

Andrew Kleine

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Andrew Kleine, Chief
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432 City Hall (396-4941)
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill #09-0274 – Unsafe Structures – Enforcement by Citation

CITY of
BALTIMORE
MEMO



TO

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
Room 400, City Hall

DATE: September 25, 2009

Attention: Ms. Karen Randle

City Council Bill #09-0274 has been introduced for the purpose of authorizing issuance of environmental citations for violations of the Building Code provisions governing and enforcing unsafe structures.

This bill, if passed, will add subsection 115 – Unsafe Structures. This will allow a penalty of \$1,000 to be assessed for each violation. In May 2009, City Council Bill 09-0309 was passed which gave the Department of Housing the authority to assess a \$500 penalty for Building, Fire and Related Code violations.

The Department of Housing and Community Development immediately started implementing the new policy in June 2009 and expects to issue approximately 900 citations per calendar year over the next several years. Given the short period of time since the implementation of the new policy, we have not collected enough data to make a comprehensive analysis of its effectiveness.

The Department of Finance respectfully requests that the Department of Housing and Community Development be given sufficient time to fully implement Bill 09-309 and evaluate the effectiveness of the program.

Cc: Edward J. Gallagher
Angela Gibson

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