

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORT
2026 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-028-2026

Draft No.: 2

Committee: Committee of the Whole (COW)

Date: April 7, 2026

Action: FAV (A)

REPORT:

VOTE: Favorable with Amendments 8-0 (Oriadha, Olson Adams, Blegay, Burroughs, Dernoga, Fisher, and Ivey)

The Council sitting as the Committee of the Whole met on April 7, 2026, to consider CB-028-2026.

Staff provided an overview of the bill, stating that the legislation proposes the establishment of a local Diverse Supplier Prime Contractor Program, which would require the purchasing agent to set aside a percentage of annual procurement spending for contracts awarded to locally owned, operated, or county-based minority business enterprises (MBEs). The bill also includes provisions for exemptions, public notice of set-aside procurements, and annual reporting to the County Council.

The Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst provided an overview of the Policy Analysis and Fiscal Statement, noting that the bill is expected to have an adverse fiscal impact due to necessary changes in procurement processes. While no additional staffing is anticipated, the Office of Procurement indicated that implementation within the proposed 45-day effective period would be challenging without additional resources. The analysis also noted the potential for indirect impacts, including an increase in participation from local and minority-owned businesses as prime contractors.

Council Chair Oriadha, bill sponsor, emphasized the intent of the legislation to address longstanding barriers faced by minority and locally owned firms in accessing prime contracting opportunities. The sponsor highlighted feedback from the business community, including the Chamber of Commerce, which supported creating intentional opportunities for these businesses to compete as prime contractors rather than subcontractors. The sponsor also noted ongoing collaboration with the County Executive's administration and the Office of Procurement, resulting in proposed amendments to narrow the scope of the program to construction procurement.

The Council Liaison, on behalf of the County Executive, expressed support for the legislation with the proposed amendments.

The Office of Law indicated that additional time is needed to review Draft 2.

The Council Members were provided with Draft 2 of the bill, and further explanation of the amendments introduced for consideration is outlined below:

- limit the scope of the program to reserve at least 20% of all construction-related procurements awarded each fiscal year by all units of the County Government, other than procurement for roads and bridges, solely for bids, proposals, and awards for prime bidders, prime proposers, and prime contractors that are Locally Owned and Operated Businesses or County-Based Business Enterprises. This adjustment was made based on input from the Department of Public Works and Transportation, which indicated that existing procurement levels in that category already exceed the proposed threshold. As a result, the revised approach is intended to concentrate the program on vertical construction, where the need for increased participation is more pronounced.
- fold the reporting requirement into the report already required under Section 10A-176 of the Code. This ensures that the Council gets the information, but it is clear that it does not require a separate report. The Office of Procurement confirmed that the relevant information is already being collected, and this change is intended to clarify and streamline reporting without adding administrative burden.
- remove the “approval by Council resolution” requirement for exemption of procurements that are no longer suitable for reservation, on page 2, lines 19 and 20. The provision retains the allowance for replacement projects but eliminates the resolution step from the exemption process, simplifying implementation while preserving oversight structure.

During the discussion, a member requested that staff analyze any potential impacts the legislation could have on labor unions, emphasizing the importance of avoiding unintended consequences. The Chair and other members concurred, noting that additional language or safeguards may be necessary before final action to ensure labor protections are not adversely affected.

The Council sitting as the Committee of the Whole voted favorably 8-0 on CB-028-2026 Draft 2.