

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Linda W. Cropp
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Natwar M. Gandhi [signature]
Chief Financial Officer

DATE: July 12, 2004

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement: "Historic Preservation Process for
Public Safety Facilities Amendment Act of 2004"

REFERENCE: Bill Number 15-784 from the Draft Committee Print

Conclusion

The proposed legislation will not impact the District's local budget and financial plan. The Office of Housing Preservation Review will be required to implement the proposed legislation with its existing staff and resources.

Background

The proposed legislation requires that before the Mayor may issue a permit to demolish or alter the exterior or site of a public safety facility that is an historic landmark, a representative from the Office of Historic Preservation Review will advise on how to accommodate the renovation with the operational needs of a public safety facility. The proposed legislation will place emphasis on the operational needs of the public safety agency over historical preservation protections. The proposed legislation will apply to existing public safety facilities that already have an historic designation, facilities where the application for historic preservation protection is pending, or where proposed construction improvements on properties are in an historic district, or are on the site of an historic landmark.

Once the property improvement plans have been completed the Mayor will be required to publish a notice in the register. The Historic Preservation Review Board will have 60 calendar days from the publication date to review and comment on the plans. If the Review Board disapproves of the plan, the Mayor has 30 days from the receipt of the Board's comments to re-review the plan. The Mayor will have to disclose the nature of

the historic preservation plan, the needs of the facilities' operations and how the historic preservation protections cannot be fully accommodated by the proposed improvements. There will be no appeal on the Mayor's final determinations.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2005 through FY 2008 budget and financial plan as agreed to by the Mayor and the Council of the District of Columbia. The Office of Housing Preservation Review will be required to implement the proposed legislation with existing staff and resources.