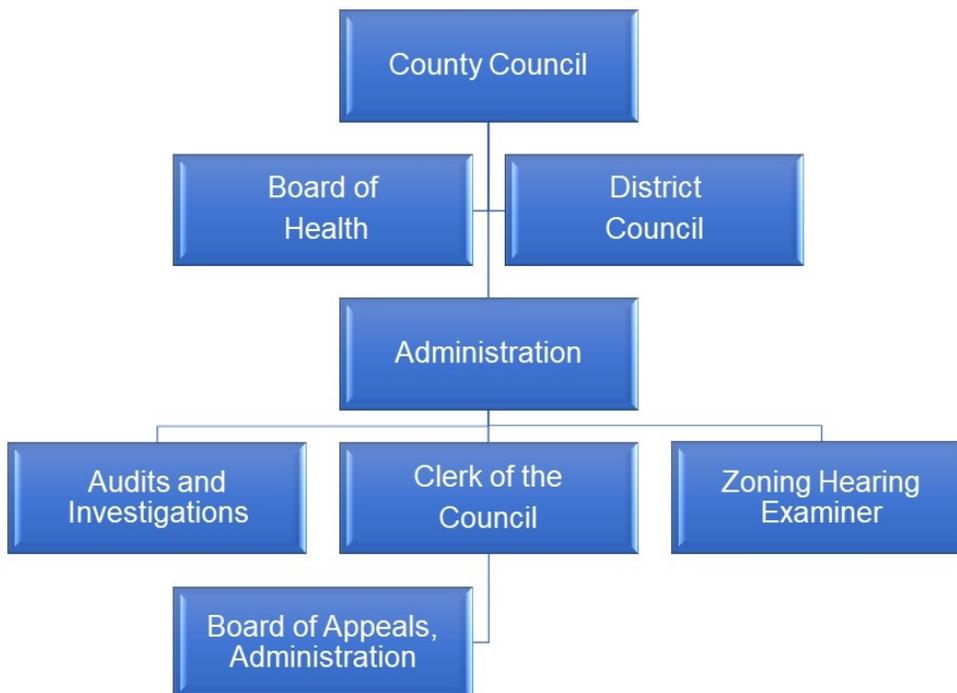


# Legislative Branch



## MISSION AND SERVICES

The Legislative Branch establishes laws, regulations, and policies that balance the diverse needs and interests of those individuals who live and work in Prince George’s County.

### CORE SERVICES

- Exercise legislative powers under the Maryland Constitution including those previously exercised by the General Assembly of Maryland but transferred to the people of the County by virtue of the adoption of the County Charter
- Evaluate the performance and effectiveness of County programs to assure citizen satisfaction
- Plan diverse, safe, and functional communities
- Encourage public participation in all governmental policy actions
- Exercise fiduciary responsibility to fund the best possible public health, safety, education, and government service programs at an affordable cost

## FY 2027 BUDGET SUMMARY

The FY 2027 proposed budget for the Legislative Branch is \$33,381,700, an increase of \$4,390,500 or 15.1% over the FY 2026 approved budget. The FY 2026 projected spending reflects additional funding from M-NCPPC to expand recreational programming for residents of the County.

### Expenditures by Fund Type

Fund Types	FY 2025 Actual		FY 2026 Budget		FY 2026 Estimate		FY 2027 Proposed	
	Amount	% Total						
General Fund	\$27,852,660	100.0%	\$28,991,200	100.0%	\$41,051,500	100.0%	\$33,381,700	100.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,852,660</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$28,991,200</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$41,051,500</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$33,381,700</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Reconciliation from Prior Year

	Expenditures
<b>FY 2026 Approved Budget</b>	<b>\$28,991,200</b>
<b>Increase Cost: Compensation - Mandated Salary Requirements</b> — Annualization of FY 2026 and planned FY 2027 salary adjustments and staffing changes within the Branch	\$2,750,200
<b>Increase Cost: Operating</b> — Increase in office supplies, equipment, and contracts to support operational needs	860,400
<b>Increase Cost: Fringe</b> — Increase in fringe benefit expenses to align with compensation costs	701,400
<b>Increase Cost: Technology Cost Allocation</b> — Increase in OIT charges based on anticipated countywide costs for technology	86,500
<b>Decrease Cost: Recovery Increase</b> — Increase in recoveries for the Non-Divisional division	(8,000)
<b>FY 2027 Proposed Budget</b>	<b>\$33,381,700</b>

### STAFF AND BUDGET RESOURCES

Authorized Positions	FY 2025 Budget	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Proposed	Change FY26-FY27
<b>General Fund</b>				
Full Time - Civilian	176	174	174	0
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0
Subtotal - FT	176	174	174	0
Part Time	13	15	15	0
Limited Term	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>				
Full Time - Civilian	176	174	174	0
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0
Subtotal - FT	176	174	174	0
Part Time	13	15	15	0
Limited Term	0	0	0	0

Positions By Classification	FY 2027		
	Full Time	Part Time	Limited Term
Accounting Technician	1	0	0
Administrative Aide	42	3	0
Administrative Assistant	31	0	0
Administrative Specialist	24	1	0
Administrator to County Council	1	0	0
Auditor	11	0	0
Budget Assistant	1	0	0
Chief Zoning Hearing Examiner	1	0	0
Citizens Services Intern	3	2	0
Citizens Services Specialist	26	6	0
Communications Specialist	3	0	0
Council Member	11	0	0
County Auditor	1	0	0
Deputy Administrator to County Council	1	0	0
Legislative Aide to Council Member	12	0	0
Principal Counsel to District Council	1	0	0
Public Service Aide	1	3	0
Systems Analyst	2	0	0
Zoning Hearing Examiner	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>

**Expenditures by Category - General Fund**

Category	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2026 Estimate	FY 2027 Proposed	Change FY26-FY27	
					Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
Compensation	\$16,753,827	\$17,312,400	\$17,312,400	\$20,062,600	\$2,750,200	15.9%
Fringe Benefits	5,117,616	4,890,800	4,890,800	5,592,200	701,400	14.3%
Operating	7,323,621	8,075,300	20,135,600	9,022,200	946,900	11.7%
Capital Outlay	—	29,400	29,400	29,400	—	0.0%
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>\$29,195,064</b>	<b>\$30,307,900</b>	<b>\$42,368,200</b>	<b>\$34,706,400</b>	<b>\$4,398,500</b>	<b>14.5%</b>
Recoveries	(1,342,404)	(1,316,700)	(1,316,700)	(1,324,700)	(8,000)	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,852,660</b>	<b>\$28,991,200</b>	<b>\$41,051,500</b>	<b>\$33,381,700</b>	<b>\$4,390,500</b>	<b>15.1%</b>

In FY 2027, compensation expenditures increase by 15.9% over the FY 2026 budget. Compensation costs include funding for 174 full time and 15 part time positions. Fringe benefit expenditures increase by 14.3% over the FY 2026 budget to align with compensation adjustments.

Operating expenditures increase by 11.7% over the FY 2026 budget due to an increase in countywide technology costs, equipment, and contracts to support operational needs.

Capital outlay expenses remained unchanged from FY 2026.

Recoveries increase 0.6% over the FY 2026 budget to reflect anticipated costs.

**Expenditures by Division - General Fund**

Category	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2026 Estimate	FY 2027 Proposed	Change FY26-FY27	
					Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
The County Council	\$3,635,419	\$4,620,100	\$4,620,400	\$5,330,000	\$709,900	15.4%
Council Administration	16,647,495	16,359,800	27,494,800	19,369,000	3,009,200	18.4%
Clerk to the Council	2,013,543	1,874,500	1,874,500	2,088,400	213,900	11.4%
Audits and Investigations	1,642,334	1,944,100	1,944,100	1,577,700	(366,400)	-18.8%
Zoning Hearing Examiner	862,390	948,900	948,900	1,041,600	92,700	9.8%
Non-Divisional	2,983,436	3,141,800	4,066,800	3,842,800	701,000	22.3%
Board of Appeals	68,043	102,000	102,000	132,200	30,200	29.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,852,660</b>	<b>\$28,991,200</b>	<b>\$41,051,500</b>	<b>\$33,381,700</b>	<b>\$4,390,500</b>	<b>15.1%</b>

**General Fund - Division Summary**

Category	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2026 Estimate	FY 2027 Proposed	Change FY26-FY27	
					Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
<b>The County Council</b>						
Compensation	\$1,543,330	\$1,625,700	\$1,625,700	\$2,311,000	\$685,300	42.2%
Fringe Benefits	386,561	481,200	481,200	505,900	24,700	5.1%
Operating	1,705,528	2,513,200	2,513,500	2,513,100	(100)	0.0%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>\$3,635,419</b>	<b>\$4,620,100</b>	<b>\$4,620,400</b>	<b>\$5,330,000</b>	<b>\$709,900</b>	<b>15.4%</b>
Recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>Total The County Council</b>	<b>\$3,635,419</b>	<b>\$4,620,100</b>	<b>\$4,620,400</b>	<b>\$5,330,000</b>	<b>\$709,900</b>	<b>15.4%</b>
<b>Council Administration</b>						
Compensation	\$12,162,151	\$12,527,500	\$12,527,500	\$14,612,200	\$2,084,700	16.6%
Fringe Benefits	3,715,897	3,474,500	3,474,500	4,198,700	724,200	20.8%
Operating	2,074,555	1,645,100	12,780,100	1,845,400	200,300	12.2%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>\$17,952,603</b>	<b>\$17,647,100</b>	<b>\$28,782,100</b>	<b>\$20,656,300</b>	<b>\$3,009,200</b>	<b>17.1%</b>
Recoveries	(1,305,108)	(1,287,300)	(1,287,300)	(1,287,300)	—	0.0%
<b>Total Council Administration</b>	<b>\$16,647,495</b>	<b>\$16,359,800</b>	<b>\$27,494,800</b>	<b>\$19,369,000</b>	<b>\$3,009,200</b>	<b>18.4%</b>
<b>Clerk to the Council</b>						
Compensation	\$1,347,243	\$1,161,000	\$1,161,000	\$1,334,700	\$173,700	15.0%
Fringe Benefits	469,091	343,600	343,600	388,300	44,700	13.0%
Operating	197,209	369,900	369,900	365,400	(4,500)	-1.2%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>\$2,013,543</b>	<b>\$1,874,500</b>	<b>\$1,874,500</b>	<b>\$2,088,400</b>	<b>\$213,900</b>	<b>11.4%</b>
Recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>Total Clerk to the Council</b>	<b>\$2,013,543</b>	<b>\$1,874,500</b>	<b>\$1,874,500</b>	<b>\$2,088,400</b>	<b>\$213,900</b>	<b>11.4%</b>
<b>Audits and Investigations</b>						
Compensation	\$1,050,665	\$1,278,200	\$1,278,200	\$1,001,900	\$(276,300)	-21.6%
Fringe Benefits	354,986	378,400	378,400	278,700	(99,700)	-26.3%
Operating	236,683	287,500	287,500	297,100	9,600	3.3%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>\$1,642,334</b>	<b>\$1,944,100</b>	<b>\$1,944,100</b>	<b>\$1,577,700</b>	<b>\$(366,400)</b>	<b>-18.8%</b>
Recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>Total Audits and Investigations</b>	<b>\$1,642,334</b>	<b>\$1,944,100</b>	<b>\$1,944,100</b>	<b>\$1,577,700</b>	<b>\$(366,400)</b>	<b>-18.8%</b>

## General Fund - Division Summary (continued)

Category	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2026 Estimate	FY 2027 Proposed	Change FY26-FY27	
					Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
<b>Zoning Hearing Examiner</b>						
Compensation	\$611,601	\$670,200	\$670,200	\$752,800	\$82,600	12.3%
Fringe Benefits	187,884	198,400	198,400	205,900	7,500	3.8%
Operating	62,905	80,300	80,300	82,900	2,600	3.2%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>\$862,390</b>	<b>\$948,900</b>	<b>\$948,900</b>	<b>\$1,041,600</b>	<b>\$92,700</b>	<b>9.8%</b>
Recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>Total Zoning Hearing Examiner</b>	<b>\$862,390</b>	<b>\$948,900</b>	<b>\$948,900</b>	<b>\$1,041,600</b>	<b>\$92,700</b>	<b>9.8%</b>
<b>Non-Divisional</b>						
Compensation	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	\$—	
Fringe Benefits	—	—	—	—	—	
Operating	3,020,732	3,141,800	4,066,800	3,850,800	709,000	22.6%
Capital Outlay	—	29,400	29,400	29,400	—	0.0%
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>\$3,020,732</b>	<b>\$3,171,200</b>	<b>\$4,096,200</b>	<b>\$3,880,200</b>	<b>\$709,000</b>	<b>22.4%</b>
Recoveries	(37,296)	(29,400)	(29,400)	(37,400)	(8,000)	27.2%
<b>Total Non-Divisional</b>	<b>\$2,983,436</b>	<b>\$3,141,800</b>	<b>\$4,066,800</b>	<b>\$3,842,800</b>	<b>\$701,000</b>	<b>22.3%</b>
<b>Board of Appeals</b>						
Compensation	\$38,837	\$49,800	\$49,800	\$50,000	\$200	0.4%
Fringe Benefits	3,197	14,700	14,700	14,700	—	0.0%
Operating	26,009	37,500	37,500	67,500	30,000	80.0%
Capital Outlay	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>\$68,043</b>	<b>\$102,000</b>	<b>\$102,000</b>	<b>\$132,200</b>	<b>\$30,200</b>	<b>29.6%</b>
Recoveries	—	—	—	—	—	
<b>Total Board of Appeals</b>	<b>\$68,043</b>	<b>\$102,000</b>	<b>\$102,000</b>	<b>\$132,200</b>	<b>\$30,200</b>	<b>29.6%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27,852,660</b>	<b>\$28,991,200</b>	<b>\$41,051,500</b>	<b>\$33,381,700</b>	<b>\$4,390,500</b>	<b>15.1%</b>

## DIVISION OVERVIEW

### The County Council

The County Council consists of eleven Council Members, nine Councilmanic District members, and two at-large members. The nine members are elected from one of each nine councilmanic districts in Prince George’s County, with the at-large being elected from the entire County; all members serve for a term of four years. The Chair, or in the Chair’s absence the Vice Chair, presides at all meetings. Members of the Council serve in three distinct capacities:

- County Council
- District Council
- Board of Health

Sitting as the County Council, the members consider all legislative and administrative matters, including bills amending County Code provisions, resolutions addressing County issues, budget matters, water and sewer plan amendments, and other administrative actions.

Sitting as the District Council, the Council exercises its planning, subdivision control, and zoning powers. This includes reviewing and adopting Master Plans and Sectional Map Amendments, rezonings, special exceptions, and requests for variances from the Zoning Ordinance. The District Council also considers requests for amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and requests

from municipalities for amendments to their local ordinances.

Sitting as the Board of Health, the Council considers health policies and procedures.

### Fiscal Summary

In FY 2027, the division expenditures increase by \$709,900 or 15.4% over the FY 2026 budget. Staffing resources remain unchanged from the FY 2026 budget. The primary budget change includes:

- An increase in compensation due to the annualization of FY 2026 and planned FY 2027 salary adjustments.

	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Proposed	Change FY26-FY27	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$4,620,100</b>	<b>\$5,330,000</b>	<b>\$709,900</b>	<b>15.4%</b>
<b>STAFFING</b>				
Full Time - Civilian	11	11	0	0.0%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
<b>Subtotal - FT</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

### Council Administration

The Council Administration provides staff direction and support for the Legislative Branch activities. This includes the research, drafting, and review of Council legislation, assuring its proper format, legal sufficiency, and Code compliance. Staff are assigned to the standing committees – Education and Workforce Development (EWD), Government Operations and Fiscal Policy (GOFP), Health, Human Services and Public Safety (HHSPS), Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED), Transportation/Infrastructure/Energy & Environment (TIEE), and the General Assembly (GA). The Council may also establish other special committees.

### Fiscal Summary

In FY 2027, the division expenditures increase by \$3,009,200 or 18.4% over the FY 2026 budget. Staffing resources increased by three over the FY 2026 approved budget due to positions being transferred from the

Audits and Investigations division to accurately reflect job classifications. The primary budget changes include:

- An increase in compensation costs and fringe costs to align with increased staffing levels.
- A net increase in operating costs due to the increase in OIT technology allocation charges, operating contracts, office supplies, and equipment.

	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Proposed	Change FY26-FY27	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$16,359,800</b>	<b>\$19,369,000</b>	<b>\$3,009,200</b>	<b>18.4%</b>
<b>STAFFING</b>				
Full Time - Civilian	131	134	3	2.3%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
<b>Subtotal - FT</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2.3%</b>
Part Time	15	15	0	0.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

### Clerk to the Council

The Clerk to the Council renders essential support services to the County Council in its capacities as the County’s legislative body, the District Council in planning and zoning matters, the Board of Health, and the Board of Appeals.

As required by Charter, the Clerk maintains the Journal of Legislation to ensure the efficient functioning of the legislative and zoning processes. Additionally, the Clerk’s Office makes available copies of legislation, resolutions, and other documents. Other functions of the office include responsibility for all legal advertising mandated for legislative and zoning matters.

### Fiscal Summary

In FY 2027, the division expenditures increase \$213,900 or 11.4% over the FY 2026 budget. Staffing resources increase by six full time positions. These positions were

transferred from the Audits and Investigations division to accurately reflect job classifications. The primary budget change includes:

- An increase in compensation costs and fringe costs to align with increased staffing levels.

	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Proposed	Change FY26-FY27	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$1,874,500</b>	<b>\$2,088,400</b>	<b>\$213,900</b>	<b>11.4%</b>
<b>STAFFING</b>				
Full Time - Civilian	9	15	6	66.7%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
<b>Subtotal - FT</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>66.7%</b>
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

### Audits and Investigations

The Office of Audits and Investigations conducts performance (operational) audits and financial audits of all County agencies that receive or disburse County funds. The Office also reviews accounts of an agency when its director terminates his/her position with the County or when the director transfers from one County position to another.

In addition, the Office of Audits and Investigations performs special reviews and audits as requested by the County Council, and specialized reviews, audits, and analysis of accounting and financial controls of County agencies and those doing business with the County. Within the Office of Audits and Investigations is the Office of Budget and Policy Analysis which performs County budget analysis, specialized financial and economic analysis, and research as to the possible fiscal impact of pending County legislation.

### Fiscal Summary

In FY 2027, the division expenditures decrease -\$366,400 or -18.8% under the FY 2026 budget. Staffing

resources decrease by nine due to the transfer to the Council Administration division and the Clerk to the Council division to accurately reflect job classifications. The primary budget changes include:

- A decrease in compensation costs to align with staffing changes.
- A decrease in fringe benefit costs to align with staffing changes.
- Operating expenses increase due to renegotiation of operating contracts.

	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Proposed	Change FY26-FY27	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$1,944,100</b>	<b>\$1,577,700</b>	<b>\$(366,400)</b>	<b>-18.8%</b>
<b>STAFFING</b>				
Full Time - Civilian	18	9	(9)	-50.0%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
<b>Subtotal - FT</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>(9)</b>	<b>-50.0%</b>
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

### Zoning Hearing Examiner

The Zoning Hearing Examiner division consists of attorneys who hold public hearings on applications for special exceptions or rezoning of a single parcel of land. Typically, applications are submitted to the Planning Board, which reviews them through its technical staff and, at its discretion, before the Planning Board itself.

The Chief Examiner then sets a date of hearing on each application and gives notice to all persons of record and in all newspapers of record. Notice is also posted on the property, and adjoining property owners are given written notice of the pending application. A copy of the application and the complete file are made available for inspection by the public before the hearing.

The public hearing is conducted according to procedural rules approved by the County Council. The hearing examiner is required to prepare a written decision and send a copy to all persons of record. This decision is based on the facts established at the hearing. Conclusions of law are determined and either a final decision, which may be appealed to the Council, or a recommended disposition is prepared for final Council

action. All final decisions of the Council may be appealed to the Circuit Court.

### Fiscal Summary

In FY 2027, the division expenditures increase \$92,700 or 9.8% over the FY 2026 budget. Staffing resources remain unchanged. The primary budget changes include:

- An increase in compensation costs and fringe costs to align with increased staffing levels.
- An increase in operating due to an increase in the technology allocation charge.

	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Proposed	Change FY26-FY27	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$948,900</b>	<b>\$1,041,600</b>	<b>\$92,700</b>	<b>9.8%</b>
<b>STAFFING</b>				
Full Time - Civilian	5	5	0	0.0%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
<b>Subtotal - FT</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

**Non-Divisional**

The Non-Divisional division provides funds for the independent audit of County finances as outlined in Article IV, Section 402 of the Prince George’s County Charter and other designated operating expenses.

A majority of the funding for operating expenses is earmarked for building improvements, which include renovations for Legislative Branch offices. The balance provides resources for general and administrative contracts.

**Fiscal Summary**

In FY 2027, the division expenditures increase \$701,000 or 22.3% over the FY 2026 approved budget. The primary budget changes include:

- An increase in operating costs due to the increase in contractual services.
- An increase in cost recovery for audit fees.

	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Proposed	Change FY26-FY27	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$3,141,800</b>	<b>\$3,842,800</b>	<b>\$701,000</b>	<b>22.3%</b>
<b>STAFFING</b>				
Full Time - Civilian	0	0	0	0.0%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
<b>Subtotal - FT</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

### Board of Appeals

The Board of Appeals consists of three members appointed by the County Council. All appeals relating to the respective jurisdictions of the Board of Administrative Appeals and the Board of Zoning Appeals are filed and heard separately.

The Board of Administrative Appeals hears appeals from the decisions of the Director of the Environment, the Fire Marshal, the Chief Housing Inspector, the Clean Lot Inspector, the Licensing Officer, the Chief Building Inspector, and the Director of the Department of Public Works and Transportation, as well as other similar administrative agencies. The typical types of appeals are denials of building permits and orders to install fire sprinklers, to remove litter, and to demolish unsafe structures.

As the Board of Zoning Appeals, the Board is empowered to grant a variance when property owners will suffer unusual hardships from or in strict interpretation of the Zoning Ordinance, review actions and decisions of the Zoning Enforcement Officer, grant extensions of the grace period for the correction or cessation of zoning violations, and review the determinations and decisions of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, the Department of the Environment, and other County departments and agencies relating to provisions of the Zoning Ordinance. Examples of types of

decisions are variances from setback requirements for construction of building additions, decks, and garages variances from maximum lot coverage requirements, and extension of grace periods to comply with citations for failure to obtain a Use and Occupancy permit.

### Fiscal Summary

In FY 2027, the division expenditures increase \$30,200 or 29.6% over the FY 2026 budget. The primary budget change includes:

- An increase in operating due to an increase in the technology allocation charge and operating contracts.

	FY 2026 Budget	FY 2027 Proposed	Change FY26-FY27	
			Amount (\$)	Percent (%)
<b>Total Budget</b>	<b>\$102,000</b>	<b>\$132,200</b>	<b>\$30,200</b>	<b>29.6%</b>
<b>STAFFING</b>				
Full Time - Civilian	0	0	0	0.0%
Full Time - Sworn	0	0	0	0.0%
<b>Subtotal - FT</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
Part Time	0	0	0	0.0%
Limited Term	0	0	0	0.0%

