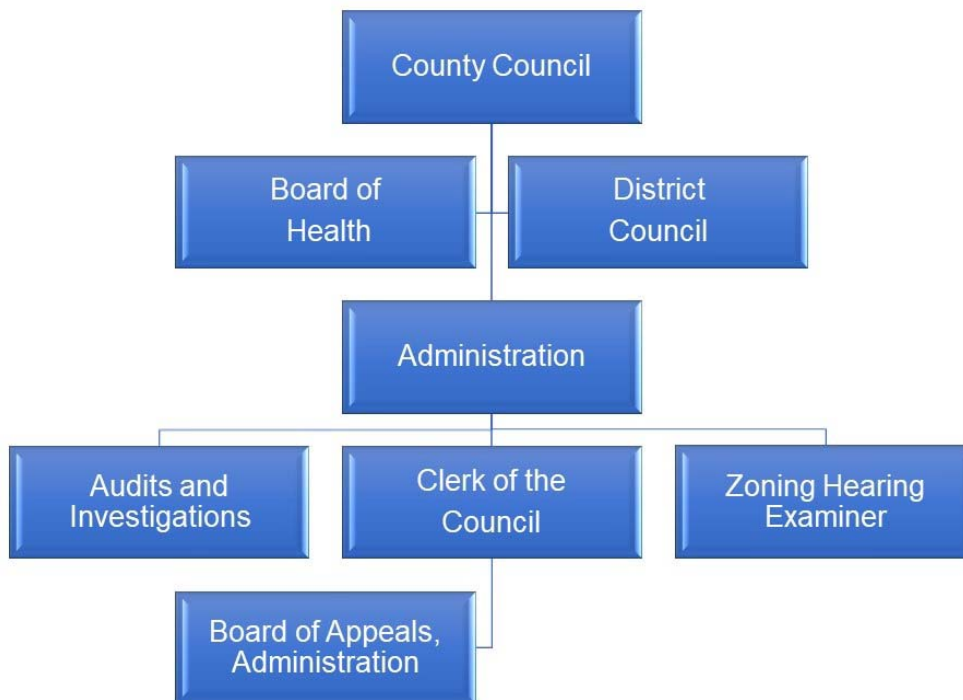


Legislative Branch



MISSION AND SERVICES

The Legislative Branch establishes laws, regulations and policies that balance the diverse needs and interests of those individuals who live and work in Prince George’s County.

CORE SERVICES

- Exercise legislative powers under the Maryland Constitution including those previously exercised by the General Assembly of Maryland but transferred to the people of the County by virtue of the adoption of the County Charter
- Evaluate the performance and effectiveness of County programs to assure citizen satisfaction
- Plan diverse, safe and functional communities
- Encourage public participation in all governmental policy actions
- Exercise fiduciary responsibility to fund the best possible public health, safety, education and government service programs at an affordable cost

FY 2026 BUDGET SUMMARY

The FY 2026 proposed budget for the Legislative Branch is \$28,991,200, an increase of \$193,200 or 0.7% over the FY 2025 approved budget.

Expenditures by Fund Type

Fund Types	FY 2024 Actual		FY 2025 Budget		FY 2025 Estimate		FY 2026 Proposed	
	Amount	% Total	Amount	% Total	Amount	% Total	Amount	% Total
General Fund	\$27,161,831	100.0%	\$28,798,000	100.0%	\$27,798,000	100.0%	\$28,991,200	100.0%
Total	\$27,161,831	100.0%	\$28,798,000	100.0%	\$27,798,000	100.0%	\$28,991,200	100.0%

Reconciliation from Prior Year

	Expenditures
FY 2025 Approved Budget	\$28,798,000
Increase Cost: Technology Cost Allocation — Increase in OIT charges based on anticipated countywide costs for technology	\$165,300
Increase Cost: Recovery Decrease — Decrease in recoveries for the Non-Divisional division	26,700
Increase Cost: Operating — Increase in fleet vehicle maintenance charges	1,200
FY 2026 Proposed Budget	\$28,991,200

