





June 7, 2023

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

TO: Jennifer A. Jenkins
Council Administrator

William M. Hunt
Deputy Council Administrator

THRU: Josh Hamlin p.p. 
Director of Budget and Policy Analysis


FROM: Alex Hirtle
Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

RE: Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement
CR-031-2023 Resolution Concerning Contract Approval

CR-031-2023 (*Proposed and introduced by:* The Chair of the Council at the request of the County Executive)

Assigned to the Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING CONTRACT APPROVAL for the purpose of approving a multi-year contract to procure a consultant to assist with developing a Climate Action Implementation Strategy Plan for Prince George's County.

Fiscal Summary

Direct Impact:

Expenditures: Expenditures of up to \$1,000,000 annually through June 30th, 2026.

Revenues: No anticipated revenue, but cost savings are expected, possibly in the form of lower utility and energy bills, reduced stormwater damage, lower solid waste costs, and more.

Indirect Impact:

Potentially favorable.

Legislative Summary:

CR-031-2023 is proposed by the Chair of the County Council at the request of the County Executive and sponsored by Council Chair Dernoga and Council Members Ivey, Olson, and Oriadha. This Resolution was introduced on May 9, 2023, and referred to the Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee (GOFP). CR-031-2023 would approve a contract for financial-related, project and economics-related technical assistance and analysis services for environmental and climate action programs through the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOCG). The contract specifically will assist County staff, the Climate Action Implementation Task Force, and the Resident Advisory Group for Climate Action and Environmental Justice with developing the County's Climate Action Plan Implementation Strategy in accordance with Executive Order No. 5 – 2022 and Council Resolution CR-032-2022.

Current Law/Background:

Under the Charter for Prince George's County, Maryland Section 819, the County Council must approve, by resolution, all multi-year contracts exceeding an aggregate of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000). This Resolution's purpose is to provide assistance to County staff, the Climate Action Implementation Task Force, and the Resident Advisory Group for Climate Action and Environmental Justice with developing the County's Climate Action Plan Implementation Strategy in accordance with Council Resolution CR-032-2022¹ and Executive Order No. 5 – 2022.² On July 12, 2022 the County Council adopted CR-032-2022 that established a county-wide emissions reduction goal of achieving an emission rate of 50% below 2005 levels by 2030 and achieving carbon-neutrality by 2050. Additionally, it adopts the County's Climate Action Plan and supports the creation of the Climate Action Implementation Task Force mandated by Executive Order 5-2022. Executive Order No. 5 2022 was signed into effect on May 6, 2022 and affirms the County's emissions goals, establishes the Prince George's County Climate Action Implementation Task Force and County Resident Advisory Group for Climate Action and Environmental Justice. The executive order tasks both of the aforementioned organizations with developing strategies to ensure that the County meets its environmental goals. On March 7th, 2023, the Council passed CR-006-2023 repealing the sunset of December 31st, 2023 on CR-032-2022.

¹ Prince George's County- [CR-032-2022](#)

² Prince George's County- [Executive Order 5-2022](#)

Discussion/Policy Analysis:

CR-031-2023 would approve a multi-year contract with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government (MWCOG) to provide technical assistance, professional support, research, and analysis for the County’s climate action planning. MWCOG is the regional planning organization for this area and utilizes funding from the Regional Environmental Fund (REF) for climate action planning, and also facilitates the Climate, Energy and Environmental Policy Committee (CEEPC) and established the region’s 2017-2020 Climate and Energy Action Plan. MWCOG has also, through separate jurisdictional contracts, assisted in creating and facilitating climate action plans for other regional cities and counties, including Montgomery, Frederick, and Charles Counties in Maryland and Fairfax and Loudoun Counties in Virginia, as well as for the City of Rockville, Maryland. In light of this, MWCOG is well positioned to assist Prince George’s County’s Climate Action Implementation Task Force and County Resident Advisory Group in strategizing Climate Action and Environmental Justice priorities.

Within the contract’s provisions, MWCOG will facilitate a competitive procurement process to secure contracts with consultants for climate action planning. The County will be able to amend Approved Task Orders and associated Purchase Orders based on the County’s needs and priorities established by its task work order. The contract also underscores that the contract process and provisions are a mutual process between the County and MWCOG.³

Fiscal Impact:

Direct Impact

The adoption of CR-031-2023 will have an adverse fiscal impact on the County in the form of additional expenditures of up to \$1,000,000 annually through June 30th, 2026 (FY2026).

Indirect Impact

The adoption of CR-031-2023 may have a favorable indirect impact. To the extent that the consultants selected by MWCOG and approved by the County contribute to the successful implementation of priorities within the Climate Action Plan, the County could expect to see cost savings of energy with county buildings and through its vehicle fleet, and reduced effects of stormwater and flooding effects and greater climate change resiliency. Additionally, smart-growth policies and actions, although often difficult to quantify, can over the long-term, reduce costs in terms of infrastructure maintenance and replacement, and overall lower greenhouse gas production, leading to a healthier environment and possible improvements in health outcomes and increased quality of life for residents and workers.

³ Prince George’s County [CR-031-2023 Attachment B pgs. 2-3](#)

Appropriated in the Current Fiscal Year Budget

Yes, as well as for the FY 2024 Approved Operating Budget.

Effective Date of Proposed Legislation:

The proposed Resolution shall be effective on the date of adoption.

If you require additional information, or have questions about this fiscal impact statement, please contact me.