

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2023 Legislative Session

Reference No.: APPT-27-23

Draft No.: 1

Committee: Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Committee

Date: 9/14/2023

Action: FAV

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable, 4-0 (In Favor: Council Members Olson, Dernoga, Hawkins, and Watson)

The Committee convened on September 14, 2023, to consider the appointment of Mr. Dawit Abraham as the Director of the Prince George's County Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE). The appointment package was transmitted to the Council by County Executive Alsobrooks on July 28, 2023. The Public Hearing on the appointment is scheduled for September 19, 2023. The County Executive's Appointments Liaison, Miriam Brewer, summarized the background of Mr. Abraham, who has served as the Acting DPIE Director since June 16, 2023.

Prior to his appointment as Acting Director, Mr. Abraham served as Deputy Director since 2017 and has steadily risen through the ranks of Prince George's County Government since 1985, bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience to his role as Director. Mr. Abraham received his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Iowa, his Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Ohio University, and a Master of Science degree in Structural Engineering from Lehigh University. He is a Professional Engineer and maintains professional affiliations with the County Engineers Association of Maryland, the National Society of Professional Engineers, and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Mr. Abraham provided brief remarks on his vision and top priorities for the agency, including the reduction of staffing shortages, increased utilization of technology, and reduced time frames for permit reviews. Committee members expressed concerns regarding the need for improvements in 3-1-1 responses and property standards enforcement.

After the discussion, the Committee voted favorably on the appointment by a vote of 4-0.