

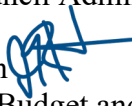


May 7, 2025

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**

TO: Jennifer A. Jenkins  
Council Administrator

Colette R. Gresham, Esq.  
Deputy Council Administrator

THRU: Josh Hamlin   
Director of Budget and Policy Analysis

FROM: Malcolm Moody - *mm*  
Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

RE: Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement  
CB-039-2025 Alarm User Permits

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**CB-039-2025** (*Proposed and Presented by: the Chair of the Council at the request of the County Executive*)

Assigned to the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment (TIEE) Committee

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AN ACT CONCERNING ALARM USER PERMITS for the purpose of amending the alarm user permits section to allow for the replacement of physical alarm permits with electronic permits and removing the associated \$25.00 fee for replacement of physical decals.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**Direct Impact**

*Expenditures:* Reduced expenditures for printing of physical decals

*Revenue:* Reduced revenue due to the elimination of the \$25.00 replacement fee.

## **Indirect Impact**

Potentially favorable.

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## **Legislative Summary:**

CB-039-2024 was presented by the Chair of the Council by request of the County Executive was also presented on April 29, 2025, and was referred to the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment (TIEE) Committee. The Bill would amend the County Code to remove the requirement for physical decals and the fees associated with the replacement of the decal. The Code would also be amended to allow residents to use digital false alarm permits.

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## **Current Law/Background:**

Currently, Subtitle 9 Subdivision 2 of the County Code<sup>1</sup> regulates user license and registration of burglar and holdup alarms throughout the County. Section 9-211<sup>2</sup> of the Code lists provisions that govern the process of obtaining and renewing an alarm user permit. Section 9-211(d) establishes requirements for alarm user permit fees for commercial and residential uses. The initial residential permit fee is \$20.00, and the renewal fee is also \$20.00. If a resident has had their alarm user permit revoked or suspended, then a reinstatement fee of \$100.00 will accompany any reinstatement application. The replacement fee for any duplicate registration sticker is set at \$25.00. The proposed Bill would remove any replacement fees and the requirement that a permittee be given a registration sticker as stated in Section 9-211(f).

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## **Resource Personnel:**

- Samara Gomez, Deputy Director (Revenue Authority)
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## **Discussion/Policy Analysis:**

Concerning the requirement of physical decals once alarms are purchased, members of the public have expressed issues with having to pay for replacement decals if they are lost or damaged. The proposed changes in the Bill would remove any issue with replacing the decal by making it electronic and would eliminate associated replacement fees.

Below is a chart of the revenue generated from the replacement fee for false alarm decals by Fiscal Year according to information provided by the Revenue Authority for the County:

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<sup>1</sup> County Code, Electricity, [SUBDIVISION 2. - BURGLAR AND HOLDUP ALARM USER'S LICENSE AND REGISTRATION.](#)

<sup>2</sup> [§ 9-211. Alarm user permits](#)

Fiscal Year	Issued	Revenue	Cost to Issue
2021	63	\$ 1,650	\$ 100.80
2022	56	\$ 1,400	\$ 89.60
2023	84	\$ 2,095	\$ 134.40
2024	52	\$ 1,275	\$ 83.20

The cost of issuing a decal to a resident averages \$1.60 per piece, which includes postage and materials

*Provisions of CB-039-2025:*

The proposed Bill would amend the County Code to remove references to physical alarm permits being required and allow the use of electronic permits. It also removes the \$25.00 replacement fee for physical decals.

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**Fiscal Impact:**

- *Direct Impact*

Enactment of CB-039-2025 will have a minimal net adverse fiscal impact on the County in part due to the reduction of additional expenditures on physical decals. The Bill would remove the requirement of physical decals, which the County is responsible for providing permittees with at a cost of \$1.60/per piece. There will also be savings on administrative expenses associated with fulfilling replacement requests, which will further offset any revenue reduction. In total, the adverse fiscal impact is unlikely to exceed \$2,000 per year.

- *Indirect Impact*

Enactment of CB-039-2025 may have a favorable indirect fiscal impact to the extent that the reduction of the burden of having a registered system results in more systems in use, and a reduction in crime and associated public safety expenditures. The likelihood of this being a measurable impact is fairly remote.

- *Appropriated in the Current Fiscal Year Budget*

No

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**Effective Date of Proposed Legislation:**

The Act shall take effect forty-five (45) days after it becomes law.

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If you require additional information, or have questions about this fiscal impact statement, please reach out to me via phone or email.