

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORT
2020 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-033-2020

Draft No.: 1

Committee: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Date: 6/9/2020

Action: FAV

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable, 11-0 (In favor: Council Members: Turner, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Hawkins, Ivey, Streeter, and Taveras.)

The County Council convened as the Committee of the Whole on June 9, 2020 to consider CB-033-2020, an ordinance concerning virtual hearings for the purpose of establishing authority for the District Council and the Board of Appeals to hold virtual hearings, including virtual participation, in accordance with their Rules of Procedure.

The Council Administrator provided a brief overview of the Bill and informed the Committee that this legislation will enable the District Council, Zoning Hearing Examiner and Board of Appeals to conduct virtual hearings.

Norman Rivera and Marva Jo Camp testified seeking clarification on what would be the impact on tolling of appeals. Margaret Bowles, a county resident, testified saying that she believes the bill will make it more difficult for residents to get involved when the hearings are virtual. The Sierra Club, IHHAAC, City of Greenbelt, and residents Tamara Brown and Will Nucklos submitted testimony in opposition stating primarily their concern regarding the Council's timing of their review of this legislation.

After brief discussion of the Discussion with the Council Administrator, Chief Zoning Hearing Examiner and the Principle Zoning Counsel, and upon consideration of comments received by the public, the Committee voted for a Favorable as to CB-033-2020 (DR-1). Vote: 11-0.

