

Office of the County Auditor
Auditor's Analysis

Council Bill No. 65-2021

Introduced: September 8, 2021

Auditor: Michael A. Martin

Fiscal Impact:

Without knowing the number of future Zoning Regulation Amendments (ZRAs), our Office is unable to estimate the fiscal impact associated with this legislation.

Purpose:

This legislation requires the petitioner of a ZRA to post an informational sign on any affected parcels owned by the petitioner and on an adjacent rights-of-way to any parcel not owned by the petitioner. This bill requires such a posting to be completed at least six weeks prior to the related Planning Board hearing and adhere to certain size and format requirements.

The Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ) is responsible for:

- Marking the signs
- Determining the quantity and location
- Posting signs for Administration and/or Council sponsored petitions
- Withholding issuance of the Technical Staff Report to the Planning Board and Council if the petitioner does not fulfill their requirements

The petitioner is responsible for:

- Complying with this legislation's posting requirement within two weeks of the Planning Board meeting
- Removing the sign(s) within seven days following the Planning Board meeting

Any violations of this proposed bill are punishable by a fine not to exceed \$100. The DPZ may enforce the provisions of this bill with civil penalties pursuant to Title 24 - Civil Penalties. A violation shall be a Class B Offense.

Other Comments:

The DPZ determines the location of all required signs based on the highest visibility location of that parcel. Our Office has made an inquiry to the Office of Law for their interpretation of the extent that signage would need to be posted throughout the County if this legislation were passed.