

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2023 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 4

Resolution No. 61 - 2023

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

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 3, 2023.

By order Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on April 18, 2023.

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 1, 2023.

Certified By Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive on May 4, 2023.

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
2 recipient in Maryland for Section 5303, 5304, 5307, 5309, 5310, 5311, 5316 and/or 5317
3 grants under the Federal Transit Act;

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

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

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

22
23 **WHEREAS**, it is required by the United States Department of Transportation in
24 accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that, in
25 connection with the filing of an application for assistance under the Federal Transit Act,
26 the applicant give an assurance that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of
27 1964 and the United States Department of Transportation requirements thereunder; and

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

1 minority business shall have the maximum opportunity to compete for construction
2 contracts, 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 1 day of May, 2023 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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Bruce Gartner, Administrator

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Memorandum

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

From: Bruce Gartner 

Date: March 20, 2023

Subject: Testimony in support of County Council resolution endorsing the FY 2024 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 include 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, however, the Office of Transportation is assuming that operating grant funds will increase to pre-pandemic levels. Capital Grants will 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 2024 budgets.

For these reasons, we are requesting Council approval of our FY 24 Transit Assurances Resolution.

Section I. General Information:

Title: FY 2024 Annual Transit Plan (ATP) Application
Funding Agency: Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) – Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)
Application Request: \$5,608,771 in Federal and State Grant Funds (subtotals below)
Purpose of Grant: Howard County Transportation Plan for FY 2024 Operating Assistance and Capital Assistance including facilities.

Section II. Funding:

Operating Grant

Federal/State Funds: \$4,061,77
Howard County Required Match \$489,486 (match requirement varies by program)
Total Operating: \$4,551,257
Source of Cash Match: Office of Transportation
Fund: 1000000000
Business Area: 3220
Revenue (Farebox, Advertising): \$850,000
Fund: 2150000000
Business Area: 3220

Capital Grant Funds (bus replacement and vehicle preventive maintenance)

Federal/State Funds: \$1,547,000
Howard County Required Match: \$309,400
Total Capital \$1,847,400

The Office of Transportation has provided more detailed information, including funding amounts and matching requirement by program in our fiscal impact statement