

CR161-2026 Fiscal Analysis
Introduced: September 8, 2026
Fiscal Manager: Owen Kahn

Legislative Intent: This legislation convenes a Surplus School Use Committee to consider the disposition of 4.58 acres of land currently owned by the Howard County Board of Education to Howard County for the future construction of Fire Station 15.

ANALYSIS

Fiscal Impact:

This legislation will have no fiscal impact because there are no costs associated with convening the Surplus School Use Committee. According to the Department of General Services, there are no expected staffing or resource costs. Any administrative costs associated with the subdivision of the land were completed in June 2026. The intended use of the land is for the construction of Capital project [F5976-FY2018 Fire Station 15](#).

In June 2026, land adjacent to the Homewood Center and the Howard County Public School System Central Office along Route 108 in Ellicott City was subdivided. In August 2026, the Board of Education notified the County that 4.58 acres of that subdivided land is no longer needed for educational purposes. Per [Section 4.202 of Howard County Code](#), this Committee is convened to assist the County Executive determine the use of land no longer needed by the Board for educational purposes. The County Executive and the approved capital budget have already confirmed the intended use of this land is for Fire Station 15.

Once the County Executive recommends using the land for County use, the Administration does not expect a fiscal impact for acquiring the land because the transaction will be intergovernmental.

Budget Implications:

- *Fire Station 15:* The use of the land received from the Board will be for the construction of Fire Station 15 in North Columbia. Capital project [F5976-FY2018 Fire Station 15](#) has been approved by the Council with a total budget of \$18.85 million, funded by \$14.73 million in PAYGO generated by the Fire Tax, \$3.02 million in transfer tax, and \$1.10 million in bonds. Once the land acquisition is completed, construction is expected to begin in FY2027, and the fire station is expected to be operational by FY2028.

Other Notes:

- N/A.