



FROM	NAME & TITLE	Thomas P. Driscoll, Deputy Budget Chief 	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Finance Room 436 City Hall (396-4948)		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill No. 09-0309 – Building, Fire and Related Codes - Enforcement		

DATE: April 14, 2009

TO

Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
C/O Karen Randle
Room 409, City Hall

City Council Bill 09-0309 proposes the issuance of pre-payable environmental citations. The bill proposes a \$500 citation for unlawful continuance of work after a stop-worker order notice, and proposes additional penalties for failing to comply after the notice for environmental violation has been issued. In Addition, the bill proposes a \$150 registration fee to motor vehicles and trailers in no compliance with section 305.5 of Part VII Property Management Code of the Building, Fire and Related Codes.

Fiscal Impact

- The issuance of Environmental Citations is estimated to generate \$3.6 million in Fiscal 2009 and \$4.2 million in Fiscal 2010.
- Environmental Citations are part of the City's General Fund revenue flow since Fiscal 2008. Since then, the City has collected \$5.2 million, where about 46.8% or \$2.5 million are public works related citations and 39.4% or \$2.1 million are housing related citations.
- The fiscal impact of the proposed bill cannot be estimated at the moment since the Departments was not able to evaluate the number of violations subject to the proposed adjustments.

Analysis

- The proposed citations must generate the necessary funds to offset administrative costs. Given the City's challenging budget situation, the City cannot afford to increase expenses that are not fully offset by revenues.

Finance Department Position

The Finance Department supports Council Bill 09-0309; however, we agree with policy, but recommend a comprehensive fee analysis to guarantee that the new charges offset any corresponding additional cost of issuance.

cc: Edward Gallagher
Angela Gibson
Pedro Aponte

