

Council Resolution 185-2025 Fiscal Analysis

Introduced: October 6, 2025

Fiscal Manager: Yusef Ibrahim

Legislative Intent: CR185-2025 authorizes the County Executive to grant a permanent right-of-way and easement to AT&T Enterprises, LLC to relocate existing communication systems (fiber line) on Lot 58, Plat 5561, currently owned by Howard County and improved with the Brampton Hills Pond stormwater facility at 4715 Widdup Court, Ellicott City, Maryland.

ANALYSIS

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact of CR185-2025 is limited and project-specific, with no long-term financial obligations anticipated for the County.

The resolution facilitates the relocation of an existing AT&T fiber line currently located within the embankment and outfall area of Brampton Hills Pond at 4715 Widdup Court, Ellicott City, MD, to a new easement area on Lot 58, Plat 5561. This relocation is required by the Maryland Department of the Environment's Dam Safety Program as part of [Capital Project D-1177](#) (Previously project D-1158 in capital budget), which funds stormwater improvements and dam removal at the site.

Although AT&T will cover the costs of installing the new fiber line and future maintenance, the County will incur approximately \$68,350 in costs related to the relocation as part of the broader capital project. These costs are associated with facilitating the relocation and are absorbed within the existing project budget. The easement plat and description were prepared internally by the Department of Public Works Survey Division, minimizing additional administrative expenses.

The County is not receiving compensation from AT&T for the new easement. This is due to AT&T's prior rights under an existing easement recorded in 1940 (Liber 167, Folio 74), which predates the County's acquisition of the property in 1983. As such, the relocation is necessary to complete the County's infrastructure improvements, and an appraisal of the easement area was not conducted.

There are no anticipated ongoing fiscal impacts beyond the project-specific costs already budgeted under Capital Project D-1177.

Budget Implications:

There is no new funding required for this legislation. The costs associated with the easement and fiber line relocation are absorbed within Capital Project D-1177, which covers the broader Brampton Hills Pond improvement project. Specifically, \$68,350 in project-related expenses will be paid using funds from Capital Project D-1177¹(Stormwater Management Facility Reconstruction).

¹ Page 189 of the FY26 HC Capital Budget

Other Notes:

There is an outstanding request to the Administration regarding clarifying what phase of the relocation will be covered by the County, we have not received a response to date.