STAFF AND BUDGET RESOURCES

Authorized Positions	FY 2024 Budget	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Proposed	Change FY25-FY26
General Fund				
Full Time - Civilian	176	176	174	(2)
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0
Subtotal - FT	176	176	174	(2)
Part Time	13	13	15	2
Limited Term	0	0	0	0
TOTAL				
Full Time - Civilian	176	176	174	(2)
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0
Subtotal - FT	176	176	174	(2)
Part Time	13	13	15	2
Limited Term	0	0	0	0

Positions By Classification	FY 2026		
	Full Time	Part Time	Limited Term
Accounting Technician	1	0	0
Administrative Aide	43	4	0
Administrative Assistant	25	0	0
Administrative Specialist	23	1	0
Administrator to County Council	1	0	0
Auditor	17	0	0
Budget Assistant	1	0	0
Chief Zoning Hearing Examiner	1	0	0
Citizens Services Intern	3	2	0
Citizens Services Specialist	25	5	0
Communications Specialist	5	0	0
Council Member	11	0	0
County Auditor	1	0	0
Deputy Administrator to County Council	1	0	0
Legislative Aide to Council Member	11	0	0
Principal Counsel to District Council	1	0	0
Public Service Aide	1	3	0
Systems Analyst	2	0	0
Zoning Hearing Examiner	1	0	0
Total	174	15	0

Expenditures by Category - General Fund

Category	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Proposed	Change FY25-FY26	
					Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Compensation	\$16,124,501	\$17,562,400	\$16,562,400	\$17,562,400	\$—	0.0%
Fringe Benefits	4,718,208	4,961,600	4,961,600	4,961,600	—	0.0%
Operating	6,348,620	7,588,000	7,588,000	7,754,500	166,500	2.2%
Capital Outlay	—	29,400	29,400	29,400	—	0.0%
SubTotal	\$27,191,329	\$30,141,400	\$29,141,400	\$30,307,900	\$166,500	0.6%
Recoveries	(29,498)	(1,343,400)	(1,343,400)	(1,316,700)	26,700	-2.0%
Total	\$27,161,831	\$28,798,000	\$27,798,000	\$28,991,200	\$193,200	0.7%

In FY 2026, compensation expenditures remain unchanged from the approved budget. Compensation costs include funding for 174 full-time and 15 part-time positions. Fringe benefit expenditures also remain unchanged.

Operating expenditures increase by 2.2% over the FY 2025 budget due to an increase from countywide technology and fleet vehicle maintenance charges.

Capital outlay expenses remained unchanged.

Recoveries decrease -2.0% under the FY 2025 budget to reflect anticipated costs.

Expenditures by Division - General Fund

Category	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Proposed	Change FY25-FY26	
					Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
The County Council	\$3,523,837	\$4,299,300	\$4,299,300	\$4,299,300	\$—	0.0%
Council Administration	16,344,345	16,564,000	16,564,000	16,680,600	116,600	0.7%
Clerk to the Council	1,647,551	1,859,400	859,400	1,874,500	15,100	0.8%
Audits and Investigations	1,999,569	1,916,100	1,916,100	1,944,100	28,000	1.5%
Zoning Hearing Examiner	895,693	942,100	942,100	948,900	6,800	0.7%
Non-Divisional	2,692,113	3,115,100	3,115,100	3,141,800	26,700	0.9%
Board of Appeals	58,723	102,000	102,000	102,000	—	0.0%
Total	\$27,161,831	\$28,798,000	\$27,798,000	\$28,991,200	\$193,200	0.7%

General Fund - Division Summary

Category	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Proposed	Change FY25-FY26	
					Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
The County Council						
Compensation	\$1,691,009	\$1,625,700	\$1,625,700	\$1,625,700	\$—	0.0%
Fringe Benefits	375,810	481,200	481,200	481,200	—	0.0%
Operating	1,457,018	2,192,400	2,192,400	2,192,400	—	0.0%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	—
SubTotal	\$3,523,837	\$4,299,300	\$4,299,300	\$4,299,300	\$—	0.0%
Recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total The County Council	\$3,523,837	\$4,299,300	\$4,299,300	\$4,299,300	\$—	0.0%
Council Administration						
Compensation	\$11,379,207	\$12,777,500	\$12,777,500	\$12,777,500	\$—	0.0%
Fringe Benefits	3,344,354	3,545,300	3,545,300	3,545,300	—	0.0%
Operating	1,620,784	1,528,500	1,528,500	1,645,100	116,600	7.6%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	—
SubTotal	\$16,344,345	\$17,851,300	\$17,851,300	\$17,967,900	\$116,600	0.7%
Recoveries	—	(1,287,300)	(1,287,300)	(1,287,300)	—	0.0%
Total Council Administration	\$16,344,345	\$16,564,000	\$16,564,000	\$16,680,600	\$116,600	0.7%
Clerk to the Council						
Compensation	\$1,041,411	\$1,161,000	\$161,000	\$1,161,000	\$—	0.0%
Fringe Benefits	350,414	343,600	343,600	343,600	—	0.0%
Operating	255,726	354,800	354,800	369,900	15,100	4.3%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	—
SubTotal	\$1,647,551	\$1,859,400	\$859,400	\$1,874,500	\$15,100	0.8%
Recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Clerk to the Council	\$1,647,551	\$1,859,400	\$859,400	\$1,874,500	\$15,100	0.8%
Audits and Investigations						
Compensation	\$1,331,693	\$1,278,200	\$1,278,200	\$1,278,200	\$—	0.0%
Fringe Benefits	454,984	378,400	378,400	378,400	—	0.0%
Operating	212,892	259,500	259,500	287,500	28,000	10.8%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	—
SubTotal	\$1,999,569	\$1,916,100	\$1,916,100	\$1,944,100	\$28,000	1.5%
Recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Audits and Investigations	\$1,999,569	\$1,916,100	\$1,916,100	\$1,944,100	\$28,000	1.5%

General Fund - Division Summary *(continued)*

Category	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Proposed	Change FY25-FY26	
					Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Zoning Hearing Examiner						
Compensation	\$637,047	\$670,200	\$670,200	\$670,200	\$—	0.0%
Fringe Benefits	189,389	198,400	198,400	198,400	—	0.0%
Operating	69,257	73,500	73,500	80,300	6,800	9.3%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	
SubTotal	\$895,693	\$942,100	\$942,100	\$948,900	\$6,800	0.7%
Recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	
Total Zoning Hearing Examiner	\$895,693	\$942,100	\$942,100	\$948,900	\$6,800	0.7%
Non-Divisional						
Compensation	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	
Fringe Benefits	—	—	—	—	—	
Operating	2,721,611	3,141,800	3,141,800	3,141,800	—	0.0%
Capital Outlay	—	29,400	29,400	29,400	—	0.0%
SubTotal	\$2,721,611	\$3,171,200	\$3,171,200	\$3,171,200	\$—	0.0%
Recoveries	(29,498)	(56,100)	(56,100)	(29,400)	26,700	-47.6%
Total Non-Divisional	\$2,692,113	\$3,115,100	\$3,115,100	\$3,141,800	\$26,700	0.9%
Board of Appeals						
Compensation	\$44,134	\$49,800	\$49,800	\$49,800	\$—	0.0%
Fringe Benefits	3,257	14,700	14,700	14,700	—	0.0%
Operating	11,332	37,500	37,500	37,500	—	0.0%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	
SubTotal	\$58,723	\$102,000	\$102,000	\$102,000	\$—	0.0%
Recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	
Total Board of Appeals	\$58,723	\$102,000	\$102,000	\$102,000	\$—	0.0%
Total	\$27,161,831	\$28,798,000	\$27,798,000	\$28,991,200	\$193,200	0.7%

DIVISION OVERVIEW

The County Council

The County Council consists of eleven Council Members, nine Councilmanic District members, and two at-large members. The nine members are elected from one of each nine councilmanic districts in Prince George’s County, with the at-large being elected from the entire County; all members serve for a term of four years. The Chair, or in the Chair’s absence the Vice Chair, presides at all meetings. Members of the Council serve in three distinct capacities:

- County Council
- District Council
- Board of Health

Sitting as the County Council, the members consider all legislative and administrative matters, including bills amending County Code provisions, resolutions addressing County issues, budget matters, water and sewer plan amendments, and other administrative actions.

