

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2020 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-35-2020

Draft No.: 1

Committee: Committee of the Whole

Date: 06/18/2020

Action: FAV

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable 9-0. (In favor: Council Members Turner, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Glaros, Harrison, Hawkins, Ivey and Streeter) (Absent: Council Members Franklin and Taveras)

The Committee of the Whole convened on June 18, 2020, to discuss this legislation, which authorizes the administrative adjudication of matters regarding an unsafe violation of the Building Code. This bill provides the authorization to the Building Official to serve a notice of violation on a person responsible for the erection, construction, alteration, extension, repair, removal, demolition or occupancy of a building or structure in violation of the Building Code or a permit or certificate issued under the Building Code. This bill provides that the Building Official may direct that work contrary to the Building Code or conducted in an unsafe and dangerous manner may be immediately stopped. This bill provides for the issuance of administrative citations handled by an in-house administrative appeal mechanism.

There was the following discussion. Director Bolling and her staff provided an overview of the bill and took questions from the County Council members. Chair Turner asked about the status of industry input into the proposed Building Code amendments. The Director indicated that there had been industry outreach. Council member Streeter asked if the bill applies to all areas of construction and the Director indicated that it applied to both residential and commercial construction. The Director indicated that there is a lot of unpermitted construction in the residential area. Council member Dernoga asked about the timing of hearing appeals. Mr. Cunningham indicated that the approximate time is ninety-days (90). Council member Glaros commented positively about the bill and suggested that the Department provide clarifying information about which matters go to the Board of Appeals and which matters go to the Administrative Hearings Unit.

Sakinda Skinner of the Office of Law, provided that the bill was in proper legislative form and had no legal impediments to its adoption.

Terry Bell, the County Executive's Council Liaison, provided that Ms. Bolling, the Director of the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement and her staff would be providing remarks.

After the discussion, the Committee of the Whole voted favorably on CB-35-2020 (DR-1) by a

