

**MEMORANDUM OF LEGISLATION**

DATE: June 12, 2025

TITLE: Study of County Owned Land for Affordable Housing

SPONSORS: Majority Leader Woodson-Samuels
Legislator Williams
Legislator Imamura
Legislator Ulaj

INITIAL OR GENERAL IDEA OF THE BILL: Requiring the study of all county owned land to determine the feasibility of using such land for affordable housing. Where it is determined that the use of county owned land for affordable housing is not feasible, the study shall identify the actions necessary for such land to be used for the stated purpose. Upon completion, the study of county owned land shall be submitted to the County Executive and the Clerk of the Board of Legislators.

INTENT: To determine what property currently owned by the county could be used to build affordable housing.

JUSTIFICATION: Performing a study of county owned for both affordable housing involves evaluating various factors to ensure suitability and efficiency. For affordable housing, this includes assessing proximity to essential services such as schools, healthcare facilities, transportation hubs and other amenities essential to ensure residents' convenience and quality of life. Conducting a study of county owned land also provides an opportunity to assess the potential impact of the projects on surrounding communities. For affordable housing, this involves considering factors such as population density, traffic congestion, and strain on existing infrastructure.

In addition to identifying physical and practical constraints, a study of county owned land will identify any legal or regulatory constraints associated with such land. This includes zoning regulations, environmental restrictions, and land use policies that may impact development. Further, a land study enables long-term planning and promotes sustainability considerations. This involves assessing factors such as land use efficiency, environmental impact mitigation, and resilience to natural hazards.

Understanding these various factors and constraints, while also identifying potential actions to overcome obstacles, will enable the county to streamline the planning and approval processes associated with potential projects. By undertaking a study of county owned land, we will enable the county to make informed decisions and effectively plan.

PRESENT LAW: NONE.

cc: Marcello Figueroa, Legislative Director
Dylan Tragni, Chief of Staff