1. When will the Council select the next auditor?

A Selection Committee will evaluate and score the written proposal received in response to the Request RFP. The Council’s Audit Committee is scheduled to interview the three bidders with the highest scores from the written proposal review. The Audit Committee currently is scheduled to interview and rate the top three bidders in a closed session on the afternoon of Thursday, November 21, 2019. The top bidder will enter into contract negotiations and we anticipate the signing of a contract in the spring of 2020.

2. Were there any adjustments or management letter findings during last year’s audit?

The auditor issued a management letter for FY18. There were no adjustments made in the FY18 audit.

3. In regard to the Single Audit, is Montgomery County a low-risk auditee? Were there any compliance findings in the prior year?

The County Government was a low-risk auditee for the FY18 Single Audit. For the prior year (FY17), there were no compliance findings.

4. Are there any major changes to your federal award programs for this fiscal year? Will the funding levels remain the same?

There are no major changes to the County Government’s federal award programs for this fiscal year. There are no material changes in funding levels.

5. When will you be ready for planning for year-end field work?

Typically, Executive Branch staff meet with the auditors in May to plan for that year’s audit. The auditors perform a preliminary audit at the end of May or beginning of June and return for field work in early October.

6. Does a certified Minority-Owned Business need an MFD subcontractor?

No, a contractor that is a certified minority owned business does not need to meet the MFD subcontracting requirements detailed in Attachments B to the Request for Proposals.
7. How many hours did the prior year audit field work require?

The Office of Legislative Oversight does not have information on the number of hours spent by the auditor on the engagement. Because the Council’s audit contract is a firm-fixed-price contract, the invoices received do not indicate hours spent on the audit.

We do have estimated hours presented in proposals responding to the RFP issued by the County Council in 2015. Six firms quoted the following number of hours in their proposals:

- 2,765 hours
- 2,420 hours
- 2,750 hours
- 2,564 hours
- 2,425 hours

8. What was the prior year’s audit fee?

The audit fees for the FY18 audit work were:

- County Government financial statements audit (includes single audit) $221,220
- Retirement plans financial statements audit $40,010
- Retiree Health Benefits Trust Audit $28,000
- Montgomery County Union Employees Deferred Compensation Plan financial statements audit $16,630
- National Transit Database agreed-upon procedures $8,350
- 911 system audit $4,310
- Landfill agreed-upon procedures $2,860

Total $321,380

9. Why have you decided to go out for bid for audit services?

Council Resolution 16-326 (October 2, 2007) states that it is the Council’s policy “to select an independent auditor every four years….” The Council last issued an RFP for auditing services in 2015.

10. Can a firm submit a bid for only a portion of the work in the Scope of Services Work Statement in the RFP?

Proposals must be for all of the work listed in the Scope of Services Work Statement (pages 23-27) in the RFP. Nothing in the RFP, however, prohibits two or more firms from submitting a joint proposal to provide all services.