

Prince George's County Government Overview



Prince George's County Government is proud to offer some of the best services in the nation to its residents. An organization chart is provided to show you the various levels of County government.

The **Charter** of Prince George's County provides for a Council/Executive form of government; therefore, the County is composed of the Executive and Legislative branches. The Judicial Branch consists of the County's Circuit Court, the state District Court, the Court of Special Appeals and Court of Appeals.

The **Executive Branch** implements and enforces the laws of Prince George's County and provides executive direction to the government. Its chief executive officer is the **County Executive**. Over 30 executive branch departments and agencies help to deliver services to County residents. Libraries, Public Works and Transportation, and Police are just a few.

The **Legislative Branch** consists of the **County Council**.

The **Judicial Branch** is responsible for the resolution of all matters involving civil and criminal law in the County. The Circuit Court for Prince George's County is the trial Court of general jurisdiction that has full common law equity powers in all civil and criminal cases, along with additional powers and jurisdiction conferred by the Constitution. It is the only court in the County having the authority to conduct jury trials. Its jurisdiction is very broad and it handles major civil cases and more serious criminal cases. Additionally, there is the District Court of Maryland, the Court of Special Appeals, and the Court of Appeals.

For information about the **Prince George's County Public Schools**, please visit their **website**.

The Chief Executive Officer provides daily administration of the schools and the County Executive and County Council determine the schools' overall operating and capital budgets; however, the Chief Executive Officer and the Board of Education set the line-item distribution of the funds within the school system.

Prince George's Community College, the County's 2-year college, operates under the authority of the Board of Trustees. The College's overall budget is determined by the County Executive and the County Council, and is managed by the Trustees.

Four other agencies have budgets that are determined by the County government while retaining certain autonomy over their operations. They are:

- ✍ The **Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC)** is a bi-county agency which manages public parkland and provides land use planning with administration shared with Montgomery County.
- ✍ The **Washington Suburban Sanitation Commission (WSSC)** is also a bi-county agency, which provides water and sewer service to Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

- ✍ The Department of Housing & Community Development is the County's public housing authority.
- ✍ In addition, the County budget includes appropriations to participate in debt service and operating costs of the **Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA)**, which is overseen by the **Washington Suburban Transit Commissions (WSTC)**.