

Howard County

Internal Memorandum

Subject: Testimony & Fiscal Impact Statement
Council Resolution No. ____-2026 establishing a Surplus School Use Committee to study the disposition of property located at the Howard County Public School System Central Office, located along Md. Route 108; providing for a certain public meeting; providing for the Committee's membership, duties, and lifespan; setting certain deadlines; and generally relating to a Surplus School Use Committee.

To: Brandee Ganz
Chief Administrative Officer

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

Date: August 27, 2026

The Department of General Services has been designated coordinator for preparation of testimony relative to the creation of a Surplus School Use Committee (the "School Committee") to study the disposition of property located at the Howard County Public School System Central Office located along Maryland Route 108.

The Howard County Board of Education (the "Board") is the owner of approximately 4.5815 acres of land now known as Lot 2 on the plat of resubdivision entitled "The Board of Education of Howard County, Maryland, Lots 1 & 2 and Non-buildable Bulk Parcel A, a Resubdivision of Parcel 100, "Plat for Grant of Forest Conservation Easements to Howard County, Maryland" (Plat 14822)" and recorded among the Land Records of Howard County, Maryland as Plat Numbers 27148-27150 (the "Board Property"). The Board has determined that the Board Property is no longer needed for educational purposes and the Board would like to transfer the Board Property to Howard County, Maryland (the "County").

Section 4.202 of the Howard County Code requires the Howard County Council appoint a School Committee whenever a school site is no longer needed for educational purposes. Per County Code, the School Committee is to be established within 45 days after notification by the Howard County Board of Education that a particular school and site is no longer needed for education purposes. On August 7, 2026, the Howard County Board of Education notified the County that the land adjacent to the Homewood Center and the HCPSS Central Office is no longer needed for educational purposes following a successful subdivision of the land in June 2026.

The County Executive shall hold a public meeting to discuss and review the disposition of the Board Property. The County Executive will then inform the County Council of his decision to retain the property for County use, recommend a non-County Government use to the School Committee, or make no recommendation.

There is no fiscal impact to the County for the creation of the Committee.

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.

SMC/eai

cc: Jennifer Sager

File