

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2024 Legislative Session

Reference No.:	CR-072-2024
Draft No.:	1
Committee:	COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Date:	10/08/2024
Action:	FAVORABLE

REPORT: Committee Vote: Favorable, 10-0 (In favor: Chair Ivey, Council Members Blegay, Burroughs, Dernoga, Fisher, Harrison, Hawkins, Olson, Oriadha, and Watson)

After holding a public hearing on the Resolution, the County Council convened as the Committee of the Whole on October 8, 2024, to consider CR-72-2024. CR-072-2024, a Resolution amending the Prince George's County Fiscal Year ("FY") 2025 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development by adding the Pathway to Purchase ("P2P") Program, an eligible activity not originally funded or described in the FY 2025 Annual Action Plan. Additionally, this Resolution will amend the FY 2025 Annual Action Plan by reprogramming and reallocating one million dollars (\$1,000,000) in HOME Investment Partnerships ("HOME") Program funds from the FY 2023 Annual Action Plan to support the activity.

The Pathway to Purchase Program will assist income-eligible first-time homebuyers in purchasing eligible residential properties by providing homeownership assistance, as needed, for mortgage principal reduction, down payment, and/or closing cost assistance. The Redevelopment Authority of Prince George's County ("RAPGC") administers the program's operations.

The Division on Budget and Policy provided a policy analysis stating that the Resolution aligns with the Plan 2035 goals and focuses on goals set in the 2021-2025 Consolidated Plan, prioritizing affordable housing, rental assistance, economic development, and homeowner's assistance.

Ms. Aspasia Xypolia, Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), explained that the Pathway to Purchase Program is the County downpayment assistance program that is deployed in partnership with the Redevelopment Authority. DHCD updated its regulations and built a partnership with the State of Maryland, where it added money to the county program. As of February 2024, DHCD has awarded 15 recipients with homeownership assistance in the County, and three additional awards are pending. As a result of the increased demand, DHCD would like to add additional funds to the program.

Ms. Terry Bell, with the Office of Law, found the bill in proper legislative form and had no legal impediments to its adoption.

CR-072-2024 Report

Ms. Sakinda Skinner, County Council Liaison with the County Executive's Office, requested a favorable recommendation on the legislation.

On motion of Vice Chair Harrison, seconded by Council Member Blegay Vice Chair Harrison, the Prince George's County Council, sitting as the Committee of the Whole, voted 10-0 favorably on CR-072-2024.