

COUNTY COUNCIL
OF
HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND

2026 Legislative Session

Legislative Day No. 9
July 6, 2026

HOWARD COUNTY TO WIT:

The Chair called the legislative session to order at 7:04 p.m.

Chair Opel Jones, Vice Chair Christiana Rigby, Council Member Deb Jung, Council Member Liz Walsh and Council Member David Yungmann were present.

Michelle Harrod, Council Administrator; Gary Kuc, County Solicitor; Amanda Mihill, Assistant County Solicitor; Jen Sager, Legislative Coordinator; Nick Rinehart, Senior Administrative Analyst; Isaiah Anderson, Executive Assistant I; and Trish Hammond, Administrative Assistant were also present.

APPROVE JOURNAL

The Chair moved to approve the Journal of:

Legislative Session – June 1, 2026

The motion was seconded by Ms. Rigby.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve the Journal was: Yea: Council Members Jones, Jung, Rigby, Walsh, and Yungmann.

The motion to approve the Journal passed.

APPROVE MINUTES

The Chair moved to approve the Minutes of:

Special Meeting to Hold Closed Session – June 1, 2026
Special Meeting to Hold Closed Session – June 8, 2026
Legislative Public Hearing – June 15, 2026

The motion was seconded by Ms. Rigby.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve the Minutes was: Yea: Council Members Jones, Jung, Rigby, and Yungmann. Abstain: Council Member Walsh.

The motion to approve the Minutes passed.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

Appointments

CR108-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Appointment – Kelsey E. Ritter - Environmental Sustainability Board

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Kelsey E. Ritter to the Environmental Sustainability Board

CR109-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Appointment- Levita Y. Lowe, MPA, PMP- Human Rights Commission

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Levita Y. Lowe, MPA, PMP to the Human Rights Commission

CR110-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Appointment- Faith Matranga- Human Rights Commission

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Faith Matranga to the Human Rights Commission

CR111-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Appointment – Brent K. Jones– Commission on Disabilities

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Brent K. Jones to the Commission on Disabilities

CR112-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Appointment – Omar J. Jones IV – Commission for Veterans and Military Families

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Omar J. Jones IV to the Howard County Commission for Veterans and Military Families

CR113-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Appointment – Katharine T. Hemady – Board of Social Services

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Katharine T. Hemady to the Board of Social Services

Reappointments

CR114-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Reappointment – Antonia B. Watts – Board of Library Trustees

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Antonia B. Watts to the Board of Library Trustees

CR115-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Reappointment – Mason Godsey – Planning Board

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Mason Godsey to the Planning Board

CR116-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
Short Title: Reappointment – M. Shafeeq Ahmed, MD, MBA – Board of Directors of the Economic Development Authority

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of M. Shafeeq Ahmed, MD, MBA to the Board of Directors of the Economic Development Authority

CR117-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Reappointment – Roberta Kelly – Cemetery Preservation Advisory Board

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Roberta Kelly to the Cemetery Preservation Advisory Board

CR118-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Reappointment – James Bell – Advisory Board on Consumer Protection

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of James Bell to the Advisory Board on Consumer Protection

CR119-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Reappointment – William Phillip Webster – Environmental Sustainability Board

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of William Phillip Webster to the Environmental Sustainability Board

Financial

CB46-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Amendment – Board of Education Capital Improvement Program – Fiscal Year 2027

Title: AN EMERGENCY ACT amending the Capital Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2027 to increase the total Howard County Public School System (HCPSS) projects appropriation by \$6,068,000 due to additional State Aid funding; and declaring that this Act is an Emergency Bill necessary to meet a public emergency affecting life, health or property *expires – 09/14/2026; extended – 10/19/2026; extended twice – 11/23/2026*

TAO1-FY2027 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Transferring \$2,947,000 – E1059 – Roofing

Title: AN ACT transferring \$2,947,000 in County funding from capital project E1059 - Roofing to capital projects E1058 and E1060, Systemic Renovation and Faulkner Ridge Center, to align with revised Board of Education requests due to \$6,060,000 additional State grant funding received for school projects

CB47-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Authorizing and empowering – bonds - \$2,947,000

