



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

January 14, 2025

The Honorable Nicole A. Williams
Lowe House Office Building, Room 207
6 Bladen St.,
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Michael A. Jackson
Miller Senate Office Building, 3 West Wing
11 Bladen St.
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Williams and Chair Jackson:

This year, as we begin the 447th session of the General Assembly in Annapolis, we are honored to work alongside the hard-working Prince George's County delegation to advance the interests of our community and to move Maryland forward.

There is no doubt this will be a difficult budget cycle for Maryland. According to recent estimates, Maryland is facing an almost \$3 billion dollar deficit in the fiscal year 2026 budget. Despite this, we are going to work together and bring home everything our residents deserve, minding the fiscal realities of this new budget year. Even with the state facing this deficit, I am confident that we will continue to build on our success in previous legislative sessions.

Our work along the Blue Line Corridor is an example of what we and the state can accomplish together and even in difficult fiscal times, we must continue to invest in this plan. Regardless of whether the Washington Commanders stay in Maryland, our Blue Line Corridor projects are a sound economic investment that stands alone, benefitting our entire community and the state, by bringing new jobs, additional revenue and the amenities that the communities surrounding the stadium have been waiting decades for. We have seen the state make significant investments in its other sports and entertainment district in the Baltimore region and we look forward to working with the state to secure the same type of investment for our community.

Our additional joint priorities reflect our shared understanding of the realities of the state budget and the needs of our residents. We are working to secure funding for investments in healthcare and infrastructure that help protect our community, specifically:

- \$30 million for construction of the Adventist Health hospital in Fort Washington.
- \$19 million in additional funding to continue construction of the Luminis Women's Health Tower.

- \$9 million for the MedStar ICU Bed Expansion and Critical Care Tower.
- \$15 million for the University of Maryland Capital Region Hospital Bed Expansion.
- \$5 million to expand CCI's Primary Care Capacity.
- \$4.5 million in funding for the important Health Assures program, which provides low-cost or free medical, behavioral, and dental care to the uninsured.

In addition to these critical investments in our healthcare infrastructure, we are also seeking funding for infrastructure projects that will improve our climate resilience, including:

- \$12 million for flood reduction efforts in Calvert Hills.
- \$2.8 million for flood mitigation efforts and water quality improvements in Fort Washington.


We are also seeking \$20 million in operational funding for our Right of First Refusal (ROFR) and Housing Investment Trust Fund (HITF) to continue investing in affordable housing efforts across the county. These programs have helped us create or maintain more than 1,800 affordable units throughout the county and the previous \$20 million we received from the state played a big role in this success.


Along with our funding goals, we will also advocate on legislative initiatives that affect the county. We are concerned about any efforts to expand municipal zoning authority. We support efforts to give the county more authority with respect to vacant property taxes. We are also concerned about changes to the new School Compliance Office that would place the office under county control and require the county to fund the office instead of PGCPD but we are interested in the potential to establish a fund to assist our young people battling with substance abuse.

Time and again, we have all demonstrated that our priorities are Maryland's priorities. When we secure funding for investments in healthcare, we create additional capacity in our healthcare system that benefits all Marylanders. And when we secure investments in our infrastructure, the improvements benefit residents and travelers across the state.

We are ready to make the 2025 legislative session a success. We look forward to collaborating with all of you to continue delivering services that our residents depend on. Moreover, we are working together as one clear voice for all Prince Georgians. Securing these investments means protecting our communities, improving quality of life, and creating a stronger, more sustainable Prince George's County for generations to come.

Sincerely,


Tara H. Jackson
Acting County Executive


Jolene Ivey, Council Chair
Prince George's County Council

cc: Members, Prince George's County House and Senate Delegations
Members, Prince George's County Council