



October 6, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: Prince George's County Council

FROM: Lakisha Hull, AICP, LEED AP BD+C, Planning Director, Prince George's County Planning Department, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC)

VIA: James R. Hunt, MPA, Deputy Director of Operations, Prince George's County Planning Department
Gwen McCall-Winston, Deputy Director of Administration, Prince George's County Planning Department
Lorraine Coleman-Williams, Budget Manager, Prince George's County Planning Department

SUBJECT: CR-102-2025: Planning Department's Budget Impacts for FY2026

The Planning Director's Office offers the following comments on the proposed County Resolution CR-102-2025:

- The resolution is requesting to amend the current year budget for the M-NCPPC Administration Fund by reducing funding for the Planning Department by \$1 million. According to CR-102-2025, the request is to fund a new \$1 million project charge to the Office of the County Executive - Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Economic Development for this Fiscal Year 2026 (FY2026). According to the resolution, the project charge will be used to support economic development planning activities within the County.
- The Department has not received any indication of the economic development planning that is to be supported by this budget transfer nor how partnerships will align with the Department's current projects and initiatives. The Planning Director has requested to receive more information on the economic development planning services as related to the Planning Department's work program and initiatives as related to adopted codes, policies and plans with the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Economic Development.
- Since July 2025, the Planning Department has been working in cooperation with the Prince George's County Executive Office and Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE) on various initiatives to assist in creating more efficiencies and



streamlining development review processes. This includes supporting the creation of legislation for “Flagship Project Overlay Zone”, and coordinating to fast-track shovel-ready, legal projects in partnership with DPIE under the Permit Rapid Response Team and the Planning Department’s newly created Intake and Regulatory Review Division, created this fiscal year (FY2026). There was also a 4-hour workshop, and several subsequent meetings conducted between the Planning Department and DPIE to further enhance partnerships.

- The Planning Department's currently approved budget from May 2025, which is part of the Administrative Fund, is allocated to support the many outdated **Master Plans and Subregion Plans** during this fiscal year, as discussed in various meetings with County Councilmembers over the past year. During the development of the budget for FY2026, Councilwoman Fisher, Councilmember Dernoga, and Councilwoman Blegay requested to prioritize certain projects. When the budget was adopted for FY26 project budgets were set and bids accepted with an understanding that the funds would be available to support quality deliverables and reports. After the adoption of the original budget, the Requests for Proposals were initiated, with contracts approved for consulting services to proceed with subject matter experts for Councilmember Dernoga’s and Councilwoman Blegay’s priority plans.
- Additionally, funding has been approved for the **Health Atlas Study, Missing Middle Housing**, and to support the **Data Center Task Force**.
- Reallocation of already budgeted funds to another County Agency during the fiscal year results in negative impacts on the quality of already approved work programs in the queue related to non-personnel tasks for this fiscal year, with current project charges adopted in **May 2025 is \$8.33 million and will be increased to \$9.33 million or 17% of the adopted budget (out of \$55 million) under this resolution.**
- While contingencies are built into the project budgets to ensure that cost overruns are accounted for, in order to deliver quality projects and reports from subject matter experts the Department must be able to guarantee availability of funds.
- The Planning Department is requesting for the County Council to request for more information to justify this re-allocation to ensure that this is in alignment with creating efficiencies and in accordance with the Planning Department’s work program.

The Planning Department appreciates the opportunity to provide comments and is available to assist with any questions or revisions the Council may wish to explore.