Title: AN ACT for the purpose of authorizing and empowering Howard County, Maryland to borrow money in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$2,947,000 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 2027 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

expires – 09/14/2026; extended – 10/19/2026; extended twice – 11/23/2026

CR120-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive
Short Title: Howard County Board of Education – Fiscal Year 2027 – Operating budget amendment

Title: A RESOLUTION approving an amendment to the operating budget of the Board of Education in order to increase its General Fund by \$6,818,972 to reflect an increase of \$25,078 in State funding and the additional use of \$6,793,894 in the Howard County School System's fund balance; to increase its Restricted Funds by \$21,287,647 to reflect increased appropriation in the Food and Nutrition, Grants and School Construction funds, primarily due to higher than expected State and Federal funding; and generally relating to the Fiscal Year 2027 Operating Budget of the Board of Education

General

CR121-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Endorsing a designation – Elkridge – Sustainable Community

Title: A RESOLUTION endorsing the designation of Elkridge as a Sustainable Community, for approval either directly by the Department of Housing and Community Development of the State of Maryland or through the Smart Growth Subcabinet of the State of Maryland; adopting the Sustainable Community Plan described in the County's Sustainable Community Application, indicating certain endorsement by the County Executive; authorizing certain signatures; and requiring certain copies be sent to the Department of Housing and Community Development

CR122-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Adopting – Delegated authority for Director of Housing and Community Development

Title: A RESOLUTION granting delegated authority to the Director of Housing and Community Development to sign as the certifying officer for environmental review records in HEROS (HUD Environmental Review Online System) authorized under 24 CFR Parts 50 and 58

CR123-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Conveyance of approximately 48.635 acres at Troy Park – Howard County Board of Education

Title: A RESOLUTION pursuant to Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code declaring that approximately 48.635 acres of land owned by Howard County, Maryland located at Troy Park in Elkridge, Howard County, is no longer needed by the County for public purposes; authorizing the County Executive to convey the property to the Board of Education of Howard County, subject to a deed restriction that the County Properties shall be used for a future public school or they will revert to County ownership; waiving the advertising and bidding requirements of Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code in order to convey the property; and providing that the County Executive is not bound to convey the property if he finds that it may have a further public use

CB48-2026 - Introduced by Christiana Rigby

Short Title: Clean Air Integrity Act

Title: AN ACT amending certain definitions; modifying certain establishments from exceptions to the prohibition on smoking in public places; making certain technical corrections; and generally relating to smoking in public places in Howard County

expires – 09/14/2026; extended – 10/19/2026; extended twice – 11/23/2026

FINAL CONSIDERATION

Appointments

CR100-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Appointment – Eileen Yao Wu – Asian American and Pacific Islander Commission

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Eileen Yao Wu to the Asian American and Pacific Islander Commission

CR101-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Appointing- Elizabeth A. Leiba- Commission for Women

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Elizabeth A. Leiba to the Commission for Women

CR102-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Appointment – Lucia Reyna – La Alianza Latina Commission

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Lucia Reyna to the La Alianza Latina Commission

CR103-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Appointment – Wanda I. Colon Canales – La Alianza Latina Commission

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Wanda I. Colon Canales to the La Alianza Latina Commission

Chair moved to approve Council Resolutions 100 through 103-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rigby.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Resolutions 100 through 103-2026 was Yea: Council Members Jones, Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann.

The motion to approve Council Resolutions 100 through 103-2026 passed.

Financial

CB40-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Lease Agreement – 38,285 rentable square feet – 7138 Columbia Gateway Drive

Title: AN ACT pursuant to Section 612 of the Howard County Charter, approving a Lease Agreement between Howard County, Maryland and Gateway Crossing 95, LLC a Maryland limited liability company for the lease of approximately 38,285 rentable square feet of space located at 7138 Columbia Gateway Drive, Columbia, Maryland; and authorizing the County Executive to take certain actions in connection with the Agreement

expires – 08/10/2026; extended – 09/14/2026; extended twice – 10/19/2026

Chair moved to approve Council Bill 40-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rigby.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Bill 40-2026 was Yea: Council Members Jones, Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann.

The motion to approve Council Bill 40-2026 passed.

