

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2024 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-041-2024

Proposed by Council Member Ivey

Introduced by Council Members Ivey, Watson, Olson, Harrison, Fisher, Hawkins,
Dernoga and Franklin

Date of Introduction May 23, 2024

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 The Approval of the Fiscal Year 2025 Operating and Capital Budgets of the Washington
3 Suburban Sanitary Commission and the Recommendation of Water and Sewer Rates and
4 Ad Valorem Tax Levies for Fiscal Year 2025

5 For the purpose of adopting the Fiscal Year 2025 Operating and Capital Budgets of the
6 Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission and the recommended Water and Sewer Rates and
7 Ad Valorem Tax Levies for Fiscal Year 2025

8 WHEREAS, Section 17-202 of the Public Utilities Article, Annotated Code of Maryland
9 establishes a procedure for the preparation, review and approval of the annual capital and
10 operating budgets of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, and further provides for
11 recommendations by the Montgomery and Prince George's County Councils regarding the rates
12 for water consumption and sewer usage charges and the ad valorem tax levies of the
13 Commission; and

14 WHEREAS, on March 1, 2024, the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission submitted
15 to the County Executives of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties its proposed capital and
16 operating budgets for Fiscal Year 2025; and

17 WHEREAS, the Commission forwarded to the County Executives of both Counties the
18 record of the public hearings held by the Commission regarding its budget proposal; and

19 WHEREAS, the County Executives of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties
20 transmitted their recommendations on the Commission's proposed budget, including the record
21 of the public hearings held by the Commission, to the respective County Councils; and

1 WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Council, upon due public notice, held a public
2 hearing on the Commission's proposed budget on April 16, 2024, at which interested persons
3 were given an opportunity to be heard by the Prince George's County Council; and

4 WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Council, following review of said budgets,
5 approved, proposed additions to, deletions from, increases and decreases from items contained in
6 the proposed budgets and transmitted these proposed changes to the Montgomery County
7 Council by letter dated May 7, 2024; and

8 WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Council received on May 6, 2024, from the
9 Montgomery County Council its approved proposed additions to, deletions from, and increases
10 and decreases from items in the Commission's proposed budgets; and

11 WHEREAS, on May 9, 2024, the Montgomery and Prince George's County Councils
12 jointly reviewed the respective proposed additions to, deletions from, and increases and
13 decreases regarding items in said submitted capital and operating budgets and further considered
14 all proposed changes.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
16 County, Maryland, that the following amounts and positions, or as much thereof as may be
17 necessary to accomplish the purposes designated, are hereby approved for the budget of the
18 Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and
19 ending June 30, 2025:

| | Operating | Capital |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 21 Salaries & Wages | \$ 158,996,000 | \$ 32,120,000 |
| 22 Heat, Light & Power | 27,291,000 | 302,000 |
| 23 Regional Sewage Disposal | 76,908,000 | 0 |
| 24 Contract Work | 0 | 512,237,000 |
| 25 Consulting Engineers | 0 | 83,705,000 |
| 26 All Other Items | 391,159,000 | 162,903,000 |
| 27 Debt Service | <u>365,449,000</u> | |
| 28 Total | \$1,019,803,000 | \$791,267,000 |

29 Work-years Authorized: 1,963.

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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in implementing the above operating budget, the
3 Commission shall establish its work program priorities within the dollar and work-year levels
4 approved herein; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in adopting its Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget,
6 the Counties and the Commission recognize that although total operating debt service is
7 \$365,449,000 and equals 35.8% of the total operating budget, water and sewer operating debt
8 service, the portion of debt service supported by water and sewer rate revenues is \$359,705,000
9 or 35.3% of the water and sewer operating budget; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince George's County Council joins with the
11 Montgomery County Council in recommending to the Washington Suburban Sanitary
12 Commission the following:

- 13 1. Average rate increase for Fixed Fees and Water Consumption and Sewer Usage
14 charge: 8.5%.
- 15 2. The Water and Sewer Usage charges will be based on a water production rate of
16 162.0 million gallons per day; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any supplements to the Washington Suburban
18 Sanitary Commission's Approved Fiscal Year 2025 budget shall be in accordance with the
19 provisions of Section 17-202 of the Public Utilities Article, Annotated Code of Maryland; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission shall:

- 21 1. Obtain the approval of both County Councils before increasing operating
22 expenditures above \$1,019,803,000.
- 23 2. Obtain the County Councils' approval prior to making any transfer of funds
24 from any of the approved expenditure categories within the operating and
25 capital budgets in excess of five percent (5%) of the approved amounts. The
26 amount approved for debt service is excluded from this transfer authority.
- 27 3. Furnish monthly status reports to each County Council and County Executive
28 as to the fiscal and budgetary activities of the Commission pursuant to the
29 Approved Operating and Capital Budgets, commencing with the end of the first
30 quarter of the fiscal year. These reports shall be submitted not more than 45
31 calendar days after the close of each month.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Approved Washington Suburban Sanitary
2 Commission FY 2025 Water and Sewer Rate Schedule (Appendix C), Account
3 Maintenance Fees and Charges (Appendix D), Infrastructure Investment Fees (Appendix
4 E), and Miscellaneous Fees and Charges (Appendix F) are hereby approved, attached and
5 incorporated by reference; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission may find it necessary from time to
7 time or on an emergency basis to adopt further orders or resolutions in connection with its Fiscal
8 Year 2025 Budget and/or the water and sewer use rates to be effective July 1, 2024, pursuant to
9 its authority under the Laws of the Washington Suburban Sanitary District, Public Utilities
10 Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.

Adopted this 23rd day of May, 2024.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Jolene Ivey
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

Note: See Appendices C, D, E, and F from the FY 2025 WSSC Approved Budget