# COMMISSION MEETING

# November 20, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Prince George's Parks and Recreation Administration

> *Auditorium* 6600 Kenilworth Avenue Riverdale, Maryland 20737

and via teleconference

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#### MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

#### Wednesday, November 20, 2024 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

#### Prince George's County Parks and Recreation Administration Building Auditorium and via Teleconference

				ACTI	ON
				Motion	Second
1.	Consent Agenda (10:00 a.m.)	(*)			
	a) Approval of November 20, 2024 Commission Meeting Agenda		Page 1		
	b) Resolution 24-22 Reappointment of Carolyn Scriber to the Merit System Board (King)		Page 3		
	c) Resolution 24-25 Prince George's County General Obligation Park Acquisition and		C		
	Development Project Bond Series PGC2024A (Cohen)		Page 5		
	d) Resolution 24-28 Land Transfer – Rose Creek Trail Connector (Sun)		Page 61		
			8		
2.	Approval of Commission Minutes (10:05 a.m.)				
	a) Open Session – October 3, 2024 (Special Meeting)	(*)	Page 71		
	October 16, 2024	(*)	Page 75		
		()	1		
3.	General Announcements (10:05 a.m.)				
2.	a) Thanksgiving and Employee Appreciation Day Holidays				
	<ul><li>b) National American Indian Heritage Month (Maryland American Indian Heritage Day</li></ul>	No	, 20)		
		y INO	( 29)		
	c) American Lung Cancer Awareness Month and Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month				
	d) "Great American Smoke Out" Nov 21				
	e) Military Family Appreciation Month				
	f) Festival Of Lights and Winter Garden Walk through in Prince George's and Montgo	mery	Counties	5	
	g) Upcoming One-Commission Holiday Event – December 6 at Largo HQ.				
	h) Service Award Ceremony for Employees with 25+ Years Service (after Commission	mee	ting)		
4.	Committee and Board Reports (10:10 a.m.)				
	a) Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes from				
	October 1, 2024 (for Information Only)		Page 79		
5.	Action and Presentation Items (10:10 a.m.)				
	a) Resolution 24-23 M-NCPPC Employees' Retirement System Employer				
	Contribution (J. Harris/Cheiron)	(*)	Page 83		
	b) Resolution 24-24 FY2026 Employer Contribution for Retiree Group Health				
	Insurance 115 Trust) (Cohen/Bolton)		Page 111		
	c) Sustainability Committee Presentation (Carr/Sustainability Committee)		Page 143		
	1. FY 23-24 Prince George's County Sustainability Report		Page 189		
	2. FY 23-24 Montgomery County Sustainability Report		Page 202		
6.	Officers' Reports (11:15 a.m.)				
	Executive Director's Report				
	a) CIO's Quarterly Report (for Information Only)		Page 237		
			-		
	Secretary-Treasurer's Report				
	No report scheduled				
	-				
	General Counsel				
	b) Litigation Report (for Information Only)		Page 241		
	c) Legislative Update (Borden/Baucum-Colbert)		(D)		
			(-)		
				1	

(\*) Vote (LD) Late Delivery (H) Handout (D) Discussion Only

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November 20, 2024

- TO: The Commission
- FROM: William Spencer, Acting Executive Director
- SUBJECT: Re-appointment of Carolyn Scriber as a Member of the Merit System Board December 1, 2024 – December 1, 2028

The Commission first appointed Ms. Scriber to fill a Merit System Board vacancy on July 28, 2019, through December 1, 2019.

On November 20, 2019, the Commission approved the reappointment of Ms. Scriber to a two-year term as a member of the Merit System Board effective December 1, 2019, through December 1, 2021. On July 21, 2021, the Commission ratified and memorialized the reappointment of Ms. Carolyn Scriber as a Member of the Merit System Board for a four-year term from December 1, 2021, through December 1, 2024.

In accordance with Chapter 200, Section 222 of the Merit System Rules and Regulations, I am recommending the reappointment of Ms. Scriber to a four-year term as a member of the Merit System Board effective December 1, 2024, through December 1, 2028. All other terms and conditions of her contract remain the same.



M-NCPPC RESOLUTION No. 24-22

November 20, 2024

#### MERIT SYSTEM BOARD REAPPOINTMENT – CAROLYN SCRIBER

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 16-103 of the Land Use Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland ("Land Use Article") and the Merit System Rules and Regulations, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (the "Commission") shall have the authority, obligation and responsibility to appoint a Merit System Board to oversee the Merit System;

WHEREAS, on July 28, 2019, the Commission appointed Ms. Carolyn Scriber, Member of the Merit System Board to fulfill the term of the vacancy of Steven Cohen's position;

WHEREAS, on July 21, 2021, the Commission approved the re-appointment of Ms. Carolyn Scriber, Member of the Merit System Board for a term of four years effective December 1, 2021 through December 1, 2024;

WHEREAS, Ms. Scriber has discharged the duties as Member of the Merit System Board faithfully, and continues to meet the requirements in Section 16-103 of the Land Use Article for membership on the Merit System Board, including substantial knowledge and experience in personnel matters; and,

WHEREAS, Section 16-103 of the Land Use Article allows for the reappointment of Merit System Board Members, at the pleasure of the Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby reappoints Ms. Carolyn Scriber, Member of the Merit System Board for a term of four years effective December 1, 2024 through December 1, 2028; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Ms. Scriber's appointment to the Merit System Board shall be pursuant to the same terms and conditions as her current contract, and/or as authorized by the Commission budget for each fiscal year.

Ben Rupert

Reviewed for Legal Sufficiency by Benjamin E. Rupert, Esq.

#### CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the forgoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution 24-22 adopted by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission on motion of \_\_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_\_, with \_\_\_\_\_\_

in favor of the motion and \_\_\_\_\_\_ being opposed, with \_\_\_\_\_\_ being absent for the vote at its regular meeting held on November 20, 2024.

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 24-25**

#### \$22,000,000 Prince George's County General Obligation Park Acquisition and Development Project Bonds, Series PGC-2024A

#### **RECITALS**

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (the "Commission") has determined to authorize the issuance of one or more series of its Prince George's County General Obligation Park Acquisition and Development Project Bonds, Series PGC-2024A in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$22,000,000 (collectively, the "Bonds"), pursuant to Sections 18-201 through 18-211, inclusive, of the Land Use Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended (the "Land Use Article") to be sold via negotiated sale or public sale. The Commission is authorizing the issuance of the Bonds (1) to finance and refinance the cost of certain park acquisition and development projects in Prince George's County, Maryland as further described on Exhibit A (collectively, the "Projects") and (2) to pay the costs of issuance related to the Bonds.

The Bonds may be issued in the form of serial bonds, term bonds, commercial paper, variable rate demand bonds or such other form as the Commission or its authorized designee may determine is advisable in consultation with the financial advisor to the Commission and its bond counsel.

# BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION:

**Section 1:** Authorization of Bonds. Acting pursuant to the authority of Sections 18-201 through 18-211, inclusive, of the Land Use Article, the Commission hereby authorizes the borrowing of a sum not to exceed \$22,000,000 and the evidencing of such borrowing by the issuance of one or more series of its Bonds, to be designated "Prince George's County General

Obligation Park Acquisition and Development Project Bonds, Series PGC-2024A", or as may be designated by the Secretary-Treasurer. The Bonds are being issued in order to provide funds (i) to pay the costs of the Projects and (ii) to pay, at the discretion of the Secretary-Treasurer, all or a portion of the costs of issuance of the Bonds. The types of projects for which the Bonds will be issued are set forth in <u>Exhibit A</u>. The Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission is authorized to make changes to such Projects set forth in <u>Exhibit A</u> as the Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission determines to be in the best interest of the Commission.

#### Section 2: Terms of the Bonds.

(a) <u>General Provisions</u>. The Bonds shall be issued as fully registered bonds. The Commission hereby authorizes the Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission, in consultation with its bond counsel and financial advisor, to determine and approve on behalf of the Commission the denominations, the form, terms and conditions, the method of determining the interest rates (variable or fixed), the method of sale of the Bonds, the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds to be issued, the maturity schedule, the redemption provisions, if any, the amount of the good faith deposit, if any, the dates and the terms and conditions of the sale and delivery of the Bonds, and all other terms, conditions and provisions relating to the issuance, sale and delivery of the Bonds, in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution.

The Bonds shall be numbered from No. R-1 and upward, if more than one Bond shall be issued, shall be dated and mature (subject to the right of prior redemption, if any) as determined by the Secretary-Treasurer, in the principal amount or amounts approved by the Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission, at or prior to the sale of the Bonds; provided however, that in no event shall the Bonds mature later than 50 years from the date of issue as required by Section 18-203(e) of the Land Use Article.

