

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2025 Legislative Session

Reference No.: APPOINTMENT DEPARTMENT OF
HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Draft No.: APPT-16-25

Committee: PLANNING, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Date: 11/06/2025

Action: FAVORABLE

REPORT: Committee Vote: Favorably 3-0 (In favor: Council Members Dernoga, Olson and Adams-Stafford)

The Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee met on Thursday, November 6, 2025, to consider the appointment of Mr. Jonathan R. Bulter to the position of Director of the Prince George's County Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD). Mr. Butler has served as Acting Director since July 2025. The appointment package was transmitted to the Council by County Executive Braveboy on September 22, 2025. The Public Hearing on the appointment is scheduled for November 18, 2025.

Ms. Danielle Hunter, Appointments Liaison, Office of the County Executive, introduced Mr. Bulter and provided biographical information on the nominee. Mr. Butler is a proven leader with a distinguished record of public service, operational excellence, and transformative management spanning over two decades across the Washington, D.C., metropolitan region. He most recently served as Director of the Prince George's County Office of Central Services. Mr. Butler holds academic credentials from Virginia State University (B.S.) and James Madison University (MBA) and has completed advanced real estate education at Cornell University. He serves on several regional boards and committees, including D.C. Water, the Capital Regional Supplier Development Council, and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, underscoring his regional perspective and deep commitment to public service collaboration.

Mr. Bulter provided remarks on his background and desire to serve as DHCD Director. He explained that his vision and experience align with the mission of creating and preserving affordable housing in Prince George's County. Throughout his career, he has worked across the full continuum spectrum of real estate management, spanning land use management, capital construction, property and lease management, and long-term asset stewardship, which has given him a practical and strategic understanding of how to move housing projects from concept to completion and enable growth over time. He also explained his vision for the Department of Housing & Community Development is to shape industry outcomes to create and preserve affordable housing.

The Committee members asked Mr. Butler questions about his ideas on housing policy, federal funds, and the department's needs.

Mr. Bulter explained that digitization of operations is needed, and that this is a goal for his managers, more staff, and resources.

Council Member Olson also asked that Mr. Butler listen to the Community Housing Trust Task's report. The community housing land trust program provides shared-equity homeownership opportunities for income-eligible families and preserves affordability in perpetuity.

Council Member Adams-Stafford asked Mr. Butler about increasing subsidized housing to support social housing and requested investigation into best practices used by other states. Council Member Adams-Stafford also asked Mr. Butler if he would sit in on the Accessory Housing Dwelling Units Task Force. Also, there was a discussion about adding retail to housing development projects.

Council Member Blegay requested that Mr. Butler examine how to implement the 2024 land banking legislation. There are over 3,000 abandoned properties that can be turned into affordable housing, addressing the missing middle. Council Member Olson stated that a land banking program would dovetail with the community housing land trust.

After the discussion, the PHED Committee voted 3-0 in favor of the appointment.