

# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

## COMMITTEE REPORT

2021 Legislative Session

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**Reference No.:** CB-005-2021

**Draft No.:** 1

**Committee:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**Date:** 02/25/2021

**Action:** FAV

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### REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable, 10-0 (In favor: Council Members Hawkins, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Streeter, Taveras and Turner)

The Committee of the Whole met on February 25, 2021 to consider CB-5-2021. The Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee Director summarized the purpose of the bill and informed the Committee of written referral comments received. This legislation amends Subtitle 4, Building, of the County Code concerning Historic Area Work Permits for the purpose of streamlining and clarifying the permit process for classified historic sites.

Council Member Glaros, the bill's sponsor, informed the Committee that CB-5-2021 is intended as permit process clarification to ensure that classified historic sites subject to Historic Area Work Permits were not also going through the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE) permitting process and the requirement of permit fees which would not normally be required, but for the property location within a Historic District.

DPIE Director Melinda Bolling informed the Committee of her excitement to work with Council Member Glaros on this clarifying legislation which she believes is in a good path forward. Ms. Bolling introduced DPIE Associate Director Bellur Ravishankar to provide additional background on the current and proposed process for permits within a Historic District.

Tom Gross, M-NCPPC Historic Planning Section, informed the Committee that CB-5-2021 is helpful clarifying legislation to bring Subtitle 4 in alignment with Subtitle 29, Historic Preservation Ordinance, of the County Code. Mike Arnold, a preservation architect for local historic property stewards, testified in support of the

legislation to remove additional oversight and fees associated with permits for routine maintenance. Bradley Farrar, General Counsel to the Historic Preservation Commission, also testified in support.

The Office of Law reviewed the bill and determined that it is in proper legislative form with no legal impediments to its enactment. The Office of Audits and Investigations submitted a February 24, 2021 Policy Analysis and Fiscal Note indicating that enactment of CB-5-2021 may have a small negative fiscal impact due to the administrative costs associated with the transmittal and maintenance of the inventory of historic sites and properties. Beyond that, there is not likely to be a significant direct fiscal impact.

On a motion by Council Member Glaros, and second by Council Member Turner, the Committee of the Whole voted favorable, 10-0, on CB-5-2021.