Book-Entry. The Bonds, if publicly issued, shall initially be maintained under a (b) book-entry system with The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, or other securities depository, and shall be registered in the name of the nominee of such securities depository, all as more fully set forth in an official statement or offering memorandum with respect to the issuance and sale of the Bonds, provided the Secretary-Treasurer does not determine that it is in the best interest of the Commission to initially maintain the Bonds under a system other than the bookentry system. The Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to take all action necessary or appropriate to provide for the issuance of the Bonds in book-entry form, including (without limitation) execution of letters of representations with The Depository Trust Company, or such other securities depository. If in the judgment of the Secretary-Treasurer it is in the best interests of the Commission to maintain the Bonds or any series of the Bonds under a system other than the book-entry system or to discontinue the maintenance of the Bonds or any series of the Bonds under a book-entry system, the Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to provide for the termination of the book-entry system, if necessary, and the delivery of printed certificates for such Bonds in lieu thereof. The Secretary-Treasurer may designate a different securities depository.

(c) <u>County Guaranty</u>. The Bonds shall be guaranteed as to payment of principal and interest by Prince George's County, Maryland ("Prince George's County"), as required by Section 18-204(d) of the Land Use Article, and such guaranty shall be endorsed on each bond certificate in the manner hereinafter provided as required by Section 18-204(d) of the Land Use Article. The Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to arrange with the County Executive of Prince George's County for the endorsement on the Bonds of the guarantee of the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon, as herein outlined and as required by law. The Bonds shall not be delivered until after the endorsement of such guaranty thereon.

(d) <u>Interest Provisions</u>. The Secretary-Treasurer shall determine and approve the method for setting the rate or rates of interest for the Bonds. The rate or rates of interest for the Bonds shall be as determined and approved by the Secretary-Treasurer to be in the best interest of the Commission. If the Bonds are competitively sold, the Bonds shall bear interest at the rate or rates for each maturity named by the successful bidder for the Bonds, in accordance with the terms of the Notice of Sale hereinafter adopted. Interest shall be payable on the dates (each, an "Interest Payment Date") and in the manner determined by the Secretary-Treasurer. The Bonds shall bear interest from the most recent Interest Payment Date to which interest has been paid or duly provided for, or from their date if no interest has been paid on the Bonds.

(e) <u>Redemption and Prepayment Provisions</u>. The Bonds may be subject to redemption or prepayment, as applicable, at the times, upon the terms and conditions and at the redemption prices or prepayment price approved by the Secretary-Treasurer in consultation with the Commission's financial advisor and bond counsel, at the time of or prior to the sale and issuance of the Bonds.

**Section 3: Execution**. The Bonds shall be signed by the manual or facsimile signature of the Chair of the Commission and shall be attested by the manual or facsimile signature of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission. There shall be printed on each of the Bonds a facsimile of the seal of the Commission. In case any officer of the Commission whose manual or facsimile signature shall appear on the Bonds shall cease to be such officer before the delivery of the Bonds, or in the case that any such officer shall take office subsequent to the date of issue of the Bonds, such signature or facsimile shall nevertheless be valid and sufficient for the purposes herein intended.

**Section 4: Authentication**. No Bond shall be valid or obligatory for any purpose or entitled to any security or benefit under this Resolution unless and until a certificate of authentication of such Bond substantially in the form hereinafter adopted shall have been duly executed by the Registrar (hereinafter defined) and such executed certificate of the Registrar on such Bond shall be conclusive evidence that such Bond has been authenticated and delivered under this Resolution. The Registrar's certificate of authentication on any Bond shall be deemed to have been executed by it if signed by an authorized officer or signatory of the Registrar. It shall not be necessary that the same officer or signatory of the Registrar sign the certificate of authentication for all the Bonds issued hereunder.

Section 5: Payment of Bonds. The principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds shall be payable in lawful money of the United States of America at the time of payment. So long as the Bonds or any series of the Bonds are maintained under a book-entry system with The Depository Trust Company, principal of and premium, if any, and interest on such Bonds shall be payable to Cede & Co., as nominee of The Depository Trust Company, all as described in an official statement or offering memorandum related to such Bonds. If the book-entry system for the Bonds or any series of the Bonds shall be discontinued in accordance with this Resolution, the principal of and premium, if any, on such Bonds shall be payable upon presentation thereof at a designated corporate trust office of a bank or other entity hereafter to be determined by the Secretary-Treasurer, which bank or other entity, or any successor thereof, shall be designated as paying agent for such Bonds (the "Paying Agent"). Interest on such Bonds shall be payable by wire transfer, check or draft mailed by the Paying Agent to the registered owners thereof as of the record date immediately preceding each Interest Payment Date (the "Record Date") at their addresses as they appear on the Bond Register (hereinafter defined) or to such other address as is furnished to the Paying Agent by a registered owner. The Secretary-Treasurer may determine that the Office of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission will act as the Paying Agent or designate a Paying Agent as provided in this Resolution. Such designation by the Secretary-Treasurer may be done at any time and from time to time.

When there is no existing default in the payment of interest on the Bonds, the person in whose name any Bond is registered on the Record Date with respect to an Interest Payment Date shall be entitled to receive the interest payable on such Interest Payment Date (unless such Bond has been called for redemption on a redemption date which is prior to such Interest Payment Date) notwithstanding the cancellation of such Bond upon any registration of transfer or exchange thereof subsequent to such Record Date and prior to such Interest Payment Date.

Any interest on any Bond which is payable, but is not punctually paid or duly provided for, on any Interest Payment Date (herein called "Defaulted Interest") shall forthwith cease to be payable to the registered owner of the Bond on the relevant Record Date by virtue of having been such owner; and such Defaulted Interest shall be paid by the Paying Agent to the person in whose name the Bond is registered at the close of business on a date (the "Special Record Date") which shall be fixed by the Secretary-Treasurer in consultation with the Paying Agent and bond counsel. Defaulted Interest shall be paid to the persons in whose names the Bonds are registered on such Special Record Date.

Subject to the foregoing provisions of this Section, each Bond delivered under this Resolution upon transfer of or in exchange for or in lieu of any other Bond shall carry the rights to interest accrued and unpaid, and to accrue, which were carried by such other Bond.

Section 6: Registration, Transfer or Exchange of Bonds. The Commission shall cause to be kept at a designated corporate trust office of a bank or another designated entity

hereafter to be determined by the Secretary-Treasurer, which shall be appointed the Registrar for the Bonds (the "Registrar"), a register (the "Bond Register") for the registration of the transfer or exchange of the Bonds. The Secretary-Treasurer may determine that the Office of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission will serve as the Registrar or the Secretary-Treasurer may appoint a Registrar as provided in this Resolution. Such designation by the Secretary-Treasurer may be done at any time and from time to time. Each Bond shall be registered and transferred or exchanged in accordance with the terms and conditions with respect thereto set forth in such Bond, the form of which is hereinafter adopted.

**Section 7:** Cancellation of Bonds. The Bonds paid at maturity or upon prior redemption shall be canceled and destroyed by the Registrar in accordance with practices that are commonly used in the marketplace at that time and certificates of such action shall be transmitted to the Commission.

Section 8: Form of Bonds. The Bonds hereby authorized shall be in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit B-1 if such Bonds are sold by public competitive sale or Exhibit B-2 if such Bonds are sold by private negotiated sale (including a private placement with a banking institution), with appropriate insertions as therein set forth, which is hereby adopted by the Commission as the approved form of the obligations to be incurred by it, and all the covenants, conditions and representations contained in said form are hereby declared to be binding on the Commission and to constitute contracts between the Commission and the holders from time to time of the Bonds, said contracts to become binding when the Bonds are executed and delivered as herein authorized. Such form may be modified by the Secretary-Treasurer in accordance with the provisions of this Resolution, including but not limited to, modifications for the issuance of bonds in the form of serial bonds, term bonds, commercial paper, variable rate demand bonds or

such other form as the Secretary-Treasurer may determine advisable in consultation with the financial advisor to the Commission and its bond counsel, modifications to reflect the maintenance of the Bonds under a book-entry system or the termination of a book-entry system as provided herein and modifications to reflect the terms of any Bond Purchase Agreement, if sold by negotiated sale.

Section 9: Negotiated Sale. The Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to sell the Bonds or any series of the Bonds by private negotiated sale (including a private placement with a banking institution) on behalf of the Commission as authorized by Section 18-203(f) of the Land Use Article upon a determination by the Secretary-Treasurer that such a sale is in the best interests of the Commission. The Chair or Vice Chair and the Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission, in consultation with bond counsel and the financial advisor to the Commission, are hereby authorized to determine on behalf of the Commission the method for conducting such private negotiated sale. The Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to solicit and accept proposals for the sale of such Bonds on a private, negotiated basis. The Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission is hereby authorized to negotiate an agreement for the purchase of such Bonds (the "Bond Purchase Agreement"), to be approved by the Secretary-Treasurer, in accordance with the limitations set forth in this Resolution. All actions taken by the Secretary-Treasurer to solicit proposals for the sale of the Bonds are hereby ratified and approved.

