

The Budget Calendar

Except as noted, public hearings, legislative sessions and work sessions will be held in the Banneker Room; Work Sessions that begin in the morning will be continued at 1:00 p.m. on the same day, if needed.

- **Tuesday, April 1**
Capital Budget Due
- **Wednesday, April 9, 7:00 p.m.**
Public Hearing - Capital Budget
~~Recreation & Parks~~
Community Renewal (housing)
Agricultural Preservation
Public Works
General County
Sewer
Water
Storm Drainage
Transportation
Bridges
Road Resurfacing
Road Construction
Sidewalk/curb
Intersection Improvements
- **Wednesday, April 16, 8:30 a.m.**
Work Session - Capital Budget
(DPZ and DPW Only)
- **Monday, April 21**
Operating Budget Due
- **Monday, April 21, 7:00 p.m.**
County Executive's presentation of the budget.

• ~~**Wednesday, April 23, 9:30 a.m.**
Work Session - Capital Budget (All except
DPZ, DPW, Education, Public Safety and
Corrections)~~

• **Monday, April 28, 4:30 p.m. or**
Immediately following Legislative
Work Session.
Public Hearing, (Operating for All Agencies
& Capital Budget,).
Education
HCC
Libraries
Public Safety
Corrections

• **Tuesday, April 29, 4:30 p.m.**
Public Hearing, Continuation
(if needed)

• **Wednesday, April 30, 8:30 a.m.**
Work Session - Revenues and fees;
Operating & Capital Budgets
Public Safety (Police, Fire) and
Corrections; **HELD IN C.V.G. ROOM**

• **Friday, May 2, 8:30 a.m.**
Work Session - Operating & Capital Budgets
Legislative and Judicial; State's Attorney;
Orphans Court; Board of Elections

• **Friday, May 2, 9:00 a.m.**
Work Session - Operating & Capital Budgets
Board of Education
HCC
Libraries

• **Monday May 5, 7:00 p.m.**
Constant Yield Hearing

• **Monday, May 5, 7:30 p.m.**
Legislative Session
Introduce budget related legislation

• **Wednesday, May 7, 9:30 a.m.**
Work Session - Operating Budget
Public Facilities (DILP, DPZ, Soil
Conservation and DPW)

• **Friday, May 9, 9:30 a.m.**
Work Session - Operating Budget
Community Services; & CAPITAL
BUDGET RECREATION & PARKS

• **Tuesday, May 13, 8:30 a.m.**
Work Session - Funds; Operating
Budget; General Government

• **Wednesday, May 14, 8:30 a.m.**
Work Session - (if needed)

• **Wednesday, May, 14, 11:00 a.m.**
Public Hearing - General Budget

• **Wednesday, May 14, 1:00 p.m.**
Work Session Continuation - (if needed)

• **Friday, May 16, 8:30 a.m.**
Work Session - (if needed)
Pending issues

• **Monday, May 19, 7:30 p.m.**
Legislative Public Hearing
including budget related legislation

• **Wednesday, May 21, 2:00 p.m.**
Legislative Session
Adopt Budget



The
Howard County
Budget

How
YOU
Can Participate

Fiscal Year 2015

The Howard County Council

Calvin Ball, Chairperson
Courtney Watson, Vice Chairperson
Greg Fox, Member
Mary Kay Sigaty, Member
Jennifer Terrasa, Member

The Budget Process

Each year the Planning Board reviews the proposed capital program and any new or substantially changed capital project, pursuant to law. The proposed capital program for the following fiscal year is submitted to the Planning Board at least two months before the County Executive is required to file the County's proposed capital budget.

The Board prepares comments and recommendations regarding the impact of the proposed capital program on the County's General Plan and the growth of the County. Within one month of receiving the proposed program, the Board submits these comments and recommendations to the County Executive with a copy to the County Council.

The County Executive submits the proposed capital and operating budgets for Howard County's public agencies to the County Council for review and approval. The Council may approve the budgets as submitted or make reductions. The Council may not increase the Executive's budgets, but may restore any amount to the Board of Education Budget that was not included by the Executive.

The Council reviews both the capital and operating budgets for each County agency. These include all departments

directly under the Executive, Howard Community College, the Board of Education, the Library and certain State departments that receive partial funding, such as the departments of Health and Social Services.

The capital budgets include all building and long-term construction projects and programs planned for the next fiscal year and for the ensuing nine years. Capital projects are funded from bond sales, State and Federal grants, or occasionally, from the operating budget. Water and sewer projects are funded primarily from user fees.

The operating budgets include each department's proposed programs and services for the next fiscal year and their cost. The Council determines the amount of money each agency will be permitted to spend for the next year and sets the tax rate based on the total approved County budget.

We Listen...

The Council schedules a number of public hearings to receive testimony on each department's capital and operating budgets. You may testify in person at a public hearing, submit written testimony,

or e-mail or fax testimony to the Council at any time during the budget process.

If you choose to speak at public hearings, here are a few helpful tips:

- Acquaint yourself with the part of the budget you are addressing; (Copies of the budget are available at the Council Office, the Department of County Administration, County Library, and on the County's website: www.howardcountymd.gov)
- Sign up to testify before the hearing;
- Testimony is limited to three minutes for an individual and five minutes for a group; and
- Do not be nervous - the Council wants to hear your concerns, questions, opinions, support or opposition with regard to the budget.

Following the hearings, the Council holds work sessions with department heads and staff. While work sessions are open to the public, the public does not have an opportunity to speak. Budget decisions may be made at work sessions but final determinations are not made until the Council adopts the entire County budget in legislative session before June 1.

F.Y.I.

- Public hearings and legislative sessions are generally held in the: Banneker Room
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive,
Ellicott City.
- Work sessions are generally held in the: C. Vernon Gray Conference Room
George Howard Building.
3430 Court House Drive,
Ellicott City.
- Written testimony may be mailed, e-mailed or faxed to:
Sheila Tolliver
Administrator
Howard County Council
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
Fax: 410-313-3297
E-mail:
councilmail@howardcountymd.gov
- For additional information, call 410-313-2001 or visit the Council's web site at: <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov>
- Persons needing accommodations to fully participate in a meeting, please contact the Council Office, 410-313-2001, at least eight working days in advance.