



Montgomery County Priorities for the 2026 General Assembly Session

Federal Challenges

- Mitigate the impact of federal actions on SNAP by making State investments in food assistance.
- Offset the impact of reductions within the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development through State investment in rental assistance and access to shelter and housing.
- Support State actions to assist federal employees and contractors impacted by the federal government shutdown, as well as support funding for workforce training programs for federal employees impacted by hiring freezes, forced resignations, and mass layoffs.
- Urge the adoption of legislation to end 287(g) immigration enforcement agreements in Maryland.
- Support legislative efforts to expand the State's unemployment insurance program which provides temporary, partial wage replacement benefits of up to \$430 per week, an amount far below what is necessary to help support unemployed Marylanders meet their basic needs.

Education

- Maintain the State's commitment to fully fund the Blueprint for Maryland's Future and support efforts to enhance local flexibility in implementation requirements and use of State funds to allow the school system to address specific needs of the County's students and families, including expansion of eligible uses of Concentration of Poverty grants.
- Substantially increase the annual allocation of State funds to finance the State's share of the rapidly growing costs of public school construction Statewide to keep pace with construction costs and the need for students to learn in safe, modern classrooms.
- Support the legislative priorities of the Children's Opportunity Alliance, including increasing funding for the Child Care Scholarship and restoring provider reimbursement rates to 70% of the market rate.
- Increase compensation for members of the Montgomery County Board of Education.

Climate Change, Energy, and Environment

- Increase support for clean energy, building decarbonization, electricity grid management, and electric vehicles.
- Establish a framework to guide the development of data centers in Maryland with respect to economic, energy, and environmental impacts.
- Support initiatives to strengthen water quality protection, waste reduction, and resilience to flooding and extreme heat.

Housing

- Support Statewide strategies to address the housing shortage crisis, promote affordable housing, provide rental assistance and other support for unhoused members of our community, and encourage regional approaches to ending homelessness.
- Provide enabling authority for the County to enact a local “just cause” or “good cause” law.

Economic Development

- Pursue enhancements to existing State economic development programs to make them more responsive to current market conditions, including the need to retain the life sciences workforce that has been built around federal labs, and attract investment to the County by innovative private technology companies, large and small.
- Increase the \$1 million cap on the annual funding amount for the Maryland Department of Transportation Purple Line Small Business Grant Program so that more businesses impacted by Purple Line construction can access this program.

Transportation and Vision Zero

- Enable new funding mechanisms and authorization to fund transportation investment to support job creation and economic growth, without which there is insufficient mobility in the region and a transportation financing structure in need of modernization.
- Support a long-term plan to stabilize funding for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.
- Support legislative efforts prioritizing Vision Zero policies and investments to increase safety and eliminate serious injury and fatal collisions on State and County roads, with a focus on improving safety for vulnerable users, including pedestrians and cyclists.

Health and Human Services

- Restore Department of Juvenile Services funding for evening reporting centers as an alternative to detention, which ended in fiscal year 2025.
- Build on the budget restorations to the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) provided by the legislature during the 2025 Session by ensuring that DDA is adequately funded to provide essential services to our most vulnerable residents.

Local Autonomy

- Support efforts to retain the County’s existing authority to implement current local laws and enact future laws as needed to address local challenges and priorities, including land use and zoning authority.
- Support efforts to enhance the County’s local authority to address specific challenges facing our community, including increased options to generate revenue for local investment.
- Oppose bills that would impose an unreasonable burden on County government or undermine the goals of County laws and policies.



Montgomery County Capital Projects State Funding Request 2026 General Assembly Session

Education and Libraries

- **Montgomery County Public Schools – \$49,263,000**
To support the State share of the school system's public school construction request of \$249,646,000.
- **Montgomery College – \$9,748,000**
To support the State share of two projects at its Rockville Campus, the first to renovate the Montgomery College Rockville Library (\$5,573,000) and the second to renovate the Theatre Arts Building (\$4,175,000).
- **Clarksburg Library– \$4,274,000**
To design and construct a library located in Clarksburg.

