



HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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August 25, 2026

The Honorable Senator Clarence Lam
Chair
Howard County Senate Delegation
Senate Office Building
Annapolis Maryland 21401

Re: Report required by State Government Article 14 § 20-142(i), Public Local Laws
of Howard County (MSAR # 12061)

Dear Chair Lam:

I am writing to submit Howard County's annual report on the Public School Facilities Surcharge to the Howard County Senate Delegation and Howard County House Delegation.

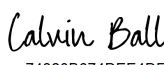
Effective July 1, 2004 Howard County began collecting the Public School Facilities Surcharge on all new residential construction. The Maryland General Assembly, during its 2019 legislative session, enabled Howard County to alter the school facilities surcharge in accordance with Chapter 744 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2019.

A summary of the information included in the report is as follows:

- I. The amount and kind of residential development and the change in school population in the county over the previous five years;
- II. A detailed description of how fees were expended;
- III. The amount of fees collected;
- IV. Recommendations regarding how the County should proceed in its calculation of the school facilities surcharge for the next five years;
- V. In a year that the County Council enacts a local law to provide for an annual increase in the school facilities surcharge in accordance with subsection (c)(2) of this section, the County executive shall include in the report required under paragraph (1) of this subsection a description of the County Council's consideration of the issues under subsection (c)(4) of this section.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Calvin Ball
County Executive

Attachments

cc. Brandee Ganz, Chief Administrative Officer, Howard County
Rafiu Ighile, Director of Finance, Howard County
Holly Sun, Budget Administrator, Howard County
Howard County Council

- I. The amount and kind of residential development and the change in school population in the county over the previous five years.

The table below provides a breakdown of residential development by unit type over the previous five-year period. Over the last five years, there has been an annual average of approximately 970 new housing units built in the county. Approximately 32 percent of the units are single family detached, 30 percent are single family attached (or townhouse), and 38 percent are apartments (including rental and condominium).

Unit Type	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Unit Type Total
Single Family Detached	455	341	266	245	199	1,506
Single Family Attached	455	179	336	361	138	1,469
Apartment	889	112	193	285	379	1,858
Yearly Total	1,799	632	795	891	716	4,833
Source: Department of Inspections Licenses and Permits						

The table below provides school enrollment data by school level for the past five completed academic school years. Overall, Howard County Public School System enrollment decreased slightly during this five-year period.

School Level	SY21-22	SY22-23	SY23-24	SY24-25	SY25-26	% change (25-26/21-22)
Pre-K	1,318	1,448	1,519	1,532	1,415	7.36%
Elementary	24,329	24,575	24,468	24,270	23,868	-1.89%
Middle	13,292	13,161	13,129	13,251	13,163	-0.97%
High	18,187	18,280	18,254	18,270	18,342	0.85%
Cedar Lane/Homewood	199	212	263	242	243	22.11%
Total	57,325	57,676	57,633	57,565	57,031	-0.51%
Source: Howard County Public School System September 30 Official Enrollment Reports, https://www.hcpss.org/schools/enrollment-reports/						

II. A detailed description of how fees were expended.

Please see Schedules A & B attached, which detail how the fees were expended since the law's inception.

III. The amount of fees collected.

Please see Schedule C attached for the amount of fees collected since the law's inception.

IV. Recommendations regarding how the County should proceed in its calculation of the school facilities surcharge for the next five years.

Howard County Council Bill 42-2019 established a multi-year surcharge rate structure, which includes CPI adjustments after FY2022. Since this multi-year structure encompasses the next five years, no additional recommendations are necessary at this time.

- V. In a year that the County Council enacts a local law to provide for an annual increase in the school facilities surcharge, the County Executive shall include in the report a description of the County Council's consideration of the issues.

In Fiscal Year 2026, the County Council did not enact any local law pertaining to the school facilities surcharge.