Sitting as the District Council, the Council exercises its planning, subdivision control, and zoning powers. This includes reviewing and adopting Master Plans and Sectional Map Amendments, rezonings, special

exceptions, and requests for variances from the Zoning Ordinance. The District Council also considers requests for amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and requests from municipalities for amendments to their local ordinances.

Sitting as the Board of Health, the Council considers health policies and procedures.

Fiscal Summary

In FY 2026, the division expenditures remain unchanged. Staffing resources remain unchanged from the FY 2025 budget.

	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Proposed	Change FY25-FY26	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Total Budget	\$4,299,300	\$4,299,300	\$-	0.0%
STAFFING				
Full Time - Civilian	11	11	0	0.0%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
Subtotal - FT	11	11	0	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

Council Administration

The Council Administration provides staff direction and support for the Legislative Branch activities. This includes the research, drafting and review of Council legislation, assuring its proper format, legal sufficiency and Code compliance. Staff are assigned to the standing committees – Education and Workforce Development (EWD), Government Operations and Fiscal Policy (GOFP), Health, Human Services and Public Safety (HHSPS), Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED), Transportation/Infrastructure/Energy & Environment (TIEE) and the General Assembly (GA). The Council may also establish other special committees.

Fiscal Summary

In FY 2026, the division expenditures increase \$116,600 or 0.7% over the FY 2025 budget. Staffing resources slightly increased compared to the FY 2025 approved budget due to funded vacancies being moved from the

Office of Clerk to Council Administration to accurately reflect job classifications. The primary budget changes include:

- An increase in operating costs due to the increase in the technology allocation and fleet vehicle maintenance charges.

	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Proposed	Change FY25-FY26	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Total Budget	\$16,564,000	\$16,680,600	\$116,600	0.7%
STAFFING				
Full Time - Civilian	129	131	2	1.6%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
Subtotal - FT	129	131	2	1.6%
Part Time	12	15	3	25.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

Clerk to the Council

The Clerk to the Council renders essential support services to the County Council in its capacities as the County’s legislative body, the District Council in planning and zoning matters, the Board of Health and the Board of Appeals.

As required by Charter, the Clerk maintains the Journal of Legislation to ensure the efficient functioning of the legislative and zoning processes. Additionally, the Clerk’s Office makes available copies of legislation, resolutions and other documents. Other functions of the office include responsibility for all legal advertising mandated for legislative and zoning matters.

Fiscal Summary

In FY 2026, the division expenditures increase \$15,100 or 0.8% over the FY 2025 budget. Staffing resources decrease by five vacant full time positions. The five

positions were moved to Council Administration to accurately reflect job classifications. The primary budget changes include:

- For operating, an increase in the technology allocation charge.

	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Proposed	Change FY25-FY26	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Total Budget	\$1,859,400	\$1,874,500	\$15,100	0.8%
STAFFING				
Full Time - Civilian	14	9	(5)	-35.7%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
Subtotal - FT	14	9	(5)	-35.7%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

Audits and Investigations

The Office of Audits and Investigations conducts performance (operational) audits and financial audits of all County agencies that receive or disburse County funds. The Office also reviews accounts of an agency when its director terminates his/her position with the County or when the director transfers from one County position to another.

In addition, the Office of Audits and Investigations performs special reviews and audits as requested by the County Council, and specialized reviews, audits and analysis of accounting and financial controls of County agencies and those doing business with the County. Within the Office of Audits and Investigations is the Office of Budget and Policy Analysis which performs County budget analysis, specialized financial and economic analysis and research as to the possible fiscal impact of pending County legislation.

Fiscal Summary

In FY 2026, the division expenditures increase \$28,000 or 1.5% over the FY 2025 budget. Staffing resources remain unchanged. The primary budget changes include:

- In operating, there is an increase in the technology allocation charge.

