

County Council Budget Calendar

Fiscal Year 2027

The Howard County Council welcomes your participation in the budget process for Fiscal Year 2027. 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 Banneker Room. The final agenda order of each meeting will be posted on the Council website prior to the meeting.

April 2026

Capital Budget due to Council - April 1

Monday, April 13, 6:00pm

Public Hearing - Capital Budget

- Education
 - Board of Education (HCPSS)
 - Howard Community College
 - Howard County Library System
- General County
 - Police
 - Fire and Rescue
 - Agricultural Preservation
 - Water
 - Sewer
 - Storm Drainage
 - Bridges Program
 - Recreation & Parks
 - Road Construction
 - Road Resurfacing
 - Sidewalk/Curb
 - Traffic/Intersection

Wednesday, April 15, 10:00am to 4:30pm

Work Session #1 - Capital Budget

- Police
- Fire and Rescue
- Agricultural Preservation
- Water
- Sewer
- Storm Drainage
- Bridges Program

Monday, April 20, 6:15pm

County Executive's Budget Presentation to the County Council

Operating Budget due to Council - April 21

Wednesday, April 22, 10:00am to 4:30pm

Work Session #2 - Capital Budget

- Recreation & Parks
- Road Construction
- Road Resurfacing
- Sidewalk/Curb
- Traffic/Intersection
- General County

Thursday, April 23, 2:00pm

Profile Deadline for Budget Legislation

Monday, April 27, 6:00pm

Public Hearing - Operating Budget

- Education
- Legislative/Judicial/IG
- Public Safety
- Public Facilities
- Community Services
- General Government
- Non-Departmental Expenses

Wednesday, April 29, 10:00am to 4:30pm

Work Session #1 – Operating, including revenue, fees, and funds specific to each department (Edu. Operating and Capital)

- Revenues Overview
- Education (Operating and Capital)
 - Board of Education (HCPSS)
 - Howard Community College
 - Howard County Library System
- Legislative/Judicial/IG
 - County Council / Auditor
 - Inspector General
 - Circuit Court
 - State's Attorney
 - Sheriff's Office
 - Board of Elections

May 2026

Monday, May 4, 7:00pm
Legislative Session - Introduction of Budget Legislation

Tuesday, May 5, 10:00am to 4:30pm
Work Session #2 - Operating Budget, including revenue, fees, and funds specific to each department

- Public Safety
 - Police
 - Fire and Rescue
 - Corrections
- Public Facilities
 - Planning & Zoning
 - Public Works
 - Department of General Services
 - Inspections, Licenses, and Permits
 - Soil Conservation District
- Community Services
 - Recreation & Parks
 - Transportation
 - Health
 - Social Services

Thursday, May 7, 9:30am
Public Hearing - Capital and Operating Budget (and continuation if needed)

Monday, May 11, 10:00am to 4:30pm
Work Session #3 - Operating Budget, including revenue, fees, and funds specific to each department

- Community Services
 - Community Resources & Services
 - University of Maryland Extension
 - Community Service Partnerships
- General Government
 - County Executive
 - County Administration
 - Finance
 - Office of Law
 - Economic Development Authority

- Technology & Communication
- Housing & Community Development
- Non-Departmental Expenses
 - Debt Services
 - Pay-Go Funds
 - Other Non-Departmental Expenses
 - Contingency Reserves
- Pending issues - Capital and Operating

Thursday, May 14, 12:00pm
Budget Amendment Profile

Friday, May 15, 10:00am to 2:30pm
Work Session #4 - Capital and Operating Budget Finalization

- Pending Issues
- Budget Amendments

Monday, May 18, 6:00pm
Real Property Tax Hearing, if needed, followed by Legislative Public Hearing

Wednesday, May 20, 12:00pm
Legislative Session – Adoption of Budget Bills