



POSITION STATEMENT

Bill: HB 0131 Housing Development Permit Applications – Local Reporting Requirements

Position: Informational

Date: February 6, 2024

Contact: Debra Borden, General Counsel

Jordan Baucum Colbert, Government Affairs Liaison

Dear Chair Marc Korman and Vice Chair Regina T. Boyce,

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC or “the Commission”) has not voted on an official position yet but staff has prepared an informational statement. The Commission respectfully requests that the Environment and Transportation committee consider this information and include it in the record.

What this Bill Does. This bill requires local jurisdictions to report information related to housing development permit applications to the Department of Housing and Community Development and the Department of Planning on an annual basis.

Data Driven Analyses Are Useful for Driving Housing Policy. In order to make meaningful decisions about housing, everyone should begin with accurate data.

The Bill as written applies to project permit applications for housing developments which would report only building permit information. This information is important, but it would also be relevant to include reporting of development or regulatory plan approvals as well. These approvals precede building permits, and the associated data would help to guide additional policy work that may be needed. Also, the collected data should include mixed use projects. Further, because across the state local jurisdictions have different applications and processes, it may be best to be clear on the intent of the reports so that there is consistency in reporting. In addition, it may be helpful for the State to provide a questionnaire or survey for jurisdictions to use when providing the information.

We respectfully request that the committee consider this information and include it in the record.