# **County Council of Howard County, Maryland**

2024 Legislative Session Legislative Day No. 5

# **Resolution No. <u>56</u> -2024**

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

Short Title: Fees and Rates – Various Departments

Title: A RESOLUTION approving fee and rate schedules for:

- (1) Applying for approval of an industrial development revenue bond or MIDFA bond or loan;
- (2) Solicitor and Peddler Identification Card;
- (3) Weekend Prisoners Room and board;
- (4) Prisoner Health care provider fee;
- (5) Participation in work release program;
- (6) Participation in home detention program;
- (7) Marriage license fee charge for funding of domestic violence programs;
- (8) Annual registration of trespass towing companies and maximum rates to be charged by trespass towing services;
- (9) Fee and specifications for transcripts of administrative proceedings; and
- (10) Reproduction of public records.

Introduced and read first time, 2024.	
	By order Michelle Harrod, Administrator
Read for a second time at a public hearing on	_, 2024.
	By order
This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted, Adopted with a on, 2024.	mendments, Failed, Withdrawn, by the County Council
	Certified By Michelle Harrod, Administrator
Approved by the County Executive on, 2024	
	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, Section 22.600 of the Howard County Code provides for a fee, set by
2	resolution of the County Council, to be charged for each new or refunded industrial development
3	revenue bond or each new MIDFA loan or bond; and
4	
5	WHEREAS, Section 14.702 of the Howard County Code requires the County Council to
6	annually adopt by Resolution an annual fee for the issuance of an identification card for a
7	solicitor or peddler; and
8	
9	WHEREAS, Section 11-801 of the Correctional Services Article of the Annotated Code
10	of Maryland authorizes the County to charge a fee to "weekend inmates" in the Howard County
11	Detention Center to cover the costs of the inmates' food, clothing and lodging while confined;
12	and
13	
14	WHEREAS, Section 11-203 of the Correctional Services Article of the Annotated Code
15	of Maryland requires the local governing body to set a reasonable fee, not to exceed \$4, for each
16	visit by an inmate of the County Detention Center to an institutional medical unit or non-
17	institutional physician, dentist or optometrist; and
18	
19	WHEREAS, Section 11-715 of the Correctional Services Article of the Annotated Code
20	of Maryland authorizes Howard County to establish a work release program and to require the
21	inmate to reimburse the County for the County's costs of providing food and lodging to the
22	inmate and for the inmate's participation in the work release program; and
23	
24	WHEREAS, Section 11-715 of the Correctional Services Article of the Annotated Code
25	of Maryland to authorizes the County to establish a work release program and authorizes an
26	inmate to reimburse the County for the County's costs associated with the work release program;
27	and
28	
29	WHEREAS, Section 6-108 of the Correctional Services Article of the Annotated Code
30	of Maryland which authorizes the County to establish a home detention program and to require
31	the inmate to reimburse the County for the County's costs of electronic monitoring; and

I	
2	WHEREAS, Section 2-404 of the Family Law Article of the Annotated Code of
3	Maryland authorizes the County Council to direct the Clerk of the Court to charge an additional
4	fee for a marriage license to partially fund battered spouse shelters and domestic violence
5	programs; and
6	
7	WHEREAS, Section 17.602 of the Howard County Code requires trespass towing
8	companies to register with the Office of Consumer Affairs and to pay annually in January a
9	registration fee which is set annually by resolution of the County Council; and
10	
11	WHEREAS, Section 17.601 of the Howard County Code requires the County Council to
12	annually adopt, by Resolution, a schedule of maximum rates to be charged by a tow operator for
13	towing a vehicle from private property without the consent of the vehicle owner, and
14	
15	WHEREAS, Section 2.121 of the Howard County Code requires the County Council to
16	establish, in connection with administrative proceedings, specifications for transcript preparation
17	and a reasonable fee to be charged for the costs of transcription and certification; and
18	
19	WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 4-206 of the General Provisions Article of the
20	Annotated Code of Maryland, the official custodian may charge a reasonable fee for the search,
21	preparation and reproduction of public records; and
22	
23	WHEREAS, these fees were last adopted by the passage of Council Resolution No. 77-
24	2023 and, for Fiscal Year 2025, there changes proposed to the work release and pretrial release
25	fee adopted pursuant to Section 11-715 of the Correctional Services Article of the Annotated
26	Code of Maryland.
27	
28	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Howard County,
29	Maryland this day of, 2024 that it adopts the attached schedules of fees;
30	and
31	

- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the fee schedules adopted in this Resolution shall
- 2 be effective July 1, 2024 and shall continue in effect until changed or repealed by subsequent
- 3 resolution of the County Council.

# SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR APPLYING FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BONDS, MIDFA BONDS OR LOANS

These fees are set pursuant to Section 22.600 of the Howard County Code that provides for a fee, set by resolution of the County Council, to be charged for each new or refunded industrial development revenue bond or each new or refunded MIDFA loan or bond.

# Industrial development revenue bond or MIDFA bond or loan applications

Bond or loan up to \$500,000 \$500 Bond or loan \$500,000 or higher \$1,000

## SOLICITOR AND PEDDLER FEES

These fees are set pursuant to Section 14.702 of the Howard County Code that requires the County Council to annually adopt, by Resolution, an annual fee for issuance of an identification card for a solicitor or peddler.

#### **Peddler's Identification Card**

Fee for an identification card requested on or after July 1 \$100

Fee for an identification card requested on or after January 1 \$50

Cards expire on June 30

Annual fee for each card issued to a person, company, firm or partnership that has adopted a code of ethics pursuant to Section 14.706(8) of the Howard County Code

\$50

#### WEEKEND PRISONER FEE

This fee is set pursuant to Section 11-801 of the Correctional Services Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland that authorizes the County to charge a fee, set by resolution of the County Council, to "weekend inmates" in the Howard County Detention Center to cover the costs of the inmates' food, clothing and lodging while confined

Charge per day

\$25.00

# **HEALTH CARE PROVIDER FEE**

This fee is set pursuant to Section 11-203 of the Correctional Services Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland that requires the local governing body to set a reasonable fee, not to exceed \$4, for each visit by an inmate of the County Detention Center to an institutional medical unit or noninstitutional physician, dentist, or optometrist.

Charge per visit

Weekly Earnings

\$4.00

Room and Board Payment Rate

## WORK RELEASE FEE

This fee is set pursuant to Section 11-715 of the Correctional Services Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland that authorizes Howard County to establish a work release and pretrial release program and to require the inmate to reimburse the County for the County's costs of providing food and lodging to the inmate and for the inmate's participation in the work release program.

#### Work Release:

1. \$200.00 or less per week	[[\$5.00]]\$7.00 per day
2. \$201.00 - \$400.00 per week	[[\$9.00]]\$11.00 per day
3. \$401.00 - \$600.00 per week	[[\$11.00]]\$15.00 per day
4. \$601.00 - \$800,00 per week	[[\$13.00]]\$17.00 per day
5. \$801.00 - \$1,000.00 per week	[[\$17.00]]\$20.00 per day
6. \$1,001.00 or more per week	[[\$20.00]]\$23.00 per day

## **HOME DETENTION PROGRAM**

This fee is set pursuant to Section 6-108 of the Correctional Services Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland that authorizes Howard County to establish a home detention program and to require the inmate to reimburse the County for the County's costs of electronic monitoring.

Charge per day

\$12.00

#### MARRIAGE LICENSE FEE

This fee is set pursuant to Section 2-404 of the Family Law Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland that authorizes the County Council to direct the Clerk of the Court to charge an additional fee for a marriage license to partially fund battered spouse shelters and domestic violence programs.

Marriage license fee \$50

Distributed as follows:

\$5 to the Clerk of the Court (set by State)
 \$5 to Howard County General Fund (set by State)
 \$40 to Howard County to fund battered spouse shelters and domestic violence programs.

# FEE FOR ANNUAL REGISTRATION OF TOWING COMPANIES

This fee is set pursuant to Section 17.602 of the Howard County Code that requires trespass towing companies to register with the Office of Consumer Affairs and to pay an annual registration fee each January which is set by resolution of the County Council.

Annual registration fee per trespass towing company

\$150

# TRESPASS TOWING SERVICES MAXIMUM RATE SCHEDULE

These rates are set pursuant to Section 17.601 of the Howard County Code that requires the County Council to set the maximum rates that a tow operator may charge when towing a vehicle from private property without the consent of the vehicle owner

# Service Performed

# Maximum Fee

1. Attaching the vehicle to the tow truck

This includes any other service needed to safely remove the vehicle such as unlocking, disconnecting and reconnecting the driveshaft, or securing the steering wheel. This does not include dollying and flatbedding.