Transportation

- **North Bethesda Metro Station Northern Entrance – \$18,000,000**
To construct a new entrance to the North Bethesda Metro Station, which will support a comprehensive suite of investments that facilitate safer, more direct access to Metrorail and other local destinations, and the growth of the North Bethesda research-based hub for biosciences and innovation technology companies anchored by the Institute for Health Computing.
- **Burtonsville Park and Ride Garage – \$2,000,000**
To construct a new garage at the Burtonsville Park and Ride so that the existing park and ride lot may be redeveloped.
- **Lakeforest Transit Center – \$20,200,000**
To design and construct a new Lakeforest Transit Center, including bus bays, stations and shelters, bus circulation areas, staff support spaces, and a shared-use path. The existing transit center site, located at the intersection of Lost Knife Road and Odenhal Avenue in Gaithersburg, is owned by the Lakeforest developer and will be integrated into the new mixed-use residential and commercial redevelopment.
- **Cherry Hill Road Bike Facility – \$850,000**
To plan, design, and construct bike facilities along Randolph and Cherry Hill Road from Old Columbia Pike to the Montgomery/Prince George's County line. The

project upgrades existing facilities and completes missing segments consistent with the County Bicycle Master Plan which recommends a separated bikeway.

- **Public Parking EV Stations – \$2,000,000**
To develop and expand electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure by installing accessible, reliable, and affordable EV charging stations at County facilities located in Silver Spring, Wheaton and Bethesda.
- **New Ride On Depot – \$50,000,000**
To plan, design, and construct a new transit bus depot to support growth of the Ride On bus fleet and the County's ongoing transition to a zero emissions fleet.
- **Martin Lane Shared Use Path – \$1,000,000**
To construct a paved pathway connecting Arcola Avenue to Henderson Avenue in Wheaton. Once completed, the pathway will provide a safe route for pedestrians and cyclists to the Wheaton Regional Park and the Wheaton Recreational Center.
- **Public Parking Security Cameras – \$5,400,000**
To enhance, expand, and eventually replace existing security related surveillance camera systems in the County's parking facilities located in the Silver Spring Parking Lot District.
- **Norwood Road Shared Use Path – \$2,500,000**
To construct a 6,300 linear feet shared-use path along Norwood Road from New Hampshire Avenue (MD 650) to Norbeck Road.

General

- **Strathmore Roof Replacement – \$1,500,000**
To replace the roof at Strathmore Hall.
- **Olney Satellite Police Station – \$1,400,000**
To complete the construction of the new facility.
- **4TH District Police Station – \$5,000,000**
To construct a new station, to be co-located with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission park police.
- **Housing Opportunities Commission Housing Production Fund – \$5,000,000**
To supplement County support for the Fund, a revolving construction fund that utilizes a public-private delivery model designed to support the development of affordable housing.
- **Troubled and Distressed Common Ownership Communities – \$2,000,000**
To supplement funding for the County's Common Area Assistance Loan Fund created in 2024 to support the high demand from Common Ownership Communities (COCs) to secure loans from the Fund to address deterioration, failing infrastructure,

and maintenance issues in low- and moderate-income COCs located throughout the County.

- Façade Improvements for Businesses Impacted by the Purple Line Construction – \$5,000,000
To supplement funding for the County’s Façade Refresh Grant Program, to be targeted to small businesses located within half a mile of Purple Line stations located in the County. The funds will be used to encourage owners of older, outdated, and visually worn commercial properties to improve building facades and property sites for the purpose of revitalizing the surrounding neighborhoods and supporting economic development.
- Child Care Renovations - Playgrounds – \$1,842,000
To renovate and replace playgrounds at County child care facilities to ensure compliance with new laws and regulations pertaining to the Americans with Disabilities Act and safety concerns.
- Recreation Center Kitchen Equipment Replacements – \$264,000
To replace aging kitchen equipment located in various community recreation centers in the County for safety purposes and to comply with national guidelines, standards, and regulations.
- Recreation Center Bleacher Replacements – \$500,000
To replace aging bleachers located in various community recreation centers in the County for safety purposes.

Montgomery County also strongly supports State funding preauthorized during the 2025 Session for inclusion in the fiscal year 2027 capital budget, for the following projects:

1. Bowie Mill Bike Trail – \$2,100,000
2. Damascus Main Street – \$250,000
3. Glen Echo Park Spanish Ballroom Renovation – \$1,500,000
4. Springsong Museum – \$1,000,000
5. Young Artists of America – \$1,500,000

Office of Intergovernmental Relations
November 4, 2025