# GEORGES COUNTY WARYLAND

# THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

# Office of Audits and Investigations

September 28, 2020

# FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

TO: Robert J. Williams, Jr.

Council Administrator

William M. Hunt

Deputy Council Administrator

THRU: Josh Hamlir

Senior Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

FROM: Isabel Williams

Senior Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

RE: Policy Analysis and Fiscal Note

CR-050-2020

**CB-050-2020** (*Proposed and presented by:* The Chair of the Council at the request of the County Executive)

Assigned to the Committee of the Whole

An act concerning local impact grant funding for Oxon Hill, Friendly and Potomac High Schools. For the purpose of requiring annual allocation of certain funds to support defense, cybersecurity, health, legal, enforcement, music and arts education programs at Oxon Hill High School, Friendly High School and Potomac High School.

#### **Fiscal Summary**

#### **Direct Impact:**

Expenditures: None.

*Revenues:* None. For FY 2021, the County does not anticipate receiving any Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) local impact grant funds.

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# **Indirect Impact:**

None. Should the proposed legislation be enacted, it would simply re-allocate funding from one use to another.

# **Current Law/Background:**

The Prince George's County Council enacted **CB-88-2015**, which established the local impact grant funds multiyear plan. Section 10-309.02 of the Prince George's County Code set forth the County's review and public hearing requirements for the expenditure of local impact grant funds. The Code stipulates that prior to submitting the multiyear plan to the Local Development Council (LDC) for review and comment, the County Executive shall transmit the multiyear plan to the County Council for review and comment. The County Council shall have thirty (30) days to review, comment, and make recommendations on the multiyear plan. Prior to submitting the plan to the Local Development Council, the County Executive shall make best efforts to accommodate the recommendations of the County Council. Subsequent to the Local Development Council's recommendations the County Executive shall transmit the multiyear plan to the County Council for public hearing, and for review and approval by Resolution.

Enactment of **CB-022-2017** requires allocation of at least 25% of the Local Impact Grant, excluding funds reserved by State law for Maryland Highway 210, up to an amount not to exceed \$2,200,000 (adjusted annually for inflation) for the vocational, technical, and skilled trades programs at Crossland High School in consultation with the LDC.

#### **Discussion/Policy Analysis:**

**CB-050-2020** would require the allocation of the aforementioned funding to Crossland High School to include not only vocational, technical, and skilled trades programs at Crossland High School but also defense programs at Oxon Hill High School, cybersecurity and health programs at Friendly High School, legal and enforcement programs at Potomac High School, and music and arts education programs at all four high schools.

#### **Fiscal Impact:**

#### Direct Impact

While enacting CB-050-2020 would likely have an economic impact on the County, we cannot determine the nature and magnitude of the impact due to information, time, and analytical challenges. In particular, the overall change in economic activity that would occur if the Bill is enacted depends on the net change in video lottery terminal revenue. Moreover, CB-50-2020 includes policy changes that are part of the Local Development Council's overall multiyear plan for expenditure of local impact grant funds. Additionally, the budget impact of the Coronavirus

pandemic and the complex interactions of these changes to the budget prevent us from being able to conduct an in-depth economic analysis in the confines of a discussion of CB-50-2020.

# **Key Discussion Points**

- Does State law prohibit this legislation?
  - Section 9–1A–31 of Maryland gaming legislation stipulates:
    - Prior to ANY expenditure of local impact grant funds, a county or municipality shall develop, in consultation with the local development council, a multiyear plan for the expenditure of the local impact grant funds.
    - A county or municipality shall submit the plan to the local development council for review and comment before adopting the plan or expending any grant funds.
    - The local development council shall advise the county or municipality on the impact of the facility on the communities and the needs and priorities of the communities in immediate proximity to the facility.
    - A local development council shall have 45 days to review, comment, and make recommendations on the plan required under this subsection.
    - On the request of a local development council, the county or municipality shall hold a public hearing on the plan.
    - A county or municipality shall make best efforts to accommodate the recommendations of the local development council and any testimony presented at the hearing before adopting the plan required under this subsection.
- Will this legislation have a meaningful impact based on the anticipated impact grant funds in FY2021?
  - Stanley Earley, the Director of Management and Budget, recently testified before the County Council that he does not anticipate the County receiving any video lottery terminal local impact grant funds in FY2021.

### **Effective Date of Proposed Legislation**

The proposed Bill shall become effective immediately upon the date of enactment.

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