

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2023 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-084-2023

Draft No.: 2

Committee: TIEE

Date: 10/12/2023

Action: FAV(A)

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable as Amended, 5-0 (In Favor: Council Members Olson, Dernoga, Hawkins, Ivey, and Watson).

The Committee convened on October 12, 2023, to discuss CB-84-2023, which requires the establishment of an early warning system for all permit approvals issued by the Department of Permitting, Inspections & Enforcement (DPIE) by February 1, 2024. The legislation requires the establishment of the Projected Maximum Time (PMT) of permit issuance for each permit type, and requires the DPIE Director to:

Publish the PMT for each permit type on the department's website;

Establish the process for notification by staff of delays and the determination of steps to address delays;

Submit a report on March 15 of each year to the County Executive and County Council with details on permit approvals for the previous calendar year, including: average permit approval times compared to the PMT for each permit type; the number of times the PMT was exceeded, and any additional information as determined by the Director.

The County Executive's staff expressed support for the legislation, indicating that it adds an additional layer of oversight to information that is being generated by the agency's recently implemented MOMENTUM system (the final phase was activated in May of 2023). DPIE staff indicated that the legislation will likely require one additional full-time staff position. The administration requested amendments to the title of the bill to indicate the establishment of a process, rather than a system and other technical amendments related to terminology. The sponsor accepted these amendments as friendly.

The Committee discussed the importance of reducing permit review times and clarification of the process for identifying and resolving delays. The discussion also included references to the status of the County Executive's Entitlements Workgroup. The County Executive's office will provide a status update to the Committee.

After discussion, the Committee voted favorably on CB-84-2023 as amended by a vote of 5-0.