**Section 10: Public Sale; Notice of Sale**. Alternatively, the Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to sell the Bonds or any series of the Bonds by public competitive sale on behalf of the Commission as authorized by Section 18-203(f) of the Land Use Article upon a determination by the Secretary-Treasurer that such a sale is in the best interests of the Commission. In the event of a public sale, the Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to advertise such sale by

any electronic medium or financial journal or to publish a notice of sale or a summary thereof calling for bids for such Bonds in such other manner as the Secretary-Treasurer shall deem appropriate. The Secretary-Treasurer is authorized to offer the Bonds or any series of the Bonds for sale by competitive bid and accept bids, including but not limited to electronic bids via such service provider as the Secretary-Treasurer deems appropriate upon the advice of the financial advisor to the Commission. Said notice of sale shall be substantially in the form of Exhibit C attached hereto, subject to such changes, insertions (including without limitation the insertion of the appropriate amounts and dates in the respective spaces provided therefor in such form) and amendments as the Secretary-Treasurer deems necessary and approves upon the advice of bond counsel and the financial advisor to the Commission, the Secretary-Treasurer's publication of such notice to constitute conclusive evidence of the approval of the Secretary-Treasurer of all changes from the form set forth in Exhibit C. In lieu of publishing the entire notice of sale as set forth in Exhibit C in a financial journal or by electronic medium as above specified, the Secretary-Treasurer, upon the advice of the financial advisor to the Commission, may determine to publish a summary of said notice of sale.

#### Section 11: Official Statement.

(a) The Secretary-Treasurer may prepare a private placement memorandum, a preliminary official statement, a final official statement or another form of offering document (collectively, the "Official Statement") and a notice of sale with respect to the issuance and sale of any series of the Bonds, including any financial and other information about the Commission and Prince George's County deemed appropriate by the Secretary-Treasurer.

(b) The Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to make all arrangements for the printing, execution and delivery of the Official Statement, if so prepared, and certificates for any series of the Bonds.

Section 12: Use of Bond Proceeds. The proceeds of the sale of the Bonds (i) shall be used to pay the costs of the Projects, and (ii) may be used to pay all or a portion of the issuance costs of the Bonds.

**Section 13:** Tax Pledge. The Commission hereby pledges its full faith and credit and the proceeds of the taxes required to be levied and collected for the Commission by Prince George's County under Section 18-304 of the Land Use Article, to the payment of the principal of and premium and interest on the Bonds as they become due.

The Commission covenants with each and every holder, from time to time, of the Bonds issued hereunder to allocate the proceeds of said taxes, as received, *pari passu*, to debt service on all outstanding bonds and notes issued by it, including the Bonds, payable from said taxes, subject only to the prior rights of the holders of bonds of the Commission which are secured by a pledge of a specific portion of said tax. The Commission further covenants not to issue any additional bonds or notes payable from said taxes in excess of the limits prescribed, from time to time, by Section 18-203(d) of the Land Use Article.

With respect to the Bonds hereby authorized, the Commission covenants with the holders thereof annually to submit to Prince George's County a budget requesting the imposition of said taxes to produce the revenues to pay the debt service to which the revenues from said taxes is pledged hereby, and to take all action it legally can take to compel Prince George's County to impose taxes at rates sufficient for the purpose and to fulfill and perform its guarantee of the payment, when due, of the principal of and interest on the Bonds. Section 14: Tax and Arbitrage Covenants. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be the officer of the Commission responsible for the issuance of the Bonds within the meaning of the Arbitrage Regulations (defined herein). The Secretary-Treasurer shall also be the officer of the Commission responsible for the execution and delivery (on the date of issuance of the Bonds) of a certificate of the Commission (the "Section 148 Certificate") which complies with the requirements of Section 148 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended ("Section 148"), and the applicable regulations thereunder (the "Arbitrage Regulations"), and such official is hereby directed to execute the Section 148 Certificate and to deliver the same to bond counsel on the date of the issuance of the Bonds.

The Commission shall set forth in the Section 148 Certificate its reasonable expectations as to relevant facts, estimates and circumstances relating to the use of the proceeds of the Bonds, or of any moneys, securities or other obligations to the credit of any account of the Commission which may be deemed to be proceeds of the Bonds pursuant to Section 148 or the Arbitrage Regulations (collectively, "Bond Proceeds"). The Commission covenants that the facts, estimates and circumstances set forth in the Section 148 Certificate will be based on the Commission's reasonable expectations on the date of issuance of the Bonds and will be, to the best of the certifying officials' knowledge, true and correct as of that date.

The Commission covenants and agrees with each of the holders of any of the Bonds that it will not make, or (to the extent that it exercises control or direction) permit to be made, any use of the Bond Proceeds which would cause the Bonds to be "arbitrage bonds" within the meaning of Section 148 and the Arbitrage Regulations. The Commission further covenants that it will comply with Section 148 and the regulations thereunder which are applicable to the Bonds on the date of issuance of the Bonds and which may subsequently lawfully be made applicable to the Bonds.

The Commission further covenants that it shall make such use of the proceeds of the Bonds, regulate the investment of the proceeds thereof, and take such other and further actions as may be required to maintain the excludability from gross income for federal income tax purposes of interest on the Bonds. All officers, employees and agents of the Commission are hereby authorized and directed to take such actions, and to provide such certifications of facts and estimates regarding the amount and use of the proceeds of the Bonds, as may be necessary or appropriate from time to time to comply with, or to evidence the Commission's compliance with, the covenants set forth in this Section.

The Secretary-Treasurer, on behalf of the Commission, may make such covenants or agreements in connection with the issuance of the Bonds as such official shall deem advisable in order to assure the registered owners of the Bonds that interest thereon shall be and remain excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes, and such covenants or agreements shall be binding on the Commission so long as the observance by the Commission of any such covenants or agreements is necessary in connection with the maintenance of the exclusion of the interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes. The foregoing covenants and agreements may include such covenants or agreements on behalf of the Commission regarding compliance with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, as the Chair or Vice Chair and the Secretary-Treasurer shall deem advisable in order to assure the registered owners of the Bonds that the interest thereon shall be and remain excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes or agreements relating to the investment of the proceeds of the Bonds, the payment of rebate (or payments in lieu of rebate) to the United States, limitations on the times within which, and the purpose for which, such

proceeds may be expended, or the use of specified procedures for accounting for and segregating such proceeds.

Section 15: Appointment of Trustee and other Service Providers. The Secretary-Treasurer is hereby authorized to engage the services of a trustee, a registrar, a paying agent, a credit facility provider, a broker-dealer, a placement agent, a remarketing agent, an underwriter, a liquidity facility provider and such other service providers as the Secretary-Treasurer deems appropriate from time to time with respect to the Bonds.

Section 16: Approval, Execution and Delivery of Documents. The Secretary-Treasurer may prepare, as appropriate and shall submit for the approval of the Chair or the Vice Chair any agreement with a registrar, a paying agent, a trustee, credit facility provider, a placement agent, a broker-dealer, a remarketing agent, an underwriter, a liquidity facility provider and such other service providers as the Secretary-Treasurer deems appropriate from time to time with respect to the Bonds or any series of the Bonds (collectively, the "Transaction Documents"). The Chair or Vice Chair is hereby authorized to execute and deliver, as appropriate, such Transaction Documents. The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary-Treasurer and all other authorized officers of the Commission are hereby authorized to execute and deliver such other and further documents, certifications and forms as may be necessary, appropriate or advisable in order to effectuate the transaction authorized by this Resolution.

**Section 17:** Continuing Disclosure Agreement. The Secretary-Treasurer is expressly authorized to approve the form of, and execute and deliver on behalf of the Commission, a continuing disclosure agreement or certificate to assist bidders and/or underwriters in complying with the requirements of Rule 15c2-12 adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission under

the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as the same may be amended from time to time, if such rule is determined by bond counsel to be applicable to any sale of the Bonds.

**Section 18:** Award of Bonds. The Chair or the Vice Chair or the Secretary-Treasurer are hereby authorized with respect to the Bonds or any series of the Bonds to accept the best bid in a public competitive sale or the best proposal in a private negotiated sale for such Bonds, reject all other bids for such Bonds, set the interest rates of such Bonds and set the maturity schedules and terms of redemption of such Bonds, in accordance with the limitations set forth in this Resolution.

Section 19: Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect from the date of its passage.

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I, GAVIN COHEN, the duly appointed, qualified and acting Secretary-Treasurer of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of Resolution No. 24-25, adopted by said Commission at a regular meeting thereof duly called and held on November 20, 2024.

I do further certify that Commissioners [Bailey, Doerner, Geraldo, Shapiro and Washington] were present. A motion to adopt was made and seconded. The Resolution was adopted [unanimously].

I do further certify that said Resolution has not been amended and is still in force and effect on the date hereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of The Maryland-

National Capital Park and Planning Commission, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2024.

Secretary-Treasurer

#### CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 24-25 adopted by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission on motion of Commissioner [\_\_\_\_\_], seconded by Commissioner [\_\_\_\_], with Commissioners [\_\_\_\_] voting in favor of the motion, with Commissioners [\_\_\_\_] absent at its regular meeting held on November 20, 2024 via in-person/video-conference at the Largo Headquarters Building in Largo, MD, and broadcast by the Prince George's County Planning Department.

