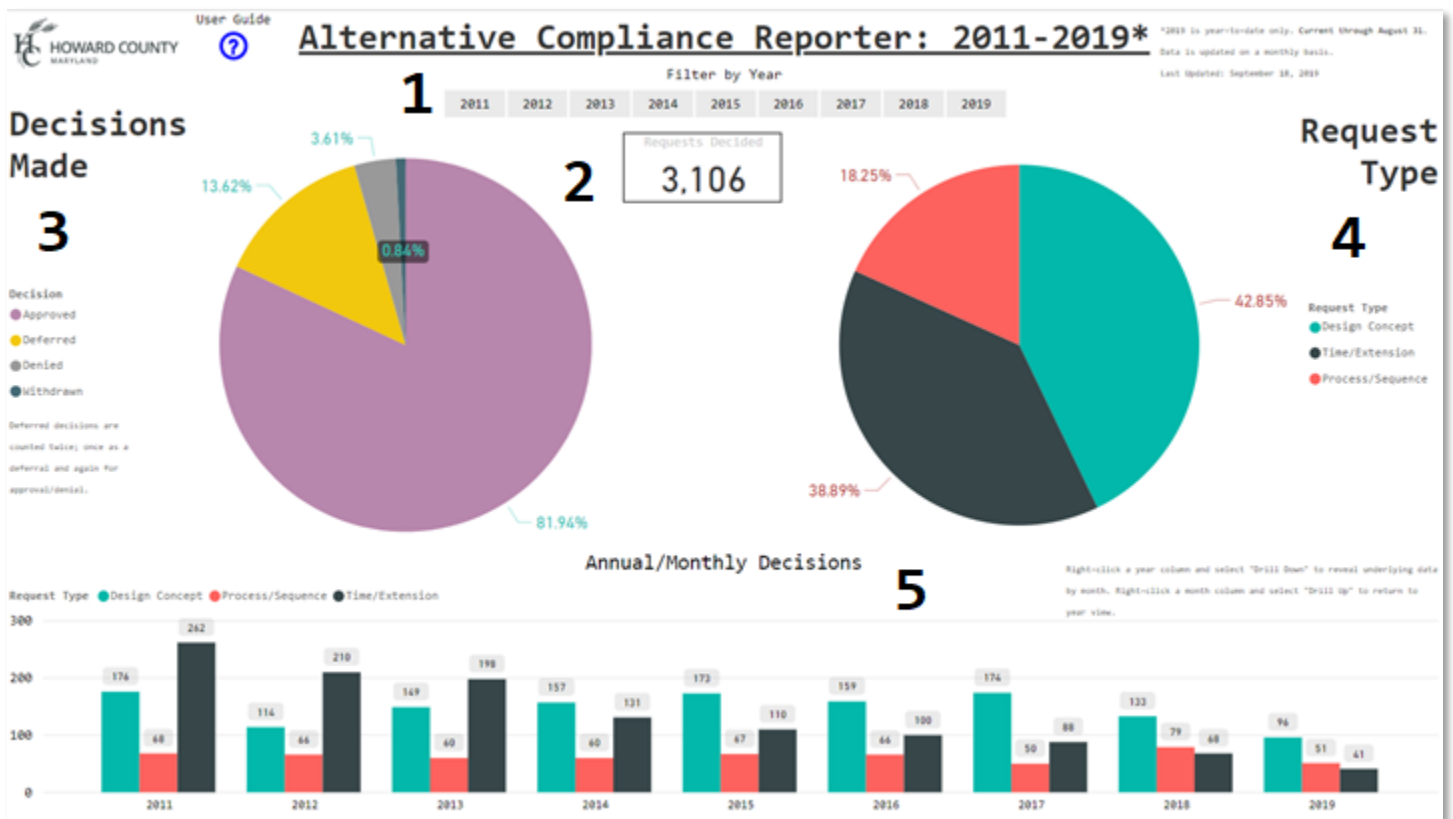


Introduction

The *Alternative Compliance Reporter* is an interactive tool designed to make the Department of Planning & Zoning's (DPZ) *alternative compliance* (AC) data more transparent and accessible to the public. *Alternative Compliance* decisions are tracked by month and year, *alternative compliance* type, and decision type. The interactive Reporter allows users to customize and see the data in chart form. Customizing is done through selective filters and the data automatically adjusts.

