

Office of the County Auditor
Auditor's Analysis

Council Resolution No. 97-2020

Introduced: June 1, 2020

Auditor: Rebecca Gold

Fiscal Impact:

There will be minimal fiscal impact of this legislation.

Historically, the County Auditor accompanied the Council Chair to the annual bond rating meetings with the three credit rating agencies. If the meetings are in New York City, the costs for the County Auditor to participate are approximately \$510.

According to the Baltimore Sun's Ad Options website, the cost¹ to publish the amendment announcement in the Howard County Times will be approximately \$340.

Purpose:

The purpose of Council Resolution 97-2020 is to amend Section 212 ("County Auditor") of the Howard County Charter to require that the County Auditor accompany the County Executive and Council Chair in discussions with bond rating agencies.

Other Comments:

Charter amendments must be approved by a two-thirds Council vote and are then submitted to the voters of Howard County for their adoption or rejection. Any amendment to the Charter must be published in at least one newspaper of general circulation within the County for five successive weeks prior to the election.

The next general election in Maryland is scheduled for Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

Detailed trip costs for one participant (total \$510):

Amtrak Accela round-trip ticket	\$250
Hotel	160
Meals	60
Ground transportation / Parking	40

¹ Source: <https://placeanad.baltimoresun.com/ad-options/?pub=howard-county-times&type=productpublication>
\$68 per publication x 5 weeks = \$340