	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Proposed	Change FY25-FY26	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Total Budget	\$1,916,100	\$1,944,100	\$28,000	1.5%
STAFFING				
Full Time - Civilian	18	18	0	0.0%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
Subtotal - FT	18	18	0	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

Zoning Hearing Examiner

The Zoning Hearing Examiner division consists of attorneys who hold public hearings on applications for special exceptions or rezoning of a single parcel of land. Typically, applications are submitted to the Planning Board, which reviews them through its technical staff and, at its discretion, before the Planning Board itself.

The Chief Examiner then sets a date of hearing on each application and gives notice to all persons of record and in all newspapers of record. Notice is also posted on the property, and adjoining property owners are given written notice of the pending application. A copy of the application and the complete file are made available for inspection by the public before the hearing.

The public hearing is conducted according to procedural rules approved by the County Council. The hearing examiner is required to prepare a written decision and send a copy to all persons of record. This decision is based on the facts established at the hearing. Conclusions of law are determined and either a final decision, which may be appealed to the Council, or a recommended disposition is prepared for final Council action. All final decisions of the Council may be appealed to the Circuit Court.

Fiscal Summary

In FY 2026, the division expenditures increase \$6,800 or 0.7% over the FY 2025 budget. Staffing resources increase by one full time position and decrease by one part-time position. The part-time position was moved to Council Administration to accurately reflect job classification. The primary budget changes include:

- In operating, there is an increase in the technology allocation charge.

	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Proposed	Change FY25-FY26	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Total Budget	\$942,100	\$948,900	\$6,800	0.7%
STAFFING				
Full Time - Civilian	4	5	1	25.0%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
Subtotal - FT	4	5	1	25.0%
Part Time	1	0	(1)	0.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

Non-Divisional

The Non-Divisional division provides funds for the independent audit of County finances as outlined in Article IV, Section 402 of the Prince George’s County Charter and other designated operating expenses.

A majority of the funding for operating expenses is earmarked for building improvements, which include renovations for Legislative Branch offices. The balance provides resources for general and administrative contracts.

Fiscal Summary

In FY 2026, the division expenditures increase \$26,700 or 0.9% over the FY 2025 approved budget. The primary budget changes include:

- A decrease in cost recovery for audit fees.

	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Proposed	Change FY25-FY26	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Total Budget	\$3,115,100	\$3,141,800	\$26,700	0.9%
STAFFING				
Full Time - Civilian	0	0	0	0.0%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
Subtotal - FT	0	0	0	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

Board of Appeals

The Board of Appeals consists of three members appointed by the County Council. All appeals relating to the respective jurisdictions of the Board of Administrative Appeals and the Board of Zoning Appeals are filed and heard separately.

The Board of Administrative Appeals hears appeals from the decisions of the Director of the Environment, the Fire Marshal, the Chief Housing Inspector, the Clean Lot Inspector, the Licensing Officer, the Chief Building Inspector and the Director of the Department of Public Works and Transportation, as well as other similar administrative agencies. The typical types of appeals are denials of building permits and orders to install fire sprinklers, to remove litter and to demolish unsafe structures.

As the Board of Zoning Appeals, the Board is empowered to grant a variance when property owners will suffer unusual hardships from or in strict interpretation of the Zoning Ordinance; review actions and decisions of the Zoning Enforcement Officer; grant extensions of the grace period for the correction or cessation of zoning violations; and review the determinations and decisions of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Department of the Environment and

other County departments and agencies relating to provisions of the Zoning Ordinance. Examples of types of decisions are variances from setback requirements for construction of building additions, decks and garages variances from maximum lot coverage requirements; and extension of grace periods to comply with citations for failure to obtain a Use and Occupancy permit.

Fiscal Summary

In FY 2026, the division expenditures remain unchanged from the FY 2025 approved budget.

	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Proposed	Change FY25-FY26	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Total Budget	\$102,000	\$102,000	\$-	0.0%
STAFFING				
Full Time - Civilian	0	0	0	0.0%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
Subtotal - FT	0	0	0	0.0%
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