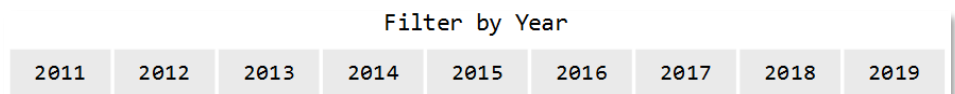
Additional information about the *alternative compliance* process is available on the DPZ website at <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Planning-and-Zoning/Land-Development/Alternative-Compliance>.

Overview of Key Components (items 1 – 5)



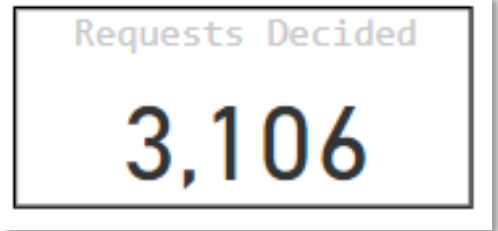
1- Filter by Year

When filtering by year, the report will display data for all selected components only for the chosen year. To select multiple years, press Ctrl and click the desired years. To deactivate the filter simply re-click the selected year(s).



2- Requests Decided

This shows the number of all individual *alternative compliance* requests with a final decision. Many applications include more than one alternative compliance request; therefore, several decisions can occur with a single application. The default view, when no filters are selected, shows request totals from 2011 to the most recent month. When filters are applied, as described in this guide, that number will change.



3- Decisions Made

Requests for *alternative compliance* are decided in one of four ways and the pie chart displays them by percent:

- *Approved* decisions mean the requested AC has been granted. However, approvals often come with conditions that an applicant must meet. Once approved, plan submissions can move forward and all conditions of approval by DPZ must be met.

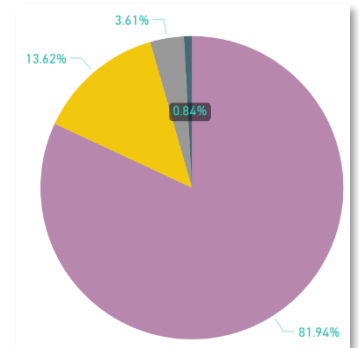


- *Deferred* indicates that more information is needed before a final decision can be made. As such, deferred requests are counted twice—once as the original request and again, once the supplemental information is received, as a final decision.

- *Denied* decisions mean that DPZ has rejected the AC request. This can be either an outright denial or a denial with conditions, where prospects for approval could increase if additional information were submitted or if plans were modified.

- *Withdrawn* decisions mean that the applicant has removed the request from consideration.

The pie chart displays the percent of decisions by type made for AC requests. They can be filtered using combinations of the “Filter by Year” buttons, selection of “Request Types”, and by selecting features or legend items from the Annual/Monthly graph displaying ACs chronologically.



4- Request Type

The pie chart displays the percent of AC requests being made by type, which fall into three categories:

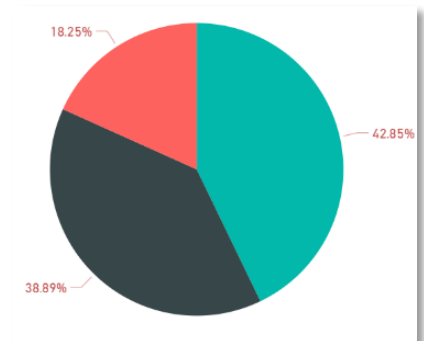
- *Process/Sequence* (requirements related to the timing and order of plan submissions and supporting information)



- *Design Concept* (built and environmental features affected by the plan, related to site layout and design, construction, and development setbacks)

- *Extension/Time* (extending, but not waiving due dates for submissions, permits, actions, and fees)

Selecting features from the “Request Type” pie chart, or its legend, will subsequently filter the other items in the report.



5- Annual/Monthly Decisions

This bar chart plots AC decisions by year or month, depending on the selection. To see monthly data, right-click one of the year columns and select “Drill-Down”. This will display by-month data for the selected year. To return to the data by years view, simply right-click again and select “Drill-Up”.

This chart can be filtered using the features and legends of other charts, as well as the “Filter by Year” buttons. Conversely, clicking on any of the individual points, representing a specific month and year combination, will result in filtering the other charts and the “Requests Decided” counter.

Data is displayed per-year and month but divided by Request Type, as shown in the legend.

Additional Information

- To remove a filter, simply re-click the selected button, feature, or legend item that is currently active. Additionally, users can select a separate feature or item to switch filters.
- Holding “Ctrl” when selecting allows users to select and combine multiple features and items.
- Hovering the mouse over a feature within any of the three graphs will reveal a pop-up window with additional information

