

## Prince George's County Council Agenda Item Summary

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**Meeting Date:** 11/18/2008  
**Reference No.:** CB-057-2008  
**Draft No.:** 1  
**Proposer(s):** Dean  
**Sponsor(s):** Dean, Exum, Bland, Harrison, Knotts  
**Item Title:** An Act adopting and publishing the 2007 Edition of the Prince George's County Code.

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**Drafter:** Ralph E. Grutzmacher, Legislative Officer  
**Resource Personnel:** Theresa D. Myers, LIS Coordinator

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### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

<b>Date Presented:</b>	9/9/2008	<b>Executive Action:</b>	11/24/2008 S
<b>Committee Referral:</b>	9/9/2008 - C.O.W.	<b>Effective Date:</b>	1/12/2009

**Committee Action:** 9/23/2008 - FAV

**Date Introduced:** 9/30/2008  
**Public Hearing:** 11/18/2008 - 10:00 AM

**Council Action (1)** 11/18/2008 - ENACTED  
**Council Votes:** MB:A, WC:A, SHD:A, TD:A, CE:A, AH:A, TK:A, EO:A, IT:A  
**Pass/Fail:** P  
**Remarks:**

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### AFFECTED CODE SECTIONS:

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### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**Date 9/23/2008**

Committee Vote: Favorable 8-0. (Absent: Council Member Campos)

Legislative Officer Ralph Grutzmacher provided the Committee Members with a summary of the three bills adopting the Prince George's County Code. Section 321 of the Charter requires that at least every 4 years the Council shall compile and codify all the laws of the County. The last such edition was the 2003 Edition. Each Edition is comprised of three parts, Title 17 of the Public Local Laws of Maryland, the Subdivision Ordinance and the Zoning Ordinance. Accordingly, three individual bills or ordinances are required to enact the Code into positive law.

The 2007 Edition of the County Code is the result of an extraordinary cumulative effort of a succession of people in the Clerk's Office who have added their talents and diligence to identify and minimize errors in the Code.

Additionally, the Council has experienced a very high level of cooperation from the employees of the County Print Shop and the employees and contractor employees working in the Office of Information Technology. Most of this effort is focused on the text of proposed legislation and the text of the finally-enacted legislation as each bill or

resolution is considered by the Council during the previous four years. But even when high quality text exists for each section of the Code, additional effort is required to prepare the text for printing to make each page look right and be easy to read.

The three bills before the Council enact into positive law the text of the County Code as it existed at the close of the legislative year on November 30, 2007. In addition, there is an individual amendment to correct inconsistent provisions in Subtitle 4 of the Code.

When the Building Code was last adopted, the language in other sections of Subtitle 4 was left unchanged so that the incorporated code is not referenced correctly. Section 4 of CB-57-2008 (on page 3) authorizes me to make editorial amendments and corrections to remove those conflicting references to the Building Code.

Motion for a favorable recommendation was made by Council Member Knotts and seconded by Council Member Exum. Motion carried 8-0.

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT:**

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

Section 321 of the Charter requires that, at intervals not greater than every four years, the County Council compile and codify all laws of the County in effect at such time, together with an index and such appropriate notes, citations, annotations, and appendices as the Council may determine. The most recent edition of the County Code is the 2003 Edition. The proposed bill will adopt the 2007 Edition of the Prince George's County Code. The full text of the proposed 2007 Edition is on file with the Clerk of the Council. No substantive changes are intended.

The proposed bill authorizes the compilation and publication of an abridged edition of the Code containing various subtitles pertaining to land use, construction standards and real estate development.

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**CODE INDEX TOPICS:**

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**INCLUSION FILES:**

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