



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Office of Audits and Investigations

March 27, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dannielle M. Glaros, Chair
Planning, Housing and Economic Development Committee

FROM: Turkessa M. Green, Deputy County Auditor *TMG*

RE: People's Zoning Counsel -
Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Review

Budget Overview

- The People's Zoning Counsel appears at all hearings on zoning matters to protect the public interest and promote a full and fair presentation of relevant issues in administrative proceedings, to achieve balanced records upon which sound land use decisions can be made.
- The People's Zoning Counsel may summon and cross-examine witnesses, introduce documentary evidence, file exemptions and present arguments to a hearing examiner of the Council as the evidence and law may warrant.
- The FY 2020 Proposed Budget for the People's Zoning Counsel includes funding in the amount of \$250,000 for one contract attorney, the same level of funding as the FY 2019 Approved Budget.
- The People's Zoning Counsel's proposed operating expenses are budgeted in the County's General Fund, and expenses are recovered from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) as a project charge. The project charge is budgeted in M-NCPPC's Administration Fund within the Planning Department's budget.
- The Office's workload is dependent on the number of zoning cases filed each year. The Office does not anticipate any increases in its workload for FY 2020.
- Historically, the Office's workload consisted of reviewing Planning Board cases, Zoning Hearing Examiner cases, District Council cases and responding to zoning issues from citizens.

14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772
VOICE (301) 952-3431; FAX (301) 780-2097; TDD (301) 925-5167