

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2026 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 5

Resolution No. 49 - 2026

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Endorsing and authorizing – Application with the Maryland Transit Administration

Title: A RESOLUTION endorsing and authorizing the Howard County Executive to file an application with the Maryland Transit Administration of the Maryland Department of Transportation for grants under the Federal Transit Act and certain State transportation grants; indicating certain endorsement by the County Executive; and requiring certain copies be sent to the Maryland Department of Transportation.

Introduced and read first time April 6, 2026.

By order Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on April 20, 2026.

By order Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted , Adopted with amendments ____, Failed ____, Withdrawn ____, by the County Council on May 4, 2026.

Certified By Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive on May 7, 2026.

Calvin Ball
Calvin Ball, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **WHEREAS**, the Maryland Transit Administration (“MTA”) is the designated recipient
2 in Maryland for grants under the Federal Transit Act; and

3
4 **WHEREAS**, the Administrator of the MTA of the Maryland Department of
5 Transportation is authorized to make grants to counties and to local governments for a mass
6 transportation program of projects; and

7
8 **WHEREAS**, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon
9 the County, including the provision by the County of the local share of the project costs in
10 the program; and

11
12 **WHEREAS**, the County will file an application for Operational and Capital funding
13 assistance with the MTA for some or all of the following grants under the Federal Transit
14 Act: Metropolitan & Statewide Planning and Non-Metropolitan Transportation Planning
15 grants (Sections 5303, 5304 and 5305); Urbanized Area Formula Program grants (Section
16 5307/Large Urban); Bus and Bus Facilities grants (Section 5309); Enhanced Mobility for
17 Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310); Formula Grants for Other than
18 Urbanized Areas grants (Section 5311); the Washington Area Grant (WAG); Americans
19 with Disabilities grants; and the State Special Transportation Assistance Program
20 (SSTAP); and

21
22 **WHEREAS**, it is required by the United States Department of Transportation in
23 accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that, in
24 connection with the filing of an application for assistance under the Federal Transit Act,
25 the applicant give an assurance that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of
26 1964 and the United States Department of Transportation requirements thereunder; and

27
28 **WHEREAS**, the County’s goal is that minority business enterprises be utilized to the
29 fullest extent possible in connection with these projects and programs; therefore, definite
30 procedures have been established and are being administered to ensure that minority

1 business shall have the maximum opportunity to compete for construction contracts,
2 supplies, equipment contracts, or consultant and other services.

3

4 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard
5 County, Maryland this 4 day of May, 2026 that the County's application
6 for grants under the Federal Transit Act be endorsed for some or all of the following grants:
7 Metropolitan & Statewide Planning and Non-Metropolitan Transportation Planning grants
8 (Sections 5303, 5304 and 5305); Urbanized Area Formula Program grants (Section
9 5307/Large Urban); Bus and Bus Facilities grants (Section 5309); Enhanced Mobility for
10 Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310); Formula Grants for Other than
11 Urbanized Areas grants (Section 5311); the Washington Area Grant (WAG); Americans
12 with Disabilities grants; and the State Special Transportation Assistance Program
13 (SSTAP).

14

15 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,
16 Maryland that the County Executive is hereby requested to endorse this resolution, thereby
17 indicating approval thereof.

18

19 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,
20 Maryland that copies of the Resolution be sent to the Maryland Transit Administration of
21 the Maryland Department of Transportation.



Howard County Office of Transportation

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Clarence Dickerson III, Administrator

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Memorandum

To: Brandee Ganz, Chief Administrative Officer, Department of County Administration

From: Clarence Dickerson III, Administrator

Date: March 23, 2026

Subject: Testimony and fiscal impact statement in support of County Council resolution endorsing FY 2027 Annual Transportation Plan Application

Each fiscal year, on behalf of Howard County, the Office of Transportation (OOT) prepares an Annual Transportation Plan for submission to the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) of the Maryland Department of Transportation. Through the application the OOT requests funding for operating and capital grant funds. The grants allow the County to use federal and state funds to subsidize Howard County's portion of the expenses for the Regional Transportation Agency of Central Maryland (RTA), which provides the County's local bus and paratransit service

The grant requirements for financial assistance imposes certain obligations upon the County, including the provision of the local share of the project costs in the transit program. Therefore the MTA requires that the Annual Transportation Plan (ATP) application includes an authorizing resolution endorsing the application. The resolution being submitted to the Howard County Council for this year is similar to last year's resolution

This year the Office of Transportation is requesting Capital Grants to support the purchase of up to four heavy duty buses and provide \$75,000 to assist with the preventive maintenance of the RTA fleet. Grant information including Agency detail, purpose and the local required match is included on the following page and will be provided for in the FY 2027 budgets.

For these reasons, we are requesting Council approval of our FY 27 Transit Assurance Resolution.

Section I. General Information:

Title: FY 2027 Annual Transit Plan (ATP) Application

Funding Agency: Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)-Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)

Application Request: **\$7,182,196** in Federal and State Grant Funds (subtotals below)

Purpose of Grant: Howard County Transportation Plan for FY 2027 Operating Assistance and Capital Assistance including facilities.

Section II Funding:

Operating Grant

Federal/State Funds: \$4,881,354

Howard County Required Match \$925,842.00 (match requirement varies by program)

Total Operating: \$5,807,196

Source of Cash Match: Office of Transportation

Fund: 1000000000

Business Area: 3220

Revenue (Farebox, Advertising): \$863,000

Fund: 2150000000

Business Area: 3220

Capital Grant Funds (bus replacement and vehicle preventive maintenance)

Federal/State Funds: \$1,100,000

Howard County Required Match: \$275,000

Total Capital: \$1,375,000

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, stands enacted on May 07, 2026.

Michelle R. Harrod
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been passed by the yeas and nays of two-thirds of the members of the Council notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, stands enacted on _____, 2026.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the Executive within ten days of its presentation, stands enacted on _____, 2026.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, not having been considered on final reading within the time required by Charter, stands failed for want of consideration on _____, 2026.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been disapproved by the Executive and having failed on passage upon consideration by the Council stands failed on _____, 2026.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, the withdrawal of which received a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Council, is withdrawn from further consideration on _____, 2026.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council