

# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

**Budget & Policy Analysis Division** 

August 29, 2025

## FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

TO: Colette R. Gresham, Esq.

Acting Council Administrator

Karen T. Zavakos

Associate Council Administrator

OB.

THRU: Josh Hamlin

Director of Budget and Policy Analysis

FROM: David Williams **9**. **W**.

Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

RE: Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement

CR-077-2025 Police Vehicle Pursuits Conduct and Reporting- Zoey's Law

CR-077-2025 (*Proposed by:* Councilmember Hawkins)

Assigned to the Health, Human Services, and Public Safety Committee.

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING IMPROVING POLICE AND DRIVER INTERACTIONS DURING TRAFFIC STOPS for the purpose of creating a driver handbook with a description of law enforcement procedures during traffic stops and actions drivers and passengers should take during traffic stops, including appropriate interactions with law enforcement officials.

#### **Fiscal Summary**

#### **Direct Impact**

Expenditures: Additional expenditures will be required.

Revenues: No anticipated revenue impact.

### **Indirect Impact**

Potential favorable impact.

## **Legislative Summary:**

CR-077-2025<sup>1</sup>, proposed and sponsored by Council Member Hawkins, was presented on June 17, 2025, and referred to the Health, Human Services, and Public Safety (HHSPS) Committee. This bill creates a driver handbook that contains a description of the Prince George's County Police Department's traffic stop procedures, the actions drivers and passengers should take during a traffic stop, the constitutional rights individuals have during traffic stops, and a description of any legal recourse individuals have if they feel their rights were violated.

#### **Background/Current Law:**

Prince George's County publishes General Order (GO) Manuals<sup>2</sup> for the Police Department in compliance with HB 1016.<sup>3</sup> It provides a comprehensive long-form view of the Police Department's operating procedures and administrative structure. Municipalities within the County also post the material to their own sites for public reference. According to the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy's Race-Based Traffic Stop Data Dashboard<sup>4</sup> in 2024, PGPD logged 17,825 traffic stops, in which 64% of persons stopped were Black (and 69% were male). This has prompted increased public safety concerns over potential discrimination in traffic enforcement methodologies.

#### **Resource Personnel:**

• Michael Vaughn, Policy Director, At-Large Council Member Hawkins Office

#### **Discussion/Policy Analysis**

This bill mandates that the Office of Integrity, Compliance, and Police Accountability, with the Police Accountability Board, draft a handbook that contains the following:

- ❖ A description of law enforcement procedures during traffic stops
- ❖ A description of citizens' constitutional rights during traffic stops
- \* Examples of positive and appropriate interactions with law enforcement officials
- ❖ A description of legal recourse for persons who feel they have been discriminated against or their rights violated

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Prince George's County- <u>CR-077-2025</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Prince George's County- General Order Manual

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Maryland General Assembly- HB 1016

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Maryland Governor's Office of Prevention and Policy- <u>Dashboard</u>

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This handbook is to be made free of charge, with copies made for all County Council members' offices for general distribution. Copies of the handbook will also be made available to local police agencies for general distribution to the public. The handbook will be created and submitted to the County Council for approval within 90 days of the adoption of this resolution.

## **Fiscal Impact:**

Direct Impact

Enactment of CR-77-2025<sup>5</sup> will have a minor direct adverse fiscal impact on the County due to the administrative costs to draft and print this handbook and disseminate it to the parties referenced in the bill.

• Indirect Impact

Enactment of CR-77-2025 may increase the public knowledge of the law enforcement process, specifically regarding traffic stops.

• Appropriated during the Current Fiscal Year Budget:

Yes.

## **Effective Date:**

CR-77-2025 shall be effective on the date of adoption.

If you require additional information or have questions about this fiscal impact statement, please email me.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Prince George's County- <u>CR-77-2025</u>