

Section XXX Transition Commission for Planning and Growth Management.

- A. In advance of the Charter going into effect pursuant to section XXX, by September XX, 2025, the Charles County Board of Commissioners shall appoint a Transition Commission for the purposes of:
 - 1) evaluating the structure, performance, and effectiveness of the current Department of Planning and Growth Management or equivalent;
 - 2) selecting an independent consultant to evaluate the department; and
 - 3) providing recommendations to the elected Charles County Executive and Council as described in sections XXX and XXX.
- B. The transition Committee consists of [nine] members who shall consist of:
 - 1) one member of a Charles County-based business, commerce, or trade membership organization;
 - 2) one member of the Charles County Farm Bureau;
 - 3) a representative of homeowner associations, civic associations, residential property managers, or other organization that serves the interest of a number and variety of homeowner groups;
 - 4) a representative from a Charles County or Southern Maryland-based conservation organization;
 - 5) a resident from each of the four Council districts; and
 - 6) the Director of the Charles County Department of Planning and Growth Management or a designee within the Department;
- C. Once appointed, the Transition Commission's duties include:
 - 1) Participating in the selection of an independent consultant to review the department;
 - 2) Holding a minimum of four district-based public meetings that solicit community feedback and dialogue on the organization, operations, and performance of the department;
 - 3) Receiving, publishing, reviewing, and soliciting public feedback on the independent consultant's findings, which may include additional public meetings;
 - 4) Producing a formal public response to the consultant recommendations that may include majority views and additional recommendations if appropriate; and
 - 5) Presenting the package of recommendations and viewpoints to the Charles County Council as defined in section XXX.
- D. Once the Transition Commission is appointed and formed, the Charles County government shall solicit an independent consultant with expertise in planning, zoning, and permitting issues to review the Department of Planning and Growth Management for any recommendations that substantially improves their organization, mission-based

outcomes, and engagement with stakeholders and the public at large. Those recommendations may include a range of policies from comprehensive restructuring to changes to internal administrative processes and reporting.

Charles County government shall create a Request for Proposals of an appropriate budgetary amount to secure qualified proposals for the independent review. A subcommittee of the Transition Commission will participate in and provide recommendations for the selection of the qualified bidder as a part of the County's internal selection process. The Transition subcommittee shall include the Committee's representatives from the business or commerce organization, the Charles County Farm Bureau, the residential organization, the conservation organization, and the Department of Planning and Growth Management.

- E. The Transition Commission must complete the comprehensive report of the combined consultant and Commission recommendations by November 30, 2026. Once completed and made publicly available, the newly elected County Council shall hold a public meeting to receive, review, and discuss the recommendations with representatives of the Commission and the current acting or appointed department head or designee within 60 days after taking office pursuant to section XXX