Howard County, Maryland
Capital Budget Appropriations
School Surcharge Funded Bonds

	FY 2005	FY 2006	Transfer during FY 2006	FY 2007	Transfer during FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	Total
E 0943 Howard High Addition/Renovation Construction of additional classroom space for 169 seats above existing capacity and partial renovation of existing school.								450,000																		450,000
E0972 Busby Park Elementary Replacement A project to construct additional classroom space for 100 students.	1,445,000	9,500,000		2,052,000																						12,997,000
E 0973 Waverly Elem Renovation/Phase II Addition This project will be completed in two phases at Waverly Elementary School.																885,000										885,000
E 0975 New Northern High School A new high school in the northern are of the County with a capacity for 1,422 students.	20,229,000	(6,773,000)	2,614,000					(1,450,000)																		14,620,000
E 0977 Western Elementary School New elementary school in the western area of the County with a capacity for 678 students.	17,040,000	4,000,000	(2,614,000)	(2,052,000)																						16,374,000
E 0980 Systemic Renovations FY 2017 request includes work at Glenwood Middle, Bonnie Branch Middle, Manor Woods Elementary, Talbott Springs Elementary schools and Oakland Mills Village area Pre-K expansion.	-	6,773,000		1,000,000	2,000,000	13,000,000	2,550,000	1,000,000						2,000,000	115,000											28,438,000
E 0991 Full-Day Kindergarten To construct space to comply with State mandate for full-day kindergarten.	3,090,000	-		5,000,000			4,000,000																			12,090,000
E 0992 Northeastern Elementary School New elementary school to provide additional capacity for 678 students in the northern and northeastern regions.	-	500,000																								500,000
E 0993 Relocatable Classrooms Relocation of existing portable classrooms to be placed at schools in need ofo additional capacity in August 2008.							1,100,000																			1,100,000
E 0994 Roofing Program Reroofing for various schools including old roof removal, new flashing and drains, and new roofing material.							4,500,000																			-
E 1003 ARL Space Reconfiguration Reconfigure classroom space of the Auto Academy				2,000,000	(2,000,000)																					4,500,000
E 1015 Atholton High School Renovation A project to expand educational program spaces and renovate Atholton High School.											5,000,000															5,000,000
E1031 Wilde Lake Middle Renovation A project to expand educational program spaces and renovate Wilde Lake Middle School.												4,000,000														4,000,000
E 1043 Talbott Springs Elem School Renovation A project to expand educational program spaces and renovate Talbott Springs Elementary School																1,000,000										1,000,000
	41,804,000	14,000,000	-	8,000,000	-	13,000,000	12,150,000	(450,000)	-	-	-	5,000,000	4,000,000	-	2,000,000	2,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	101,954,000

* Appropriation reduced because of new State funding for the project.

