

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORT
2026 Legislative Session

Reference No.: Appt-9-2026
Draft No.: 1
Committee: Government Operations and Fiscal Policy
Date: February 26, 2026
Action: FAV

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable 4-0 (In favor Council Members Burroughs, Adams, Ivey, Oriadha)

The Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee met on February 26, 2026, to consider the nomination of Chanel Dickerson as Director of the Office of Community Relations.

The Office of Community Relations handles resident inquiries and concerns, assists in resolving community issues, and coordinates outreach and programs that strengthen relationships between the County and diverse communities. It also partners with community-based organizations, facilitates public engagement initiatives, and develops educational and support programs to improve the quality of life across the County.

Ms. LaJoia Cannon, Interim Appointment Liaison, County Executive's Office, provided information regarding Ms. Dickerson's educational and professional background. Ms. Cannon shared that Ms. Dickerson is being considered for the Director position in the Office of Community Relations. Ms. Dickerson brings more than 25 years of leadership in public service, community engagement, and executive management, including 34 years with the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department, where she retired as Assistant Chief overseeing youth and family programs and managing large-scale budgets and personnel. She also leads her own consulting firm, supporting nonprofit organizations and government agencies in community outreach, partnership building, and public education initiatives.

Ms. Cannon highlighted Ms. Dickerson's extensive experience working with residents, advocacy groups, and government leaders, noting that her skills in building trust, fostering collaboration, and leading diverse teams make her well-suited to advance the County Executive's vision for inclusive and responsive community engagement.

Ms. Dickerson addressed the Committee, expressing gratitude for her nomination as Director of the Office of Community Relations and sharing her deep commitment to community engagement. She highlighted her more than 30 years of public service, including serving as the first female three-star Assistant Chief of the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department, overseeing 1100 staff and a \$550 million budget, and leading programs focused on youth, families, mental health, and school safety.

She emphasized her results-driven leadership style, experience in building partnerships with schools, nonprofits, and government agencies, and her focus on equity, inclusion, and meaningful community impact. Ms. Dickerson concluded by reaffirming her dedication to serving Prince George's County residents with integrity, collaboration, and a vision for inclusive, community-centered engagement.

The Committee Members expressed strong support for Ms. Dickerson's appointment, thanking her for her willingness to serve and expressing confidence in her capacity to lead the Office of Community Relations effectively.

The Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee voted favorably 4-0 on the appointment of Ms. Chanel Dickerson as Director of the Office of Community Relations.