William Spencer, Acting Executive Director

Approved for Legal Sufficiency /s Debra Borden, General Counsel M-NCPPC [\_\_\_], 2024

## Exhibit A

# Projects

Project Name	Project Description
Concord Historic Site	Infrastructure-Historic
Glenn Dale Multigenerational Center	Infrastructure-Renovation Facility
Good Luck Community Center	Infrastructure-Renovation Facility
Marlow Heights Community Center	Infrastructure-Renovation Facility
North College Park Community Center	New Construction/Development
Oxon Hill Manor Historic Site - Renovation	Infrastructure-Historic
Prince George's Plaza Multigenerational Center	New Construction-currently PM & Design
Prince George's Sports/Learning - Aquatics	Infrastructure-Aquatic

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**Exhibit B-1** 

#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

#### STATE OF MARYLAND

No. R-\_\_\_\_

\$

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Prince George's County General Obligation Park Acquisition and Development Project Bond, Series PGC-2024A

Dated Date	Interest Rate	Maturity Date	CUSIP
, 2024	% per annum	, 20	
Registered Owner: Cec	le & Co.		
Principal Amount:			DOLLARS

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (the "Commission"), a public body corporate, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Maryland, hereby acknowledges itself indebted for value received and, upon presentation and surrender hereof, promises to pay to the Registered Owner shown above, or its registered assigns, on the Maturity Date shown above, unless this bond shall have been called for prior redemption and payment of the redemption price made or provided for, the Principal Amount shown above, and to pay interest on the outstanding principal amount hereof from the most recent Interest Payment Date (as hereinafter defined) to which interest has been paid or duly provided for, or, if no interest has been paid on this bond, from the date of this bond, at the annual rate of interest set forth above, payable semi-annually on \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15 and \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15 each year, beginning \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15, 20\_\_ (each an "Interest Payment Date") until payment of such Principal Amount shall be discharged as provided in the Resolution (hereinafter defined), by wire transfer or check mailed by the Commission or a banking institution or other entity designated as paying agent by the

Commission (the "Paying Agent"), or any successor thereto, to the person in whose name this bond is registered on the registration books maintained by the Registrar (identified herein) at the close of business on the [fifteenth day of the month immediately preceding such Interest Payment Date] [first day of the month in which such Interest Payment Date occurs] (the "Record Date"). Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, interest on this bond which is payable, but is not punctually paid or duly provided for, on any Interest Payment Date shall forthwith cease to be payable to the owner of this Bond on the relevant Record Date by virtue of having been such owner and such interest shall be paid by the Paying Agent to the person in whose name this bond is registered at the close of business on a Special Record Date for the payment of such interest, which shall be fixed as provided in the Resolution (hereinafter defined). Interest on this bond shall be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months.

Principal of, premium, if any, and interest on this bond are payable in lawful money of the United States of America, at the time of payment. Principal and premium, if any, hereon will be payable upon presentation and surrender of this bond by the registered owner hereof in person or by his duly authorized attorney, at the designated office of the Paying Agent.

This bond is a general obligation of the Commission and of Prince George's County, Maryland (the "County"), to the payment, in accordance with its terms, of the principal of and interest on which the Commission and the County hereby each pledge their respective full faith and credit and taxing power.

The principal of and premium and interest on this bond are payable in the first instance from mandatory limited annual ad valorem property taxes which the County is required by Section 18-304 of the Land Use Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended (the "Land Use Article") to impose at a fixed rate against all property assessed for the purposes of county taxation in the portion of the Maryland-Washington Metropolitan District (the "District") established by Title 19 of the Land Use Article located in the County. Section 18-209 of the Land Use Article provides that, if said mandatory tax is insufficient to pay the principal of and interest on this bond, the County shall impose an additional tax upon all assessable property within the portion of the District in the County, and, if the proceeds of such additional tax are still inadequate for such purposes, upon all assessable property within the corporate limits of the County, to pay such deficiency. By the guaranty endorsed hereon, the full faith and credit of the County is pledged to the payment, when due, of the principal of and interest on this bond.

This bond is one of an issue of bonds (the "Bonds") each of a par value of \$5,000 or an integral multiple thereof in the aggregate principal amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_\_, numbered from No. R-1 upwards, all dated as of the Dated Date and all known as: "The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Prince George's County General Obligation Park Acquisition and Development Project Bonds, Series PGC-2024A". Unless previously redeemed as herein provided, the Bonds mature and are payable in consecutive annual installments on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15 in each of the years 20\_\_ through 20\_\_, and bear interest payable on each Interest Payment Date until their respective maturities or prior redemption. The Bonds are issued pursuant to the authority of Sections 18-201 through 18-211, inclusive, of the Land Use Article and in accordance with Resolution No. 24-25 of the Commission duly adopted on November 20, 2024 (the "Resolution").

The Bonds which mature on or after \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15, 20\_\_, are subject to redemption prior to their respective maturities, at the option of the Commission, in whole or in part in any order of their maturities, at any time on or after \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15, 20\_\_, at a redemption price

equal to the principal amount of the Bonds to be redeemed, together with interest accrued thereon to the date fixed for redemption.

If less than all of the Bonds are called for redemption, the particular maturities to be redeemed shall be selected by the Commission. If less than all of the Bonds of any one maturity are called for redemption, the particular Bonds to be redeemed from such maturity shall be selected by lot or other random means by the Paying Agent in such manner as the Paying Agent in its discretion may determine, provided that each \$5,000 of the principal amount of any Bond shall be treated as a separate Bond for this purpose.

Notice of call for redemption shall be delivered to the Depository (as defined herein) prior to the date fixed for redemption in accordance with the Depository's procedures. If the book-entry system is discontinued for the Bonds, a notice calling for redemption of the Bonds to be redeemed shall be mailed by the Commission as Paying Agent, postage prepaid, at least thirty (30) days prior to the date fixed for redemption (the "Redemption Date"), to all registered owners of Bonds to be redeemed, at their last addresses appearing on the registration books kept by the Registrar. Failure to deliver or mail any such notice, or any defect in such notice, or in the delivery or mailing thereof, shall not affect the validity of any redemption proceedings. Such notice shall specify the issue, the numbers and the maturities of the Bonds to be redeemed, which statement of numbers may be from one number to another, inclusive, the Redemption Date and the redemption price, any conditions to such redemption, and shall further state that on such date the Bonds called for redemption will be due and become payable at the offices of the Paying Agent, and that, from and after such date, interest thereon shall cease to accrue.

From and after the date fixed for redemption, if notice has been given as herein provided, and the funds sufficient for payment of the redemption price and accrued interest shall be available therefore on such date, the Bonds so designated for redemption shall cease to bear interest. Upon presentation and surrender in compliance with such notice, the Bonds so called for redemption shall be paid by the Paying Agent at the redemption price. If not so paid on presentation thereof, such Bonds so called shall continue to bear interest at the rates expressed therein until paid.

This bond shall be registered as to principal and interest in the owner's name on the registration books kept for that purpose at the office of the Secretary-Treasurer or a designated office of the banking institution or other entity, or any successor thereto, designated by the Secretary-Treasurer (the "Registrar").

The transfer of this bond is registerable by the registered owner hereof in person or by his attorney or legal representative at a principal office of the Registrar upon surrender and cancellation of this bond together with a duly executed assignment in the form attached hereto and satisfactory to the Registrar. Upon any such registration of transfer, the Registrar shall authenticate and deliver in exchange for this bond a registered Bond or Bonds registered in the name of the transferee of authorized denomination or denominations, in the aggregate principal amount equal to the principal amount of this bond or the unredeemed portion hereof, of the same maturity and bearing interest at the same rate. Bonds may be exchanged for an equal aggregate principal amount of Bonds of the same maturity, bearing interest at the same rate, of other authorized denominations, at a principal office of the Registrar. The Commission and the Registrar may make a charge for every such exchange or transfer sufficient to reimburse it for any tax, fee, or other governmental charge, shipping charges and insurance required to be paid with respect to such exchange or transfer, and in addition, may charge a sum sufficient to reimburse them for expenses incurred in connection with such exchange or transfer. All Bonds surrendered in such exchange or registration of transfer shall forthwith be canceled by the Registrar. The Registrar shall not be required to

register the transfer of this bond or make any such exchange of this bond after the mailing of notice calling this bond or any portion hereof for redemption.

So long as all of the Bonds shall be maintained in Book-Entry Form with The Depository Trust Company or another securities depository (the "Depository"): (1) in the event that fewer than all Bonds of any one maturity shall be called for redemption, the Depository, and not the Registrar, will select the particular accounts from which Bonds or portions thereof will be redeemed in accordance with the Depository's standard procedures for redemption of obligations such as the Bonds; (2) in the event that part, but not all, of this bond shall be called for redemption, the holder of this bond may elect not to surrender this bond in exchange for a new bond in accordance with the provisions hereof and in such event shall make a notation indicating the principal amount of such redemption and the date thereof on the Payment Grid attached hereto; and (3) payments of principal or redemption price of and interest on this bond shall be payable to the Depository or its assigns in accordance with the provisions of the Resolution. For all purposes, the principal amount of this bond outstanding at any time shall be equal to the lesser of (A) the principal sum shown on the face hereof and (B) such principal sum reduced by the principal amount of any partial redemption of this bond following which the holder of this bond has elected not to surrender this bond in accordance with the provisions hereof. The failure of the holder hereof to note the principal amount of any partial redemption on the Payment Grid attached hereto, or any inaccuracy therein, shall not affect the payment obligation of the Commission hereunder. THEREFORE, IT CANNOT BE DETERMINED FROM THE FACE OF THIS BOND WHETHER A PART OF THE PRINCIPAL OF THIS BOND HAS BEEN PAID.

