



# Howard County

---

## *Internal Memorandum*

Subject: Testimony and Fiscal Impact Statement

To: Lonnie Robbins  
Chief Administrative Officer

From: Robert Phillips  
Administrator, Office of Central Fleet

Date: October 15, 2020

The Office of Central Fleet requests the transfer of \$644,475 from the Grants Fund Contingency Reserve for unanticipated grant award received.

### Background

In August 2017, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) received funding from the Federal Government's Volkswagen Diesel Emissions settlement. Shortly thereafter, Howard County submitted a comprehensive plan to MDE detailing the environmental savings if funding was received to replace 15 older non-emissions equipped dump trucks in the Department of Public Works (DPW). In May 2019, MDE stated that the funding allotment to local governments would be reduced. As a result, a second reduced Diesel mitigation plan was submitted which reduced the number of dump trucks to 5 and instituted a Howard County match (25%). On September 18, 2020, MDE notified Central Fleet that Howard County's dump truck proposal was approved for full funding and that the funds will be reimbursable (75%).

### Fiscal Impact

The total time from grant conception and Howard County's submission to final award was over three years. At no time during this process were any of the applicants, including Howard County, notified of an imminent award. Because of this, spending authority for the grant was not included in the FY 2021 budget. As a result, \$644,475 is needed from the Grants Fund Contingency Reserve account in order to be able to spend this unanticipated grant award. Part of the FY 2021 DPW appropriation for fleet charges will be used to provide the 25% required match of \$214,825.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or need additional information.

Cc: Jennifer Sager  
Brook Mamo