

INTRODUCED \_\_\_\_\_  
PUBLIC HEARING \_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCIL ACTION \_\_\_\_\_  
EXEC. ACTION \_\_\_\_\_  
EFFECTIVE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**County Council of Howard County, Maryland**

2026 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 1

**Bill No. 1 -2026**

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

Short title: Authorizing and empowering – bonds - \$7,600,000

Title: AN ACT for the purpose of authorizing and empowering Howard County, Maryland to borrow money in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$7,600,000 on its full faith and credit, and issue and sell its bonds therefor, to be used to pay costs of a capital project, more particularly described in the County's Fiscal Year 2026 Capital Budget, and to pay costs of issuance of such bonds; authorizing the County to issue bond and grant anticipation notes or to enter into installment purchase agreements for payment of portions of such costs; and to levy taxes upon the assessable property within the County sufficient, together with other available funds, to pay the debt service on such obligations; and providing for and determining various matters in connection therewith.

Introduced and read first time \_\_\_\_\_, 2026. Ordered posted and hearing scheduled.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Having been posted and notice of time & place of hearing & title of Bill having been published according to Charter, the Bill was read for a second time at a public hearing on \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

This Bill was read the third time on \_\_\_\_\_, 2026 and Passed \_\_\_\_, Passed with amendments \_\_\_\_\_, Failed \_\_\_\_\_.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026 at \_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

By order \_\_\_\_\_  
Michelle Harrod, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive \_\_\_\_\_, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
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 **Recitals**

2 The County Council of Howard County, Maryland (the “County Council”) has adopted a Capital  
3 Budget for Howard County, Maryland (the “County”) for the fiscal year 2026 (the “Capital Budget”)  
4 pursuant to Council Bill 36-2025, and included therein certain appropriations to pay the costs of County  
5 capital projects, as more particularly described in Appendix A attached hereto (the “Project”). Pursuant to  
6 Transfer of Appropriation Ordinance No. 1 Fiscal Year 2026, which has been adopted by the County  
7 Council prior to the passage of this Act, the County has modified the funding sources for the Project by  
8 transferring from various other capital projects to the Project an aggregate appropriation of \$7,600,000 in  
9 bond funding to finance and refinance the Project, including payment of the costs of issuance of any  
10 obligation issued to evidence such borrowing.

11 **Now therefore, in accordance with the provisions of Article VI of the Charter of Howard**  
12 **County:**

13 **Section 1. Be it enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland,** That the County  
14 finds it necessary to borrow and is hereby authorized and empowered to borrow on its full faith and credit,  
15 and issue and sell its bonds therefor, at one time or from time to time, an aggregate principal amount not  
16 exceeding \$7,600,000 the proceeds thereof to be used to finance and refinance the Project more particularly  
17 described in Appendix A attached hereto and in the Capital Budget, including without limitation, the cost  
18 of planning, design, construction, reconstruction, furnishing, equipping, improvements, renovations,  
19 remodeling, enlargements, engineering services, architect services, surveys, landscaping, site development,  
20 evaluation studies, land acquisition and related items, appurtenances and incidental activities. Proceeds of  
21 any bonds authorized by this Act may also be used to pay costs of issuance of such bonds.

22 **Section 2. And be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland,**  
23 That, pursuant to and in accordance with Section 19-212 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated  
24 Code of Maryland, as amended, the County is also authorized to issue bond anticipation notes in  
25 anticipation of the issuance of the bonds authorized by this Act and described in Section 1 hereof, and all  
26 references to “bonds” or “obligations” in this Act shall include such bond anticipation notes, unless the

1 context clearly requires a contrary meaning. It is intended that the aggregate principal amount of issued  
2 and outstanding bond anticipation notes when added to the aggregate principal amount of issued and  
3 outstanding bonds in anticipation of which such notes were issued, shall not exceed the aggregate principal  
4 amount set forth in Section 1 of this Act at any time. The County will agree in each ordinance described in  
5 Section 5 of this Act relating to any notes issued pursuant to this Act to pay such notes and the interest and  
6 premium, if any, thereon from the proceeds of the bonds in anticipation of the sale of which such notes are  
7 issued and other available funds, and the County will agree to issue such bonds when, and as soon as, the  
8 reason for deferring their issuance no longer exists.