** Project closed 06/30/2007

**Howard County, Maryland
Capital Budget Appropriations
School Excise Funded Pay Go**

	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	Total
E0989 - FY1989 BARRIER-FREE PROJECTS Installation of ramps; alteration of restrooms, fixtures and drinking fountains; and various modifications to make all remaining spaces (school buildings and school sites) accessible to the public, students, teachers, and staff.	200,000			200,000	200,000			600,000
E0990 - FY2002 PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT Improvements and installation of playground equipment at various school sites.		250,000	250,000	275,000	600,000	1,492,000		2,867,000
E1012 - FY2008 SCHOOL PARKING LOT A project to provide for the construction of additional parking spaces, repairs and modifications of parking lots to improve traffic flow patterns at existing school sites.				600,000	600,000	600,000		1,800,000
E1035 - FY2019 NEW HIGH SCHOOL #13 A project to construct a new high school to accommodate enrollment growth.		3,750,000	7,750,000	1,270,000				12,770,000
E1038 - FY2017 PLANNING AND DESIGN The planning and design project has been established to provide funding for scope studies prior to the funding of individual projects.				300,000	300,000			600,000
E1044 - FY2019 SYSTEMIC RENOVATIONS Improvements and installation of systemic renovations at various school sites.	1,800,000		2,000,000					3,800,000
E1046 - FY2019 ROOFING Reroofing for various schools including design and construction of repairs to existing roofs, old roof removal, new flashing and drains, and installation of new roofing structure and material.	1,000,000							1,000,000
E1049 - DUNLOGGIN MS RENO/ADDITION The Dunloggin Middle School project will expand educational program spaces with 233 seats of new capacity and renovate the existing facility.				4,484,000				4,484,000
E1058 - FY2024 SYSTEMIC RENOVATIONS The systemic renovations project includes projects that are needed to bring older facilities up to current standards in lighting, electrical, HVAC systems, reconfiguring space, handicap accessible improvements, vehicle purchase including but not limited to dump trucks, and provide for upgrades to other building systems.				4,871,000	9,890,000	9,930,000		24,691,000
E1059 - FY2024 ROOFING Roofing projects addresses aging roofs on various Howard County Public School System schools.				1,000,000	2,354,000	5,978,000		9,332,000
E1060-FY2024 FAULKNER RIDGE CENTER The Faulkner Ridge Center project will renovate the existing facility to utilize an existing HCPSS asset.					1,056,000			1,056,000
E1062-FY2024 APPLICATIONS AND RESEARCH LAB RENOVATION The Applications and Research Laboratory project will renovate a portion of the existing facility.					1,000,000			1,000,000
	3,000,000	4,000,000	10,000,000	13,000,000	16,000,000	18,000,000		64,000,000

Howard County, Maryland

School Facilities Surcharge

As of June 30, 2026

Fiscal Year	Beginning Balance	Surcharge Collected	Debt Service Surcharge Bonds*	Pay Go	Ending Balance
2005	\$ -	\$ 5,946,543	\$ -		\$ 5,946,543
2006	5,946,543	6,814,269	-		12,760,812
2007	12,760,812	6,371,054	2,204,998		16,926,868
2008	16,926,868	4,749,863	4,313,639		17,363,092
2009	17,363,092	3,796,822	5,801,401		15,358,513
2010	15,358,513	5,890,008	6,167,534		15,080,987
2011	15,080,987	4,875,886	6,911,415		13,045,458
2012	13,045,458	5,660,948	7,000,115		11,706,292
2013	11,706,292	6,584,040	7,119,781		11,170,551
2014	11,170,551	6,765,059	8,066,618		9,868,992
2015	9,868,992	6,883,468	7,500,572		9,251,888
2016	9,251,888	7,236,779	7,225,295		9,263,372
2017	9,263,372	5,944,674	7,255,368		7,952,678
2018	7,952,678	6,219,580	6,916,132		7,256,126
2019	7,256,126	5,650,869	7,108,644		5,798,351
2020	5,798,351	4,542,354	7,141,574		3,199,131
2021	3,199,131	9,409,794	6,459,471	72,721	6,076,732
2022	6,076,732	16,000,508	5,930,878	-	16,146,362
2023	16,146,362	18,411,198	4,931,535	9,070,864	20,555,162
2024	20,555,162	16,762,656	3,115,362	5,730,654	28,471,802
2025	28,471,802	13,617,644	3,255,981	1,003,092	37,830,373
2026	37,830,373	6,309,483	2,994,468	4,341,713	36,803,675

* Principal and Interest

The County sold \$31,000,000 of School Facilities Surcharge Bonds in January 2006, \$27,470,454 in March 2007, \$16,533,546 in February 2008, \$7,950,000 in March 2009, \$5,940,534 in February 2010, \$40,000 in February 2011, \$19,466 in November 2011, \$5,000,000 in April 2014, \$471,000 in April 2015, \$1,933,910 in March 2016, \$3,595,090 in April 2017, \$1,000,000 in April 2018, \$858,000 in May 2019 and \$142,000 in May 2020. The outstanding debt service on those bonds is \$18,210,816. The surcharges collected annually will be used to fund those future debt service payments.