



OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

**Revised Work Plan &
Projected Budget**

November 1, 2023 – June 30, 2025

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INSPECTOR GENERAL

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Montgomery County Code Section 2-151(i) requires that the Inspector General direct activities of the Office of the Inspector General subject to a work plan for the Inspector General's 4-year term. This document updates the Work Plan submitted to the Council on October 29, 2021 and reflects the current priorities of the office.

MESSAGE FROM THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Since issuing the four-year work plan in October of 2021, we've successfully completed the majority of our stated engagements. This presents us an opportunity to reassess priorities and revise the work plan to meet current conditions. The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) provides the highest caliber of analysis and oversight, adding value to Montgomery County and increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of its publicly funded activities and programs. The breadth of our responsibilities is wide, and we remain steadfastly focused on increasing the complexity of our work while also serving as a responsive and trusted resource for the residents, employees, and stakeholders who contact us through our hotline. The OIG's authorities provide a plethora of opportunities for independent, reliable, and unbiased evaluation and assessment. It is critical that we are guided by a detailed work plan that furthers our strategic goals while providing informative oversight.

This revised work plan reflects our mission and values and is designed to be responsive to the emerging issues within county programs, agencies, and departments. The plan includes engagements already in progress and those we plan to initiate in upcoming years. Recent events have shown the importance of balancing planned, proactive work with our ability to engage in critical, time sensitive investigations. This plan strives to attain that balance. I continue to be immensely impressed by the women and men of this office whose agility, skills, and professionalism is unparalleled. I am honored to serve as the Inspector General and look forward to sharing the results of our work with this community.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Regina D. King", is positioned at the bottom right of the page.

MISSION

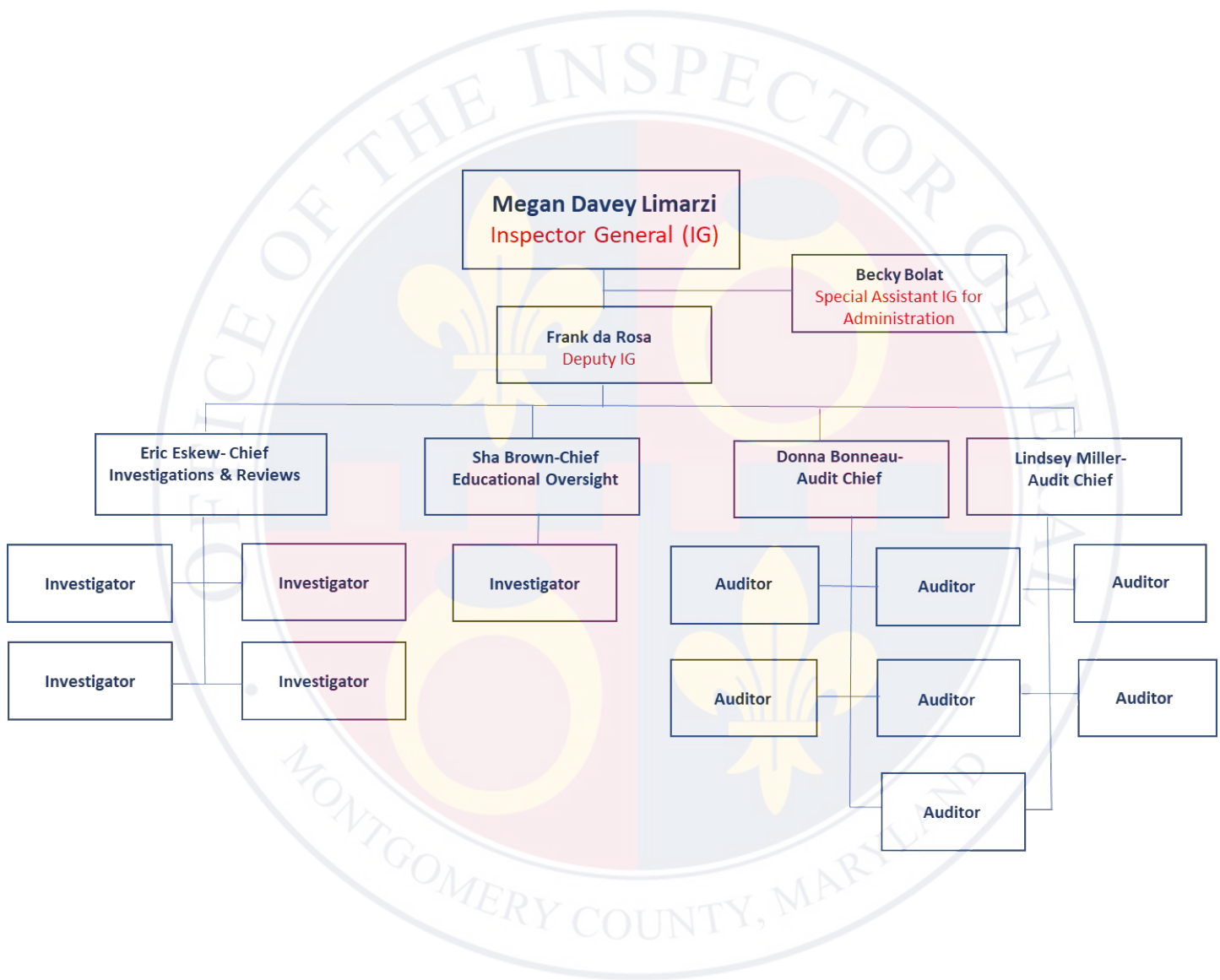
The mission of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is to promote the effectiveness and efficiency of the programs and operations of county government and independent county agencies; prevent and detect fraud; waste, and abuse in government activities; and propose ways to increase the legal, fiscal, and ethical accountability of county government and county-funded agencies.