It is hereby certified and recited that each and every act, condition and thing required to exist, to be done, to have happened and to be performed precedent to and in the issuance of this bond, does exist, has been done, has happened and has been performed, in full and strict compliance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Maryland and the proceedings of the Commission and of the County, and that the issue of bonds of which this bond is one, together with all other indebtedness of said Commission, and of the County, is within every debt and other limit prescribed by the Constitution and laws of said State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, in the State of Maryland, has caused this bond to be signed in its name by the signature of its Chair and attested by the signature of its Secretary-Treasurer and has caused the facsimile of its corporate seal to be imprinted hereon, all as of Dated Date set forth above.

ATTEST:

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Secretary-Treasurer

(CORPORATE SEAL)

By: \_

Chair



### **GUARANTY**

The payment of interest when due, and of the principal on maturity, is guaranteed by Prince George's County, Maryland.

ATTEST:

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

\_\_\_\_\_

Clerk

By: \_\_\_\_\_County Executive

(COUNTY SEAL)



### CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION

This bond is one of the Bonds issued under the provisions of and described in the within mentioned Resolution of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

> THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Registrar

By: \_\_\_\_\_\_Authorized Officer

Date of Authentication: \_\_\_\_\_, 2024



#### ASSIGNMENT

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned hereby sells, assigns and transfers unto (Please

Insert Social Security or Other Identifying Number of Assignee)

(Print or Type Name and Address, Including Zip Code of Assignee)

the within bond and all rights thereunder, and does hereby constitute and appoint attorney to transfer the within bond on the books kept for the registration thereof, with full power of substitution in the premises.

NOTICE: Signature must be guaranteed by a member firm of the New York Stock Exchange or a commercial bank or trust company.

(Signature of registered owner)

NOTICE: The signature to this assignment must correspond with the name as it appears upon the face of the within bond in every particular, without alteration or enlargement or any change whatever.



# PAYMENT GRID

Data of Dovemant	Principal Amount Paid	Principal Amount Outstanding	Holdon Signature
Date of Payment	rald	Outstanding	Holder Signature



#### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

#### STATE OF MARYLAND

No. R-

\$

#### THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Prince George's County General Obligation Park Acquisition and Development Project Bond, Series PGC-2024A

Dated Date	Interest Rate	Final Maturity Date
, 2024	% per annum	, 20

Registered Owner:	
Principal Amount:	

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (the "Commission"), a public body corporate, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Maryland, hereby acknowledges itself indebted for value received and, upon presentation and surrender hereof, promises to pay to the Registered Owner shown above, or its registered assigns, the Principal Amount shown above in installments on the dates and in the amounts set forth herein, and to pay interest on the outstanding principal amount hereof from the most recent Interest Payment Date (as hereinafter defined) to which interest has been paid or duly provided for, or, if no interest has been paid on this bond, from the date of this bond, at the annual rate of interest set forth above, payable semi-annually on \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15 and \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15 each year, beginning \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15, 20\_\_ (each an "Interest Payment Date") until payment of such Principal Amount shall be discharged as provided in the Resolution (hereinafter defined), by wire transfer

(or other form of electronic payment in accordance with written instructions provided by the Registered Owner) or check mailed by the Commission or a banking institution or other entity designated as paying agent by the Commission (the "Paying Agent"), or any successor thereto, to the person in whose name this bond is registered on the registration books maintained by the Registrar (identified herein) at the close of business on the [fifteenth day of the month immediately preceding such Interest Payment Date] [first day of the month in which such Interest Payment Date occurs] (the "Record Date"). Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, interest on this bond which is payable, but is not punctually paid or duly provided for, on any Interest Payment Date shall forthwith cease to be payable to the owner of this bond on the relevant Record Date by virtue of having been such owner and such interest shall be paid by the Paying Agent to the person in whose name this bond is registered at the close of business on a Special Record Date for the payment of such interest, which shall be fixed as provided in the Resolution.

Principal of and interest on this bond are payable in lawful money of the United States of America, at the time of payment. The final installment of principal hereof will be payable upon presentation and surrender of this bond by the registered owner hereof in person or by his duly authorized attorney, at the designated office of the Paying Agent. Interest on this bond shall be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months.

This bond is a general obligation of the Commission and of Prince George's County, Maryland (the "County"), to the payment, in accordance with its terms, of the principal of and interest on which the Commission and the County hereby each pledge their respective full faith and credit and taxing power, and this bond is on parity without preference to all existing and future general obligations of the Commission and the County. This bond is issued pursuant to the authority of Sections 18-201 through 18-211, inclusive, of the Land Use Article (hereinafter defined) and in accordance with Resolution No. 24-25 of the Commission duly adopted on November 20, 2024 (the "Resolution").

The principal of and premium and interest on this bond are payable in the first instance from mandatory limited annual ad valorem property taxes which the County is required by Section 18-304 of the Land Use Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended (the "Land Use Article") to impose at a fixed rate against all property assessed for the purposes of county taxation in the portion of the Maryland-Washington Metropolitan District (the "District") established by Title 19 of the Land Use Article located in the County. Section 18-209 of the Land Use Article provides that, if said mandatory tax is insufficient to pay the principal of and interest on this bond, the County shall impose an additional tax upon all assessable property within the portion of the District in the County, and, if the proceeds of such additional tax are still inadequate for such purposes, upon all assessable property within the corporate limits of the County, to pay such deficiency. By the guaranty endorsed hereon, the full faith and credit of the County is pledged to the payment, when due, of the principal of and interest on this bond.

Principal installments shall be paid to the Registered Owner on \_\_\_\_\_ 1/15 in each of the years 20\_\_ through 20\_\_, inclusive, as set forth on <u>Schedule A</u> attached hereto and made a part hereof.

The following defined terms shall have the following meanings in this bond:

"Business Day" means a day on which banking business is transacted, but not including a Saturday, Sunday, legal holiday or any other day on which banking institutions are authorized by law to close in the State of Maryland. "Default Rate" means a per annum rate equal to \_\_\_\_% plus the Prime Rate, but in no event shall such the Default Rate exceed the maximum rate permitted by law.

"Event of Default" means any of the following: (a) failure of the Commission to pay principal of or interest on this bond when the same becomes due and payable and the continuation of such failure for five Business Days after written notice is received from the Registered Owner, (b) default in the observance or performance of any other covenant, condition or agreement on the part of the Commission under this bond, the Resolution or with respect to any other undertaking with respect this bond and such failure continues for thirty (30) days after the occurrence thereof, (c) if any warranty, representation or other statement by Commission contained in or pursuant to this bond, the Resolution or in any document, agreement or instrument furnished in compliance with, relating to, or in reference to this bond, is false, erroneous, or misleading in any material respect when made, or (d) making by the Commission of a general assignment for the benefit of creditors, or admission in writing of its inability to pay its debts as they become due, or filing by the Commission of a petition in bankruptcy, or its adjudication as a bankrupt or insolvent, or filing by the Commission of a petition seeking any reorganization, arrangement, composition, readjustment, liquidation, dissolution or similar relief under any present or future statute, law or regulation, or filing by the Commission of an answer admitting or not contesting the material allegations of the petition against it in any such proceeding, or seeking by the Commission of or consenting to or acquiescence in the appointment of any trustee, receiver or liquidator of the Commission or any material part of its properties.

"Prime Rate" means the rate per annum from time to time established by the Bank as its prime rate and made available by the Bank at its main office or, in the discretion of the Bank, the base, reference or other rate then designated by the Bank for general commercial loan reference purposes, it being understood that such rate is a reference rate, not necessarily the lowest, established from time to time, which serves as the basis upon which effective interest rates are calculated for loans making reference thereto.

Notwithstanding the Interest Rate set forth above, upon the occurrence of an Event of Default and for so long as the Event of Default is continuing, the Interest Rate on this bond shall be converted to the Default Rate.

If the date on which any payment is due with respect to this bond is not a Business Day, the payment shall be made on the next succeeding Business Day.

[This bond may be prepaid in whole or in part at any time upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the Registered Owner, at a prepayment price equal to 100% of the principal amount to be prepaid plus accrued interest on such amount to the prepayment date.]

Any partial redemption will be credited to the principal installments due hereunder in inverse order of the payment schedule.

This bond shall be registered as to principal and interest in the owner's name on the registration books kept for that purpose at the office of the Secretary-Treasurer or a designated office of the banking institution or other entity, or any successor thereto, designated by the Secretary-Treasurer (the "Registrar").

The transfer of this bond is registerable by the registered owner hereof in person or by his attorney or legal representative at a principal office of the Registrar upon surrender and cancellation of this bond together with a duly executed assignment in the form attached hereto and satisfactory to the Registrar. Upon any such registration of transfer, the Registrar shall authenticate and deliver in exchange for this bond a bond registered in the name of the transferee, in the aggregate principal amount equal to the principal amount of this bond or the unredeemed portion hereof, of the same maturity and bearing interest at the same rate. The Commission and the Registrar may make a charge for every such transfer sufficient to reimburse it for any tax, fee, or other governmental charge, shipping charges and insurance required to be paid with respect to such exchange or transfer, and in addition, may charge a sum sufficient to reimburse them for expenses incurred in connection with such exchange or transfer. Transfer of this bond is limited to (a) an affiliate of the Registered Owner or (b) one or more banks, insurance companies or other financial institutions.

