

  
**Howard County**  
*Internal Memorandum*

**Subject:** Testimony & Fiscal Impact Statement  
Council Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_-2026, an Act pursuant to Section 612 of the Howard County Charter, approving a multi-year Agreement of Lease between Howard County, Maryland and The Society For Preservation Of Maryland Antiquities, Inc. t/a Preservation Maryland, Inc., a Maryland corporation, for the building known as the historic Howard County Jail located at 1 Emory Street, Ellicott City, Maryland; authorizing the County Executive to enter into the Agreement of Lease and to make changes to the Agreement of Lease before executing it, under certain conditions; and generally relating to a multi-year lease of certain premises owned by Howard County to The Society For Preservation Of Maryland Antiquities, Inc. t/a Preservation Maryland, Inc.

**To:** Brandee Ganz,  
Chief Administrative Officer

**From:** Samantha M. Cobb, Director  
Department of General Services 

**Date:** February 17, 2026

The Department of General Services has been designated coordinator for preparation of testimony relative to approval of an Agreement of Lease (the "Agreement") between Howard County, Maryland (the "County") for The Society For Preservation Of Maryland Antiquities, Inc. t/a Preservation Maryland, Inc. ("Preservation Maryland").

The County is the fee simple owner of the property commonly shown as Parcel 243 on Tax Map 25A improved with a building known as the historic Howard County Jail located at 1 Emory Street, Ellicott City, Howard County, Maryland 21043 (the "Building").

It is the intent of the County to restore and preserve the Building. Preservation Maryland desires to restore, rehabilitate and revitalize the Building, at its sole cost, and to enter a long-term lease for its use the Building.

Preservation Maryland is dedicated to preserving Maryland's heritage, which includes making direct investments in historic places through the restoration, rehabilitation, and revitalization of historic structures and communities in which they reside.

In addition, Preservation Maryland shall, at its sole cost and expense, pay for all utilities, including HVAC, electricity, water, sewer, phone, internet and cable services, and to maintain the Building as well as the repair and replacement of all Building systems.

The Agreement is for a term of forty (40) years and therefore requires the County Council approval as a multi-year agreement pursuant to Section 612 of the Howard County Charter.

Representatives of this department will be present at the public hearing to answer any questions or concerns. If you require any further information concerning this matter or have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience.

cc: Jennifer Sager  
File