

County Council Budget Calendar Fiscal Year 2026

The Howard County Council welcomes your participation in the budget process for Fiscal Year 2026. The schedule below lists the public meetings at which the Council will consider the County Executive's proposed budget. Meetings will be held at the George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City. Public hearings, legislative sessions and work sessions will be held in the Bancker Room. The final agenda order of each meeting will be posted on the Council website prior to the meeting.

April 2025

Capital Budget due to Council - April 1

Monday, April 21, 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

Work Session #1- Capital Budget

- Capital Improvement Program
- Police
- Fire and Rescue
- Agricultural Preservation
- Water
- Sewer
- General County
- General County - Technology

Monday, April 21, 6:00 pm

County Executive's Budget Presentation to the County Council

Wednesday, April 23, 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

Work Session #2 - Capital Budget

- Recreation & Parks
- Storm Drainage
- Road Construction
- Road Resurfacing
- Bridges Program
- Sidewalk/Curb
- Traffic/Intersection

Wednesday, April 23, 6:00 pm Public Hearing - Capital Budget

- Education
 - Board of Education (HCPSS)
 - Library System (HCLS)
 - Howard Community College (HCC)

- County Government
 - Agricultural Preservation
 - Bridges Program
 - Fire and Rescue
 - General County
 - Police
 - Recreation and Parks
 - Road Resurfacing
 - Road Construction
 - Sewer
 - Sidewalk/Curb
 - Storm Drainage
 - Traffic/Intersection
 - Water

Operating Budget due to Council - April 21

Thursday, April 24, 2:00 pm

Profile Deadline for Budget Legislation

Monday, April 28, 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

Work Session #3- Capital Budget -*Priority Projects*

Wednesday, April 30, 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm

Public Hearing – Operating Budget

- Education
 - Board of Education (HCPSS)
 - Howard Community College (HCC)
 - Library System (HCLS)

May 2025

Monday, May 5, 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

Work Session #1- Capital and Operating

- Revenues Overview
- Board of Education (HCPSS)
- Library System (HCLS)
- Howard Community College (HCC)

Monday, May 5, 7:00 pm – Legislative Session - Introduction of Budget Legislation

Wednesday, May 7, 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

Work Session #2- Operating Budget, including revenue, fees, and funds specific to each department:

- Circuit Court
- Police
- Fire and Rescue
- Corrections
- Planning & Zoning
- Public Works
- General Services
- Inspections, Licenses, and Permits
- Soil Conservation

Thursday, May 8, 9:30 am Public Hearing - Capital and Operating Budget – and continuation if needed

Monday, May 12, 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

Work Session #3- Operating Budget, including revenue, fees, and funds specific to each department:

- Recreation & Parks
- Community Resources & Services
- Transportation
- Health
- Social Services
- University of Maryland Extension
- Community Service Partnerships
- County Council
- State's Attorney
- Sheriff's Office
- Board of Elections

Monday, May 12, 7:00 pm

Public Hearing - Operating Budget

- All departments *except* Board of Education, Howard Community College and Library System

Wednesday, May 14, 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

Work Session #4- Operating Budget

- County Executive
- County Administration
- Inspector General
- Finance
- Office of Law
- Economic Development Authority
- Technology & Communication
- Housing & Community Development
- Debt Services
- Pay-Go Funds
- Non-Departmental Expenses
- Contingency Reserves
- Pending issues - Capital and Operating

Thursday, May 15, 12:00 pm

Budget Amendment Prefile

Friday, May 16, 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

Work Session #5- Capital and Operating Budget Finalization

- Budget Amendments

Monday, May 19, 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

Work Session #6- Operating Budget (if needed)

Wednesday, May 21, 12:00 pm

Legislative Session – Adoption of Budget Bills