CB41-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Fourth Amendment to Lease – 12,477rentable square feet – 6095 Marshalee Drive, Elkridge

Title: AN ACT pursuant to Section 612 of the Howard County Charter, approving a Fourth Amendment to Lease between Howard County, Maryland and Merritt-CPTF Lyndwood, for the lease of approximately 12,477 rentable square feet of space located at 6095 Marshalee Drive, Elkridge, Columbia, Maryland; and authorizing the County Executive to take certain actions in connection with the Agreement
expires – 08/10/2026; extended – 09/14/2026; extended twice – 10/19/2026

Chair moved to approve Council Bill 41-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rigby.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Bill 41-2026 was Yea: Council Members Jones, Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann.

The motion to approve Council Bill 41-2026 passed.

CB42-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Issuance, sale and delivery - \$18,169,588 bonds - Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Administration

Title: AN ORDINANCE authorizing the issuance, sale and delivery of up to \$18,169,588 bonds, pursuant to a bond enabling law; providing that such bonds shall be general obligations of the County; authorizing the County Executive to specify, prescribe, determine, provide for or approve the final principal amounts, maturity schedules, interest rates and redemption provisions for such bonds, and other matters, details, forms, documents or procedures and to determine the method of sale of such bonds; providing for the disbursement of the proceeds of such bonds and for the levying of taxes to pay debt service on such bonds; and providing for and determining various matters in connection therewith
expires – 08/10/2026; extended – 09/14/2026; extended twice – 10/19/2026

Chair moved to approve Council Bill 42-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rigby.

The roll call vote by the Administrator to approve Council Bill 42-2026 was Yea: Council Member Jones, Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann.

The motion to approve Council Bill 42-2026 passed.

CR104-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Endorsing State Financing – First Source Electronics

Title: A RESOLUTION endorsing the provision of financing by the State Department of Commerce for an economic development project in Howard County and certifying that the project is consistent with the County's goals for economic development

Chair moved to approve Council Resolution 104-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rigby.

The roll call vote by the Administrator to approve Council Resolution 104-2026 was Yea: Council Member Jones, Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann.

The motion to approve Council Resolution 104-2026 passed.

CR105-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Adopting – HUD Annual Action Plan

Title: A RESOLUTION adopting Howard County's FFY2026 Annual Action Plan for housing and community services to qualify for the receipt of federal Community Development Block Grant and Home Investment Partnership Program funds

Chair moved to approve Council Resolution 105-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rigby.

The roll call vote by the Administrator to approve Council Resolution 105-2026 was Yea: Council Member Jones, Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann.

The motion to approve Council Resolution 105-2026 passed.

General

CR106-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Adopting the School Capacity Chart

Title: A RESOLUTION adopting the School Capacity Chart, pursuant to the Adequate Public Facilities Act of Howard County, to designate the elementary school regions, and the elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools constrained for new residential development during each of the following ten years as based on the definition of program capacity as defined by Howard County Public School System policy and requiring a certain joint special work meeting in accordance with Section 16.1103(d) of the Howard County Code

Chair moved to approve Council Resolution 106-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rigby.

The roll call vote by the Administrator to approve Council Resolution 106-2026 was Yea: Council Member Jones, Jung, Rigby and Yungmann. Nay: Council Member Walsh.

The motion to approve Council Resolution 106-2026 passed.

CR107-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Adopting the Housing Unit Allocation Chart

Title: A RESOLUTION adopting the Housing Unit Allocation Chart pursuant to the Adequate Public Facilities Act of Howard County

Chair moved to approve Council Resolution 107-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rigby.

The roll call vote by the Administrator to approve Council Resolution 106-2026 was Yea: Council Member Jones, Rigby and Yungmann. Nay: Council Member Jung and Walsh.

The motion to approve Council Resolution 107-2026 passed.

CB43-2026 - Introduced by Opel Jones

Short Title: Howard County Designated Days of Commemoration – Established

Title: AN ACT designating certain days of commemoration; requiring certain legislative findings regarding the religious, ethnic, and cultural heritage of County residents; authorizing the Chief Administrative Officer to designate certain days of commemoration; and generally relating to County employees and the religious, ethnic, and cultural heritage of County residents
expires – 08/10/2026; extended – 09/14/2026; extended twice – 10/19/2026

Chair moved to approve Council Bill 43-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rigby.

