



# Howard County Council

George Howard Building  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

## COUNCILMEMBERS

Deb Jung, Chair  
District 4  
Liz Walsh, Vice Chair  
District 1  
Opel Jones  
District 2  
Christiana Rigby  
District 3  
David Yungmann  
District 5

### Minutes - Approved

#### Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Hybrid Meeting (Virtual and In-Person Meeting)

Video Streamed on <https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/watch-us>  
9:30 a.m.

Chair Jung opened the meeting at 9:38 a.m.

**Members present:** Deb Jung, Chair; Liz Walsh, Vice Chair; Christiana Rigby; and David Yungmann.

**Staff present:** Michelle Harrod, Council Administrator; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor; Amanda Mihill, Assistant County Solicitor; Isaiah Anderson, Executive Assistant I; Trish Hammond, Administrative Aide; Lisa Geerman, Acting County Auditor; Theo Wimberly, Administrative Manager; Ervens Jean-Pierre, Legislative Analyst; Owen Kahn, Legislative Analyst.

### **Agenda:**

#### **1. Howard County Domestic Violence Fatality Review**

Representatives from the Police Department, Sheriff's Department, State's Attorney, and Hopeworks of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team provided Council an overview of their work. The Team discussed the process for developing their 2023 report and the four recommendations.

The Team responded to questions from the Council about the recommendations, specifically: funding within the Court system to create new positions; the State's Attorney's role in domestic violence cases; various agencies interaction with the Court system; the process the County and Hopeworks use to handle domestic abuse cases; police officers training for domestic abuse cases; regulations regarding firearm ownership in various jurisdictions; the necessity of creating a position to coordinate with the Court system; potential legislative changes at the State level; the process for protective orders and related ownership of a firearm; and the nature of systemic failures in the process in a specific case in Howard County.

Chair Jung discussed ways to support implementing the Team's recommendations.

## **2. Update from Social Services**

The Department of Social Services gave an update on the services provided by the Department and presented data on various programs and efforts. The Department responded to questions from the Council on the SNAP and Summer Bucks programs; details of the free and reduced price lunch program; how Howard County defines community schools; the Temporary Cash Assistance program and its benefits; barrier and issues impeding the effectiveness of the TCA program; Project Literacy; the Department's role in providing medical assistance; public perceptions of Child Protective Services; the current programs and services for children's services; the number of foster families in the County; the status of family preservation; substance exposed newborn cases; the workforce shortages in child support administration; details about unpaid child support; and the ongoing staffing challenges at the Department.

## **3. Department of Planning and Zoning Update (30 minutes)**

### **a. Affordable Housing**

### **b. APFO Next Steps**

The Department of Planning and Zoning gave an overview of Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance efforts including the timeline for convening the Housing Affordability Working Group and the APFO Committee. There was a general discussion about the workload for Housing Affordability Working Group members, the timeline for developing the recommendations, and work related to comprehensive rezoning. The Department responded to questions from the Council on the workload and schedule for APFO Committee members and plans for incentivizing affordable housing beyond zoning.

## **4. Reports (30 minutes)**

### **a. MACo/NACo**

Ms. Rigby updated the Council on upcoming MACo/NACo meetings, conferences, and activities, including the NACo conference in Tampa.

### **b. Chairperson**

Chair Jung updated the Council on her activities as Chair, including a trip to Atlanta to study the Atlanta Beltline.

### **c. Council Administrator**

Ms. Harrod updated the Council on administrative efforts, including finalizing the Policies and Procedures and the work of the Boards Office in alcohol license renewals.

**d. County Auditor**

Ms. Geerman gave an update on the work of the Auditor's office.

Chair Jung closed the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

Persons needing accommodations to fully participate in the meeting, please contact the Council Office, 410-313-2001 or email [CouncilADA@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:CouncilADA@howardcountymd.gov)

Legislative Monthly Meeting - Participants  
Tuesday, July 9, 2024

**Howard County Domestic Violence Fatality**

Devora W. Kirschner, Co-Chair  
Sgt. Jason Morrill, Co-Chair  
Gregory Der, Police Chief  
Lt. Brian Baer, Sheriff's Office  
Richard Gibson, State's Attorney  
William Tucker  
Ngozi Obineme, Executive Director, Hopeworks  
Jordan Baker, Deputy Administrator, Hopeworks

**Social Services**

Geneva Rieu  
Kim McCreary  
Lidivette Batista  
Tung Do  
Robyn Adams

**DPZ Update**

Lynda Eisenberg  
Mary Kendall  
Jessica Bellah