VALUES



ORGANIZATION

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL



EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION

Provides direction and oversight to facilitate the office's day-to-day operations and long-range planning

INVESTIGATIONS & REVIEWS

Conducts reviews of publicly funded programs, responds to hotline inquiries, investigates allegations of fraud, waste and abuse

EDUCATION OVERSIGHT

Conducts reviews of programs and activities at Montgomery County Public Schools and the Board of Education, responds to hotline inquiries; investigates allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse

AUDIT DIVISION

Performs audits in accordance with government auditing standards in furtherance of the OIG's audit mandate

STRATEGIC GOALS

The OIG's overarching goal is to add value to the County. We add value through the work that we do; through our responsiveness to residents, employees, and stakeholders who contact us; and through our support and investment in our staff and community. The engagements we initiate, areas we focus upon, and distribution of our resources are all intended to enhance the ability of elected officials and county leaders to provide the highest quality services while exhibiting transparency and accountability.



Promote the efficiency and effectiveness of county funded programs and operations by providing timely and relevant oversight and analysis.



Deter and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in county government and county-funded agencies.



Engage in work that provides opportunities to enhance racial equity and social justice in Montgomery County.

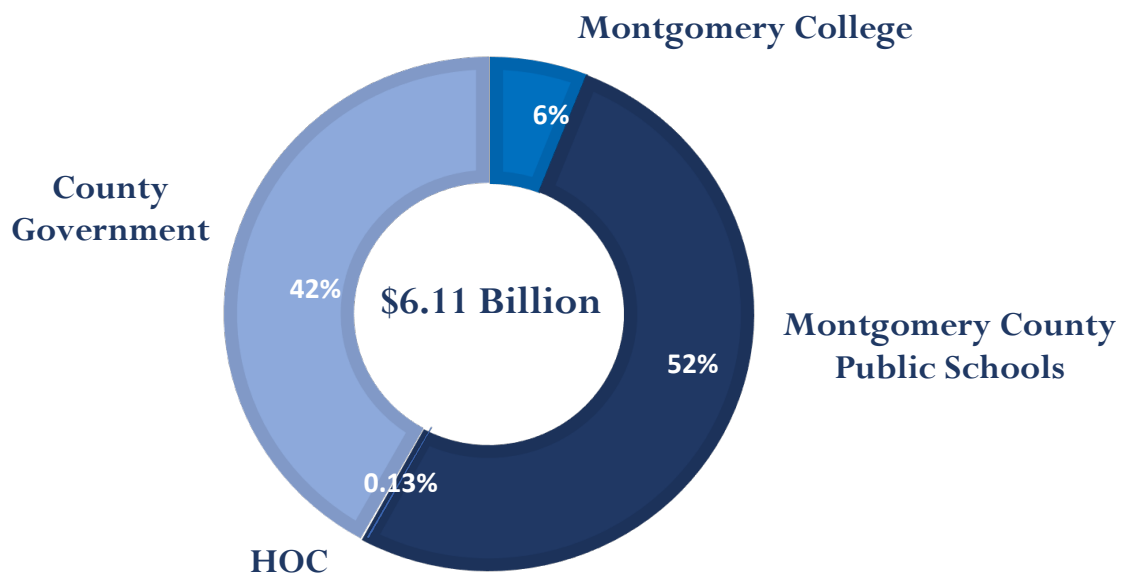


Support and cultivate a diverse, inclusive, and informed staff that are experts in their field.

OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES

The Office of the Inspector General conducts independent audits, reviews, and investigations; receives and investigates credible complaints; reports possible violations of the law to enforcement agencies; notifies the County Council, County Executive, and leaders of county-funded agencies of serious problems in programs; reviews legislation and regulations to strengthen controls and increase accountability; and submits reports with recommendations to appropriate officials. The inspector general's authority extends across the Executive Branch of county government, the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) and School Board, the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County, and Montgomery College; all of which have a combined operating budget of over \$6.11 billion and a capital improvements program budget of over \$14.06 billion.

OIG OVERSIGHT OF COUNTY OPERATING FUNDS IN FY24



REVISED WORK PLAN

NOVEMBER 2023 TO JUNE 2025

Montgomery County Code §2-151 requires the Inspector General submit to the County Executive and County Council a projected work plan for the entire four-year term. On October 29, 2021, the Inspector General issued a work plan outlining the specific engagements planned for FY 2022 through FY 2023 and anticipated engagements for FY 2024 and 2025.

The Revised Plan includes a more detailed listing of the OIG’s anticipated work in multiple county departments, agencies, and operational areas as well as Montgomery County Public Schools. All projects incorporate diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) considerations and offer an opportunity for staff to evolve and increase competency and skills.

These engagements are aligned with our strategic goals: performing proactive work that is relevant and enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of county programs and services; meeting our statutorily prescribed audit mandate; responding to hotline complaints; and performing outreach to deter and detect fraud, waste, and abuse.

AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS INCLUDED IN PROJECTED WORK PLAN

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

WORK PLAN ITEMS FY 2024 & FY 2025

STRATEGIC AREA	IN PROCESS	ANTICIPATED
Oversight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Police (Audit) • Department of Transportation (Audit) • MCPS's processes for handling complaints of employee misconduct (Review) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandated audits of principal departments including the Office of Human Resources, Public Information Office, Fire & Rescue Services • Review of Troubled Properties Program • Controls and procedures for collection of rental and use fees • Compliance with Police automated traffic enforcement contract
Promoting Fiscal Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short Term Rental Program Administration (Review) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of change orders in construction projects • Procurement practices at Montgomery County Public Schools • Administration of rebate programs
Effectuating Positive Change	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of implementation of equity legislation • Follow-up to previous findings regarding billing and reimbursements for healthcare services provided by DHHS
Fighting Fraud, Waste, and Abuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timely response to hotline complaints and allegations • Serve as resource to residents • Provide investigatory assistance to Ethics Commission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage in trainings and outreach opportunities

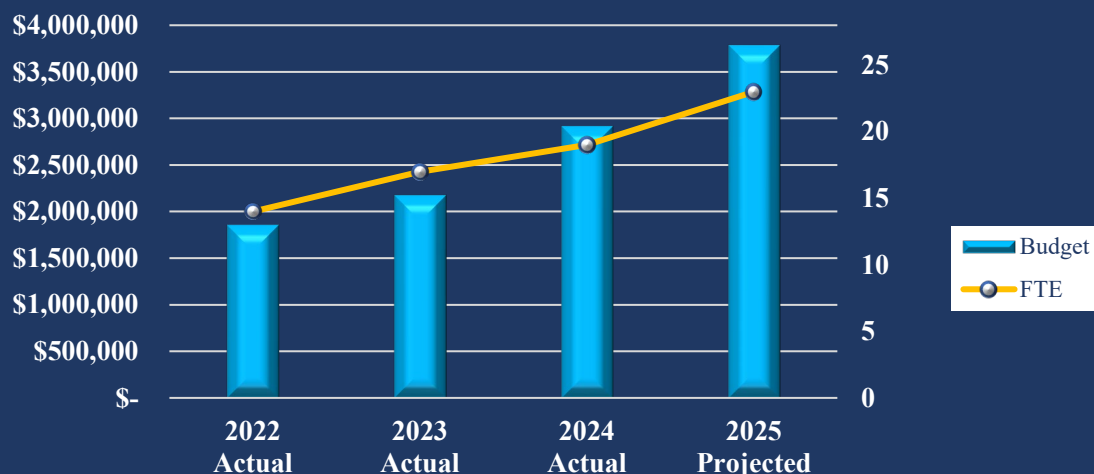
PROJECTED BUDGET

Our revised projected budget contemplates continued growth required to meet our mandate, respond to residents, and provide oversight of the county’s spending and programs. We continue to seek efficiencies and innovations to responsibly grow our office while attaining appropriate staffing levels.

