was recommended since the requirements will also apply to signs posted at the request of the Board of Appeals.

The Committee accepted this amendment and voted a favorable recommendation on this legislation.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT

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

This legislation amends and consolidates the requirements for the advertisement of certain public hearings by amending sign posting criteria. Currently, the Zoning Ordinance includes separate sign posting standards for each type of application. Furthermore, the kind of information required for each application is inconsistent and the amount of information required has led to a cluttered sign design that is difficult to read. The legislation proposes some reduction in the information provided on the sign which will enable the signs to be redesigned to increase the size of the critical message; that is, that there is a hearing on a particular type of application at a specific date, time and place.

CODE INDEX TOPICS: