

ARTICLE __
TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

701X01. Nature of This Article

The provisions of this Article relate to the transition from the commissioner form of government to the form of government provided by this Charter. Whenever the provisions of this Article are inconsistent with the previous provisions of this Charter, the provisions of this Article shall control.

702X02. Time Certain Articles Become Effective

Except as expressly provided in this Article, the provisions of this Charter shall become operative at noon on the date the first County Executive and County Council, elected pursuant to this Charter, take office, Tuesday, December 68, 20162026.

703X03. Election of First Executive

(a) In order to provide for the election of the first Executive in November 2026, Section 403 {Election}, Section 404 {Term of Office} and Section 405 {Qualifications} shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

(b) In order to provide for the election of the first members of the Council in November 2026, Section 204 {Election}, Section 205 {Qualifications} and Section 206 {Term of Office} shall take effect on January 1, 2025.

(a) The election of the first Executive shall be held on the date of the presidential election in November 2016. The date of the primary election to nominate the candidates of political parties shall be the date of the presidential primary held in 2016.

(b) The Executive elected under this section shall hold office for a term beginning at noon on the first Tuesday of December 2016 and ending at noon on the first Tuesday of December 2018, or until a successor is qualified.

(c) The provisions of Section 404 concerning the term of office for the Executive shall become effective at noon on the first Tuesday in December 2018.

(d) The Executive elected under the provisions of this section shall meet the qualifications for office provided in Section 405 of this Charter, which shall become effective on January 1, 2015.

(e) The term of office served by an Executive elected under this section does not count toward the term limitations established in Section 404 of this Charter.

704. Election of First Council

(a) The first Council shall consist of five members who shall be elected on the date of the congressional election held in November 2016. The date of the primary election to nominate the candidates of political parties shall be the date of the presidential primary held in 2016

(b) From each of the three Council Districts, the voters shall nominate and elect a council member who is a resident of the council district.

(c) The voters of the entire County shall nominate and elect two council members. Among the candidates so nominated, the two receiving the most votes shall be elected.

(d) No candidate may run for office simultaneously under the provisions of subsections (b) and (c) of this section.

(e) A council member elected under the provisions of this section shall hold office for a term beginning at noon on the first Tuesday in December 2016 and ending at noon on the first Tuesday in December 2018, or until a successor is qualified.

(f) The provisions of Section 206 concerning the term of office for council members shall become effective at noon on the first Tuesday in December 2018.

(g) A council member elected under the provisions of this section shall meet the qualifications for office provided in Section 205 of this Charter, which shall become effective on January 1, 2015.

(h) The term of office served by a council member elected under this section does not count toward the term limitations established in Section 205 of this Charter.

705. Establishment of Council Districts

(a) The Board of County Commissioners of Charles County shall appoint a commission to establish the boundaries of the three Council Districts provided in Section 704 of this Charter no later than January 15, 2015. By April 15, 2015, the commission shall present to the Board of County Commissioners a plan for Council Districts, together with a report explaining it. Within thirty days of receiving the plan of the commission, the Board of County Commissioners shall hold a public hearing on the plan. If within ninety days after submission of the plan no other legislation reestablishing the boundaries of the Council Districts has been enacted, the plan as submitted shall become law.

(b) The Board of County Commissioners shall comply with the requirements of Section 215(a) of this Charter regarding the appointment of commission membership.

(c) The council district established under this section shall comply with the requirements of Section 215(c) of this Charter.

(d) The prohibition in Section 215(d) of this Charter shall apply to this the establishment of Council Districts under this section.

706X04. Existing Laws

(a) The public local laws of the County and all rules, regulations, resolutions, and ordinances enacted by the County Commissioners in force on the Effective Date of the Charter shall continue in full force until repealed or amended. To the extent that any of the public local laws of the County or rules, regulations, resolutions, or ordinances, or any parts thereof, are inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter, they are repealed.

(b) The provisions of the Land Use Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as they relate to planning and zoning authority, stand adopted on the effective date of the Charter to the extent they are not repealed by the provisions of this Charter and shall remain in effect until repealed, amended, or superseded.

707X05. Reference in State Constitution and Laws to County Commissioners

All references in the Constitution and laws of the State of Maryland to the Charles ~~County Commissioners~~County Commissioners or to the Board of County Commissioners shall be construed, at the Effective Date of the Charter, to refer to the Council and/or the County Executive whenever the construction would be reasonable.

708X06. Existing Officers and Employees

All employees of the Government holding office at the Effective Date of the Charter shall continue to be employed at their existing compensation, subject, however, to the provisions of any relevant personnel policies, laws, rules, or regulations. Provisions relating to the qualifications for the appointed offices provided in this Charter shall become effective whenever vacancies occur in the appointed offices after the Effective Date of the Charter.

709X07. Existing Members of Boards and Commissions

The members of all boards and commissions holding office at the Effective Date of the Charter shall continue to hold the same office until completion of their terms of office, unless removed in accordance with the provisions of this Charter.

710X08. Office of County Commissioner Abolished

At the Effective Date of the Charter, the Office of County Commissioner shall cease to exist and all reference to the Office and the Board of County Commissioners in the Maryland Constitution or in any law, ordinance, rule, or regulation shall be construed to refer to the Office of Council Member or the Council and/or the Office of the County Executive or the County Executive whenever the construction would be reasonable.

711X09. Publication of Council Rules

Pursuant to Section 304(e) of this Charter, the Council shall adopt and publish its rules of legislative procedure on the County website within 90 days of the Charter's Effective Date.