

# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

## COMMITTEE REPORT

2021 Legislative Session

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**Reference No.:** CR-037-2021

**Draft No.:** 2

**Committee:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**Date:** 05/04/2021

**Action:** FAV(A)

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### REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable as amended, 10-0 (In favor: Council Members Hawkins, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Harrison, Franklin, Ivey, Streeter, Taveras, and Turner)

The Committee of the Whole convened on May 4, 2021 to consider CR-37-2021, a Resolution for the purpose of amending the Prince George's County Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Action Plan for the Department of Housing and Community Development by adding the Pathway to Purchase Program (formerly known as *My Home* Program), an eligible activity not originally funded or described in the FY 2021 Annual Action Plan. Additionally, this Resolution will amend the FY 2021 Annual Action Plan by reprogramming and reallocating seven hundred sixty-one thousand, five-hundred fifty-three dollars (\$761,553) in HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds from the FY 2019 Annual Action Plan to support the project.

The Pathway to Purchase Program will assist income eligible first-time homebuyers to purchase eligible residential properties by providing assistance as needed for mortgage principal reduction, down payment and/or closing costs. The Redevelopment Authority of Prince George's County, Maryland administers the operations of the County's Pathway to Purchase Program.

Ms. Aspasia Xypolia, Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) was present and introduced Ms. Pamela Wilson, DHCD's Housing Development Program Manager, to provide a summary on income eligibility, purchase price limits as well as other details and requirements of the Pathway to Purchase Program. The additional funding will allow DHCD to continue to administer the Program for approximately twelve additional months given that the current funding will be exhausted by the end of the current fiscal year. The funding will support seventy-five to eighty additional households. In response to Council Members' inquiries concerning eligibility and prioritization of the Program for current County residents, Ms. Wilson indicated that DHCD will have to look deeper into prioritization since these are Federal funds which have certain limitations and restricts targeting.

The Office of Law reviewed CR-37-2021 and found it to be in proper legislative form with no legal impediments to its adoption. However, technical errors were identified and provided in an amendment sheet as follows:

- Page 1, Line 1:  
After “15A-107” insert “Citizen Action Plan”
- Page 2, Line 15:  
Strike “Program. All” and insert “Program, all”
- Page 2, Line 22:  
After “15A-106” insert “-Review and Approval of the Five-Year Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan and Annual Action Plan.”
- Page 2, Line 21:  
After “15A-105(a)(2)” insert “-Plan Annual Housing and Community Development Action Plan – content”
- Page 2, Line 30:  
After the word “part” and before the word “hereof” insert “of the record”
- Page 3, Line 3:  
After the word “part” and before the word “hereof” insert “of the record”

The Office of Audits and Investigations submitted a Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement dated May 3, 2021 which indicated that adoption of CR-37-2021 would represent no direct fiscal impact to the County as the \$761,553 funds proposed to support this project are being re-allocated from activities under the FY 2019 Annual Action Plan. Over time, adoption of CR-37-2021 could potentially represent a positive impact on the County’s revenue as it would collect property and recordation taxes from new homebuyers to the County. In addition, it would assist with reducing the available homes, which ensures that vacancy rates are lower.

Following the presentation and response to Council Members’ questions, the Committee of the Whole voted favorable, 10-0, on CR-37-2021 including the Office of Law technical amendments.