

**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE BUDGET**

BILL NUMBER: 94-25

INTRO. DATE: Dec. 1, 2025

FISCAL NOTE

**BILL: PUBLIC WORKS – UTILITIES – RIGHT OF ENTRY –
INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE FEE**

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION

This bill allows Department of Public Works (DPW) employees and contractors right of entry onto private land for certain situations, including the replacement of water service lines as required by State or federal law. It renames the “Environmental Protection Fee” charged to all water and wastewater customers to be the “Infrastructure Maintenance Fee.” It expands the purposes of the fee to include debt service on improvements required for compliance with state and federal laws.

FISCAL IMPACT

Operating Budget – Personal Services: No effect.

Operating Budget – Other Operating Costs: This legislation will allow DPW to use utility fees for debt service on bonds to fund the federally-mandated replacement of lead pipes on private property. Future debt service requirements will depend on the authorization and issuance of utility bonds for the expanded eligible uses.

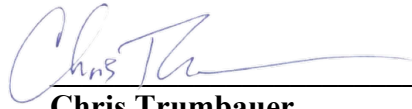
The federal requirements driving this effort stem from EPA’s revised Lead and Copper Rule (LCR), an amendment to the Safe Drinking Water Act. The LCR requires all public water systems to develop and implement a plan to remove all lead service lines.

Capital Budget: The inspections, design, and replacement of the lines will be authorized as one or more future capital projects, which will be proposed in future Capital Improvement Programs.

DPW estimates that inspections will cost approximately \$1.3 million. Until the inspections are completed, DPW will not know how many water lines require replacement. Based on DPW’s current knowledge of the inventory and the percentage of pipes needing replacement, DPW puts its initial estimate at \$12.5 million.

Revenues: No effect. The bill does not alter the rate or basis of the fee. The estimated amount of Environmental Protection Fee revenue in fiscal year 2026 is \$37.8 million. The fee revenue will remain dedicated to the Utility Debt Service Fund.

Indirect and future fiscal effects: The bill's primary effect is to expand the allowable use of the Infrastructure Maintenance Fee (currently named the Environmental Protection Fee or EPF) revenue to fund private infrastructure improvements, specifically the federally mandated lead pipe replacement.



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11/20/2025

Date

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