




THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT


Office of Audits and Investigations

May 4, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Todd M. Turner, Chair
Committee of the Whole (COW)

THRU: David H. Van Dyke, County Auditor 

FROM: Turkessa M. Green, Deputy County Auditor 

RE: People's Zoning Counsel -
Fiscal Year 2021 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 2021 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 2020 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 in the Planning Department's budget.
- 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.