



FREDERICK COUNTY COUNCIL

Local Government Fiscal and Policy Note

CONTACT INFORMATION AND GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Bill Number/Reference:	26-02
Bill Title:	Revised Animal Control definitions
Local Government Agency:	Finance Division
Prepared By:	Erin White and David Luckenbaugh
Title:	Director of Finance and Director of Animal Control
Phone Number:	301-600-1193; 301-600-3740
E-Mail Address:	ewhite@frederickcountymd.gov ; dluckenbaugh@frederickcountymd.gov
Due Date:	January 20, 2026
Date Submitted:	January 20, 2026

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Date:						
Please respond to the questions below. If you prefer to provide responses or additional information in a separate file or document, send the file or document in a separate e-mail to rcherney@frederickcountymd.gov with the bill number/reference in the subject line.						
1.	Describe the impact of this proposed legislation on your agency (operations, revenues, expenditures, etc). If there is no impact, <u>please explain why.</u>					
<p>This Bill amends §1-5 of the Frederick County Code by updating definitions for at large, potentially dangerous, and dangerous dogs; and alters pet licensing fees.</p> <p>The revised license fee structure is expected to have a minimal impact on overall County revenue. While there will be a slight reduction in a few licensing fees, this change will benefit our growing senior population who own pets. Additionally, the new structure provides incentives for pet owners to spay or neuter their animals by offering lower fees. This approach is anticipated to reduce the number of unwanted litters and, over time, could decrease the number of animals housed at Animal Control, resulting in long-term operational benefits.</p>						
2.	Please indicate whether the proposed legislation will affect small businesses in Frederick County, and if it will, please provide any information you may have which could be useful in determining the economic impact on small businesses.					
N/A – The proposed legislation should not have an impact on small businesses in Frederick County						
FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY – SHOW (DECREASE) IN PARENTHESES						
<u>REVENUES</u>						
3.	Analysis of estimated increase (or decrease) in government revenues. Please estimate below any anticipated increase (or decrease) in revenues resulting from this legislation. Please be aware of any delayed effective dates in the bill or other factors that may cause revenue increases/decreases to begin in later years.					
<u>Source</u>		<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>	<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>	<u>FY 2030</u>
TOTAL \$		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
		Please explain how the above estimated increase(s) or decrease(s) were arrived at, including any calculations and/or assumptions made. Please also explain any variation if the revenue increase(s)/decrease(s) are not constant.				
<p>The changes to licensing fees are anticipated to have a minimal impact on overall County revenues. While some license fees will decrease and others will increase, these adjustments are expected to largely offset one another. However, due to numerous variables, it is not possible to accurately calculate the exact annual financial impact at this time.</p> <p>*Note – During FY2025, a total of 2,565 licenses were issued for a total of \$20,672.50.</p>						

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<u>EXPENDITURES</u>						
4.	Analysis of estimated increase (or decrease) in government expenditures . Please estimate below any anticipated increase (or decrease) in expenditures resulting from this legislation. Please be aware of any delayed effective dates in the bill or other factors that may cause expenditure increases/decreases to begin in later years.					
<u>A. Salaries & Wages</u>		<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>	<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>	<u>FY 2030</u>
FTE Employees - _____ # of positions						
Fringe Benefits						
TOTAL (Salaries, wages & benefits)		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
		Please provide an explanation of the need for the number and type of any personnel listed above, including (1) what specific provision(s) of the bill necessitate additional staff; (2) what the duties of each type employee will be; and (3) why existing personnel cannot absorb the additional work. Please also certify the wage/salary rate and % fringe rate (if differing rates apply) for each personnel classification.				
<u>B. Other Operating Expenses</u>		<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>	<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>	<u>FY 2030</u>
Technical/Special Fees, Grants/Subsidies						
Communications-Phone, Postage						
Travel, Food, Auto, Fuel & Utilities						
Contractual Services						
Supplies						
Equipment-Replacement						
Equipment-Additional						
Land & Structures, Fixed Charges						
Other (Please Specify on Extra Page(s))						
TOTAL (Expenditures)		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
		On the next page, please provide brief descriptions/breakdowns of the above "Other Operating Expenses."				
		Please explain below any additional calculations or assumptions made in estimating the "Other Operating Expenses" that will help us to understand the amounts and timing of the expenses.				
The legislation should not impact County expenditures.						

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4. (cont'd)

C. Operating Expense Descriptions/Breakdowns

Please provide below a short description of the specific purpose of each expense listed under 4B. If any amount(s) listed under 4B represent(s) a total of multiple expenses, provide a breakdown of the fiscal 2025 amount with a short description of each expense (for example, if \$2,500 is listed for Communications – Phone, Postage, a statement such as “\$1,500 for cellphone charges for two new inspectors and \$1,000 for postage for mailings to permittees to notify them of changes to inspection requirements.”)

Fiscal 2026 Expenditures

Technical/Special Fees, Grants & Subsidies description/breakdown	\$
Communications – Phone, Postage description/breakdown	\$
Travel, Food, Auto Operations, Fuel & Utilities description/breakdown	\$
Contractual Services description/breakdown	\$
Supplies description/breakdown	\$
Equipment-Replacement description/breakdown	\$
Equipment-Additional description/breakdown	\$
Land & Structures, Fixed Charges description/breakdown	\$
Other (Please Specify) description/breakdown	\$

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ADDITIONAL POLICY IMPLICATIONS/CONCERNS

**Please submit BY E-MAIL to: Ragen Cherney, Legislative Director/Chief of Staff
Frederick County Council • E-Mail: RCherney@FrederickCountyMD.gov**