Amendment No. 4 to Council Bill No. 36-2025

BY: Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Legislative Day No. 8 Date: May 21, 2025

Amendment No. 4

(This is an Operating Budget amendment to the Agricultural Land Preservation Fund to initiate the New and Beginning Farmer Program which will assist new farmers with establishing their farming operations. The Program will provide space for new farmers to lease property and will provide mentors. It will also provide one-time funding to new farmers to install items like deer fencing and water hydrants and to make one time equipment purchases.)

- In the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance of Howard County, Fiscal Year 2026,
- 2 attached to this Act, amend pages 109 and 113, and the Fund Statement on page 225 as indicated
- on the attached Exhibit A to this Amendment.

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- 5 Correct all subtotals, totals, and other calculated figures within this Act to accommodate this
- 6 Amendment including adding any applicable Fund Statements to the Act.

Howard County, MD

	FY2026		FY2026
	Proposed	Amendment	Revised
Fund : 04 - Agricultural Land Preservation			
Department : 1100 - Department of County Administration			
Fund: 2020000000 - Agric Land Preserv			
Fund Center: 1200000000 - Office of Agriculture			
999999999999999999900 - Administration			
50 - Personnel Costs	537,880	10,000	547,880
51 - Contractual Services	46,478	140,000	186,478
52 - Supplies and Materials	171,150	0	171,150
53 - Capital Outlay	220,000	50,000	270,000
58 - Expense Other	65,299	0	65,299
Total	1,040,807	200,000	1,240,807
Total 1200000000 - Office of Agriculture	1,040,807	200,000	1,240,807
Total 2020000000 - Agric Land Preserv	1,040,807	200,000	1,240,807
Total 1100 - Department of County Administration	1,040,807	200,000	1,240,807

Howard County, MD

	FY2026		FY2026
	Proposed	Amendment	Revised
Fund : 04 - Agricultural Land Preservation			
Department : D000 - Economic Development Authority			
Fund: 2020000000 - Agric Land Preserv			
Fund Center: D000000000 - Economic Development Author	ority		
999999999999999999900 - Administration			
51 - Contractual Services	734,000	0	734,000
Total	734,000	0	734,000
Total D000000000 - Economic Development Authority	734,000	0	734,000
Total 2020000000 - Agric Land Preserv	734,000	0	734,000
Total D000 - Economic Development Authority	734,000	0	734,000
Total 04 - Agricultural Land Preservation	10,569,138	200,000	10,769,138

Governmental Funds

Agricultural Preservation and Promotion Fund

Description

The Agricultural Land Preservation & Promotion Fund supports the Agricultural Land Preservation and Promotion Program, which is designed to preserve the open character and agricultural use of land in Howard County. The Department of Planning & Zoning is charged by Howard County Code with implementation of the program. Revenue comes from 25% of the local transfer tax, investment income, and the development transfer tax paid when land assessed for agriculture is converted to other uses.

	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Estimated	FY 2026 Budget
Revenues			
Transfer Tax	7,713,451	7,780,000	7,780,000
Other	4,570,262	0	0
Appropriation From Fund Balance	0	0	2,789,138
			2,989,138/
Total Revenues	12,283,713	7,780,000	10,569,138
			10,769,138
Expenses			
Personnel Costs	294,333	875,365	1,006,331
			<u>1,016,331</u>
Contractual Services	3,489,328	2,207,225	1,982,173
0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	47.500	00.007	<u>2,122,173</u>
Supplies and Materials	47,562	62,607	171,150
Capital Outlay	0	0	220,000 270,000
Debt Service	16,179,919	5,535,690	6,122,760
Expense Other	986,643	650,614	1,066,724
Operating Transfers	952,000	0	0
Total Expenses	21,949,785	9,331,501	10,569,138
			10,769,138
Fund Balance			
Beginning Balance	39,017,155	29,351,083	27,799,582
Net Change Current Year	(9,666,072)	(1,551,501)	0
Appropriation from Fund Balance	0	0	(2,789,138)
			(2,989,138)
Fund Balance Ending - Unrestricted	29,351,083	27,799,582	25,010,444
			<u>24,810,444</u>