

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2023 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-084-2023

Chapter No. 67

Proposed and Presented by Council Members Franklin, Harrison and Hawkins

Introduced by Council Members Franklin, Harrison, Hawkins, Dernoga, Watson, Ivey,
Fisher, Olson, Blegay and Oriadha

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction October 17, 2023

BILL

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Early Warning [System] Process: Permits

3 For the purpose of establishing an early warning [system] process to improve permit
4 application delays in Prince George’s County.

5 BY adding:

6 SUBTITLE 4. BUILDING.
7 Sections 4-354 through 4-355
8 The Prince George's County Code
9 (2019 Edition; 2022 Supplement).

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
11 Maryland, that Sections 4-354 through 4-355 of the Prince George’s County Code be and the
12 same is hereby added:

13 **SUBTITLE 4. BUILDING.**

14 **DIVISION 5. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.**

15 **Sec. 4-354 [Reserved]. Definitions.**

16 (a) In this Division the following terms shall have the denoted meanings:

- 17 (1) **Department** means the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement.
- 18 (2) **Director** means the Director of the Department of Permitting, Inspections and
19 Enforcement.
- 20 (3) **Permit** means a written authorization made by the Department of Permitting,

1 Inspections and Enforcement granting approval, authorization, consent, exemption,
 2 order, special exception, variance, waiver, or use of occupancy.

3 (4) Permit Approval Time means the total time from when a permit application is
 4 received by the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement from an
 5 applicant to the time when such application receives final approval [or disapproval].
 6 If the permit application is withdrawn and re-submitted, the clock for the permit
 7 approval time restarts.

8 (5) Projected Maximum Time or “PMT” means the estimated permit approval time by
 9 the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement for each permit type.

10 **Sec. 4-355 [Reserved]. Permit Early Warning [System] Process and Annual Report**
 11 **Established.**

12 (a) The Director shall create and establish by no later than February 1, 2024, a permit early
 13 warning [system] process that will improve the speed, effectiveness, and notification of
 14 permitting delays in the County.

15 (b) By February first (1st) of each year, and more frequently if determined by the Director,
 16 the Director shall establish and publish on the Department’s website the Projected
 17 Maximum Time that a permit approval [or disapproval] should occur by permit type. The
 18 PMT for a particular type of permit should be based on:

19 (1) an analysis by the Director of the experience of permit approval times for the
 20 particular type of permit in the most recent fiscal year,

21 (2) any technological, regulatory, or workforce changes that may impact the estimated
 22 permit approval time for the particular type of permit, and

23 (3) any other factor(s) deemed relevant by the Director.

24 (c) If a permit application approval exceeds the PMT for that permit type, the Director shall
 25 be expeditiously notified by a responsible staff member in writing by a method approved
 26 by the Director that includes the reason(s) for the permit approval [or disapproval] delay
 27 beyond its PMT. The Director shall determine in writing what steps need to be taken, if
 28 any, to address the reasons for the permit application’s delay beyond its PMT.

29 (d) By March fifteenth (15th) of each year, the Director shall submit a report to the County
 30 Council and the County Executive in writing that includes:

31 (1) the average Permit Approval Time by permit type and the PMT by permit type for

1 the previous calendar year,

2 (2) the number of instances by permit type where the Permit Approval Time(s) for
3 permit applications exceeded the PMT in the most recent calendar year[, and

4 (3) any additional details regarding Permit Approval Times and PMTs as determined by
5 the Director].

6 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the provisions of this Act are hereby
7 declared to be severable; and, in the event that any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph,
8 sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of
9 competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the remaining
10 words, phrases, clauses, sentences, subparagraphs, paragraphs, subsections, or sections of this
11 Act, since the same would have been enacted without the incorporation in this Act of any such
12 invalid or unconstitutional word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, subparagraph, subsection,
13 or section.

14 SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45)
15 calendar days after it becomes law.

 Adopted this 14th day of November, 2023.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Thomas E. Dernoga
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____

BY: _____
Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive