

**WORK SESSION – APRIL 14, 2026, 4 P.M.**

**FOR**

**BALTIMORE COUNTY COUNCIL AGENDA  
LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2026, LEGISLATIVE DAY NO. 9  
APRIL 20, 2026 6:00 P.M.**

**CEB = CURRENT EXPENSE BUDGET  
BY REQ. = AT REQUEST OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

**A. CALL OF BILLS FOR FINAL READING AND VOTE**

Bill 27-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) – CEB – Special Supplemental Nutrition Program – WIC

Bill 28-26 – Mr. Kach – Zoning Regs. – Uses Permitted in the B.L. Zone – Lawn Treatment Company

**B. BILLS FOR FIRST CONSIDERATION**

Bill 29-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) & Councilmembers Jones, Marks & Patoka – Animals – Animal Protection and Humane Care

Bill 30-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) & Councilmembers Jones, Marks & Patoka – Animals – Board Authority and Expedited Hearings

Bill 31-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) & Councilmembers Jones, Marks & Patoka – Animals – Public Safety – Designations

Bill 32-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) & Councilmembers Jones, Marks & Patoka – Animals – Owner Responsibilities –

Repeal and Technical Changes

Bill 33-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) – CEB – STATE Technical Assistance Dundalk Main Street

Bill 34-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) – Appellate Court Name Updates

Bill 35-26 – Councilmembers Patoka & Marks – Auxiliary Police Length of Service and Award Program –

Minimum Benefit Payments

Bill 36-26 – Mr. Marks – Zoning Regs. – Signs – Freestanding Signs – Maximum Area

Bill 37-26 – All Councilmembers - 2026 Basic Services Maps

**C. APPROVAL OF FISCAL MATTERS/CONTRACTS**

1. Contract – People Encouraging People, Incorporated – Community-based, intensive outpatient services

2. Contracts – (2) – Intensive Residential Rehabilitation Program services

3. Contract – Law Offices of Lisa M. Harris, LLC d/b/a Harris, Jones & Malone, LLC – Labor relations services

4. Contract – Institute for Community Alliance – Homeless Management Information System – Administration, reporting & compliance

5. Purchase Order – NV5 Consultants, Inc. – Third party verification services for Building Energy Performance Standards Compliance

6. Contract – Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc. – DNA and Serology forensic testing services

7. Contract – Baltimore County Revenue Authority – Parking spaces – Parking facilities – Towson

**D. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

1. Res. 13-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) - Approval of Maryland Rural Legacy Plan Applications (3)

**BALTIMORE COUNTY COUNCIL  
NOTES TO THE AGENDA  
LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2026**

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*Issued: April 9, 2026  
Work Session: April 14, 2026  
Legislative Day No. 9 : April 20, 2026*

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*The accompanying notes provide analysis of unaudited information obtained from the Administration and other sources; most notes for Administration-submitted agenda items are prepared primarily by the Office of the County Auditor, while most notes for Council-initiated agenda items are prepared primarily by the Office of the Legislative Counsel to the County Council.*



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR

BALTIMORE COUNTY COUNCIL

April 20, 2026

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**LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2026, LEGISLATIVE DAY NO. 9**  
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**CALL OF BILLS FOR FINAL READING AND VOTE**

- 1            **LAWRENCE RICHARDSON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**  
Bill 27-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) – CEB – Special Supplemental Nutrition Program – WIC
- 4            **COUNCIL**  
Bill 28-26 – Mr. Kach – Zoning Regs. – Uses Permitted in the B.L. Zone – Lawn Treatment Company

**BILLS FOR FIRST CONSIDERATION**

- 5            **RENÈ VARELA, BUREAU DIRECTOR, ANIMAL SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**  
Bill 29-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) & Councilmembers Jones, Marks & Patoka – Animals – Animal Protection and Humane Care
- 9            Bill 30-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) & Councilmembers Jones, Marks & Patoka – Animals – Board Authority and Expedited Hearings
- 12           Bill 31-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) & Councilmembers Jones, Marks & Patoka – Animals – Public Safety – Designations
- 17           Bill 32-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) & Councilmembers Jones, Marks & Patoka – Animals – Owner Responsibilities – Repeal and Technical Changes
- 18           **STEVE LAFFERTY, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING**  
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- 33           **LAWRENCE RICHARDSON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**  
37           1. Contract – People Encouraging People, Incorporated – Community-based, intensive outpatient services  
              2. Contracts – (2) – Intensive Residential Rehabilitation Program services
- \*            **RENEE COLEMAN, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF HUMAN RESOURCES**  
              3. Contract – Law Offices of Lisa M. Harris, LLC d/b/a Harris, Jones & Malone, LLC – Labor relations services
- \* Addendum

**APPROVAL OF FISCAL MATTERS/CONTRACTS (continued)**

**HEATHER SHERIDAN, DEPUTY OF OPERATIONS, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

- 42 4. Contract – Institute for Community Alliance – Homeless Management Information System – Administration, reporting & compliance

**SETH BLUMEN, ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION & SUSTAINABILITY**

- 45 5. Purchase Order – NV5 Consultants, Inc. – Third-party verification services for Building Energy Performance Standards Compliance

**MAJOR DEANNA CHEMELLI, POLICE DEPARTMENT**

- 49 6. Contract – Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc. – DNA and Serology forensic testing services

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

**STEVE LAFFERTY, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING**

- 53 1. Res. 13-26 – Mr. Ertel(By Req.) - Approval of Maryland Rural Legacy Plan Applications (3)

**Bill 27-26 (Supplemental Appropriation)**

**Council District(s) All**

**Mr. Ertel (By Req.)**

**Department of Health and Human Services**

**Special Supplemental Nutrition Program – WIC**

The Administration is requesting a supplemental appropriation of federal funds totaling \$236,867 to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program – WIC Gifts and Grants Fund program to increase the appropriation to the actual grant award amount. The Department advised that it will utilize the funds to renovate its WIC office space at the Lansdowne Health Center, and, together with previously appropriated funds, to support the WIC program’s operational costs. See Exhibit A.

**Fiscal Summary**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Supplemental Appropriation</b>	<b>Current Appropriation</b>	<b>Total Appropriation</b>
<b>County</b>	--	--	--
<b>State</b>	--	--	--
<b>Federal <sup>(1)</sup></b>	\$ 236,867	\$ 2,995,706	\$ 3,232,573
<b>Other</b>	--	--	--
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 236,867</u>	<u>\$ 2,995,706</u>	<u>\$ 3,232,573</u>

<sup>(1)</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service funds passed through the Maryland Department of Health, WIC Program Administration. No County matching funds are required.

**Analysis**

The Department advised that it will use the proposed \$236,867 supplemental appropriation for the renovation of the WIC program’s office space at the Lansdowne Health Center (\$78,103) and, together with previously appropriated funds, for the WIC program’s operational costs (e.g., employee benefits, FICA, indirect costs) (\$158,764). The Department advised that renovations

are not yet underway but anticipates their completion by June 2026. The Department further advised that its WIC caseload increased by 700 cases from FY 2025 (i.e., from 17,500 cases to 18,200 cases), resulting in higher operational costs.

The FY 2026 Adopted Operating Budget included a \$2,995,706 appropriation to the Special Supplement Nutrition Program – WIC Gifts and Grants Fund program based on the estimated amount of the grant award when the Department submitted its budget request to the Office of Budget and Finance. Accordingly, this bill appropriates an additional \$236,867 to the program, increasing the total appropriation to the actual \$3,232,573 grant award. The grant period is July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026. The Department advised that the grant does not require County matching funds.

With the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, Bill 27-26 will take effect May 3, 2026.

## **Executive Summary**

### **Supplemental Appropriation Women Infant and Children (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Grant**

The Baltimore County Department of Health and Human Services is requesting a \$236,867 supplemental appropriation to our Women, Infant and Children (WIC) grant. During FY 2026, the Maryland State Department of Health assigned funding to serve an increase in caseload of 700 from the previous year and renovation funding of \$78,103 for the Lansdowne Health Center, WIC office space. The additional funds will be used to conduct the renovations of the site and for program operational costs.

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program is a grant-funded program within the Baltimore County Department of Health's Bureau of Clinical Services. The mission of WIC is to safeguard the health of low-income pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants, and children up to age five who are at nutritional risk, by providing nutritious foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding support, and referrals to health and social services to improve health outcomes and prevent nutrition-related problems. WIC acts as a vital public health program ensuring vulnerable families get the resources they need for healthy growth and development from pregnancy through early childhood.

The current award is \$3,232,573 and we have received previous approval for a total of \$2,995,706. The supplemental appropriation request is \$236,867.

Prepared by: Department of Health and Human Services

**Bill 28-26****Council District(s) All**

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**Mr. Kach**

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**Zoning Regs. – Uses Permitted in the B.L. Zone – Lawn Treatment Company**

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Bill 28-26 permits a lawn treatment company in the Business, Local (B.L.) Zone under certain circumstances.

Specifically, the bill permits the use of a law treatment company by-right in the B.L. Zone, if the use is located in a Commercial, Rural (C.R.) overlay district. Also, the use must have no retail sales, and the operator must maintain fertilizer and pest control application certifications and fertilizer and pesticide business licenses issued by the Maryland Department of Agriculture. Last, any pesticides used for lawn care must be regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

With the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, Bill 28-26 will take effect 14 days after its enactment.

**Bill 29-26**

**Council District(s) All**

**Mr. Ertel (By Req.) & Councilmembers Jones, Marks & Patoka**

**Department of Health & Human Services**

**Animals – Animal Protection and Human Care**

The Administration has submitted a package of bills (Bills 29-26, 30-26, and 31-26) to modernize, restructure, and update the Article on animals in the Baltimore County Code. (Bill 32-26 is a companion bill to address technical changes necessary to enact the legislative package.)

Bill 29-26 modernizes and broadens the Animal Title of the Baltimore County Code to include animal welfare and the humane treatment of animals by owners as a new Subtitle in the Animal Welfare Title. The bill also establishes certain standards and definitions for shelter for outside animals, veterinary care, and other care and treatment which are necessary to prevent cruelty to animals and will provide guidance to owners of animals and to animal control officers to keep animals safe and healthy. The bill also creates a new category of a “reckless animal owner,” which may prevent animals from experiencing cruelty and neglect by owners who refuse to follow the requirements of humane care for animals.

Bill 29-26 prohibits a person from beating, cruelly treating, tormenting, overloading, overworking, or otherwise abusing an animal; or causing, instigating, or allowing a dogfight, cockfight, bullfight, calf roping, or other combat between animals or between an animal and a human. In addition, a person is prohibited from abandoning an animal on public or private property. Also, the bill prohibits a person from selling or offering for sale a rabbit that is less than 8 weeks old, or except as provided by State law, a puppy or kitten that is less than 8 weeks old.

These prohibitions do not apply to customary and normal veterinary and animal husbandry practices, including dehorning, castration, docking, and limited feeding for diet purposes. In addition, they do not apply to a feral cat caregiver who returns a feral cat to the location where it was originally trapped or an animal control officer who returns a feral cat to a location deemed suitable by the Health Officer or their designee.

Bill 29-26 requires that an owner of an animal ensures the animal is treated with humane care. The bill also requires that, unless an animal has continuous access to suitable shelter, an owned animal must be brought inside a home or building within 30 minutes of the onset of and during adverse environmental conditions. Also, the owner of an animal that is not kept within a home or building must provide the animal with a suitable shelter to protect the animal from wind, snow, rain, cold, sunlight, and adverse environmental conditions.

The bill defines suitable shelter as a structure that has a floor, a roof, and four walls, one of which must contain a doorway. However, this does not include: a crawl space under or inside of a building or part of a building; a space under or inside of a vehicle; a structure made from pressure-treated wood which contains the chemicals arsenic or chromium; a structure with a floor consisting of wire or chain-link; or a structure made from cardboard or other materials that are easily degraded by the elements.

The space available to the animal in the suitable shelter must be: maintained in a safe, sanitary, and healthful manner; free of standing water and accumulated waste and debris; and protected from flooding. In addition, the shelter must have adequate ventilation to allow the animal to remain dry and maintain a normal body temperature and exposure to natural or artificial light. Last, the suitable shelter provided to an animal must be suitable for the animal's species, age, condition, size, and type.

In the area provided to an animal, whether indoors or outdoors, an owner must provide access to sufficient food, potable water, appropriate shelter, and sufficient space for the animal to stand to the animal's full height, stretch out, turn around, lie down, and make normal postural adjustments comfortably. If the space provided is outdoors, the owner must provide suitable shade.

In addition to these suitable space requirements, Bill 29-26 prohibits an owner from confining an animal in unsafe or unsanitary conditions for any period of time. If an area of confinement is used for extended periods of time or serves as an animal's primary enclosure, the owner must provide an area of an adequate size to provide the animal with sufficient space to express normal behaviors and exercise freedom of movement as necessary to maintain good physical condition.

Bill 29-26 requires that the owner of an animal must provide adequate veterinary care to prevent suffering and to maintain the health of the animal. An animal control officer may direct an owner or feral cat caregiver to provide veterinary examination and treatment and remedies to abate conditions that adversely affect the health and well-being of the animal including: protection from

the elements; protection from hazardous conditions; requirements to utilize only appropriate methods of restraint or confinement; requirements to provide wholesome food and potable water; and requirements to provide sanitary conditions.

Bill 29-26 prohibits the owner of an animal from tethering an animal outside under unsafe conditions, including extreme weather conditions that may endanger the health, safety, or welfare of the animal. A tether shall be properly positioned to prevent tangling, including tangling in or around objects and allow continuous access to appropriate shade, shelter, and water. A tether may not unreasonably limit the movement of the animal.

The owner of an animal that is attached to a chain, rope, or leash tether shall provide a swivel device at each end of the chain, rope, or leash tether to prevent choking. The material of a tether shall be constructed of an appropriate material for the animal's species, age, condition, size, and type and prevent unnecessary strain on the animal. Generally, a collar worn by an animal shall be leather, nylon, or plastic. An animal may only wear a metal collar, such as a chain or pronged collar, as a training collar during obedience training. The owner shall remove the metal collar from the animal after the obedience training has been completed.

Bill 29-26 authorizes the Health Officer to designate an individual as a reckless animal owner if the individual is found in violation of the animal welfare provisions two or more times from separate incidents within a preceding 24-month period. An owner may only be considered a reckless animal owner if the owner:

- Is brought before the animal hearing board for violations of this article and the board upholds the violations;
- Is found guilty by a court of law or is placed on probation before judgment for an animal related offense;
- Pays a civil fine for a violation of this article; or
- Owns an animal designated as menacing, potentially dangerous, or dangerous within the preceding 24 months.

Upon designation by the Health Officer that an individual is a reckless animal owner, the Animal Services Division must issue a written notice to the owner that includes: the name and address of the reckless animal owner; a description of the circumstances that led to the designation; the name, description, and license number, if any, of any animals owned by or in the custody of the reckless animal owner; and notice of the right to appeal the designation.

A person designated as a reckless animal owner may appeal the designation by filing a written notice of appeal within 5 days of service of the reckless animal owner notice. The Animal Services Division must establish an animal welfare violation by a preponderance of the evidence. If the appealing owner fails to appear at the hearing, the appeal is dismissed.

An owner designated as a reckless animal owner is prohibited from owning, keeping, possessing, or harboring any animal for 4 years from the date of the designation. All animal licenses issued to the reckless animal owner must be revoked. Also, all animals owned or in the custody of the reckless animal owner must be impounded and seized by the Animal Services Division and be immediately considered unwanted or unredeemed.

The Administration advised that to the extent the package of bills results in fewer animals held in the Baltimore County Animal Shelter, current costs would decrease commensurately; however, it cannot project the magnitude of any such impact at this time, and the net fiscal effect will depend on how the legislation affects intake levels, enforcement activity, and service demands.

With the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, Bill 29-26 will take effect 14 days after its enactment.

**Bill 30-26**

**Council District(s) All**

**Mr. Ertel (By Req.) & Councilmembers Jones, Marks & Patoka**

**Department of Health & Human Services**

**Animals – Board Authority and Expedited Hearings**

The Administration has submitted a package of bills (Bills 29-26, 30-26, and 31-26) to modernize, restructure, and update the Article on animals in the Baltimore County Code. (Bill 32-26 is a companion bill to address technical changes necessary to enact the legislative package.)

Bill 30-26 makes several updates to the adjudication of animal related cases before the Animal Hearing Board (the “Board”). Specifically, the bill establishes an expedited hearing and appeal process that allows for faster resolutions. Last, the bill makes several technical updates to the general Animal title definitions and other sections.

Most animal cruelty or neglect cases are not charged criminally by the Baltimore County State’s Attorney Office. Currently, the Health Officer can order that an animal be surrendered to the custody of the Animal Services Division (“Division”) in these cases. The Division holds and cares for the animal that has been surrendered until the animal is fostered or adopted. The owner of the animal has the right to appeal the order of the Health Officer to surrender the animal to the Division. The County Code currently requires the Division to hold an animal at the shelter (rather than being fostered) for 30 days plus the number of days that an owner has a right to appeal an order of the Health Officer. The administrative appeals process of involving the Animal Hearing Board and the Board of Appeals can be lengthy and last many months, which is detrimental to the health and welfare of the animals and potentially costly to the County.

Bill 30-26 revises the process for mandatory surrender of an animal to authorize the Board, when an animal welfare violation is substantiated or repeated violations are alleged, to order the surrender of an animal to the Division, the removal of an animal from the County, or the animal to remain in the Division’s custody pending the outcome of a criminal matter. If an owner fails to comply with an order within 5 business days after notification, the Health Officer may initiate an action to obtain a court order authorizing the Division to execute the order. Alternatively, the

Board may allow an animal to remain in the owner's custody with ordered stipulations. If the owner fails to comply with the stipulations, the board may order the animal impounded.

Under current law, within 30 days after a decision or order of the Board, an owner who is aggrieved by the decision or order of the Board may appeal the decision or order to the Board of Appeals. However, Bill 30-26 shortens this period to 10 days. The violator must file the written notice of appeal and petition with the Animal Hearing Board, which must forward the file to the Board of Appeals. The petition must set forth with reasonable particularity the grounds for the appeal, including: the error committed by the Board; the relief sought; and the reasons why the relief sought should be granted. The violator must also pay the filing fee and any other required costs.

The hearing before the Board of Appeals must be limited to the record created before the Animal Hearing Board, which shall include: the recording of the testimony presented to the Animal Hearing Board; all exhibits and other papers filed with the Animal Hearing Board; and the written findings of the Animal Hearing Board. If the violator requests a transcription of the recording, the violator shall pay the cost of the transcription.

Bill 30-26 establishes an expedited hearing process for certain Animal Hearing Board orders. If the violator appeals an order of the Board that requires the surrender of an animal to the Division or that requires an animal to remain in the Division's custody pending the outcome of a related criminal matter, the Board of Appeals must hear the case within 14 calendar days of receiving the Animal Hearing Board record. This appeal must take precedence over other cases of the Board of Appeals, which must postpone other cases, if necessary, to hear the expedited case. The Board of Appeals must issue a decision within 10 calendar days of hearing an expedited case.

Under current law, if the owner of an impounded animal seeks to redeem the animal, the Division may require the owner to take several actions, including allowing the Division to spay or neuter the animal at the Division's expense. Bill 30-26 authorizes the Division to exempt an animal from the spay or neuter requirements if, upon impoundment by the Division: the animal is found to have a microchip that is registered with the owner's information; the owner redeems the animal within the 72-hour holding period; and the owner of the animal states on a form of the Division and under oath or affirmation that the animal is a working dog or is necessary for breeding.

The Administration advised that to the extent the package of bills results in fewer animals held in the Baltimore County Animal Shelter, current costs would decrease commensurately; however, it

cannot project the magnitude of any such impact at this time, and the net fiscal effect will depend on how the legislation affects intake levels, enforcement activity, and service demands.

With the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, Bill 30-26 will take effect 14 days after its enactment.

Bill 31-26

Council District(s) All

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**Mr. Ertel (By Req.) & Councilmembers Jones, Marks & Patoka**

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**Department of Health & Human Services**

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**Animals – Public Safety – Designations**

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The Administration has submitted a package of bills (Bills 29-26, 30-26, and 31-26) to modernize, restructure, and update the Article on animals in the Baltimore County Code. (Bill 32-26 is a companion bill to address technical changes necessary to enact the legislative package.)

Bill 31-26 introduces a standard scale called the Dunbar Bite Scale for evaluating dog bites and aggressive dog behavior and establishes designations for menacing and potentially dangerous animals. The bill also renames the “Dangerous Animals” title as “Public Safety” and brings the designations of “menacing” and “dangerous” into the same title. Also, the bill introduces an intermediate step for animals who have attacked a human or another animal without provocation.

Currently, the County Code does not contain an objective criterion for evaluating dog bites. Bill 31-26 establishes the Dunbar bite scale as an objective evaluation tool used to determine the severity of a dog bite. There are 6 levels to the scale that contain the following criteria:

- Level 1: fearful, aggressive, or out-of-control behavior but no skin-contact by teeth;
- Level 2: skin-contact by teeth but no skin-puncture;
- Level 3: one to four punctures from a single bite with no puncture deeper than half the length of the dog’s canine teeth;
- Level 4: one to four punctures from a single bite;
- Level 5: multiple-bite incident with at least two level 4 bites or multiple-attack incident with at least one level 4 bite in each; and
- Level 6: fatal attack on a human or another animal.

Currently, the County Code has two designations to assign an animal that exhibits aggressive behavior: a menacing animal and a dangerous animal. The difference between these designations could be subjective and does not allow for efficient disposition of an animal whose behavior is severe. Bill 31-26 introduces a third designation of a “potentially dangerous animal”

and establishes objective criteria for evaluating all three designations as well as the process for disposition of the animal.

Declarations of an animal as menacing, potentially dangerous, or dangerous are made by the Health Officer. Upon declaring an animal as any of the three designations, the Health Officer must issue a citation to the owner. The declaration must be based on:

- Personal observation of the Health Officer;
- Observations of animal control officers;
- Affidavits concerning an individual's personal experience with the animal;
- Bite contact or non-bite contact reports made to the Baltimore County Police, the Health Officer, or the Animal Services Division ("Division");
- Animal control records; or
- Other documented information.

A menacing animal is defined as an animal that has been declared by the Health Officer as posing a threat to the public health or safety that attacks or injures a domestic animal or exhibits aggressive or dangerous behavior and is not adequately confined or restrained. Generally, the Dunbar bite scale may be used to inform the Health Officer's declaration of a dog as a menacing animal, with levels 1 and 2 used as justification.

If an animal is declared a menacing animal, the Health Officer must issue a civil citation to the owner declaring the animal a menacing animal and imposing a civil monetary penalty of up to \$250. The owner of the animal must pay the civil monetary penalty or request a hearing before the Animal Hearing Board.

A potentially dangerous animal means an animal that has been declared by the Health Officer as potentially posing a threat to the public health or safety. Generally, the Dunbar bite scale may be used to inform the Health Officer's declaration of a dog as potentially dangerous, with levels 2 through 4 used as justification. Also, the animal must have:

- Bitten or attacked an individual or another animal without provocation;
- Exhibited aggressive or dangerous behavior and is not adequately confined or restrained;
- Been known or suspected to be an animal exposed to rabies and is not adequately confined or restrained; or

- Been required to be confined or restrained to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the public.