The roll call vote by the Administrator to approve Council Bill 43-2026 was Yea: Council Member Jones, Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann.

The motion to approve Council Bill 43-2026 passed.

CB44-2026 - Introduced by Liz Walsh

Short Title: Board of Appeals – Administrative Agency Required to Appear

Title: AN ACT amending the Rules of Procedure of the Board of Appeals to require that a representative from the Administrative Agency appear before the Board of Appeals when named as a Party to certain Administrative Appeals; and generally relating to the Board of Appeals
expires – 08/10/2026; extended – 09/14/2026; extended twice – 10/19/2026

Council Member Walsh moved to approve Council Bill 44-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jung.

Council Member Walsh moved to approve Amendment 1 to Council Bill 44-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jung.

Amendment 1 to Council Bill 44-2026

(This Amendment makes a technical correction to clarify instances when the Administrative Agency shall appear before the Board of Appeals.)

The roll call vote by the Administrator to approve Amendment 1 to Council Bill 44-2026 was Yea: Council Member Jones, Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann.

The motion to approve Amendment 1 to Council Bill 44-2026 passed.

The roll call vote by the Administrator to approve Council Bill 44-2026 as amended was Yea: Council Member Jung and Walsh. Nay: Council Member Jones, Rigby and Yungmann.

The motion to approve Council Bill 44-2026 as amended failed.

CB45-2026 - Introduced by Liz Walsh

Short Title: Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreements – Reporting Student Yields

Title: AN ACT requiring the Director of the Department of Housing & Community Development (DHCD) to include annual reporting of student yields of housing developments that are subject to an approved Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement in the Annual Analysis of Moderate Income Housing programs under Section 13.402(j) of the Howard County Code; and generally related to reporting requirements
expires – 08/10/2026; extended – 09/14/2026; extended twice – 10/19/2026

Council Member Walsh moved to approve Council Bill 45-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jung.

Council Member Jones moved to approve Amendment 1 to Council Bill 45-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Jung.

Amendment 1 to Council Bill 45-2026

(This Amendment clarifies that the Director receives student generation yields from HCPSS.)

Council Member Jung moved to approve Amendment 1 to Amendment 1 to Council Bill 45-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Walsh.

Amendment 1 to Amendment 1 to Council Bill 45-2026

(This Amendment adds language to specify that the actual student yields from PILOT developments should be provided and to require Director to receive this information from the Howard County Public School System)

The roll call vote by the Administrator to approve Amendment 1 to Amendment 1 to Council Bill 45-2026 as amended was Yea: Council Member Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann. Nay: Council Member Jones.

The motion to approve Amendment 1 to Amendment 1 to Council Bill 45-2026 passed.

The roll call vote by the Administrator to approve Amendment 1 as amended to Council Bill 45-2026 was Yea: Council Member Jones, Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann.

The motion to approve Amendment 1 as amended to Council Bill 45-2026 passed.

The roll call vote to approve Council Bill 45-2026 as amended was Yea: Council Member Jung, Walsh and Yungmann. Nay: Council Member Jones and Rigby.

The motion to approve Council Bill 45-2026 as amended passed.

TABLED

Appointments

CR56-2026 - Introduced by The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

Short Title: Appointment - J. Jason Zhao – Asian American and Pacific Islander Commission

Title: A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of J. Jason Zhao to the Asian American and Pacific Islander Commission

Chair moved to remove Council Resolution 56-2026 from the table. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rigby.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator to remove Council Resolution 6-2026 from the table was Yea: Council Members Jones, Jung, Rigby, Walsh and Yungmann.

The motion to remove Council Resolution 56-2026 from the table passed.

Chair moved to approve Council Resolution 56-2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Rigby.

The roll call vote called by the Administrator on the motion to approve Council Resolution 56-2026 was Yea: Council Members Jones, Jung, Rigby, Walsh, and Yungmann.

The motion to approve Council Resolution 56-2026 as passed.

Adjourned at 7:47 p.m.