This revised projected budget includes the addition of staff dedicated to MCPS oversight through our newly created educational oversight division. Furthermore, the budget continues to propose phased in increases in audit staff to complete required departmental audits within a reasonable and responsible frequency. These projections also phase in expenses related to training and development for new staff to meet professional standards.

We project modest budget increases over the next year to adequately meet our obligations. Most of the increase is directly tied to new employee salaries. We expect increases in funding will be offset by cost savings identified through our audits, investigations, and reviews.

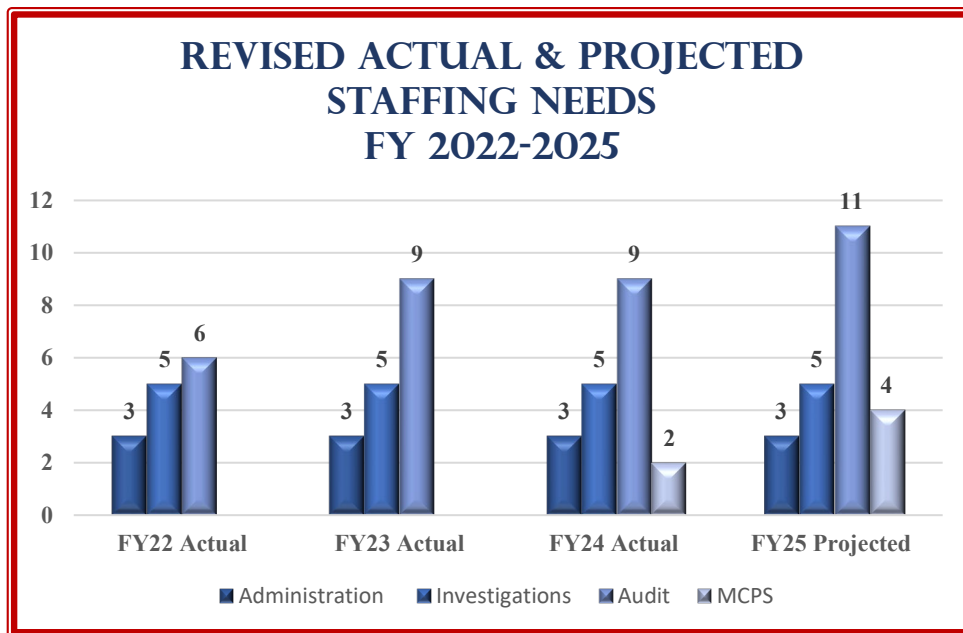
**REVISED ACTUAL & PROJECTED
BUDGET AND STAFFING INCREASES
FY 2022 - 2025**



PROJECTED STAFFING PLAN

The true strength of the OIG lies with its staff. Their efforts enable us to conduct audits, investigations, and reviews that add value to Montgomery County government and residents. In recognition of the value added by the OIG, in 2020 the County Council tasked us with creating an audit division to provide increased oversight and accountability by conducting systematic reviews of all 24 county departments and audits of high-risk county contracts and agreements. Based on our experience over the past three years, we project a need for 2 additional auditors in FY25. This proposal reflects a slower growth in staffing than previously projected based on county fiscal challenges and our own experience with recruiting and training skilled staff.

Additionally, in recent years the OIG has experienced a steady increase in the number of complaints received regarding MCPS operations. Our revised staffing plan includes 2 additional investigators which will allow us to conduct proactive engagements aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of MCPS operations while also completing timely investigations that will deter and root out fraud, waste, and abuse.



Suspect something isn't right?

If you witness activity that could be unethical, illegal, or wasteful in Montgomery County Government, contact the Office of the Inspector General.

YOUR IDENTITY IS PROTECTED!



SCAN, CALL, or EMAIL to file a report

240-777-7644 • IG@montgomerycountymd.gov

Learn more at montgomerycountymd.gov/oig



Office of the Inspector General