It is hereby certified and recited that each and every act, condition and thing required to exist, to be done, to have happened and to be performed precedent to and in the issuance of this bond, does exist, has been done, has happened and has been performed, in full and strict compliance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Maryland and the proceedings of the Commission and of the County, and this bond, together with all other indebtedness of said Commission, and of the County, is within every debt and other limit prescribed by the Constitution and laws of said State.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, in the State of Maryland, has caused this bond to be signed in its name by the signature of its Chair and attested by the signature of its Secretary-Treasurer and has caused its corporate seal to be impressed or otherwise reproduced hereon, all as of Dated Date set forth above.

ATTEST:

## THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

By: \_

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer (CORPORATE SEAL)

B 2 6 37

#### **GUARANTY**

The payment of interest when due, and of the principal on maturity, is guaranteed by Prince George's County, Maryland.

ATTEST:

Clerk

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: <u>County Executive</u>

(COUNTY SEAL)

#### CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICATION

This bond is issued under the provisions of and described in the within mentioned Resolution of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

> THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Registrar

By: \_\_\_\_\_\_Authorized Officer

Date of Authentication: \_\_\_\_\_, 2024



#### ASSIGNMENT

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned hereby sells, assigns and transfers unto

(Please Insert Social Security or Other Identifying Number of Assignee)

(Print

or Type Name and Address, Including Zip Code of Assignee)

NOTICE: Signature must be guaranteed by a member firm of the New York Stock Exchange or a commercial bank or trust company. (Signature of registered owner) NOTICE: The signature to this assignment must correspond with the name as it appears upon the face of the within bond in every particular, without alteration or enlargement or any change whatever.



#### SCHEDULE A

#### MATURITY SCHEDULE



Exhibit C

#### **NOTICE OF SALE**

\$

#### THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION Prince George's County General Obligation Park Acquisition and Development Project Bonds, Series PGC-2024A

#### Electronic Bids only will be received until [11:00 a.m.], Local Baltimore, Maryland Time, on [\_\_\_\_\_], 2024

by The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (the "Commission"), for the purchase of the above-named issue of bonds (the "Bonds") of the Commission, to be dated as of the date of their delivery and to be issued pursuant to the authority of Sections 18-201 through 18-211, inclusive, of the Land Use Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended (the "Land Use Article") and a Resolution of the Commission adopted on November 20, 2024. The Bonds will bear interest from the date of delivery payable semiannually on each \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15 and \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15, commencing \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15, 20\_\_ until maturity or prior redemption.

The payment of the principal of and interest on all of the Bonds will be unconditionally guaranteed by Prince George's County, Maryland (the "County").

**Maturities:** The Bonds will be separately numbered from No. R-1 upward, and will mature, subject to prior redemption, in consecutive annual installments on \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15 in the years and amounts set forth in the following table:

#### MATURITY SCHEDULE

Year of	Principal	Year of	Principal
<u>Maturity</u>	Amount	<b>Maturity</b>	Amount
	\$		\$

Adjustments: The aggregate principal amount and the principal amount of each maturity of the Bonds are subject to reduction by the Commission after the receipt of bids for their purchase. The final aggregate principal amount and maturity schedule for the Bonds will be communicated to the successful bidder by 5:00 p.m. local Baltimore, Maryland time on the date of sale and will not reduce the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds by more than the premium bid by the

successful bidder. The dollar amount bid for principal by the successful bidder will be adjusted to reflect any reduction in the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds, but the interest rates specified by the successful bidder for all maturities will not change. The successful bidder may not withdraw its bid as a result of any changes made within these limits.

**Book-Entry System:** The Bonds shall be issued only in fully registered form without coupons. One bond certificate representing each maturity will be issued to and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"), as registered owner of the Bonds and each bond certificate shall be immobilized in the custody of DTC. DTC will act as securities depository for the Bonds. Individual purchases will be made in book-entry form only, in the principal amount of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof. Purchasers will not receive physical delivery of certificates representing their interest in the Bonds purchased. The successful bidder, as a condition to delivery of the Bonds, will be required to deposit the bond certificates representing each maturity with DTC.

**Registrar and Paying Agent:** The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission will act as Registrar and Paying Agent for the Bonds.

**Security:** All of the Bonds will be general obligations of the Commission and of the County for the payment, in accordance with their terms, of the principal of and interest on which the Commission and the County will each pledge their respective full faith and credit and taxing power.

The Bonds will be payable as to both principal and interest first from limited ad valorem property taxes which the County is required by law to impose in the portion of the Maryland-Washington Metropolitan District (the "District") established by Title 19 of the Land Use Article located in the County and remit to the Commission. By its guarantee of the Bonds, the full faith and credit of the County is pledged, as required by law, for the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon. To the extent that the aforesaid taxes imposed for the benefit of the Commission are inadequate in any year to pay such principal and interest, Section 18-209 of the Land Use Article provides that the County shall impose an additional tax upon all assessable property within the portion of the District in the County, and if the proceeds of such additional tax are still inadequate for such purposes, upon all assessable property within the corporate limits of the County, to pay such deficiency.

**Redemption:** The Bonds which mature on or after \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15, 20\_\_, are subject to redemption prior to their respective maturities at any time on or after \_\_\_\_\_\_ 1/15, 20\_\_, at the option of the Commission, in whole or in part, in any order of maturities, at a redemption price equal to the principal amount of the Bonds to be redeemed, together with interest accrued thereon to the date fixed for redemption.

**Electronic Bids:** Notice is hereby given that electronic proposals will be received via *PARITY*, in the manner described below, until [11:00 a.m.], local Baltimore, Maryland time, on [\_\_\_\_\_], 2024.

Bids may be submitted electronically pursuant to this Notice until [11:00 a.m.], local Baltimore, Maryland time, but no bid will be received after the time for receiving bids specified

above. To the extent any instructions or directions set forth in *PARITY* conflict with this Notice, the terms of this Notice shall control. For further information about *PARITY*, potential bidders may contact *PARITY* at (212) 849-5021.

Disclaimer: Each prospective electronic bidder shall be solely responsible to submit its bid via **PARITY** as described above. Each prospective electronic bidder shall be solely responsible to make necessary arrangements to access **PARITY** for the purpose of submitting its bid in a timely manner and in compliance with the requirements of the Notice of Sale. Neither the Commission nor **PARITY** shall have any duty or obligation to provide or assure access to **PARITY** to any prospective bidder, and neither the Commission nor PARITY shall be responsible for proper operation of, or have any liability for any delays or interruptions of, or any damages caused by, **PARITY**. The Commission is using **PARITY** as a communication mechanism, and not as the Commission's agent, to conduct the electronic bidding for the Bonds. The Commission is not bound by any advice and determination of **PARITY** to the effect that any particular bid complies with the terms of this Notice of Sale and in particular the "Bid Specifications" hereinafter set forth. All costs and expenses incurred by prospective bidders in connection with their submission of bids via **PARITY** are the sole responsibility of the bidders; and the Commission is not responsible, directly or indirectly, for any of such costs or expenses. If a prospective bidder encounters any difficulty in submitting, modifying, or withdrawing a bid for the Bonds, the prospective bidder should telephone PARITY at (212) 849-5021 and notify the Commission's Financial Advisor, Davenport & Company LLC, by facsimile at (866) 932-6660 and by telephone at (410) 296-9426.

**Electronic Bidding Procedures:** Electronic bids must be submitted for the purchase of the Bonds (all or none) via *PARITY*. Bids will be communicated electronically to the Commission at [11:00 a.m.] local Baltimore, Maryland time, on [\_\_\_\_\_], 2024. Prior to that time, a prospective bidder may (1) submit the proposed terms of its bid via *PARITY*, (2) modify the proposed terms of its bid, in which event the proposed terms as last modified will (unless the bid is withdrawn as described herein) constitute its bid for the Bonds or (3) withdraw its proposed bid. Once the bids are communicated electronically via *PARITY* to the Commission, each bid will constitute an irrevocable offer to purchase the Bonds on the terms therein provided. For purposes of the electronic bidding process, the time as maintained on *PARITY* shall constitute the official time.

**Bid Specifications:** Proposals for purchase of the Bonds must be for all of the Bonds herein described and must be submitted electronically pursuant to this Notice of Sale until [11:00 a.m.] local Baltimore, Maryland time on [\_\_\_\_\_], 2024. Bidders must pay not less than par and not more than 115% of par. In their proposals, bidders are requested to specify the annual rate or rates of interest to be borne by the Bonds. Bidders are requested to name the interest rate or rates in multiples of 1/8 or 1/20 of 1%. Bidders may specify more than one rate of interest to be borne by the Same date must bear interest at the same rate. Bonds on successive maturity dates may bear the same interest rate. No Bond shall bear more than one rate of interest, which rate shall be uniform for the life of the Bond and no interest rates may be named that exceeds 5.00%. The difference between the highest and lowest interest rates may not exceed three percent (3.00%).

