
A G E N D A I T E M S U M M A R Y

Reference No: CB-75-1991

Draft No: 2

P r i n c e G e o r g e ' s

Meeting Date: 11/19/91

C o u n t y C o u n c i l

Requester: CO. EXEC.

Item Title: To establish civil fine and penalties for violations of County laws and ordinances concerning unobstructed accessible routes to buildings

Sponsors CA B F C M P WI D

Date Presented 7/30/91 **Executive Action** 12/2/91 S
Committee Referral (1) 7/30/91 FP&GO **Effective Date** 1/17/92
Committee Action (1) 10/15/91 FAV(A)
Date Introduced 10/29/91
Pub. Hearing Date (1) 11/19/91 1:30 PM

Council Action (1) 11/19/91 Enacted
Council Votes CA: A_, B_: A_, C_: A_, D_: A_, F_: A_, MC: A_,
M_: A_, P_: A_, WI: A_, __: __, __: __, __: __

Pass/Fail P

Remarks

Beatrice Rodgers, Comm. **Resource** Willie Furr & Tom Matzen
Drafter: for Persons w/Disabilities **Personnel:** DER

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Fiscal Policy and Government Operation Date: October 15, 1991
Committee Report

Committee Vote: Favorable, as amended, 3-1 (In favor: Council Members Wineland, Casula and MacKinnon; Opposed: Fletcher)

The Department of Environmental Resources has received complaints concerning certain businesses which repeatedly lock the "Cart Corrals" after being notified by DER that doing so is in violation of both State and County law. DER feels this legislation will provide them with a mechanism to deal with the repeat offenders in this area.

Beatrice Rogers, Executive Director for the Commission for Persons with Disabilities stated that this legislation will provide the County with a mechanism for enforcement in a manner which will be much more responsive to the citizens who have their access to buildings blocked. Prince George's County is on the cutting edge with respect to

accessibility issues for individuals with disabilities; in fact, the County's first building code was used as a model for many jurisdictions throughout the nation. This legislation will maintain the County's leadership in an important area.

The Fire Department supports this legislation and feels that it will assist them in maintaining clear exits. The Department of Public Works and Transportation, County's Municipal Association and Chamber of Commerce supports this legislation.

Any revenue generated from fines/or penalties created by this legislation will be positive. No cost will be incurred to implement the enforcement program. There is no reliable data from which to estimate the fiscal impact on the County at this time.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT

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

Section 4-123(a)(9) of the County Code prohibits obstructing accessibility to buildings throughout the County. This legislation allows the County to issue civil citations to businesses that violate State and County Code.

There is the potential of revenue as a result of the Department of Environmental Resources being given the authority to issue civil citations. No cost will be incurred to implement the enforcement program as inspectors currently and routinely investigate accessibility complaints.