

**O-25-16**  
**City Code Amendment of Maximum Penalty**

**Staff Report**

This legislation would amend Chapter 1.20 of the City Code to clarify that in the discretion of the city council, an ordinance may impose fines, incarceration, or other penalties or remedies as permitted by Maryland law.

Currently, the City Code, Section 1.20.010 states that the maximum penalty for misdemeanors shall be “\$1,000.00 or six months in jail, or both, in the discretion of the City Council.” There are instances, however, where the City Council is authorized to enforce a higher penalty than those contemplated in Chapter 1.20. Accordingly, the proposed language set forth in O-25-16 would resolve any inconsistencies between the penalty limitations set forth in Chapter 1.20 and other penalty provisions set forth in the Maryland State Code by providing that in the discretion of the city council, an ordinance may impose fines, incarceration, or other penalties or remedies as permitted by Maryland law.