

# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

## COMMITTEE REPORT

2021 Legislative Session

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**Reference No.:** CR-8-2021

**Draft No.:** 1

**Committee:** Committee of the Whole

**Date:** 2/18/2021

**Action:** FAV

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**REPORT:** Favorable 11-0: Council Members Hawkins, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Streeter, Taveras and Turner.

The Prince George's County Council convened as the Committee of the whole on February 18, 2021 to consider CR-8-2021, originally introduced on February 2, 2021. CR-8-2021 is a Resolution for the purpose of approving a multi-year financing agreement pursuant to Section 819 of the Charter for Prince George's County to fund a portion of the new inpatient and ambulatory behavioral health facility, Doctors Community Medical Center ("Community Behavioral Health Center"). This would be an issuance of up to twenty million (\$20 million) plus costs of issuance and underwriting.

The building located at 8118 Good Luck Road, Lanham, Maryland 20706, would be substantially renovated converting it into an equipped (16-bed) inpatient and ambulatory behavioral health services facility, to be owned and operated by Doctors' Hospital, Inc., doing business as, Luminis Health Doctors Community Medical Center.

The County Certificates of Participation (COP) are to be repaid annually and COP interest is to be paid semi-annually. The annual debt service is estimated at \$1.5 million per year.

The Policy Analysis and Fiscal Note states that expanding the availability of behavioral health care for County residents will likely divert people experiencing mental health crises and substance abuse problems from hospital emergency rooms and police custody. The enhancement of behavioral health service in the County could result in cost savings with law enforcement that offset the direct fiscal impact.

Mr. Stephen McGibbon, Director, Office of Finance, provided a brief summary and noted that \$20 million dollars will be provided and that claw-back provisions have been included in case services are not provided as anticipated.

Ms. Terry Bell, Council Liaison, Office of the County Executive, expressed the County Executive's support.

The Office of Law finds CR-8-2021 to be in proper legislative form with no legal impediments to its adoption.

The Council agreed that the construction portion of the project needed clarification and that the entire agreement should be in writing, including Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) participation. However,

Council Members expressed enthusiasm about the possibility of having additional health services by the end of this year.

After discussion, the Prince George's County Council, sitting as the Committee of the Whole voted CR-8-2021 out favorably, 11-0.