

*introduced an ordinance proposing the change of boundaries as requested by the petition. The ordinance shall describe by a description of clearly ascertained boundary lines, by landmarks and other well-known terms consistent with the description of other areas included within the Regional District, the exact area proposed to be included in the change and briefly and accurately describing the conditions and circumstances applicable thereto.*

*(c) Notice and hearing for ordinance of annexation.—The ordinance may be adopted by a majority of the County Commissioners at a hearing, after public notice of such hearing has been given and published not fewer than four (4) times at not less than weekly intervals in a newspaper of general circulation in the area proposed to be annexed. The public notice shall briefly and accurately describe the proposed change and the conditions and circumstances applicable thereto. The public notice shall specify a time and place at which a public hearing will be held by the County Commissioners on the proposed ordinance. The hearing shall be set for not less than seven (7) days after the fourth publication of the notices and shall be held in the Court House at Upper Marlboro, Maryland.*

*(d) Enactment of ordinance.—Following the public hearing the County Commissioners may proceed to enact the ordinance in accordance with the usual requirements and practices applicable to its legislative enactments. The ordinance shall not become effective until at least forty-five (45) days following its final enactment.*

*(e) Petition for referendum.—At any time within the forty-five-day period following the final enactment of the ordinance, a number of persons equal to not less than twenty per centum (20%) of the persons who reside in the area and who are owners of not less than twenty per centum (20%) of the assessed valuation of the real property located in the area to be included or annexed, and who are registered as voters in county elections, may in writing petition the Chairman of the County Commissioners of Prince George's County for a referendum on the ordinance. Upon the presentation of a petition to the said Chairman, he shall cause to be made a verification of the signatures thereon and shall ascertain that the persons signing the petition represent at least twenty per centum (20%) of the persons who reside in the area to be annexed and are the owners of not less than twenty per centum (20%) of the assessed valuation of the real property located in the area to be annexed, and are registered voters in county elections. Upon verifying that the requirements of this subsection have been complied with, the Chairman of the County Commissioners shall suspend the effectiveness of the ordinance contingent upon the results of the referendum.*

*(f) Notice and hearing for referendum.—The Chairman of the County Commissioners of Prince George's County shall set a date for the referendum on the ordinance which shall be not less than fifteen (15) days and not more than ninety (90) days from the publication of notices therefor. Such notices shall be published twice at not less than weekly intervals in a newspaper or newspapers of general circulation in the area to be annexed. The notices shall specify the time and place or places at which the referendum will*