9 **Section 3. And be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland,**

10 That, in connection with the acquisition of real property as part of the Project, if any, the County may incur  
11 all or any portion of the indebtedness authorized by this Act for such acquisition by entering into an  
12 installment purchase agreement pursuant to and in accordance with Section 4.201A of the Howard County  
13 Code (“Section 4.201A”) or any successor provisions of law in lieu of issuing bonds for such acquisition.  
14 The principal amount of any such installment purchase agreement shall not exceed the lesser of (a) the  
15 maximum principal amount permitted by Section 4.201A or (b) the portion of the amount to be borrowed  
16 for the Project (as set forth in Section 1 hereof) which relates to such acquisition. All references to “bonds”  
17 or “obligations” in this Act shall include such installment purchase agreements, unless the context clearly  
18 requires a contrary meaning.

19 **Section 4. And be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland,**

20 That the County Council of the County, by an ordinance or ordinances adopted from time to time in  
21 accordance with Article VI of the Charter and other applicable provisions of law and policies of the County,  
22 shall provide for (a) the issuance and sale of, (b) the maximum principal amount, designation, form, tenor  
23 and denomination or denominations of, (c) the dates of the first maturity and the last maturity (not more  
24 than 30 years after the date of issue) of, and (d) the interest rate or rates per annum (or the method of  
25 determining such rate or rates) payable on, any bonds or other obligations issued from time to time under

1 this Act; and may by any such ordinance, or by separate resolution, provide that the issue of bonds or other  
2 obligations hereby authorized be consolidated with one or more other issues.

3 **Section 5. And be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland,**

4 That for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on such bonds or other obligations as the same  
5 shall become payable, the County Council shall levy annually ad valorem taxes upon the assessable  
6 property in the County sufficient, together with other available funds, to pay the principal of and interest  
7 on such bonds or other obligations until all of such bonds or other obligations shall mature and be redeemed.  
8 The full faith and credit and unlimited taxing power of the County are hereby irrevocably pledged to the  
9 payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds or other obligations.

10 **Section 6. And be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland,**

11 That any bonds or other obligations issued from time to time under this Act are specifically exempt from  
12 the provisions of Sections 19-205 and 19-206 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of  
13 Maryland, as amended, and any successor provision of law.

14 **Section 7. And be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland,**

15 That all bonds or other obligations authorized hereby shall be issued within four years from the date this  
16 Act becomes effective. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if bond anticipation notes are issued within such  
17 period in accordance with Section 2 hereof, the bonds authorized hereby may be issued until the final  
18 maturity date of such notes.

19 **Section 8. And be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland,**

20 That the County anticipates that a portion of the costs of the Project may be paid prior to the issuance of  
21 the bonds or other obligations authorized hereby. The amount of such costs so paid will depend on various  
22 factors, including, without limitation, the timing and speed of progress on the Project, the availability of  
23 other funds to pay such costs on an interim basis, bond and money market conditions and compliance with  
24 federal and State laws and regulations.

1           Accordingly, the County reasonably expects to reimburse costs of the Project (as described herein)  
2   with proceeds of the bonds or other obligations authorized hereby, such bonds or other obligations to be  
3   issued by the County in the maximum principal amount of \$7,600,000.

4           **Section 10. And be it further enacted by the County Council of Howard County, Maryland,**

5   That this Act shall take effect sixty-one (61) days after its enactment.

**School System Project – Reauthorizations/New Authorizations**

<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Amount to be Borrowed (Reauthorizations)</b>	<b>Amount to be Borrowed (New Authorizations)</b>
E1036 – FY2024 OAKLAND MILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL RENOVATION/ADDITION The Oakland Mills Middle School project will renovate and add seats to the existing facility.	\$0	\$7,600,000
<b>School System Project – Reauthorizations/New Authorizations</b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$7,600,000</u></b>
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE BORROWED:</b>		<b><u>\$7,600,000</u></b>