

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2024 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 4

Resolution No. 40 - 2024

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

Short Title: Endorsing and authorizing – Application with the Maryland Transit Administration

Title: 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 1, 2024.

By order

Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Read for a second time at a public hearing on April 15, 2024.

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This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted , Adopted with amendments , Failed , Withdrawn , by the County Council on May 6, 2024.

Certified By

Michelle Harrod
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive on May 8, 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**, the Maryland Transit Administration (“MTA”) is the designated recipient
2 in Maryland for grants under the Federal Transit Act; and

3
4 **WHEREAS**, the Administrator of the MTA of the Maryland Department of
5 Transportation is authorized to make grants to counties and to local governments for a mass
6 transportation program of projects; and

7
8 **WHEREAS**, the contract for financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon
9 the County, including the provision by the County of the local share of the project costs in
10 the program; and

11
12 **WHEREAS**, the County will file an application for Operational and Capital funding
13 assistance with the MTA for some or all of the following grants under the Federal Transit
14 Act: Metropolitan & Statewide Planning and Non-Metropolitan Transportation Planning
15 grants (Sections 5303, 5304 and 5305); Urbanized Area Formula Program grants (Section
16 5307/Large Urban); Bus and Bus Facilities grants (Section 5309); Enhanced Mobility for
17 Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310); Formula Grants for Other than
18 Urbanized Areas grants (Section 5311); the Washington Area Grant (WAG); Americans
19 with Disabilities grants; and the State Special Transportation Assistance Program
20 (SSTAP); and

21
22 **WHEREAS**, it is required by the United States Department of Transportation in
23 accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that, in
24 connection with the filing of an application for assistance under the Federal Transit Act,
25 the applicant give an assurance that it will comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of
26 1964 and the United States Department of Transportation requirements thereunder; and

27
28 **WHEREAS**, the County’s goal is that minority business enterprises be utilized to the
29 fullest extent possible in connection with these projects and programs; therefore, definite
30 procedures have been established and are being administered to ensure that minority

1 business shall have the maximum opportunity to compete for construction contracts,
2 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 6 day of May, 2024 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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Clarence Dickerson III, Administrator

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Memorandum

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

From: David Cookson, Acting Administrator *DC*

Date: March 21, 2024

Subject: Testimony in support of County Council resolution endorsing FY 2025 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 the Office of Transportation is requesting Capital Grants to support the purchase of up to four heavy duty buses, fund a plan for reconfiguring the office space of the Central Maryland Transit Facility at 8800 Corridor Road, fund a plan to transition the RTA fleet to zero emission vehicles, and to 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 2025 budgets.

For these reasons, we are requesting Council approval of our FY 25 Transit Assurance Resolution.

Section I. General Information:

Title: FY 2025 Annual Transit Plan (ATP) Application

Funding Agency: Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)-Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)

Application Request: \$7,954,481 in Federal and State Grant Funds (subtotals below)

Purpose of Grant: Howard County Transportation Plan for FY 2025 Operating Assistance and Capital Assistance including facilities.

Section II. Funding:

Operating Grant

Federal/State Funds: \$4,395,860

Howard County Required Match \$ 683,621 (match requirement varies by program)

Total Operating: \$5,079,481

Source of Cash Match: Office of Transportation

Fund: 1000000000

Business Area: 3220

Revenue (Farebox, Advertising): \$863,389

Fund: 2150000000

Business Area: 3220

Capital Grant Funds (bus replacement, plan preparation and vehicle preventive maintenance)

