



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
Office of Audits and Investigations

July 11, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Robert J. Williams, Jr.  
Council Administrator

William M. Hunt  
Deputy Council Administrator

THRU: David H. Van Dyke *DHVD*  
County Auditor

FROM: Inez N. Claggett *INC*  
Senior Legislative Auditor

RE: Fiscal Impact Statement  
CB-040-2016 Charter Amendment

Pursuant to your request, we have reviewed CB-040-2016 to estimate its fiscal impact on Prince George's County, Maryland.

CB-040-2016 seeks approval to propose to the voters, at the County's General Election, an amendment to Section 301, 303, and 307A of the Charter of Prince George's County to provide for the election of two additional members to the County Council (the "Council), to provide for the additional members to be elected at-large, and to provide for the eligibility of At-Large Members of the Council.

As prescribed by Law, a County Council Member (the "Member") is elected at the same time as State Officers. At the time of their election, a Member shall reside in a different one of the nine Council Districts within Prince George's County. The Member shall be nominated and elected by the qualified voters of the Council district of which they reside.

The proposed Bill places the question of adoption of a proposed Charter amendment to change the composition of the Council to include nine Council District Members and two At-Large Members on the ballot of the County's General Election to be held on November 8, 2016. The proposed Bill provides for two At-Large Members to be nominated and elected by the qualified voters of the entire County. The Bill will allow a term limited Council Member, from one of the nine County Council Districts, to be nominated and elected to an at-large seat on the Council. At-Large Members will be term limited to no more than two consecutive terms as an At-Large Member.

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Enactment of CB-040-2016 will have an adverse fiscal impact on the County in the amount of \$1,144,112, per fiscal year, beginning in FY 2020. For FY 2019, the first year of potential impact, the costs will be prorated to \$830,987, as the At-Large Members would not be sworn into office until December 2018. Although the financial impact of the addition of two At-Large Members to the Council would involve additional costs, the economic and social benefits for County residents, coupled with the impact the Members may have on the advancement of Prince George's County within the region, could possibly contribute to significantly enhanced County revenues that may considerably offset the costs of adding the proposed two new At-Large Council Members.

If you require additional information, or have questions about this fiscal impact statement, please call me.