

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2021 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-106-2021

Draft No.: 1

Committee: Committee of the Whole

Date: 10/21/2021

Action: Favorable

REPORT: Favorable as amended, 9-0: Council Members Hawkins, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Taveras, and Turner. Absent: Anderson-Walker and Streeter.

The Prince George's County Council convened as the Committee of the Whole on October 21, 2021, to consider CR-106-2021, a Resolution concerning Local Impact Grant (LIG) Funds Multiyear Spending Plan. CR-106-2021 was introduced on October 5, 2021. The County Executive first submitted the multiyear plan for Fiscal Years 2022 – 2024 to the Council on June 9, 2020, and the Council provided its comments by a letter from Chair Hawkins on July 13, 2021. The Local Development Council (LDC) reviewed the plan at its August 18, 2021 meeting, and its recommendations on the multiyear plan are dated August 20, 2021. The comments from the LDC and the Chair revolve around the timeline and the process for adopting the plan.

Attachment A reflects a total spending plan for FY 2022 as \$8,653,300. The enclosed plan specifies the use of LIG funds from Fiscal Years 2022 – 2024. The uses outlined in State Government Article, Section 9-1A-31 by which the LIG funds “shall be used for improvements in the communities in the immediate proximity of the video lottery facilities and may be used for the following purposes – ‘infrastructure improvements, facilities, public safety, sanitation, economic and community development, including housing and other public services and improvements.’” Additionally, the FY 2022 components of the plan have been included in the FY 2022 Approved Budget enacted by the County Council on May 27, 2021. Fiscal Year 2022 expenditures are appropriated in the current approved operating budget and expenditures for future years will be subject to appropriation in the budget process.

State law requires that the County develop a multiyear plan for the expenditure of the local impact grant funds for services and improvements in consultation with the Local Development Council. County law requires that before submitting the multiyear plan to the Local Development Council for review and comment, the County Executive must provide the County Council with thirty (30) days to review, comment, and make recommendations on the multiyear plan. The County Executive is then required to make “best efforts” to accommodate the recommendations of the County Council prior to submitting the multiyear plan to the Local Development Council. After the Local Development Council's review, comment and recommendations on the multiyear plan, the County Executive must transmit the report to the County Council for final action.

A note was made during the discussion acknowledging that the number of scholarships has decreased due to revenues. A percentage must be spent on certain items as county law requires, decreasing the amount available for scholarships. Next year, the Office of Management and Budget anticipates it is possible that the number could increase. It was requested that the administration prioritize the scholarships.

Council Member Turner reminded the Council that the Local Development Council letters in recent years mention the process and that he feels those conversations should continue.

The Office of Law finds CR-106-2021 to be in proper legislative form with no legal impediments to its adoption.

The Policy Analysis Group finds that the adoption of CR-106-2021 should not have a direct fiscal impact on the County as it approves a spending plan for State local impact grant funds.

After discussion, the Prince George's County Council, sitting as the Committee of the Whole voted CR-106-2021 out favorably, 9-0.