Award of Bonds: The successful bidder will be determined based on the lowest interest cost to the Commission. The lowest interest cost shall be determined in accordance with the true

interest cost ("TIC") method by doubling the semi-annual interest rate, compounded semiannually, necessary to discount the debt service payments from the payment dates to the date of the Bonds, and to the price bid. Where the proposals of two or more bidders result in the same lowest interest cost, the Bonds may be apportioned between such bidders, but if this shall not be acceptable, the Commission shall have the right to award all of the Bonds to one bidder. The Commission reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any irregularities in any of the proposals. The Secretary-Treasurer's judgment shall be final and binding upon all bidders with respect to the form and adequacy of any proposal received and as to its conformity to the terms of this Notice of Sale. Any award of the Bonds may be made as late as 4:00 p.m. local Baltimore, Maryland time on the sale date. All bids shall remain firm until an award is made.

**Good Faith Deposit:** The successful bidder is required to submit a good faith deposit in the amount of  $[_____]$  (the "Good Faith Deposit") payable to the order of the Commission in the form of a wire transfer in federal funds as instructed by the Commission. The successful bidder shall submit the Good Faith Deposit not more than two hours after the verbal award is made. The successful bidder should provide as quickly as it is available, evidence of wire transfer by providing the Commission the federal funds reference number. If the Good Faith Deposit is not received in the time allotted, the bid of the successful bidder may be rejected and the Commission may direct the next lowest bidder to submit a Good Faith Deposit and thereafter may award the sale of the Bonds to such bidder. If the successful bidder fails to comply with the Good Faith Deposit requirement as described herein, that bidder is nonetheless obligated to pay to the Commission the sum of  $[_____]$  as liquidated damages due to the failure of the successful bidder to timely deposit the Good Faith Deposit.

### Submission of a bid to purchase the Bonds serves as acknowledgement and acceptance of the terms of the Good Faith Deposit requirement.

The Good Faith Deposit so wired will be retained by the Commission until the delivery of the Bonds, at which time the Good Faith Deposit will be applied against the purchase price of the Bonds or the Good Faith Deposit will be retained by the Commission as partial liquidated damages in the event of the failure of the successful bidder to take up and pay for such Bonds in compliance with the terms of this Notice of Sale and of its bid. No interest on the Good Faith Deposit will be paid by the Commission. The balance of the purchase price must be wired in federal funds to the account detailed in the closing memorandum, simultaneously with delivery of the Bonds.

**Establishment of Issue Price:** The successful bidder shall assist the Commission in establishing the issue price of the Bonds and shall execute and deliver to the Commission at closing an "issue price" or similar certificate setting forth the reasonably expected initial offering price to the public or the sales price or prices of the Bonds, together with the supporting pricing wires or equivalent communications, substantially in the form attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A-1</u> or <u>Exhibit A-2</u>, as applicable, with such modifications as may be appropriate or necessary, in the reasonable judgment of the successful bidder, the Commission and Bond Counsel. All actions to be taken by the Commission under this Notice of Sale to establish the issue price of the Bonds may be taken on behalf of the Commission by the Commission's financial advisor identified herein and any notice or report to be provided to the Commission may be provided to the Commission's financial advisor.

The Commission intends that the provisions of Treasury Regulation Section 1.148-1 (f)(3)(i) (defining "competitive sale" for purposes of establishing the issue price of the Bonds) will apply to the initial sale of the Bonds (the "competitive sale requirements") because:

(1) the Commission shall disseminate this Notice of Sale to potential underwriters in a manner that is reasonably designed to reach potential underwriters;

(2) all bidders shall have an equal opportunity to bid;

(3) the Commission may receive bids from at least three underwriters of municipal bonds who have established industry reputations for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds; and

(4) the Commission anticipates awarding the sale of the Bonds to the bidder who submits a firm offer to purchase the Bonds at the highest price (or lowest interest cost), as set forth in this Notice of Sale.

By submitting a bid, each bidder (i) confirms that its bid is a firm offer for the purchase of the Bonds identified in this Notice of Sale, on the terms set forth in its bid and this Notice of Sale, except as permitted by this Notice of Sale and (ii) represents that it has an established industry reputation for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds.

In the event that the competitive sale requirements are not satisfied, the Commission shall so advise the successful bidder. The Commission may determine to treat (i) the first price at which 10% of a maturity of the Bonds (the "10% test") is sold to the public as the issue price of that maturity and/or (ii) the initial offering price to the public as of the sale date of any maturity of the Bonds as the issue price of that maturity (the "hold-the-offering-price rule"), in each case applied on a maturity-by-maturity basis (and if different interest rates apply within a maturity, to each separate CUSIP number within that maturity). The successful bidder shall advise the Commission if any maturity of the Bonds satisfies the 10% test as of the date and time of the award of the Bonds. The Commission shall promptly advise the successful bidder, at or before the time of award of the Bonds, which maturities (and if different interest rates apply within a maturity, which separate CUSIP number within that maturity) of the Bonds shall be subject to the 10% test or shall be subject to the hold-the-offering-price rule. Bids will not be subject to cancellation in the event that the Commission determines to apply the hold-the-offering-price rule to any maturity of the Bonds. Bidders should prepare their bids on the assumption that some or all of the maturities of the Bonds will be subject to the hold-the-offering-price rule in order to establish the issue price of the Bonds.

By submitting a bid, the successful bidder shall (i) confirm that the underwriters have offered or will offer the Bonds to the public on or before the date of award at the offering price or prices (the "initial offering price"), or at the corresponding yield or yields, set forth in the bid submitted by the successful bidder and (ii) agree, on behalf of the underwriters participating in the purchase of the Bonds, that the underwriters will neither offer nor sell unsold Bonds of any maturity to which the hold-the-offering-price rule shall apply to any person at a price that is higher than the initial offering price to the public during the period starting on the sale date and ending on the earlier of the following: (1) the close of the fifth (5th) business day after the sale date; or

(2) the date on which the underwriters have sold at least 10% of that maturity of the Bonds to the public at a price that is no higher than the initial offering price to the public.

The successful bidder shall promptly advise the Commission when the underwriters have sold 10% of that maturity of the Bonds to the public at a price that is no higher than the initial offering price to the public, if that occurs prior to the close of the fifth (5th) business day after the sale date.

If the competitive sale requirements are not satisfied, then until the 10% test has been satisfied as to each maturity of the Bonds, the successful bidder agrees to promptly report to the Commission the prices at which the unsold Bonds of that maturity have been sold to the public. That reporting obligation shall continue, whether or not the closing has occurred, until the 10% test has been satisfied as to the Bonds of that maturity or until all Bonds of that maturity have been sold.

The Commission acknowledges that, in making the representation set forth above, the successful bidder will rely on (i) the agreement of each underwriter to comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, as set forth in an agreement among underwriters and the related pricing wires, (ii) in the event a selling group has been created in connection with the initial sale of the Bonds to the public, the agreement of each dealer who is a member of the selling group to comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, as set forth in a selling group agreement and the related pricing wires, and (iii) in the event that an underwriter is a party to a retail distribution agreement that was employed in connection with the initial sale of the Bonds to the public, the agreement of each agreement to comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, as set forth in the related pricing wires. The Commission further acknowledges that each underwriter shall be solely liable for its failure to comply with its agreement regarding the hold-the-offering-price rule and that no underwriter shall be liable for the failure of any other underwriter, or of any dealer who is a member of a selling group, or of any broker-dealer that is a party to a retail distribution agreement to comply with its corresponding agreement regarding the hold-the-offering-price rule as applicable to the Bonds.

By submitting a bid, each bidder confirms that: (i) any agreement among underwriters, any selling group agreement and each retail distribution agreement (to which the bidder is a party) relating to the initial sale of the Bonds to the public, together with the related pricing wires, contains or will contain language obligating each underwriter, each dealer who is a member of the selling group, and each broker-dealer that is a party to such retail distribution agreement, as applicable, to (A) report the prices at which it sells to the public the unsold Bonds of each maturity allotted to it until it is notified by the successful bidder that either the 10% test has been satisfied as to the Bonds of that maturity or all Bonds of that maturity have been sold to the public and (B) comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, if applicable, in each case if and for so long as directed by the successful bidder and as set forth in the related pricing wires, and (ii) any agreement among underwriters relating to the initial sale of the Bonds to the public, together with the related pricing wires, contains or will contain language obligating each underwriter that is a party to a retail distribution agreement to be employed in connection with the initial sale of the Bonds to the public to require each broker-dealer that is a party to such retail distribution agreement to (A)

report the prices at which it sells to the public the unsold Bonds of each maturity allotted to it until it is notified by the successful bidder or such underwriter that either the 10% test has been satisfied as to the Bonds of that maturity or all Bonds of that maturity have been sold to the public and (B) comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, if applicable, in each case if and for so long as directed by the successful bidder or such underwriter and as set forth in the related pricing wires.

