

Introduced by: Councilmember Smith

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

**RESOLUTION 2019-30
AUTHORIZING RETENTION OF SPECIALIZED LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING
CERTAIN LAND USE QUESTIONS**

WHEREAS, several major land use and ownership changes will be occurring within the City of Takoma Park over the next year, the most significant of which is the moving of Washington Adventist Hospital out of the community leaving parcels it currently owns largely vacant; and

WHEREAS, Washington Adventist University has expressed interest in owning or using the hospital parcels and, as a religious institution, questions have risen regarding the development review processes required for redevelopment of the parcels, the potential for use of the property without going through development review processes, and the extent to which the land will be subject to property tax; and

WHEREAS, several other properties in Takoma Park are being considered for redevelopment that also raise questions of institutional, nonprofit and/or religious use or ownership; and

WHEREAS, the Takoma Park Master Plan was adopted in 2000 and does not anticipate the impact of Washington Adventist Hospital's move from Takoma Park nor the need for additional schools, housing or other medical services for the people of Takoma Park; and

WHEREAS, legal advice on these matters may be able to be retained without triggering Council action if the services total less than \$5,000; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to retain such services expeditiously given the schedule of the move of the hospital.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND THAT the City Manager may retain legal services to provide advice to the City regarding development review, land use and property tax questions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if such services are likely to cost in excess of \$5,000, an Ordinance will be considered by Council regarding such services.

Adopted this 10th day of July, 2019

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk