



Howard County Council

George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
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COUNCILMEMBERS

Jon Weinstein, Chairperson
District 1
Calvin Ball, Vice Chairperson
District 2
Jennifer Terrasa
District 3
Mary Kay Sigaty
District 4
Greg Fox
District 5

Legislative Work Session
Monday, October 16, 2017
C. Vernon Gray Room
4:00 p.m.

Minutes (Approved)

The Chairperson opened the work session at 4:07 p.m.

Members Present: Jon Weinstein, Chairperson; Calvin Ball, Vice Chairperson; Greg Fox; Mary Kay Sigaty; Jen Terrasa.

Staff Present: Jessica Feldmark, Council Administrator; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor; John Gwynn, Assistant County Solicitor

Council Bill 60-2017 (ZRA 180)

Kaley Laleker, MDE, provided an overview of MDE's permitting process and requirements for compost and natural wood waste recycling and answered questions from the Council. Jeff Fretwell, MDE, and Amy Gowan, DPZ, joined her in answering questions from the Council.

Dr. Henry Cole provided a presentation on air pollution and how the relationship between sources and receptors impacts exposure. Dr. Patricia Millner and Dr. Gary Felton joined him in answering questions from the Council specific to composting practices. Dr. Conor Bell joined them to address safety procedures in mulching operations.

Council Members requested the following additional information:

- Numbers and top types of complaints about composting facilities received by MDE and how many of them are confirmed/denied
- Data comparing the number and types of complaints before and after the composting permitting process was implemented
- Data comparing the number and types of complaints for permitted/non-permitted facilities
- Similar data for natural wood waste recycling facilities
- Copy of the MDE checklist for operations plans
- Confirmation of all setback distances required under state permits for composting facilities and natural wood waste recycling facilities
- Verification of distances that show drop-off in the impact of bacteria
- Examples of specific studies relevant to these issues

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.