

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2024 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-075-2024

Draft No.: 1

Committee: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Date: 10/08/2024

Action: FAVORABLE

REPORT: Committee Vote: Favorable, 9-0-1 (In favor: Chair Ivey, Council Members Blegay, Burroughs, Dernoga, Fisher, Harrison, Olson, Oriadha, Watson) (Abstain: Council Member Hawkins)

The Prince George's County Council convened as the Committee of the Whole (COW) on October 8, 2024, to consider CR-075-2024. On this day, the County Council also held a public hearing on the Resolution. On Tuesday, September 10, 2024, the County Council introduced CR-075-2024.

The Planning, Housing and Economic Development Director gave an overview of the Resolution and the Policy Analysis submitted by the Budget and Policy Analysis Division. The County Executive transmitted this Resolution for the Council's consideration to approve and adopt an amendment to the Prince George's County Fiscal Year ("FY") 2025 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development by adding new Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") Program activities. These eligible activities were not originally funded or described in the FY 2025 Annual Action Plan.

The Resolution reprograms and reallocates eight hundred twenty thousand, six hundred one dollars (\$820,601) in CDBG Program funds from the County FY 2020, FY 2021, FY 2022, and FY 2023 Annual Action Plans, approved in prior years for the new CDBG activities.

The Budget and Policy Analysis Division submitted a policy statement stating that the Resolution may have an adverse direct fiscal impact because eight hundred twenty thousand six hundred one dollars will be reallocated from funds added in previous years. The indirect impact is that the Resolution aligns with the Plan 2035 goals and focuses on goals set in the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan, prioritizing affordable housing and supporting high-quality public infrastructure improvements.

Ms. Aspasia Xypolia, Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), explained that the Resolution is a smaller funding round done occasionally when funds from completed projects from previous years are available.

The funds must be expended to continue receiving funding, and DHCD generally looks for shovel-ready projects to fund.

Ms. Terry Bell, with the Office of Law, stated that the Resolution is in proper legislative format, legally sufficient, and has no impediments to adoption.

Ms. Sakinda Skinner, County Council Liaison, stated that the County Executive's Office requested a favorable Committee of the Whole recommendation on the Resolution.

Council Member Burroughs noted that the list of projects is highly inequitable, it leaves out the southern part of the County. The attachments only reflect projects in the northern part of the County. After speaking with the Administration and scheduling to meet with groups in the southern portion of the County to educate the organizations, there is a positive path forward.

On a motion made by Vice Chair Harrison, seconded by Council Member Fisher, the County Council Committee of the Whole voted 9-0-1 favorably on CR-075-2024.