



OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Tiffany Ward
Director and Chief Equity Officer

MEMORANDUM

May 31, 2024

To: Jennifer Bryant, Director
Office of Management and Budget

From: Tiffany Ward, Director
Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice

Re: Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA) for Supplemental Appropriations #24-69
FY24 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service (MCFRS)
Senator AMOSS Fire, Rescue and Ambulance Fund (State 508) Grant

- I. **FINDING:** Based on available information, Supplemental Appropriation #24-69—FY24 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service (MCFRS) Senator Amoss Fire, Rescue and Ambulance Fund (State 508) Grant—does not appear to substantively differ in terms of scope from Supplemental Appropriations #23-100 and #22-69. Therefore, the Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ)'s finding remains unchanged: *“Supplemental Appropriation #23-100 – FY23 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service (MCFRS) Senator Amoss Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance Fund (State 508) Grant – is unlikely to advance racial equity and social justice in Montgomery County. Information accompanying this supplemental request provided no evidence of a documented process that considers racial and other disproportionalities in fire and emergency medical risk regarding the distribution and rehabilitation of fire apparatus and capital equipment, and the renovation of facilities used to house apparatus.”*
- II. **BACKGROUND:** The purpose of Supplemental Appropriation #24-69 is to allocate \$1,985,810 to MCFRS from the FY24 State of Maryland Senator William H. Amoss Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance (State 508) Fund grant. According to the Maryland General Assembly Department of Legislative Services' Fiscal and Policy Note for House Bill 930—

Senator William H. Amoss Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance Funds - Property Acquisition and Construction of Facilities—the purpose of the grant fund is to¹:

- (1) Promote the delivery of effective and high-quality fire protection, rescue, and ambulance services in the State;
- (2) increased financial support for fire, rescue, and ambulance companies by counties; and
- (3) the continued financial viability of volunteer fire, rescue, and ambulance companies given the greatly increased costs of equipment.

In May 2022 and June 2023, ORESJ conducted a Racial Equity Impact Assessment on previous disbursements of the Senator Amoss Grant. Given that Supplemental Appropriation #24-69 is also intended to allocate funding from the Senator Amoss Grant, ORESJ's analysis, and findings remain unchanged. Please read ORESJ's previous REIAs on the topic:

- [Racial Equity Impact Assessment \(REIA\) Supplemental Appropriation \(SA\) #23-100 – FY23 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service Senator Amoss Fire, Rescue and Ambulance Fund \(State 508\) Grant](#)
- [Racial Equity and Impact Assessment \(REIA\) for Supplemental Appropriation #22-69 Senator Amoss Fire and Rescue Services \(FRS\) Grant](#)

cc: Gary Cooper, Interim Chief, Fire and Rescue Services
Ken Hartman, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer, Office of the County Executive

¹ From Current Law: https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2022RS/fnotes/bil_0000/hb0930.pdf