



Ingrid S. Watson
Council Member
District 4

People-Powered, People-Engaged

CB-003-2025

Bill Number: CB-003-2025

Name of Bill: An Act Concerning the Office of Permitting Ombudsman

Sponsors: Olson

Bill Type: Council Bill

Status: On January 28, 2025, the bill was discussed in the full County Council and referred to the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Committee.

Bill Overview: This bill will establish The Office of Permitting Ombudsman for the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE) in Prince George's County and create a formal mechanism to address barriers for small business, homeowners, and other stakeholders in Prince George's County.

Rationale for the Bill: The objective of CB-003-2025 is to within the Office of the Ombudsman for Permitting, housed within the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement (DPIE), will be dedicated to helping homeowners and small businesses navigate the complex permitting process.

Impact to D4: This bill will affect District 4 and the overall County, in terms Homeowners and small businesses often struggle to manage the permitting system, as they are not experts in architecture, project management, or construction. Plans often get lost in the system due to lack of knowledge about required information, leaving applicants unaware of necessary steps and without an advocate to guide them through the process. By creating an Office of Permitting Ombudsman, the County can simplify this process, ensuring that residents and small businesses receive the support they need. Moreover, by creating the Office of Ombudsman will simplify and streamline the process, decrease frustration and expedite business openings which will ultimately have a positive impact on the county's tax revenue and expedite business.