



# Howard County Council

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

## COUNCILMEMBERS

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

## Minutes-Approved

### Capital Budget Work Session #1

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Hybrid Meeting (Virtual and In-Person Meeting)

Video Streamed at [cc.howardcountymd.gov/watch-us](http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/watch-us)

10:00 a.m.

Chair Jones opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

**Council members present:** Chair Opel Jones, Vice-Chair Christiana Rigby, Council Member Deb Jung, Council Member Liz Walsh, and Council Member David Yungmann.

**Staff present:** Michelle Harrod, Administrator to the County Council; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor; Amanda Mihill, Office of Law; Theo Wimberly, Administrative Manager; Yusef Ibrahim, Deputy Council Administrator; Jim Almon, Legislative Analyst; Nick Rinehart, Legislative Analyst; Owen Kahn, Fiscal Manager; Melinda Massey, Fiscal Manager; Isaiah Anderson, Executive Assistant; and Virginia Gambrell, Administrative Aide.

**Administration staff:** Noted below.

### *Agenda*

#### **Police (P Projects)**

The Police Department discussed the current progress on their capital projects. The Department responded to questions from the Council on the timeline of construction for those capital projects, potential locations for a new central police station, and the lease of Police office space in the Oracle Building.

#### **Fire (F Projects)**

The Fire Department gave an overview their capital budget projects. The Department representatives responded to questions from the Council regarding Project F5976 - Fire Station 15 (HCPSS Office Site). The Department expects construction to commence in FY27 and for the building to be operational in FY28. There was also a discussion on the stability of the Fire Tax and Fire Fund. Council Members asked about the capacity of water tanks, response times, the useful life of fire stations, and rural fire protection. There was general discussion on a possible

“Medic Only” site in the western portion of the County and if any properties would meet the requirements to build such a site.

#### **Agricultural preservation (G Projects)**

The Department of Planning and Zoning provided the Council with an overview of the County’s Agricultural Land Preservation program including the purchase of agricultural easements and funding to complete the purchase of the Harrison Property. The Council asked questions regarding an Agricultural Preservation Workgroup to investigate ways to expand the County’s Agricultural Preservation Program in the eastern portion of the County. The Department responded that the Workgroup is still being established and would attempt to provide a report to the Council by the end of the calendar year 2026.

#### **Sewer (S Projects) and Water (W Projects)**

The Department of Public Works presented their capital program for water and sewer projects. The Department responded to questions from the Council on the Department’s efforts to inform people about the existence of lead pipes in their homes, the status of discussion with the Howard County Public School System on a potential site of the Clarksville Water Tower on school system property. The Department also stated that that a new Water and Sewer Master Plan is anticipated to be complete by the end of calendar year 2026 and that the proposed plan will include projects timelines out to the year 2050. Councilmembers also asked about the progress of the Longfellow Water Main Replacement Project (W8336), flow equalization, the procurement process for projects, and the progress of various interceptor improvements.

#### **Strom Drainage (D Projects)**

The Department of Public Works presented their storm drainage capital projects to the Council. The Department then responded to Council questions regarding stream maintenance, storm water management, and proactive water improvements. There was a general discussion about public and private management of stormwater ponds and whether private parties needed County assistance in maintaining their stormwater ponds. Councilmembers asked for a breakdown of the costs by Council District for the various capital projects, progress on the Ceder Lane Park Stream Restoration Project, and how the Department monitors the sustainability of infrastructure. There was also discussion regarding the State of Maryland NPDES Permits requirements and the County’s “Green Streets” program.

#### **Bridges Program (B Projects)**

The Department of Public Works presented their capital projects and responded to questions from the Council on bridge and retaining wall inspections.

Chair Jones adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

***Council requested follow up:***

- *How much is the lease for the Police office space in the Oracle Building?*
- *What is the useful life of a fire station?*
- *What is the status of legislation in the General Assembly that restores transfer tax revenue to Program Open Space?*
- *Please provide the website link for constituents to access information about Lead and Copper Compliance. Also, please provide a copy of the letter that was mailed to constituents.*
- *What is the progress on project S6284 – FY2013 Deep Run Shallow Run Interceptor Improvements?*
- *Please provide information relating to the progress on project D1177 Stormwater Management Facility Reconstruction. Including input from the community.*
- *Share any Maryland Department of the Environment report regarding the efficacy of NPDES Permits effect on the Chesapeake Bay.*
- *Please provide information relating to the progress at Ceder Lane Park on project D1176 Watershed Management Construction*

**4/15/2026 CIP Work Session Attendee List:**

**Budget**

Holly Sun  
Brook Mamo

**DPW**

Yosef Kebede  
John Seefried  
Susan Voyce

**Finance**

Rafiu Ighile  
Angie Price  
John Vu

**Executive Team**

Brandee Ganz  
Raul Delorme  
Brian Shepter  
Angela Cabellon

**Police projects**

Chief Gregory Der  
Gary McLhinney  
Major Terrance Benn  
Major Jayson Janowich  
Sean Hollywood

**General Services (Police)**

Samantha Cobb  
Zach Hollenbeck  
Emily Iacchei

**Fire projects**

Chief Louis Winston  
Deputy Chief Gordon Wallace

Assistant Chief Pat LePore

**General Services (Fire)**

Samantha Cobb  
Tae Jung  
Zach Hollenbeck  
Emily Iacchei

**Agricultural Preservation**

Lynda Eisenberg  
Joy Levy  
Brian Shepter  
Mary Kendall

**Water & Sewer**

Daniel Davis  
Zack Knight  
Craig Daly  
Abiola Akin-Ajayi

**Storm Drainage**

Abdul Akbari  
Daniel Davis  
Kris Jagarapu  
Seifu Hailu  
Mark Deluca  
Mark Richmond

**Bridge**

Abdul Akbari  
Daniel Davis  
Prasoon Shrestha

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)