



COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

APPROVED

Monday, May 10, 2021

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland convened via video conference at 9:33 A.M. on Monday, May 10, 2021.

PRESENT

Councilmember Tom Hucker, President
Councilmember Andrew Friedson
Councilmember Will Jawando
Councilmember Nancy Navarro

Councilmember Gabe Albornoz, Vice President
Councilmember Evan Glass
Councilmember Sidney Katz
Councilmember Craig Rice
Councilmember Hans Riemer

The President in the Chair.

Ms. Singleton, Clerk of the Council, announced an addendum to the agenda, correcting the title of item #3: Department of Housing and Community Affairs, including Housing Initiative Fund and FY21 Designated Reserve for Affordable Housing.

PRESENTATION - The Elevating Asian American & Pacific Islander Voices - Video Series was presented.

WORKSESSION - FY22 Operating Budget

(1) [Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission \(WSSC Water\)](#)

Participating in the discussion were Ms. Reid, General Manager and Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Hucker, Chair of the Transportation and Environment (T&E) Committee, noted that the Prince George's County Council must also approve WSSC Water's operating budget and a joint meeting of the two Councils is scheduled for May 13, 2021. Senior Legislative Analyst Levchenko reviewed the recommendations of the T&E Committee, as contained in the staff packet. Mr. Riemer expressed appreciation to WSSC Water for its reconsideration of the System Development Charge, and expressed the hope that next year it would consider the use of wireless meter readers as a long-term cost saving measure.

Mr. Albornoz commented on the recent hacking of the Colonial Pipeline computer system. Ms. Reid described steps being taken to improve WSSC Water's cybersecurity.

Supported, unanimously, the T&E Committee recommendation for WSSC Water's FY22 Operating Budget.

WORKSESSION - FY22 Operating Budget and FY21-27 CIP Amendments

(2) [Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission \(M-NCPPC\)](#)

Participating in the discussion were Mr. Anderson, Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board; and Mr. Riley, Director, Parks Department.

Mr. Riemer, Chair of the Planning, Housing, and Economic Development (PHED) Committee, and Mr. Friedson, Lead Member for Parks, made opening remarks, noting the importance of the park system during the pandemic, and that the proposed budget does not include compensation increases for M-NCPPC staff.

Ms. Michaelson commented that the M-NCPPC compensation issues would be discussed at the bi-county meeting on May 13.

Supported, unanimously, the PHED Committee recommendation for M-NCPPC.

The meeting recessed at 10:13 A.M.

WORKSESSION - FY22 Operating Budget

(3) [Department of Housing and Community Affairs \(DHCA\), including Housing Initiative Fund and FY 21 Designated Reserve for Affordable Housing](#)

(4) [CIP: Affordable Housing Opportunity Fund](#)

Items #3 and #4 were taken up together.

Participating in the discussion were Mr. Nigam, Director, DHCA; Ms. McMillan, Senior Legislative Analyst; and Ms. Beck, Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Mr. Riemer provided opening remarks and shared the good news that additional funding will be going into affordable housing.

Ms. McMillan reviewed the Committee recommendations, as contained in the staff report.

Discussed the Affordable Housing Opportunity Fund, which would create a new option for the preservation of affordable housing that is expected to leverage new sources of funds. Supported Mr. Jawando's motion in support of the County Executive and staff recommendation of \$8 million in FY21 and an additional \$6 million in FY22 for a total of \$14 million. The majority Committee recommendation only supported \$8 million in FY21. The motion passed 7-2 (Mr. Riemer and Mr. Friedson were opposed).

Mr. Hucker announced that votes for Items #3, #4, #5, and #6 would be en bloc.

Supported, unanimously, the Committee recommendation for Item #3 – DHCA; and for Item #4 - Affordable Housing Opportunity Fund, as amended.

(5) [Facility Planning: HCD](#)

Supported, unanimously, the Committee recommendation for the FY22 operating budget for Facility Planning: HCD.

(6) [Countywide Façade Easement Program](#)

Supported, unanimously, the Committee recommendation for the FY22 operating budget for Countywide Façade Easement Program.

(7) [Office of Agriculture](#)

Participating in the discussion were Mr. Criss, Director, Office of Agriculture; and Mr. Smith, Legislative Analyst.

Supported, unanimously, the Committee recommendation for the FY22 operating budget for the Office of Agriculture.

The meeting adjourned at 2:33 P.M.

This is a correct copy of Council action.



Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.
Clerk of the Council