If an animal is declared a potentially dangerous animal, the Health Officer must issue a civil citation to the owner declaring the animal a potentially dangerous animal and notify the owner of required actions, including confinement measures, spaying and neutering of the animal, and microchipping. The citation must impose a civil monetary penalty of up to \$500. The owner must pay the civil monetary penalty and comply with confinement measures ordered or request a hearing before the Animal Hearing Board.

A dangerous animal means an animal that has been declared by the Health Officer as posing a threat to the public health or safety. Generally, the Dunbar bite scale may be used to inform the Health Officer's declaration of a dog as dangerous, with levels 4, 5, and 6 used as justification. Also, the animal must have:

- Attacked or injured a person or a domestic animal;
- Exhibited aggressive or dangerous behavior and is not adequately confined or restrained;
- Been known or suspected to be an animal exposed to rabies and is not adequately confined or restrained; or
- Been subject to confinement or restraint orders from the Health Officer or the Animal Hearing Board and those orders have not been followed.

If an animal is declared a dangerous animal, the Health Officer shall issue a civil citation to the owner declaring the animal a dangerous animal and impose a civil monetary penalty of up to \$1,000. If an animal is declared a dangerous animal, the Health Officer may impound the animal; order the owner to surrender the animal to the Division; or release the animal to the custody of the owner.

If the Health Officer releases the animal to the custody of the owner, the Health Officer may order the animal to be spayed or neutered, if the animal is not already spayed or neutered and microchipped, if the animal is not already microchipped. If the animal is impounded, the Health Officer must make a prompt and reasonable effort to notify the owner of the impoundment and the reasons for the impoundment. If the animal is released to the custody of the owner, the Health Officer may order any measures necessary to confine or restrain the animal pending the hearing of the Animal Hearing Board.

Within 10 days after declaring an animal a dangerous animal, a menacing animal, or a potentially dangerous animal, the Health Officer shall notify the owner of the declaration. The notification shall indicate that the owner may appeal the decision of the Health Officer within 5 days after a notice is given by filing a petition with the Division requesting a hearing before the Animal Hearing Board. The Board must conduct the appeal hearing within 25 days after the Health Officer has made a declaration, and the Division must notify the owner of the hearing date. However, the owner may request one postponement of the hearing in writing.

At the hearing, the Animal Hearing Board may affirm or reverse a declaration that an animal is a dangerous animal, a menacing animal, or a potentially dangerous animal and any orders of the Health Officer on the disposition of the animal. The Board may order:

- Any measures necessary to confine or restrain the animal and a schedule for the implementation of those measures;
- The owner to comply with any State or local requirements including rabies vaccination and licensing;
- The owner to pay any fees for impoundment, boarding, vaccinations, licensing, and veterinary services or any other civil monetary penalties incurred under this article;
- The owner to display clearly visible signs on the owner's property that a dangerous animal is on the property;
- The animal to be spayed or neutered;
- The animal to be removed from the County;
- The animal to be euthanized;
- The animal to be microchipped; or
- The animal to be impounded until the orders of the Board are implemented to the satisfaction of the Health Officer, and the owner pays any fees or civil monetary penalties.

The Animal Hearing Board shall notify the owner of the Board's decision. The Health Officer, the Division, and the Board are not responsible for the cost of any orders of the Board. An owner shall be considered to have waived any property interest or claim of ownership the owner has in an impounded animal if the owner fails to attend a hearing for which the owner did not otherwise request and receive a postponement. An impounded animal shall be deemed abandoned and shall be disposed of in accordance with this article if: the owner waives ownership, does not pay the boarding fees, or does not comply with the orders of the Board.

The Animal Hearing Board may waive or reduce the civil monetary penalty issued under this subtitle if the owner has complied with the orders of the Board; surrenders the animal to the Division for euthanasia; or provided the animal is impounded, agrees in writing to euthanasia. The Health Officer may assess an owner fees for the following services provided to an animal: impoundment; boarding; vaccination; spaying or neutering; veterinary services; and any other needed service.

The Administration advised that to the extent the package of bills results in fewer animals held in the Baltimore County Animal Shelter, current costs would decrease commensurately; however, it cannot project the magnitude of any such impact at this time, and the net fiscal effect will depend on how the legislation affects intake levels, enforcement activity, and service demands.

With the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, Bill 31-26 will take effect 14 days after its enactment.

**Bill 32-26****Council District(s) All**

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**Mr. Ertel (By Req.) & Councilmembers Jones, Marks & Patoka**

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**Department of Health & Human Services**

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**Animals – Owner Responsibilities – Repeal and Technical Changes**

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Bill 32-26 repeals sections of the Baltimore County Code that are being moved to another Subtitle under the other animal services bills introduced with Bill 32-26. Bill 32-26 also renumbers certain sections and enacts several technical changes.

The Administration has submitted a package of bills to modernize, restructure, and update the Article on animals in the Baltimore County Code. The County Council is considering these three bills. Bill 32-26 is a companion bill to address technical changes necessary to enact the legislative package. Specifically, Bill 32-26 repeals and renumbers several sections in the Animal Welfare Title that are being transferred to another Title or are being replaced by a new section in the companion bills.

With the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, Bill 32-26 will take effect 14 days after its enactment. Bill 32-26 contains an uncodified contingency clause that states Bill 32-26 will have no force or effect if those companion bills are not passed by the County Council.

**Bill 33-26 (Supplemental Appropriation)**

**Council District(s) 7**

**Mr. Ertel (By Req.)**

**Department of Planning**

**State Technical Assistance Dundalk Main Street**

The Administration is requesting a supplemental appropriation of State funds totaling \$25,000 to the State Technical Assistance Dundalk Main Street Gifts and Grants Fund program. The Department advised that it will grant these funds to the Greater Dundalk Community Development Organization (GDCDO) to support business outreach and startup costs. See Exhibit A.

**Fiscal Summary**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Supplemental Appropriation</b>	<b>Current Appropriation</b>	<b>Total Appropriation</b>
<b>County</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	--	--	--
<b>State</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 25,000	--	\$ 25,000
<b>Federal</b>	--	--	--
<b>Other</b> <sup>(3)</sup>	--	--	--
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 25,000</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>\$ 25,000</u>

<sup>(1)</sup> The Department advised that the County will provide staff time to assist the GDCDO, valued at approximately \$9,000.

<sup>(2)</sup> Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development funds. No County matching funds are required.

<sup>(3)</sup> GDCDO anticipates receiving \$1,250 in donations from local stakeholders.

**Analysis**

The Department advised that community leaders formed the GDCDO in January 2025 to serve Dundalk Main Street businesses, pursue community development resources and priorities benefiting the broader community, and reattain Dundalk’s State-certified Main Street designation,

which was paused following the Fall 2024 dissolution of the Dundalk Renaissance Corporation (DRC), the County's first nonprofit CDO. The Department further advised that, once the proposed grant funds are appropriated to its budget, it intends to grant the \$25,000 to the GDCDO to support: (1) hiring a part-time contractual employee to conduct business outreach and connect businesses to State, County, and other resources; (2) obtaining insurance and training for staff; and (3) defraying other startup costs.

The Department advised that the grant will be submitted to the Council for approval via the County's 14-day grant notification process. The Department also noted that County staff have provided and will continue to provide technical assistance to this community-led initiative.

The grant period commenced February 24, 2026 and continues for 1 year. The Department advised that no County matching funds are required; however, County staff will provide grant management and technical support, valued at approximately \$9,000.

With the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, Bill 33-26 will take effect May 17, 2026.

## **Executive Summary**

A State of Maryland FY26 Technical Assistance Grant for \$25,000 has been awarded to Baltimore County Department of Planning to support outreach to businesses in the State-designated Dundalk Main Street and assist with startup costs for a new Community Development Organization. Planning will grant the \$25,000 to the newly formed Greater Dundalk Community Development Organization (GDCDO) to implement this project once the funds have been added to Planning's budget. Funds will enable GDCDO to hire a part time contractual employee to conduct outreach to businesses to connect them with available State, County, and other resources; conduct outreach to the community; obtain Directors and Officers insurance; access board development training to ensure nonprofit best practices; and defray other startup costs associated with the new CDO. Community leaders organized in January of 2025 to start a new nonprofit that could serve Dundalk Main Street businesses and pursue other community development resources and priorities benefitting the broader community. Planning has provided technical assistance to this community-led initiative as they have collected community survey responses, met with stakeholders, formed a board of directors, and incorporated as a nonprofit. They have obtained their 501 c-3 status from the IRS and will host their first public event on March 28, 2026.

Prepared by: Department of Planning

**Bill 34-26**

**Council District(s) All**

**Mr. Ertel (By Req.)**

**Executive Office**

**Appellate Court Name Updates**

Bill 34-26 amends several sections of the County Code to replace obsolete references to the Court of Appeals of Maryland and the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland with the Supreme Court of Maryland and the Appellate Court of Maryland, respectively.

Historically, the appellate courts for the Maryland Court system were named in the State constitution as the Court of Special Appeals (the intermediate appellate court) and the Court of Appeals (the highest court in the State judiciary). Among the 50 states, the most common names for State appellate courts are the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court. However, a handful of states retained the colonial-era appellate court names until relatively recently, including New York, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

Over the last few decades, many states have amended their state constitutions to update the names of their appellate courts for better clarity with the public and greater uniformity among the states. Today, the highest court in every state except New York is named some variation of the Supreme Court.

In 2021, the Maryland General Assembly and the Governor enacted legislation to change the names of the Maryland Court of Appeals and the Maryland Court of Special Appeals in the State Constitution to the Supreme Court of Maryland and the Appellate Court of Maryland, respectively. A subsequent ballot question was approved by Maryland voters at the election held on November 8, 2022. Accordingly, Bill 34-26 updates the references to Maryland’s appellate courts in the County Code to be consistent with the 2022 name changes.

Bill 34-26 will take effect 45 days after its enactment.

**Mr. Marks**

**Zoning Regs. – Signs – Freestanding Signs – Maximum Area**

Bill 36-26 increases the maximum permitted area of a freestanding enterprise sign in the Commercial, Community Core District of the Business, Local (B.L.-C.C.C.) Zone to 125 square feet under certain circumstances. In general, all signs are governed by Section 450 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations.

An enterprise sign is defined as an accessory sign which displays the identity and which may otherwise advertise the products or services associated with the individual organization. A freestanding sign is defined as a sign that is maintained on a structural framework or supporting element, including a post or a pole, fixed in the ground, but is not attached to a building. A freestanding enterprise sign is permitted in several Business zones, including the B.L.R. (Business Local Restricted), B.M. (Business Major), B.L. (Business Local), B.R. (Business Roadside), M.L.R. (Manufacturing Light Restricted), M.R. (Manufacturing Restricted), M.L. (Manufacturing Light), M.H. (Manufacturing Heavy), and R.O. (Residential Office) zones.

Generally, the area (or “face”) of a sign is defined as the number of square feet within the perimeter of one continuous rectangle enclosing the face of a sign. Except in the case of a wall-mounted sign, “area” includes the surface of all integral color, framing, or other design feature by which the sign is differentiated from the structure supporting it or upon which it is erected. However, “area” does not include:

- Any structural, supporting, or decorative features which are not part of the message of the sign;
- Architectural features of the building upon which the sign may be erected, provided that such features are distinguishable from the sign by means of differences of color or similar attributes; or
- Air spaces located between freestanding signs of different classes which are erected on a common or shared supporting structure.

Currently, a freestanding enterprise sign may have a maximum area of 75 square feet. However, this maximum increases to 100 square feet if the premises has more than 300 feet of frontage. In addition, the maximum area for any freestanding sign may be increased relative to the setback from a right-of-way of the nearest highway on which a premises has frontage by: 5% if the setback is at least 10 feet; 10% if the setback is at least 20 feet; or 15% if the setback is 50 feet or more from the right-of-way. Bill 36-26 would permit a freestanding enterprise sign located in the B.L.-C.C.C. Zone to have a maximum area of 125 square feet, if located in the Essex Commercial Revitalization District.

With the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, Bill 36-26 will take effect 14 days after its enactment.

**Bill 37-26**

**Council District(s) All**

**All Councilmembers**

**2026 Basic Services Maps**

Article 4A of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (“BCZR”) sets forth the provisions for growth management in Baltimore County. The growth management provisions are designed to facilitate implementation of the Master Plan with specific regard to the quantity and timing of new growth and development. BCZR Section 4A02.1 provides that:

“The County Council finds that important public facilities in certain predominantly urban areas of the County are inadequate to serve all of the development that would be permitted under the regulations of the zones or commercial districts within which those areas lie. Basic Services Maps are hereby established to regulate nonindustrial development in those under-served areas to a degree commensurate with the availability of these facilities. Basic Services Maps are not permanent and will be reviewed annually with reports to the County Council.”

Basic Services Maps are designed to aid the County in providing public services (water, sewer, and transportation) in an amount that facilitates the level of growth allowed by the current zoning. This growth management system applies inside the Urban Rural Demarcation Line (URDL).

Article 4A requires that the three Basic Services Maps for water, sewer, and transportation be prepared annually by the appropriate Executive agencies, and thereafter the Planning Board must recommend to the County Council any proposed annual revisions to the maps. The law requires the Council to take legislative action on the maps after consideration of the Planning Board’s recommendations. The Council is required to hold one public hearing prior to the adoption of the maps; the hearing is scheduled on April 28, 2026.

Bill 37-26 repeals the 2025 Basic Services Maps and enacts the 2026 Basic Services Maps. A summary of the changes proposed by the Planning Board on February 20, 2026 is attached as Exhibit A.

With the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council, Bill 37-26 will take effect 14 days after its enactment.



KATHERINE A. KLAUSMEIER  
County Executive

STEPHEN LAFFERTY, *Director*  
Department of Planning

February 20, 2026

The Honorable Mike Ertel  
Chairman, Baltimore County Council  
County Courthouse  
400 Washington Avenue  
Towson, MD 21204

Re: 2026 Basic Services Maps

Dear Chairman Ertel,

At its regular meeting on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026, the Baltimore County Planning Board voted, in accordance with Section 4A02.3.E.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (BCZR), to recommend adoption of the proposed 2026 Basic Services Maps as presented.

The item was first introduced to the Board on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026. A Public Hearing was conducted on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

The proposed Water Supply, Sewerage, and Transportation Maps, at a 1" = 4000' scale, as well as the accompanying reports from the Department of Public Works and Transportation, are enclosed for Public Hearing and adoption by the County Council.

Should you have any questions regarding the Planning Board's approval process, please contact Taylor Bensley of the Department of Planning at 410-887-3482 or [tbensley@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:tbensley@baltimorecountymd.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen Lafferty".

Stephen Lafferty  
Secretary to the Board

SL/KP/tb

Enclosures

c: Members, Baltimore County Council  
Thomas Bostwick., Legislative Counsel/Secretary  
Chris Hewitt, County Council Administrator  
Elizabeth Irwin, Acting County Auditor  
D'Andrea Walker, Administrative Officer  
James R. Benjamin Jr., County Attorney  
Lauren Buckler, Director, Department of Public Works and Transportation  
Andrew Brown, Department of Public Works and Transportation



Department of Public Works and Transportation

# 2026 Basic Services Map Transportation Zones

DRAFT

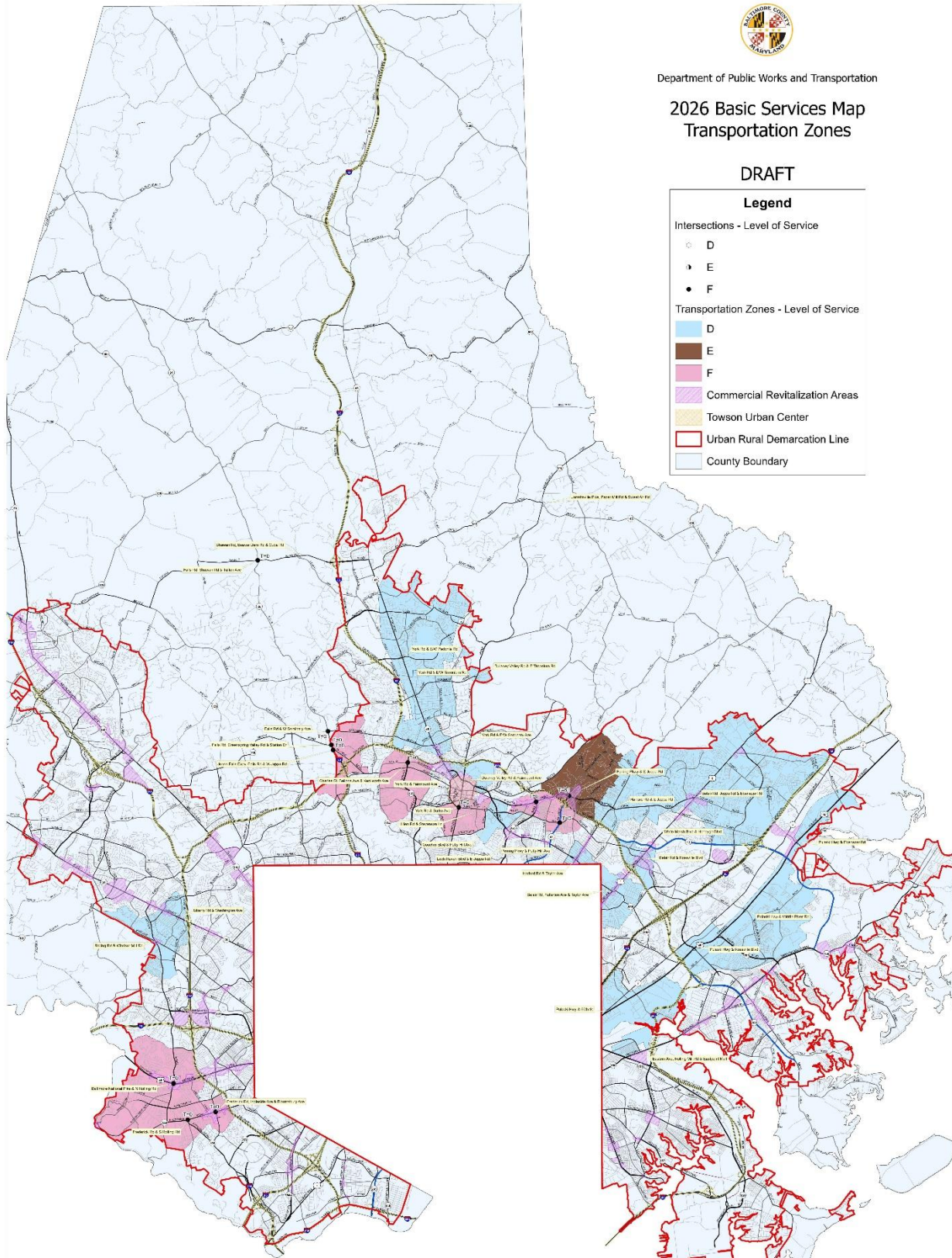
### Legend

#### Intersections - Level of Service

- D
- ◐ E
- F

#### Transportation Zones - Level of Service

- D
- E
- F
- Commercial Revitalization Areas
- Towson Urban Center
- Urban Rural Demarcation Line
- County Boundary



THIS MAP HAS BEEN ENACTED UNDER BILL NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ AND IS PART OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS, 1955, AS AMENDED BY THE BILL ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ EFFECTIVE \_\_\_\_\_.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY



SCALE 1 INCH = 4,000 Feet



NOTE: The interpretation of the Basic Services Maps are subject to changes provided for in the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, Article 40, Section 10-101. Section 10-101, Article 40, Section 10-101. These regulations include provisions for the following geographic information systems (GIS): the Urban and Rural Demarcation Line (URDL), Commercial Revitalization Districts (CRD), and the Towson Urban Center (TUC). The Towson Urban Center (TUC) is located in the Towson Plan (2010) in the Land Management Area Feature Class.

Feature Class	Production Dates
Transportation Zones	2026
Intersections	2026
Commercial Revitalization Districts	2025
Towson Urban Center	2011
Urban Rural Demarcation Line	2012
Roads	2026
County Boundary	2026

File created by Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation  
North American Datum: 1983 NAD83, U.S. Survey Feet  
Updated: January 5, 2026



Department of Public Works and Transportation

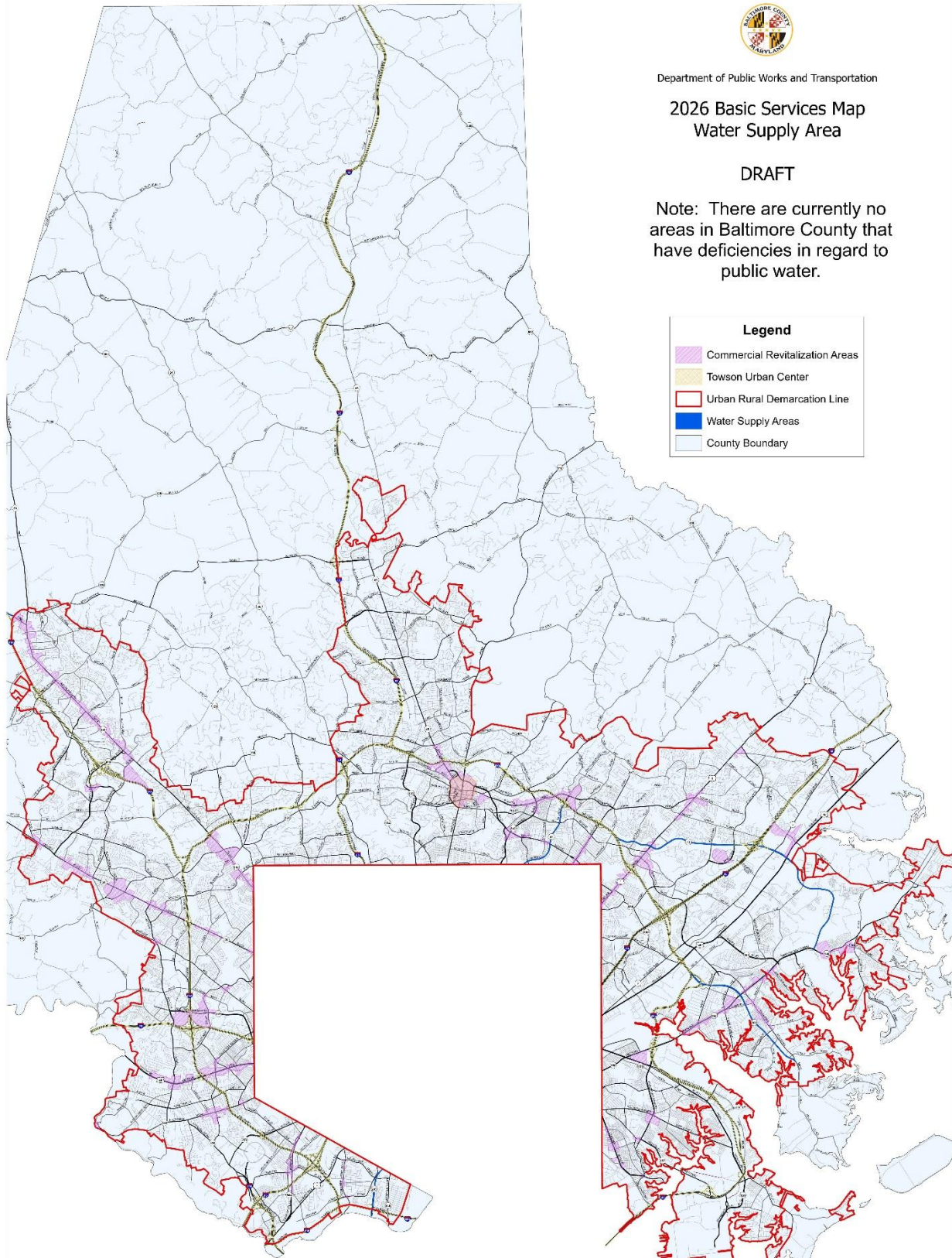
# 2026 Basic Services Map Water Supply Area

DRAFT

Note: There are currently no areas in Baltimore County that have deficiencies in regard to public water.

**Legend**

- Commercial Revitalization Areas
- Towson Urban Center
- Urban Rural Demarcation Line
- Water Supply Areas
- County Boundary



THIS MAP HAS BEEN ENACTED UNDER BILL NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ AND IS PART OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS, 1955, AS AMENDED BY THE BILL ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ EFFECTIVE \_\_\_\_\_.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY



SCALE 1 INCH = 4,000 Feet



NOTE: The interpretation of the Basic Services Maps are subject to interpretations provided for in the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, Article 26, Section 10-101(b)(1). Section 26-101(b)(1) states: Section 10-101(b)(1) shall include: (i) the Urban and Rural Demarcation Line (URDL); (ii) Commercial Revitalization Districts (CRZD 2 & C-1); and the Towson Urban Center (ZON 24 C-1). The Towson Urban Center (Downtown Towson District) exists in the Basic Plan 2020 in the Land Management Area Feature Class.

Feature Class Production Dates

Water Supply Area	2006
Commercial Revitalization Districts	2005
Towson Urban Center	2011
Urban Rural Demarcation Line	2012
Roads	2006
County Boundary	2008

Printed by Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation  
North American Datum 1983 (NAD83), U.S. Survey Feet  
Updated: January 5, 2018



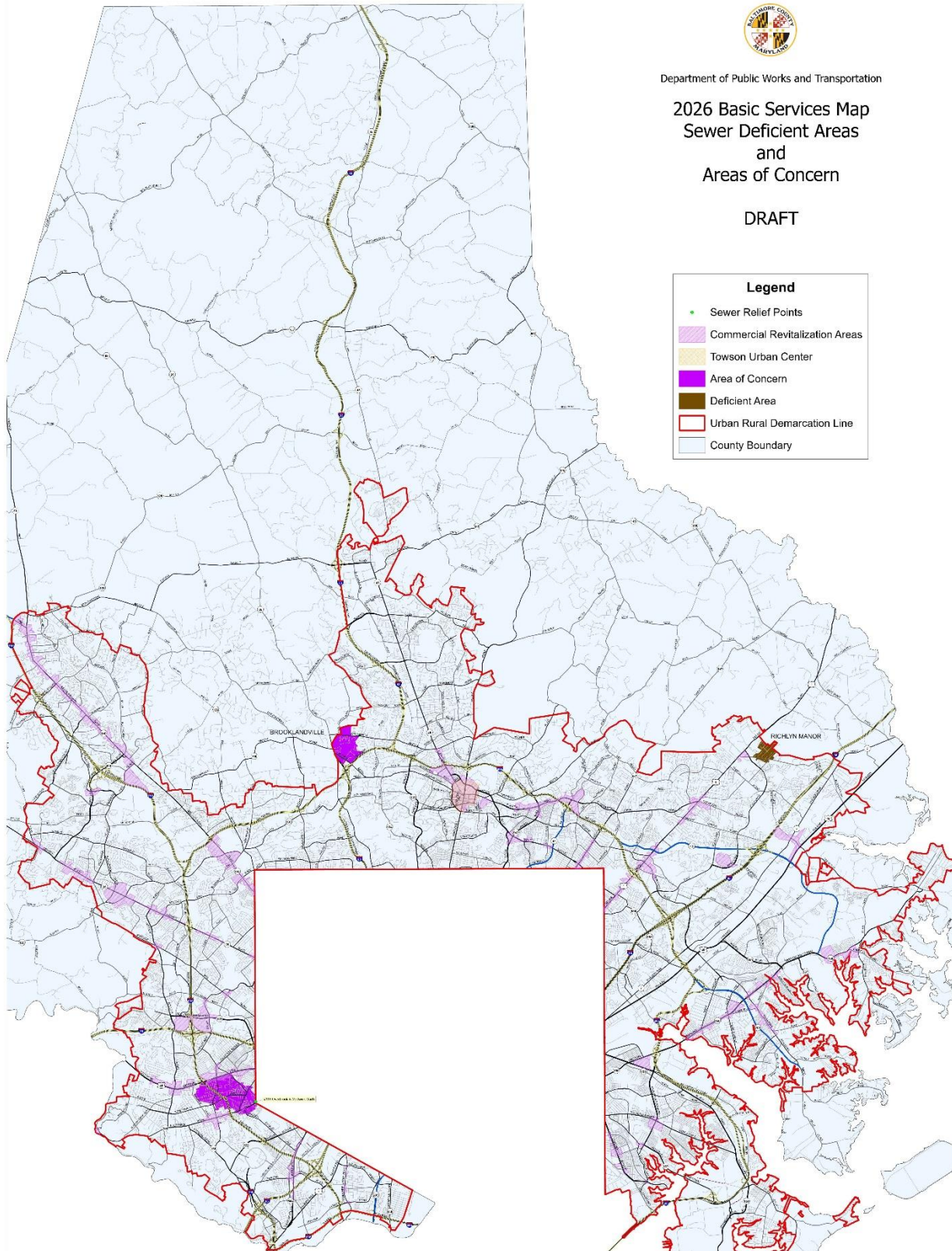
Department of Public Works and Transportation

# 2026 Basic Services Map Sewer Deficient Areas and Areas of Concern

DRAFT

**Legend**

- Sewer Relief Points
- Commercial Revitalization Areas
- Towson Urban Center
- Area of Concern
- Deficient Area
- Urban Rural Demarcation Line
- County Boundary



THIS MAP HAS BEEN ENACTED UNDER BILL NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ AND IS PART OF THE BALTIMORE COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS, 1955, AS AMENDED BY THE BILL ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL ON \_\_\_\_\_, EFFECTIVE \_\_\_\_\_.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY



SCALE 1 INCH = 4,000 Feet



NOTE: The interpretation of the Basic Services Maps are subject to assignments provided for in the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations, 1955, as amended by the Bill adopted by the County Council on \_\_\_\_\_, effective \_\_\_\_\_.

These maps are prepared by the Department of Public Works and Transportation, Baltimore County, Maryland. These maps are prepared by the Department of Public Works and Transportation, Baltimore County, Maryland. These maps are prepared by the Department of Public Works and Transportation, Baltimore County, Maryland.

Feature Class	Production Dates
Sewer Relief Points	2006
Sewer Areas	2006
Commercial Revitalization Districts	2005
Towson Urban Center	2011
Urban Rural Demarcation Line	2012
Roads	2006
County Boundary	2008

Prepared by Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation  
North American Datum 1983 (NAD83), U.S. Survey Feet  
Updated January 5, 2018

**BALTIMORE COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION  
INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE**

**DATE:** December 30, 2025

**TO:** Lauren Buckler, PE, Director  
Department of Public Works and Transportation

**FROM:** Justin Hall, PE, Chief *JMH*  
Bureau of Engineering & Construction

**SUBJECT:** 2026 Basic Services Maps  
Public Water & Sewer Status

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In accordance with your request, we are furnishing an update for the 2026 Basic Services Map.

Water

No deficiencies are known to exist.

Sewer

Nine (9) of the ten (10) remaining sewer relief points have been eliminated. The elimination of these sewer relief points allows for the removal of most of the areas of concern from the 2026 Basic Services Map. The single sewer relief point location that remains is being monitored while design and construction progress on improvements in the downstream sewer system located in the City of Baltimore.

Revisions to the Basic Services Maps to remove an area of special concern do not mean that an area has unlimited development potential. Computer modeling and simulations to assess the impacts on the County's sewer system resulting from development are completed on a case-by-case basis. Determinations are made to assess if the impacts from development will require downstream improvements to ensure adequate capacity in the sewer system.

JH: DAB

cc: Erin McKenna-Streyle, P.E. – Chief, Water Design Section  
Amy Bley, P.E. – Chief, Sewer Design Section  
David Bayer, P.E. – Sewer Design Section  
Andrew Brown, P.E. – Sewer Design Section

**BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND  
BUREAU OF TRAFFIC ENGINEERING AND TRANSPORTATION PLANNING  
INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE**

DATE: December 18, 2025

TO: Lauren Buckler, Director  
Department of Public Works and Transportation

FROM: Angelica Daniel, Bureau Chief  
Bureau of Transportation *AD*

SUBJECT: 2026 Basic Service Map – Transportation:

Based on these studies over the past year, we are recommending no changes for the levels of service to the 2025 Transportation Map:

There are ten “F” level intersections and one “E” level intersection that are being proposed on the 2026 Basic Service Transportation Map that would control development. These intersections are:

Baltimore Nat’l Pike (US 40)/ Rolling Rd N	LOS = F
Bellona Ave / Charles St (MD 139) / Kenilworth Dr	LOS = F
Bloomsbury Ave / Frederick Rd (MD 144) / Ingleside Ave	LOS = F
Burke Ave / Burke Ave W / York Rd (MD 45)	LOS = F
Falls Rd (MD 25) / Seminary Ave W (MD 131)	LOS = F
Falls Rd (MD 25) / Jones Falls Expy /Joppa Rd W	LOS = F
Falls Rd (MD 25) / Greenspring Valley Rd (MD 130) / Station Dr	LOS = F
Falls Rd (MD 25) & Shawan Rd & Tufton Ave *	LOS = F*
Frederick Rd (MD 144) / Rolling Rd S (MD 166)	LOS = F
Joppa Rd E & Loch Raven Blvd (MD 542)	LOS = F
Perring Pkwy (MD 41) / Putty Hill Ave	LOS = F
Joppa Rd E / Perring Pkwy (MD 41)	LOS = E

\* The intersection of Falls Rd (MD-25)/Shawan Rd and Tufton Rd is outside the URDL, and therefore, no commuter shed will be associated with this intersection.

Enclosed is a list of the current D, E, and F intersections for your use. Should you have any questions in regard to the Basic Services Transportation Map for 2026, please contact me at ext.3554.

1st Rd Name	2nd Rd Name	3rd Rd Name	LoS
BALTIMORE NAT'L PIKE	ROLLING RD N		F
BEAVER DAM RD	CUBA RD	SHAWAN RD	D
BELAIR RD	EBENEZER RD	JOPPA RD	D
BELAIR RD	FULLERTON AVE	TAYLOR AVE	D
BELAIR RD	ROSSVILLE BLVD		D
BELLONA AVE	CHARLES ST	KENILWORTH DR	F
BLOOMSBURY AVE	FREDERICK RD	INGLESIDE AVE	F
BURKE AVE	YORK RD		F
DULANEY VALLEY RD	FAIRMOUNT AVE		D
DULANEY VALLEY RD	TIMONIUM RD E		D
EASTERN AVE	ROLLING MILL RD	MALL ENT	D
EBENEZER RD	PULASKI HWY		D
FAIRMOUNT AVE	YORK RD		D
FALLS RD	GREENSPRING VALLEY RD	STATION DR	F
FALLS RD	JONES FALLS EXPWY	JOPPA RD W	F
FALLS RD	SEMINARY AVE W		F
FALLS RD	SHAWAN RD	TUFTON AVE	F
FREDERICK RD	ROLLING RD S		F
GOUCHER BLVD	PUTTY HILL AVE		D
HARFORD RD	JOPPA RD E		D
HARFORD RD	TAYLOR AVE		D
HILLEN RD	STEVENSON LN		D
HONEYGO BLVD	WHITE MARSH BLVD		D
JARRETTSVILLE PIKE	PAPER MILL RD	SWEET AIR RD	D
JOPPA RD E	LOCH RAVEN BLVD		F
JOPPA RD E	PERRING PKWY		E
LIBERTY RD	WASHINGTON AVE		D
MIDDLE RIVER RD	PULASKI HWY		D
PADONIA RD E/W	YORK RD		D
PERRING PKWY	PUTTY HILL AVE		F
PULASKI HWY	66TH ST		D
PULASKI HWY	ROSSVILLE BLVD		D
ROLLING RD	WINDSOR MILL RD		D
SEMINARY AVE E/W	YORK RD		D
TIMONIUM RD E/W	YORK RD		D

**FM-1 (Contract)**

**Council District(s) All**

**Department of Health and Human Services**

**Community-Based, Intensive Outpatient Services**

The Administration is requesting approval of a contract with People Encouraging People, Inc. to provide enhanced clinical support and rental subsidies for community apartments to 38 County adults with complex behavioral health illnesses upon discharge from a State psychiatric hospital. The contract commences July 1, 2026, continues through June 30, 2027, and will renew automatically for four additional 1-year periods with the option to extend the initial term or any renewal term an additional 120 days. Compensation for FY 2027 may not exceed \$937,943. Compensation for FY 2028 and each subsequent renewal period may not exceed the amount of grant funds appropriated for these services. Estimated compensation totals \$4,689,715 for the entire 5-year and 4-month term, including the renewal and extension periods, assuming the same level of appropriation for each year. See Exhibit A.

**Fiscal Summary**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>Total Compensation</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>County</b>	--	--	(1) Maryland Department of Health, Behavioral Health Administration Funds. (2) Maximum compensation for FY 2027. (3) Estimated compensation for the entire 5-year and 4-month term, including the renewal and extension periods, assuming the same level of appropriation for each year. Compensation for FY 2028 and each renewal period is limited to the amount of grant funds appropriated.
<b>State</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 937,943	\$ 4,689,715	
<b>Federal</b>	--	--	
<b>Other</b>	--	--	
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 937,943</u> <sup>(2)</sup>	<u>\$ 4,689,715</u> <sup>(3)</sup>	

**Analysis**

People Encouraging People, Inc. (PEP) will provide rental subsidies for community apartments and intensive Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team services to 38 County adults with complex behavioral health illnesses and other secondary diagnoses who have been discharged

directly from a State psychiatric hospital. The Department previously advised that the primary goal of ACT is to provide the selected individuals the opportunity to live more independently in an outpatient setting and to prevent further hospitalization.

The contract specifies that the contractor will employ at least 1 full-time equivalent rehabilitation counselor position. The Department advised that the FTE requirement will be covered by two staff hired by the contractor, working 29 and 30 hours-per-week, respectively, to coordinate any needed transition services for clients discharged from the hospital and to provide clients additional support and one-to-one support as-needed. The Department advised that the contractor will also utilize individuals who previously resided in State hospitals to assist with activities in order to share their experiences with clients.

The contract commences July 1, 2026, continues through June 30, 2027, and will renew automatically for four additional 1-year periods with the option to extend the initial term or any renewal term an additional 120 days on the same terms and conditions, unless the County provides notice of non-renewal. Compensation for FY 2027 may not exceed \$937,943. Compensation for FY 2028 and each subsequent renewal period may not exceed the amount of grant funds appropriated for these services. Estimated compensation totals \$4,689,715 for the entire 5-year and 4-month term, including the renewal and extension periods, assuming the same level of appropriation for each year. The County may terminate the agreement by providing 30 days prior written notice. The Department advised that there is not an M/WBE participation requirement.

The Department requested that the proposed contract be designated as a noncompetitive 902(f) award secured in the best interest of the County. The Department advised that due to the intensive and highly specialized services provided to the clients in the program, and the Department's desire to maintain continuity of care, it is not possible to competitively bid these services. The Department advised that People Encouraging People, Inc. has been providing these services to the County since 2014.

On September 8, 2020, the Council approved a similar 6-year contract (which commenced July 1, 2020) with People Encouraging People, Inc. The County's financial system indicated that as of March 31, 2026, expenditures/encumbrances under the contract totaled \$5,074,691.

The County currently has one other contract with People Encouraging People, Inc. for transitional age youth services.

County Charter, Section 902(f), states that “when... [competitive] bidding is not appropriate, a contract shall be awarded only by competitive negotiations, unless such negotiations are not feasible. When neither competitive bidding nor competitive negotiations are feasible, contracts may be awarded by noncompetitive negotiations.”

County Charter, Section 715, requires that “any contract must be approved by the County Council before it is executed if the contract is...for services for a term in excess of two years or involving the expenditure of more than \$25,000 per year....”

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### Housing Initiative – People Encouraging People, Inc.

The Baltimore County Department of Health, Bureau of Behavioral Health (BBH) seeks to enter into a contract with People Encouraging People, Inc for the provision of the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) with Housing program in Baltimore County for \$937,943 per fiscal year.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The Maryland Department of Health (DOH), Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) provides State grant funds to Baltimore County Bureau of Behavioral Health for the ACT with Housing Program. The funds provide rental subsidies for 38 individuals who are being discharged from state hospitals to the community and need enhanced services to maintain community living. The participants will receive ACT services including, psychiatric assessment, mental health, co-occurring substance use, psychiatric rehabilitation, nursing, supported employment and peer support.

#### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the request is to establish a new contract with People Encouraging People, Inc. to fund the rental subsidies for thirty-eight residents who will also receive Assertive Community Treatment. The ACT program provides community-based, intensive outpatient services for participants with a serious mental illness for who more traditional forms of outpatient treatment has been ineffective. The program will serve individuals who are being discharged from state hospitals to the community.

#### **FISCAL**

The amount of available funds is \$937,943 per fiscal year to provide rental subsidies. The initial contract term will be effective when executed by the County through June 30, 2027, with four (4) additional one (1) year renewal options. Baltimore County reserves the right to increase the compensation if additional funds are received during the initial term or any renewal term.

Prepared by: Department of Health and Human Services

**FM-2 (2 Contracts)**

**Council District(s) All**

**Department of Health and Human Services**

**Intensive Residential Rehabilitation Program Services**

The Administration is requesting approval of two contracts to provide 24-hour, 7-day-per-week on-site supervision in a Residential Rehabilitation Program (RRP) for County adults with complex mental health and secondary diagnoses transitioning from a State hospital: Mosaic Community Services, Inc. will provide services for 11 individuals, and Prologue, Inc. will provide services for 3 individuals. Each contract commences July 1, 2026, continues through June 30, 2027, and will renew automatically for four additional 1-year periods with the option to extend the initial term or any renewal term an additional 120 days. Compensation for FY 2027 may not exceed \$463,582 for Mosaic Community Services, Inc. and may not exceed \$78,430 for Prologue, Inc. Compensation for FY 2028 and each subsequent renewal period may not exceed the amount of grant funds appropriated for these services. Estimated compensation totals \$2,317,910 for Mosaic Community Services, Inc. and \$392,150 for Prologue, Inc. for the entire 5-year and 4-month term, including the renewal and extension periods, assuming the same level of appropriation for each year. See Exhibits A and B.

**Fiscal Summary**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>Combined Total Compensation</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>County</b>	--	--	(1) Maryland Department of Health, Behavioral Health Administration funds. (2) Maximum compensation for FY 2027. (3) Estimated compensation for the entire 5-year and 4-month term, including the renewal and extension periods, assuming the same level of appropriation each year. Compensation for FY 2028 and each renewal period is limited to the amount of grant funds appropriated.
<b>State</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 542,012	\$ 2,710,060	
<b>Federal</b>	--	--	
<b>Other</b>	--	--	
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 542,012</u> <sup>(2)</sup>	<u>\$ 2,710,060</u> <sup>(3)</sup>	

## Analysis

The contractors will provide 24 hour-per-day, 7 day-per-week on-site supervision in Residential Rehabilitation Program (RRP) settings for individuals discharged from a State hospital who require intensive support to live in the community. The Department advised that allowable services include overnight awake on-site staffing, support services, and other services not billable under the fee-for-service system (FSS) that support individuals to stay in the community. The contractors will also coordinate transition services and manage clients' medical and psychiatric needs.

Mosaic Community Services, Inc. will serve 11 individuals, while Prologue, Inc. will serve 3 individuals. Prologue, Inc. will also provide 1.5 full-time-equivalent staff to support program operations.

Each contract commences July 1, 2026, continues through June 30, 2027, and will renew automatically for four additional 1-year periods with the option to extend the initial term or any renewal term an additional 120 days on the same terms and conditions, unless the County provides notice of non-renewal. Compensation for FY 2027 may not exceed \$463,582 for Mosaic Community Services, Inc. and may not exceed \$78,430 for Prologue, Inc. Compensation for FY 2028 and each subsequent renewal period may not exceed the amount of grant funds appropriated for these services. Estimated compensation totals \$2,317,910 for Mosaic Community Services, Inc. and \$392,150 for Prologue, Inc. for the entire 5-year and 4-month term, including the renewal and extension periods, assuming the same level of appropriation for each year. The County may terminate either agreement by providing 30 days prior written notice. The Department advised that there is not an M/WBE participation requirement.

The Department requested that both proposed contracts be designated as noncompetitive awards under Section 902(f) of the County Charter. The Department advised that, due to the specialized nature of the services and the need to maintain continuity of care for individuals transitioning from State hospital settings, competitive procurement is not feasible. The Department further advised that both contractors have experience delivering these services to the County, with each providing similar services since 2014.

On September 8, 2020, the Council approved similar contracts with the two proposed contractors for six-year terms commencing July 1, 2020. As of March 30, 2026, expenditures/encumbrances

under those contracts totaled approximately \$2.5 million for Mosaic Community Services, Inc. and \$483,163 for Prologue, Inc.

The County currently has four other contracts with Prologue, Inc. for various services: to provide wellness and recovery services for Baltimore County adults with mental health disorders who are seeking support; comprehensive outreach program services to persons who are homeless and have a mental health diagnosis; outreach services including a day center program and individual case management to unaccompanied youth (age 24 years and younger) experiencing homelessness; and recovery support services for Baltimore County adults who are in recovery from a substance use disorder and their families.

County Charter, Section 902(f), states that “when... [competitive] bidding is not appropriate, a contract shall be awarded only by competitive negotiations, unless such negotiations are not feasible. When neither competitive bidding nor competitive negotiations are feasible, contracts may be awarded by noncompetitive negotiations.”

County Charter, Section 715, requires that “any contract must be approved by the County Council before it is executed if the contract is...for services for a term in excess of two years or involving the expenditure of more than \$25,000 per year....”

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

RRP transition from State Hospital Program –Mosaic Community Services, Inc.

The Baltimore County Department of Health, Bureau of Behavioral Health (BBH) seeks to enter into a contract with Mosaic Community Services, Inc. for the provision of the RRP (Residential Rehabilitation Program) for individuals transitioning from a State Hospital program for \$463,582.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Maryland Department of Health (DOH), Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) provides State grant funds to Baltimore County Bureau of Behavioral Health for RRP transition from State Hospital Program. The funds are to be used for a full-time, dedicated program staff to assist Baltimore County adults who have been receiving services in the State hospital and will be discharged to the community. The program is responsible for serving eleven (11) unduplicated adults who are residing in the community in an RRP program.

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the request is to establish a new contract with Mosaic Community Services, Inc. for the RRP transition from State hospital program in Baltimore County. The program will provide intensive Residential Rehabilitation Program (RRP) services to 11 individuals with complex mental health and other secondary diagnoses who are discharged directly from a State Hospital. On-site overnight awake (24/7) coverage will be provided for residents in the program. Allowable services include: overnight awake onsite staffing, peer support services, and other services not billable under the fee for service system (FFS) that support individuals to stay in the community.

### **FISCAL**

The initial contract term will be for \$463,582 from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, with four (4) additional one (1) year renewals contingent upon available funding.

Prepared by: Department of Health and Human Services

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

RRP transition from State Hospital Program –Prologue, Inc.

The Baltimore County Department of Health, Bureau of Behavioral Health (BBH) seeks to enter into a contract with Prologue, Inc. for the provision of the RRP (Residential Rehabilitation Program) for individuals transitioning from a State Hospital program for \$78,430.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Maryland Department of Health (DOH), Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) provides State grant funds to Baltimore County Bureau of Behavioral Health for RRP transition from State Hospital Program. The funds are to be used for a full-time, dedicated program staff to assist Baltimore County adults who have been receiving services in the State hospital and will be discharged to the community. The program is responsible for serving three unduplicated adults who are residing in the community in an RRP program

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the request is to establish a new contract with Prologue, Inc. for the RRP transition from State hospital program in Baltimore County. The program will provide intensive Residential Rehabilitation Program (RRP) services to three individuals with complex mental health and other secondary diagnoses who are discharged directly from a State Hospital. On-site overnight awake (24/7) coverage will be provided for residents in the program. Allowable services include: overnight awake onsite staffing, peer support services, and other services not billable under the fee for service system (FFS) that support individuals to stay in the community.

### **FISCAL**

The initial contract term will be for \$78,430 from July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, with four (4) additional one (1) year renewals contingent upon available funding.

Prepared by: Department of Health and Human Services

FM-4 (Contract)

Council District(s) All

**Department of Housing and Community Development**

**Homeless Management Information System – Administration, Reporting & Compliance**

The Administration is requesting approval of a contract with Institute for Community Alliances (ICA) to provide Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) services to support data collection and reporting for State and federally-funded programs and projects across the County Continuum of Care (CoC). The contract commences upon Council approval, continues for 1 year, and will renew automatically for four additional 1-year periods with the option to extend the initial term or any renewal term by an additional 120 days. The contract provides that compensation may not exceed \$731,272 for the entire 5-year and 4-month term. See Exhibit A.

**Fiscal Summary**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Maximum Compensation</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>County</b>	--	(1) U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds.
<b>State</b>	--	
<b>Federal<sup>(1)</sup></b>	\$ 731,272	(2) For the entire 5-year and 4-month term.
<b>Other</b>	--	
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 731,272</u> <sup>(2)</sup>	

**Analysis**

The Department of Housing and Community Development requires HMIS services to enable the County’s CoC to remain in compliance with federal and State pass-through grant requirements. The contractor will provide HMIS services to support data collection and reporting for State and federally-funded programs and projects across the County CoC.

The contractor will provide 4 part-time positions, one HMIS Project Supervisor (0.05 FTE), one HMIS Manager (0.20 FTE), one System Administrator (0.50 FTE), and one HMIS DataAnalyst/Report Specialist Support (0.25 FTE). The County will pay the contractor on a monthly basis, with a first-year monthly rate of \$11,710, increasing annually by 2%.

The contract commences upon Council approval, continues for 1 year, and will renew automatically for four additional 1-year periods with the option to extend the initial term or any renewal term by an additional 120 days on the same terms and conditions, unless the County provides notice of non-renewal. The contract provides that compensation may not exceed \$731,272 for the entire 5-year and 4-month term. The County may terminate the agreement by providing 30 days prior written notice.

The Department requested that the proposed contract be designated as a noncompetitive 902(f) award secured in the best interest of the County. The Department advised that the contractor is an experienced HMIS service provider supporting multiple HUD-designated Continuums of Care and is familiar with County operations. The Department further advised that these services are necessary to maintain compliance with State and federal requirements and to support CoC data quality, reporting, and funding eligibility.

On May 5, 2025, the Council approved a similar contract with ICA for a 1-year and 3-month term, not to exceed \$181,440. The contract commenced April 1, 2025 and expires upon commencement of a new contract. The County currently pays a monthly rate of \$12,170.

County Charter, Section 902(f), states that “when... [competitive] bidding is not appropriate, a contract shall be awarded only by competitive negotiations, unless such negotiations are not feasible. When neither competitive bidding nor competitive negotiations are feasible, contracts may be awarded by noncompetitive negotiations.”

County Charter, Section 715, requires that “any contract must be approved by the County Council before it is executed if the contract is...for services for a term in excess of two years or involving the expenditure of more than \$25,000 per year....”

## **Executive Summary**

The Administration, through DHCD, is requesting approval of a contract with Institute for Community Alliances (ICA). ICA is a leading HMIS service provider known nationally to other Continuums of Care (CoCs) such like Baltimore County DHCD. Maintaining an HMIS system is a HUD requirement and HMIS Management is a specialized skill set that no other staff in DHCD has the training or expertise to fully assume. DHCD requires a vendor to keep our HMIS system running so we can remain compliant with our federal grants from HUD to respond to federal reporting requirements Continuum of Care (CoC), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME funding requirements. HMIS is also a requirement for state Homeless Solutions Program (HSP) funding from MD-DHCD. ICA provides this same service support to 35 HUD-designated CoCs across 15 states.

Since DHCD began working with ICA in July 2022, ICA has provided HMIS support in data management, clean up, reporting, training and data analysis. Their expertise has led to significant progress in data-driven decision making for policy changes and funding of service provision. DHCD has been able to grow its homeless services data collection efforts more than ever before with ICAs assistance. Maintaining clean, dependable HMIS data ensures the County can be eligible for more federal and state funding each year. Shifting from an hourly rate in 2022 to a long-term monthly bulk fee, nearly quadrupled the amount of support hours we receive monthly. The additional support hours have allowed us to shift from strictly a reactive position, to instead a proactive perspective to plan towards achievement of strategic CoC goals, allow us to maintain the critically important day to day operations of HMIS and the provider Help Desk. This is to ensure successful maintenance of overall CoC data quality and outcomes which will improve our ability as a CoC to make data-driven programmatic decisions and funding determinations that align with the County's enterprise goals.

Among the many benefits we receive with ICA include their knowledge and best practices working with other CoCs in the country and also have access to additional staff members with more expertise in other areas that they can dedicate to our contract short-term based on our needs. For instance, ICA has been building our HMIS system, reporting tools and helping us to develop training modules for the recently acquired Learning Management Software (LMS). This is shifting our provider training to a more effective level and will allow us to track those training efforts.

This request is to establish a five-year master agreement for their services. The contract is effective when executed by the County and shall continue through one year and have four (4) one-year renewals thereafter with a not to exceed amount of \$731,272.

Prepared by: Department of Housing and Community Development

FM-5 (Contract)

Council District(s) All

**Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability**

**Third-Party Verification Services for Building Energy Performance Standards Compliance**

The Administration is requesting approval of a contract with NV5 Consultants, Inc. to provide third-party verification services for Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS) compliance. The contract commences upon Council approval and continues through June 30, 2026; however, the contract specifies that the contractor must provide a final report by May 15, 2026. The contract provides that compensation may not exceed \$30,000 for the approximate 2½-month term. See Exhibit A.

**Fiscal Summary**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Maximum Compensation</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>County</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 30,000	<sup>(1)</sup> Capital Projects Fund.
<b>State</b>	--	<sup>(2)</sup> For the approximate 2½-month term.
<b>Federal</b>	--	
<b>Other</b>	--	
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 30,000</u> <sup>(2)</sup>	

**Analysis**

The Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS) are required by the State’s Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 which established new climate pollution goals for Maryland. Information available on the Maryland Department of the Environment’s (MDE) website notes that the BEPS program is designed to reduce emissions from large buildings while also lowering energy costs and improving air quality. MDE further explains that the BEPS program focuses on Maryland’s largest commercial (which includes government) and multifamily buildings. These “covered buildings” are 35,000 square feet or larger, excluding any parking garage areas. Owners

of these covered buildings are required to annually track the performance of their respective buildings starting in 2025 in a process called benchmarking, which uses a free federal tool – Energy STAR Portfolio Manager – to collect the energy consumption and characteristics of the covered buildings. MDE further notes that Portfolio Manager will provide a full picture of a building’s performance and the pollution it creates and help steer building owners to resources to help them modernize – leading to cleaner air, healthier homes and work spaces, and energy cost savings.

MDE notes that starting in 2030, covered buildings will need to start meeting performance targets that guide buildings down to net zero emissions by 2040. Covered buildings whose owners may apply for an exemption from BEPS requirements include: registered historic buildings, public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools, manufacturing buildings, agricultural buildings, certain federally owned buildings, and demolished buildings. Owners of covered buildings may opt to pay for excess emissions over the standards. Third-party data verification is required every 5 years starting in 2026 (i.e., the first verification deadline to MDE is for calendar year 2025 benchmark data and is due to MDE by June 1, 2026; the second verification deadline to MDE is for calendar year 2030 benchmark data and is due to MDE by June 1, 2031).

The Department advised that the contractor will provide third-party verification services for calendar year 2025 benchmark data for the 25 County buildings that are currently subject to BEPS requirements at a fixed fee of \$1,200 per building. (The Department advised that the fee is equal to or better than the rate charged to State agencies.) To remain BEPS compliant, verification data for all 25 buildings must be submitted to MDE by June 1, 2026.

The contract commences upon Council approval and will continue through June 30, 2026; however, the contract specifies that the contractor must provide a final report by May 15, 2026. (The Office of Budget and Finance, Purchasing Division advised that the contract will continue through June 30, 2026 in case the County requires any additional assistance.) The contract provides that compensation may not exceed \$30,000 for the approximate 2½ month-term. The County may terminate the agreement by providing prior written notice.

The County awarded the contract as a cooperative procurement of a competitively-bid 6-year State of Maryland contract, which was effective September 2, 2021. According to the State procurement documents, there was a 3% M/WBE participation requirement.

On September 6, 2022, the Council approved an approximate 5-year and 4-month contract with JBA Consulting Engineers, Inc dba NV5 Consultants not to exceed \$500,000 to perform energy savings-related services, including reviews of annual Measurement & Verification reports submitted by Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) performing Energy Performance Contracts (EPCs) for the County. The County's financial system indicates that as of April 7, 2026, expenditures for these services totaled \$8,396. (The Department advised that an anticipated EPC for multiple complex and high energy-use facilities did not come to full development during the contract, thus leaving many high-compensation services provided under the contract unutilized.) The Department further advised that as of April 4, 2026, two of the 25 BEPS covered County buildings are under Energy Performance contracts.

County Charter, Section 715, requires that "any contract must be approved by the County Council before it is executed if the contract is...for services for a term in excess of two years or involving the expenditure of more than \$25,000 per year...."

## Executive Summary

Commercial and government owners of buildings covered by Maryland's Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS) are required to have calendar year 2025 benchmarking reports (first report due on 6/1/2026) verified by a qualified and capable 3<sup>rd</sup> party services provider, who must be certified as either a professional engineer, licensed architect, certified energy manager, or building energy assessment professional. While benchmarking and reporting data is an annual requirement, third-party verification of the benchmarking data is required every five years to ensure accuracy of the data.

Under State of Maryland indefinite quantity contract #EC-002-210-003, NV5 is under contract to provide energy project measurement and verification.

Based on the State RFP and contract, tasks must be met with a firm, fixed price per project. The contractor has provided pricing indicating a fee of \$1,200 per building. The required scope for Baltimore County is 25 buildings, therefore the total price is \$30,000. In the selection process that resulted in the State contract, bidders were required to submit a detailed price proposal vetted by an evaluation committee, which evaluated proposals in accordance with COMAR 21.05.03. All qualified offerors were ranked from the lowest (most advantageous) to the highest (least advantageous) price based on the Total Proposal Price within the stated guidelines set forth in the RFP and as submitted on the Financial Proposal Form. The requirements include: all unit prices must be the actual price per unit the State pays for the specific item or service identified in the Request for Proposals. All Financial Proposal prices are to be fully loaded prices that include all costs/expenses associated with the provision of services as required by the RFP. The Financial Proposal price shall include, but is not limited to, all: labor, profit/overhead, general operating, administrative, and all other expenses and costs necessary to perform the work set forth in the solicitation.

