Howard County Council

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

Minutes - Approved

County Executive FY2026 Proposed Budget
Presentation to the County Council
Monday, April 21, 2025
Hybrid Meeting (In-Person and WebEx)
Video Streamed on https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/watch-us
6:00 p.m

Chair Walsh called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

Council Members Present: Liz Walsh, Opel Jones, Deb Jung, Christiana Rigby.
Council Members Absent: David Yungmann.

Council Staff Present: Michelle Harrod, Council Administrator; Isaiah Anderson, Executive Assistant; Virginia Gambrell, Administrative Support; Nick Rinehart, Legislative Analyst; Amanda Mihill, Office of Law; Christopher Ashman, County Auditor.

County Executive FY2026 Proposed Budget Presentation

Chair Walsh introduced the County Executive, Dr. Calvin Ball, to present the proposed Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget.

Dr. Ball gave a presentation to the Council on the proposed Operating Budget. Highlights included a proposed $2.3 billion operating budget, with $100 million in spending cuts proposed, an extra $5 million for Fire Department capital projects, $4.6 million to support Police Department staffing and operating costs, and $10.7 million towards homeownership and homelessness prevention programs.

In addition, Dr. Ball highlighted that the proposed budget includes $39 million of new dollars going towards the Howard County School System, with an overall $800 million going to schools, or $39.3 million above the legal requirement.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Visit the Council's website (http://cc.howardcountymd.gov) to view legislation, send written testimony, and sign-up electronically to testify at public hearings.

Persons needing accommodations to fully participate in the meeting, please contact the Council Office, 410-313-2001.