Vehicle weighing 8000 lbs or less	\$125
Vehicle weighing over 8000 lbs	\$390

Other services to safely remove vehicle

Dollying or flatbedding when necessary in order to tow the vehicle in accordance with the recommendations of the American Automobile Association Towing Manual.

\$15

2. Towing the vehicle

The charge is for the distance from the place where the vehicle was attached to the tow truck to the nearest storage site.

\$0 per mile

3. Storing the vehicle\*\*

Storage time begins when the vehicle arrives at the storage site or when the towing service notifies the Howard County Police Department that the vehicle has been towed, whichever is sooner.

Vehicle weighing 8000 lbs or less

First 12 hours	\$12.50
Second 12 hours	\$12.50
Each additional 12 hours	\$12.50

Vehicle weighing over 8000 lbs

First 12 hours	\$37.50
Second 12 hours	\$37.50
Each additional 12 hours	\$37.50

\*\* Per 17.601(b)(3) of the Howard County Code, no charge shall accrue for a time period until at least 6 hours of the time period has elapsed.

4. Releasing a vehicle after it has been attached but before it has been towed.

Vehicle weighing 8000 lbs or less \$62.50

Vehicle weighing over 8000 lbs \$195

Any other service is free unless specifically requested by vehicle owner

# SPECIFICATIONS AND FEE FOR TRANSCRIPTION AND CERTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS

This fee is set pursuant to Section 2.121 of the Howard County Code that, requires the County Council to prescribe, by resolution, a specification for transcript preparation and a fee to be charged for the costs of transcription and certification.

# **Specifications:**

Paper size 8½" x 11
25 lines per page
12 point type, Courier font
lines numbered, line numbering placed 1" from left edge of page
text placed 1.3" from left edge of page
right margin 0.8"

#### Fee

\$4.00 per page, which includes:

- (a) one certified original transcript to be filed by the agency with the record for court review; and
- (b) one copy of the certified original

# REPRODUCTION OF PUBLIC RECORDS

This fee is set pursuant to Section 4-206 of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, which provides that the official custodian may charge an applicant a reasonable fee for the search, preparation, and reproduction of a public record.

Price per page, for paper copies,

except as provided otherwise below:

\$ .25 for black and white

\$ .50 for color

1. The Department of Fire and Rescue Services may charge for the reproduction of:

a. Fire/ambulance digital reports

The actual cost of a CD or flash drive

- 2. The Police Department may charge fees approved in a separate resolution for the search, preparation, and reproduction of public records.
- 3. The Department of County Administration or County Council may charge for the transfer of digital material to flash drive

The actual cost of the flash drive

4. The Department of Planning and Zoning may charge fees for the reproduction of public records in accordance with the Fee Schedule, attached as Exhibit A.

Notwithstanding the fees listed in Exhibit A, if the actual cost of a service or product the Department provides is different from the fee listed in Exhibit A, the Department may charge a different fee for the product or service, provided that the fee charged may not exceed the Department's actual cost to provide the product or service.

5. A Department may charge a fee approved in a separate Resolution for the reproduction of public records or policy for the reproduction of public records.

# **Electronic Copies**

Unless otherwise provided by the Maryland Public Information Act:

- 1. Electronic copies shall be provided when the record is routinely kept by the agency in an electronic format unless the requestor specifies paper copies;
- 2. The Public Information Office may, but need not, convert paper records to electronic records; and
- 3. Where an electronic response, or portion thereof, is too large to send electronically, the Public Information Office shall convert the response, or portion thereof, to paper, cd, DVD, or flash drive, as the requestor specifies.

# Search and Preparation of Public Records

In addition to any reproduction fees, a County department may charge fees for the search and preparation of public records, provided that no fee may be charged for the first two hours of search and preparation, and provided that the fee charged may not exceed the department's actual cost of search and preparation.

# LARGE FORMAT PRINTING, ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT PROCESSING, RECORDS HANDLING AND COPYING/PRINTINGFEE SCHEDULE Effective July 1, 2024

These fees are authorized under Maryland State Law and the Howard County Charter which allows the County to charge a "reasonable fee" for the reproduction of records. (Section 4-206 of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland: Howard County Charter. Section 906.)

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