Utilization of an existing cooperative contract ensures competitive pricing and technical qualification of the vendor's services and streamlines the procurement process, minimizing the amount of staff time and resources which have to be dedicated by Baltimore County. The existing State contract has been evaluated for its applicability to the desired scope of services and the pricing terms are deemed viable and at fair market value. The contractor has also provided services for the County in the past, including measurement and verification services for an energy performance contract for two major County facilities.

Prepared by: Department of Environmental Protection & Sustainability

**FM-6 (Contract)**

**Council District(s) All**

**Police Department**

**DNA and Serology Forensic Testing Services**

The Administration is requesting approval of a contract with Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc. to provide forensic testing services for serology (bodily fluids) and DNA for the Police Department on an as-needed basis. The contract commences upon Council approval, continues for 1 year, and will renew automatically for four additional 1-year periods with the option to extend the initial term or any renewal term for an additional 120 days. The contract provides that compensation may not exceed the amount appropriated for these services for the entire contract term. The Department advised that estimated compensation totals \$1,000,000 for the initial 1-year term and \$5,000,000 for the entire 5-year and 4-month term, including the renewal and extension periods. See Exhibit A.

**Fiscal Summary**

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Initial Term</b>	<b>Total Compensation</b>
<b>County</b> <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 396,000	*
<b>State</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	230,000	*
<b>Federal</b> <sup>(3)</sup>	374,000	*
<b>Other</b>	--	*
<b>Total</b>	\$ 1,000,000 <sup>(4)</sup>	\$ 5,000,000 <sup>(5)</sup>

(1) General Fund Operating Budget.

(2) Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention, Sexual Assault Kit Testing (SAKT) Grant Program.

(3) U.S. Department of Justice, Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program and National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative grants.

(4) Estimated compensation for the initial 1-year term.

(5) Estimate for the entire 5-year and 4-month term. The Department was unable to provide a breakout by funding source.

### Analysis

The contractor will provide testing services for serology (which includes bodily fluids such as blood, saliva, and semen) and DNA (including touch/contact DNA, hairs, tissue, teeth, bones, and sexual assault kits) for the Police Department on an as-needed basis, as well as provide court testimony when requested by the Baltimore County State's Attorney's Office or court. The Department advised that it utilizes these services due to the inability and, in some cases, lack of appropriate physical facilities and technology to perform certain specialized tests in-house; in addition, outsourcing these services addresses factors such as an infrequent need for certain types of tests, staff training requirements, and limited Department staffing resources, and often results in faster turnaround times for certain cases.

The Department advised that an annual site visit of the contractor's lab is required in order to comply with the FBI's quality assurance standards.

The County will be billed at unit prices ranging from \$65 to \$3,400 for standard DNA and serology testing and \$350 to \$3,900 for forensic genealogy testing, depending on the type of test required. The Department must be notified within 5 business days of any sample related problems or quality issues. The proposed contract provides a turnaround time for standard case work of 56 calendar days and a penalty of a 5% reduction of the contractor's fee per day for each day exceeding the 56-day limit. (The Department advised that testing of bulk SAFE kits and forensic genetic genealogy testing are expected to take longer than 56 days, and the 5% penalty will therefore not apply.) The contractor will also make available faster turnaround times for certain standard DNA and serology tests, with turnaround upcharge pricing ranging from \$460 for a 20-business day turnaround to \$925 for a 5-business day turnaround. The County also will be billed for expert court testimony and associated travel, which is required to be at fair market cost. (While not included as part of the proposed contract, the Department noted that the contractor also offers expedited forensic genetic genealogy testing services that provide a 2-3-week turnaround at unit prices ranging from \$1,000 to \$9,000, based on the type of test required. The Department further noted that it does not plan to routinely use these expedited forensic genetic genealogy testing services.)

The contract commences upon Council approval, continues for 1 year, and will renew automatically for four additional 1-year periods with the option to extend the initial term or any renewal term for an additional 120 days on the same terms and conditions, unless the County provides notice of non-renewal. The contract provides that compensation may not exceed the

amount appropriated for these services for the entire contract term. The Department advised that estimated compensation totals \$1,000,000 for the initial 1-year term and \$5,000,000 for the entire 5-year and 4-month term, including the renewal and extension periods.

Prior to the commencement of each renewal period, the County may entertain a request for an escalation in unit prices in accordance with the Consumer Price Index – All Urban Consumers – United States Average – All Items (CPI-U), as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics at the time of the request, or up to a maximum 5% increase on the current pricing, whichever is lower. The County may terminate the agreement by providing 30 days prior written notice.

The County awarded the contract through a competitive procurement process based on value and experience from five proposals received. According to the bid documents, there is not an M/WBE participation requirement.

On December 7, 2020, the Council approved two similar 5-year and 3-month contracts (which commenced July 21, 2020) with Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc. and DNA Labs International, Inc.. On October 20, 2025, the Council approved amendments to the contracts, extending each contract approximately 6 months, through the earlier of April 20, 2026 or the date upon which a new agreement has been executed. According to the County's financial system, as of March 30, 2026, a total of \$5,289,073 has been expended/encumbered under the contracts: \$4,139,459 and \$1,141,514 under the Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc. and DNA Labs International, Inc. contracts, respectively.

County Charter, Section 715, requires that "any contract must be approved by the County Council before it is executed if the contract is...for services for a term in excess of two years or involving the expenditure of more than \$25,000 per year...."

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Bode Cellmark Forensics  
10430 Furnace Road, Suite 107  
Lorton, VA 22079

### The Project:

Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc. currently has a contract (SCON-10000611) for forensic testing services for DNA and Serology. The goal of this Council Action Request is to create a one (1) year contract with four (4) annual renewals plus 120-day extension period without exceeding the County Council approved appropriation. Serology is the examination of evidence for the presence of bodily fluids, which is imperative for crime scene analysis. DNA analysis develops a unique genetic blueprint from evidence to compare to individuals and link them to a crime or exonerate them. This contract expires on 4/20/2026. As of 4/8/2026, \$4,090,992.14 has been expended (both via AMS and Workday). The cost is estimated to be \$1,000,000.00 annually, but is subject to the use of federal and/or state grant and operating funds as they are available.

Prepared by: Police Department

**MB-1 (Res. 13-26)**

**Council District(s) 2, 3, & 4**

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**Mr. Ertel (By Req.)**

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**Department of Planning**

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**Approval of Maryland Rural Legacy Plan Applications (3)**

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Resolution 13-26 approves and ranks, in priority order, three Rural Legacy Area Plan applications for FY 2027 funding for consideration and approval by the Maryland Rural Legacy Board. These plans include the Piney Run Watershed, Gunpowder Valley, and Manor rural legacy areas.

The Maryland Rural Legacy Program is part of the Smart Growth initiative, approved by the Maryland General Assembly during its 1997 session, and is administered by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. The purpose of the program is to preserve large blocks of rural landscape to protect and foster rural economies such as agriculture and tourism, to protect important natural resources, and to maintain the rural culture.

The Rural Legacy Program provides for the designation of specific areas as rural legacy areas and provides the opportunity for the sponsors of the rural legacy areas to compete for State funding; the sponsors can be a political jurisdiction or a private land trust. Rural legacy areas have a specific boundary within which State funds, if awarded, may be spent. Similarly, County funds provided to rural legacy areas must be spent within the State-approved rural legacy areas. The Department advised that this program helps the County in reaching its goal to protect at least 80% of the prime agricultural and forestlands within the County's Agricultural Priority Preservation Area.

The Department advised that there are five State-approved rural legacy areas in Baltimore County, the most in the State, and three (Piney Run Watershed, Gunpowder Valley, and Manor) have submitted applications for FY 2027 funding. The Maryland Rural Legacy Program requires local jurisdiction approval of the applications and a ranking in the case of multiple applications in one jurisdiction. The County ranking is included in the State's evaluation of the applications. County ranking is based on factors that include: completion of projects; environmental protection; public benefits; threat; and sponsor input. See Exhibit A.

The Department advised that the proposed ranking for FY 2027 is as follows:

<u>Ranking</u>	<u>Rural Legacy Area</u>	<u>Council District(s)</u>
1	Piney Run Watershed	2, 3, 4
2	Gunpowder Valley	3
3	Manor	3

The Department advised that the rankings will be forwarded to the State Rural Legacy Advisory Committee, which will review the applications and make a recommendation to the Rural Legacy Board comprised of the Secretaries of the Departments of Natural Resources, Planning, and Agriculture. The Rural Legacy Board will determine the funding levels subject to the approval of the Maryland Board of Public Works.

The Department further advised that the application for the Manor Rural Legacy Area includes expansion of the area boundaries.

The Council approved a similar resolution (Resolution 20-25) on April 21, 2025 for FY 2026 funding; however, the resolution ranked the applications in the following order: Piney Run Watershed, Manor, Gunpowder Valley. The Department advised that since the State did not move forward with FY 2026 funding due to budget constraints, Resolution 13-26 contains the same rural legacy area applications as Resolution 20-25, but the proposed ranking now elevates Gunpowder Valley over Manor because Gunpowder Valley has more projects that are “ready to go” should FY 2027 funding be awarded.

This resolution shall take effect from the date of its passage by the County Council.

COUNTY COUNCIL RESOLUTION TO PRIORITIZE APPLICATIONS FOR  
FUNDING FOR STATE DESIGNATED RURAL LEGACY AREA PROPOSALS FOR FY27  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
Department of Planning  
February 18, 2026

The Administration requests approval by the County Council of this Resolution to approve and prioritize three FY27 Rural Legacy Area Applications submitted to the Maryland Rural Legacy Program.

All three of the Rural Legacy Area initiatives within the County have been very successful in working with landowners to acquire easements and then to monitor the easements to ensure that the restrictions and obligations are met. The Department considered several factors including completion on projects, environmental protection, public benefits, threat and sponsor input for this ranking. The State requires that counties with more than one Rural Legacy Area prioritize their applications. Applications are available upon request.

The Sponsors of the FY27 applications include:

- Gunpowder Valley Conservancy-Gunpowder Valley Rural Legacy Area,
- Land Preservation Trust-Piney Run Watershed Rural Legacy,
- The Manor Conservancy-Manor Rural Legacy Area.

The application for Manor Rural Legacy Area includes expansion of the area boundaries to incorporate all lands north of the existing boundary to the Pennsylvania and Harford County lines to the north and east respectively and to the west to align with the Gunpowder Rural Legacy Area boundary. There is also a small expansion south to incorporate a potential property adjacent to Jarrettsville Pike. Note, this is the same expansion that was approved in Resolution 20-25; however, since the State did not move forward with FY26 grants due to the State budget, the same expansion is included in the FY27 application.

The Department recommends approval of all three applications with the following priority order:

- Piney Run Watershed Rural Legacy Area (Council Districts 2, 3, 4);
- Gunpowder Valley Rural Legacy Area (Council District 3);
- Manor Rural Legacy Area (Council District 3).

The ranking will be forwarded to the State Rural Legacy Advisory Committee, which reviews applications and makes a recommendation to the Rural Legacy Board comprised of the Secretaries from the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Planning, and the Department of Agriculture. The Rural Legacy Board will determine the funding levels subject to the approval of State Board of Public Works.

The Rural Legacy Program helps the County work towards the goal and actions listed below from Master Plan 2030.

Goal 1: Protect the functionality of Baltimore County's agricultural lands, forests, wetlands, waterways and floodplains as well as parks and permanently protected easement lands that will contribute to the health and quality of life for residents. Adopted county actions for these areas include (Pages 86-88 Baltimore County Master Plan, 2030):

- Increase the number of preserved acres through sustained financial support for conservation easements and agricultural land preservation programs, prioritizing protection of contiguous tracks of farmland in Agricultural Priority Preservation Areas and Rural Legacy Areas.
- Continue to coordinate amongst County agencies, Baltimore City, the State of Maryland, non-governmental organizations and public-private partnerships to support programs which protect land and water resources.
- Protect at least 80% of the prime agricultural and forestlands within the County's Agricultural Priority Preservation Area.

Prepared by: Department of Planning