



# REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY 2021-2022 CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

PRESENTATION TO THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL  
May 3, 2022

# Commission Members

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# Acknowledgements

Donna J. Brown, Clerk of the Council  
David H. Van Dyke, County Auditor (Retired)  
Turkessa M. Green, County Auditor

Tara H. Jackson, Chief Administrative Officer  
Stanley A. Earley, Director, Office of Management and Budget  
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Jonathan R. Butler, Director, Office of Central Services  
Shawn Stokes, Director, Office of Human Resources Management  
Rhonda L. Weaver, County Attorney, Office of Law

Alisha L. Alexander, Administrator, Prince George's County Board of Elections

# OVERVIEW





## Charter Review Commission Established

The Charter Review Commission was established pursuant to Charter Section 1106.

Charter Section 1106 provides that the County Council and the County Executive shall appoint, by resolution, a Charter Review Commission for the purpose of undertaking a comprehensive study of the Charter and recommending changes, where appropriate.



# Charter Review Commission Administration

The Charter Review Commission undertook a study of the Charter from December 2021 through March 2022.

The Commission established three subcommittees to focus on various portions of the Charter.

- Administrative/Legislative Matters
- Contracting/Personnel Matters
- Budget/Fiscal Matters

The Chief Administrative Officer in the Office of the County Executive and several County agency heads submitted comments and appeared virtually before the Commission.

All meetings, including a public hearing, of the Commission were advertised, held virtually, and were open to the public for viewing.



## Commission Focus

The Commission focused its efforts on:

- making more efficient County operating procedures in the areas of appropriations, contracting, and personnel; and
- prohibiting discrimination by any contractor who is the recipient of County funds because of personal appearance, political opinion, or gender identity; and
- revising the Charter to reflect gender neutral language; and
- revising the Charter to comply with State law in the area of compensation of the Council members and the County Executive.





# 2021-2022 CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS: CHARTER AMENDMENTS



## Recommendation #1

Charter Section 308.Compensation. and  
Charter Section 406. Compensation.

The Commission recommends that Charter Section 308 and Charter Section 406 regarding compensation of Council members and the County Executive be amended to comply with State law.



## Recommendation #2

### Charter Section 402. Executive Power and Duties.

The Commission recommends that Charter Section 402 be amended to provide that the County Executive shall prepare and submit to the Council a report of certain exempt positions.

This changes semi-annual reporting of certain exempt positions to annual reporting.



## Recommendation #3

Charter Section 603. Competitive Bidding.

The Commission recommends that Charter Section 603 be amended to provide that “cost” be replaced with “best value” and to provide that all purchases and contracts must be advertised in the County’s newspapers of record.



## Recommendation #4

### Charter Section 604. Nondiscrimination in Employment.

The Commission recommends that Charter Section 604 be amended to provide that no contractor who is the recipient of County funds shall discriminate in employment because of personal appearance, political opinion, or gender identity.



## Recommendation #5

### Charter Section 607. Local and Minority Business.

The Commission recommends that Charter Section 607 be amended to include “County law” for the encouragement and support of local and minority businesses consistent with requirements of Federal, State, and County law.



## Recommendation #6

Charter Section 815. Supplementary Appropriations; Staffing Level Increases.

The Commission recommends that Charter Section 815 be amended to provide that during any fiscal year, no agency may exceed the number of positions for that agency as approved in the operating budget without prior approval of the Council. By agency, the number of positions in each grade may be exceeded but the number of positions may not be exceeded as approved in the operating budget without the prior approval of the Council.



## Recommendation #7

### Charter Section 816. Emergency Appropriations.

The Commission recommends that Charter Section 816 be amended to provide for emergencies that may extend beyond a fiscal year end or over multiple years and to provide for a longer repayment period.





## Recommendation #8

Charter Section 907. Powers and Duties of the Personnel Board.

The Commission recommends that Charter Section 907 be amended to remove the term “Personnel Officer” and replace it with “Director of Human Resources Management.”



## Recommendation #9

### Charter Section 908. Right to Organize and Bargain Collectively.

The Commission recommends that Charter Section 908 be amended to include the term “in accordance with the parties collective bargaining agreement” and to delete the term “American Arbitration Association”.



## Recommendation #10

### Charter-wide Gender Neutral Language

The Commission recommends that the Charter be amended to provide for gender neutral language. This includes other terms which imply gender and make them gender neutral. The Commission recommends that any charter amendment legislation passed by the Council recognizes that the language should be gender neutral.



# Further Study

## Charter Section 305. Redistricting Procedure.

The Commission briefly discussed Charter Section 305 regarding redistricting procedure and was not able to deliberate on this provision due to the pending litigation and subsequent appeal. There were time constraints in meeting the final report deadline. The Commission suggests that the Council, as a body, may choose to review Charter Section 305 to determine whether the Council would like to take action regarding its provisions.

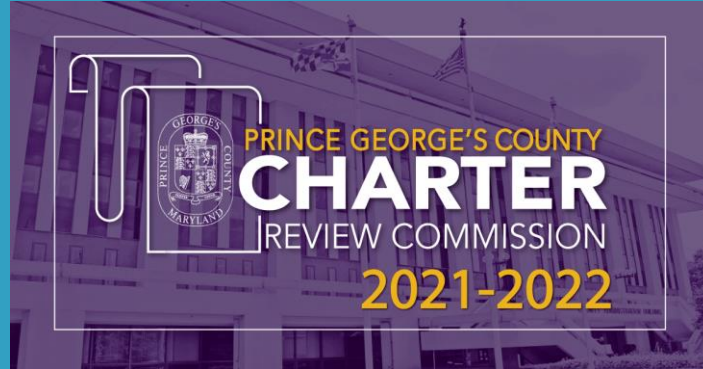


## Further Study

### Charter Section 309. Vacancies.

The Commission reviewed Charter Section 309 regarding vacancies of Council members. Upon the Commission's review, the Commission recommends for the Council to make any amendments to the County Code, Section 2-104 , as the amendments pertain to process and timelines.

# QUESTIONS?



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The Charter Review Commission looks forward to your acceptance of and concurrence with the Commission's charter amendment recommendations.