Federal/State Funds: \$2,587,500

Howard County Required Match: \$287,500

Total Capital: \$2,875,000

Office of Transportation - Transit Program
 FY 2025 ATP Funding Plan

FY 25 Grants	Grant Amount	Required Local Match %	Required Local Match \$	Total Project Amount	GRAND TOTAL
OPERATING					
ADA	430,000.00	90/10	47,778.00	477,778.00	
LU	2,326,678.00	75/25	581,669.50	2,908,347.50	
SSTAP	162,520.00	75/25	54,173.00	216,693.00	
WAG	1,476,662.00	0	0.00	1,476,662.00	
SUBTOTAL	4,395,860.00		683,620.50	5,079,480.50	5,079,480.50
CAPITAL					
Zero-Emission Pla	270,000.00	90/10	30,000.00	300,000.00	
Office Reconfigur	90,000.00	90/10	10,000.00	100,000.00	
Preventive Mainte	67,500.00	90/10	7,500.00	75,000.00	
Vehicles	2,160,000.00	90/10	240,000.00	2,400,000.00	
SUBTOTAL	2,587,500.00		287,500.00	2,875,000.00	2,875,000.00
TOTAL	6,983,360.00		971,120.50	7,954,480.50	7,954,480.50

Office of the County Auditor
Auditor’s Analysis

Council Resolution No. 40-2024

Introduced: April 1, 2024

Auditor: Rebecca Gold

Fiscal Impact:

There will not be any direct fiscal impact, as this legislation only endorses and authorizes the County Executive to apply for certain grants.

If the grant applications are approved, the County may expect:

- FY 2025 grant revenues of \$6,983,360 (an increase of \$1,048,621 over expected FY 2024 grant revenues) designated for the Office of Transportation (OOT).
- Expenditures of approximately \$971,121 to meet the County match requirement.

These amounts are estimates. The actual amounts will vary based on grants received. The total project costs and local County match requirement are determined by the State of Maryland.

Per the Administrator of the OOT, all grants in the below table will be appropriated in the FY 2025 Operating Budget. Likewise, \$600,000 of the required match amounts will come from General Fund appropriations in the County Executive’s proposed FY 2025 Operating Budget.

Capital grant fund matching will be paid from the General Fund.

FY 2025 Federal and State Grants & Matching County Funds

Grant Program	FY 2025 Grant Request	Required Match %	Required Match
Urbanized Area Formula Program Grant (Section 5307)	\$ 2,326,678	25.0%	\$ 581,670
State Americans with Disabilities Grants	430,000	10.0%	47,778
Washington Area Grant	1,476,662	0.0%	-
State Special Transportation Assistance Program	162,520	25.0%	54,173
Total Operating	\$ 4,395,860		\$ 683,621

Capital Equipment Grant (Section 5309)	\$ 2,520,000	10.0%	\$ 280,000
Preventative Maintenance (Section 5307)	67,500	10.0%	7,500
Total Capital	\$ 2,587,500		\$ 287,500

TOTAL - FY 2025 Transit Grant Applications	\$ 6,983,360		\$ 971,121
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Source: Administrative Testimony

Purpose:

Council Resolution 40-2024 endorses and authorizes the Howard County Executive to apply for Federal and State grant funding from the Maryland Transit Administration of the Maryland Department of Transportation.

Other Comments:

According to the Administrator, the operating grant funds support:

- 15 fixed route transit routes;
- Paratransit service to provide more than 750,000 annual passenger trips in the RTA service area; and
- Cleaning and maintaining of bus stops, shelters, and other passenger amenities.

The OOT anticipates that the County will continue to overmatch its required local match amounts, as it has done in prior years.

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, stands enacted on _____, 2024.

May 9

Michelle R. Harrod
Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been passed by the yeas and nays of two-thirds of the members of the Council notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, stands enacted on _____, 2024.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having received neither the approval nor the disapproval of the Executive within ten days of its presentation, stands enacted on _____, 2024.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, not having been considered on final reading within the time required by Charter, stands failed for want of consideration on _____, 2024.

Diane Schwartz Jones, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, having been disapproved by the Executive and having failed on passage upon consideration by the Council stands failed on _____, 2024.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill, the withdrawal of which received a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Council, is withdrawn from further consideration on _____, 2024.

Michelle R. Harrod, Administrator to the County Council