Sales of any Bonds to any person that is a related party to an underwriter shall not constitute sales to the public for purposes of this Notice of Sale. Further, for purposes of this Notice of Sale:

(i) "public" means any person other than an underwriter or a related party,

(ii) "underwriter" means (A) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the Commission (or with the lead underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public and (B) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (A) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a retail distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public),

(iii) a purchaser of any of the Bonds is a "related party" to an underwriter if the underwriter and the purchaser are subject, directly or indirectly, to (i) at least 50% common ownership of the voting power or the total value of their stock, if both entities are corporations (including direct ownership by one corporation of another), (ii) more than 50% common ownership of their capital interests or profits interests, if both entities are partnerships (including direct ownership of another), or (iii) more than 50% common ownership of the value of the outstanding stock of the corporation or the capital interests or profit interests of the partnership, as applicable, if one entity is a corporation and the other entity is a partnership (including direct ownership of the applicable stock or interests by one entity of the other), and

(iv) "sale date" means the date that the Bonds are awarded by the Commission to the successful bidder.

**CUSIP Numbers; Expenses of the Bidder:** CUSIP identification numbers will be applied for by the Commission's Financial Advisor with respect to the Bonds, and paid for by the Commission, but the Commission will assume no obligation for the assignment or printing of such numbers on the Bonds or the correctness of such numbers, and neither the failure to print such numbers on any Bond nor any error with respect thereto shall constitute cause for a failure or refusal by the successful bidder to accept delivery of and pay for the Bonds in accordance with the terms of this Notice of Sale.

All charges of DTC and all other expenses of the successful bidder will be the responsibility of the successful bidder for the Bonds.

**Official Statement:** Not later than seven (7) business days after the date of sale, the Commission will deliver to the successful bidder an Official Statement, which is expected to be substantially in the form of the Preliminary Official Statement referred to below. If so requested by the successful bidder for the Bonds at or before the close of business on the date of the sale, the Commission will include in the Official Statement such pricing and other information with respect to the terms of the reoffering of the Bonds of such issue by the successful bidder therefor, if any,

as may be specified and furnished in writing by such bidder (the "Reoffering Information"). If no such information is specified and furnished by the successful bidder, the Official Statement will include the interest rate or rates on the Bonds resulting from the bid of such successful bidder. The successful bidder shall be responsible to the Commission and its officials for such Reoffering Information furnished by such bidder, and for all decisions made by such bidder with respect to the use or omission of the Reoffering Information in any reoffering of the Bonds. The successful bidder will also be furnished, without cost, with a reasonable number of copies of the Official Statement as determined by the Secretary-Treasurer (and any amendments or supplements thereto).

**Legal Opinion:** The Bonds described above will be issued and sold subject to approval as to legality by McGuireWoods LLP, Bond Counsel, whose approving opinion will be delivered, upon request, to the successful bidder for the Bonds without charge. Such opinion will be substantially in the form included in Appendix [\_\_] to the Preliminary Official Statement referred to below.

**Continuing Disclosure:** In order to assist bidders in complying with SEC Rule 15c2-12, the Commission will execute and deliver a continuing disclosure certificate on or before the date of issuance of the Bonds pursuant to which the Commission will undertake to provide certain information annually and notices of certain events. A description of this certificate is set forth in the Preliminary Official Statement and will also be set forth in the Official Statement.

**Delivery and Payment:** It shall be a condition of the obligation of the successful bidder to accept delivery of and pay for the Bonds, that, simultaneously with or before delivery and payment for the Bonds, said bidder shall be furnished, without cost, with a certificate of the Secretary-Treasurer of the Commission to the effect that, to the best of his knowledge, the Official Statement and any amendment or supplement thereto (except for the Reoffering Information provided by the successful bidder, as to which no view will be expressed) does not contain, as of the date of sale and as of the date of delivery of the Bonds, any untrue statement of a material fact, required to be stated or necessary to be stated, to make such statements, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

Delivery of the Bonds, at the Commission's expense, will be made by the Commission to the purchaser on [\_\_\_\_\_], 2024, or as soon as practicable thereafter, through the facilities of DTC in New York, New York, and, thereupon, said purchaser will be required to accept delivery of the Bonds purchased and pay the balance of the purchase price thereon in federal or other immediately available funds. The Bonds will be accompanied by the customary closing documents including a no-litigation certificate effective as of the date of delivery.

**Contacts:** A preliminary official statement, which is in form "deemed final" as of its date by the Commission for purposes of SEC Rule 15c2-12 (the "Preliminary Official Statement") but is subject to revision, amendment and completion in the final official statement (the "Official Statement"), together with this Notice of Sale, may be obtained from Gavin Cohen, Secretary-Treasurer, The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 6611 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale, Maryland 20737, (301) 454-1540 or Davenport & Company LLC, 8600 LaSalle Road, The Oxford Building, Suite 618, Towson, Maryland 21286, (410) 296-9426.

**Right to Change Notice of Sale and Postpone Offering:** The Commission reserves the right to change the Notice of Sale and to postpone, from time to time, the date established for the receipt of bids. In the event of a postponement, the new date and time of sale will be announced via BiDCOMP/Parity®/www.i-dealprospectus.com or TM3 News Service at least 24 hours prior to the time proposals are to be submitted. On any such alternative sale date, bidders may submit electronic bids for the purchase of the Bonds in conformity with the provision of this Notice of Sale, except for any changes to this Notice of Sale, the change of the date of sale and the changes described in the next sentence. If the date fixed for receipt of bids is postponed, the expected date of delivery of the Bonds also may be postponed. Such changes, if any, will be announced via BiDCOMP/Parity®/www.i-dealprospectus.com or TM3 News Service at the time any alternative sale date is announced.

### THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

By: \_

Chair

#### \$\_\_\_,000,000 Prince George's County General Obligation Park Acquisition and Development Project Bonds, Series PGC-2024A

#### ISSUE PRICE CERTIFICATE (Qualified Competitive Bid)

The undersigned, on behalf of [NAME OF PURCHASER] (the "Purchaser"), hereby certifies as set forth below with respect to the sale of the above-captioned obligations (the "Bonds").

#### 1. Reasonably Expected Initial Offering Price.

(a) As of the Sale Date, the reasonably expected initial offering prices of the Bonds to the Public by the Purchaser are the prices listed in Schedule A (the "Expected Offering Prices"). The Expected Offering Prices are the prices for the Bonds used by the Purchaser in formulating its bid to purchase the Bonds. Attached as Schedule B is a true and correct copy of the bid provided by the Purchaser to purchase the Bonds.

(b) The Purchaser was not given the opportunity to review other bids prior to submitting its bid.

(c) The bid submitted by the Purchaser constituted a firm offer to purchase the Bonds.

#### 2. Defined Terms.

(a) *Issuer* means The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

(b) *Maturity* means Bonds with the same credit and payment terms. Bonds with different maturity dates, or Bonds with the same maturity date but different stated interest rates, are treated as separate maturities.

(c) *Public* means any person (including an individual, trust, estate, partnership, association, company, or corporation) other than an Underwriter or a related party to an Underwriter. The term "related party" for purposes of this Certificate generally means any two or more persons who have greater than 50 percent common ownership, directly or indirectly.

(d) *Sale Date* means the first day on which there is a binding contract in writing for the sale of a Maturity of the Bonds. The Sale Date of the Bonds is [\_\_\_\_\_], 2024.

(e) Underwriter means (i) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the Issuer (or with the lead underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public, and (ii) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (i) of this paragraph to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a retail distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public).

The undersigned understands that the foregoing information will be relied upon by the Issuer with respect to certain of the representations set forth in the Non-Arbitrage Certificate and Tax Covenants and with respect to compliance with the Federal income tax rules affecting the Bonds, and by McGuireWoods LLP, as bond counsel to the Issuer, in connection with rendering its opinion that the interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for Federal income tax purposes, the preparation of the Internal Revenue Service Form 8038-G, and other Federal income tax advice that it may give to the Issuer from time to time relating to the Bonds.

#### [NAME OF PURCHASER], as Purchaser

By:			
Name:			
Title:			

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

#### SCHEDULE A Expected Offering Prices of the Bonds

SCHEDULE B Copy of Bid

#### \$\_\_\_,000,000 Prince George's County General Obligation Park Acquisition and Development Project Bonds, Series PGC-2024A

#### **ISSUE PRICE CERTIFICATE** (Nonqualified Competitive Bid)

The undersigned, on behalf of [NAME OF PURCHASER] (the "Purchaser"), hereby certifies as set forth below with respect to the sale and issuance of the above-captioned obligations (the "Bonds").

1. *Sale of the 10% Maturities*. As of the date of this Certificate, for each Maturity of the 10% Maturities Bonds, the first price at which a Substantial Amount of such Maturity of the Bonds was sold to the Public is the respective price listed in Schedule A.

#### 2. Initial Offering Price of the Undersold Maturities.

(a) Each Underwriter offered the Undersold Maturities to the Public for purchase at the respective initial offering prices listed in Schedule B (the "Initial Offering Prices") on or before the Sale Date. A copy of the pricing wire or equivalent communication for the Bonds is attached to this Certificate as Schedule C.

(b) As set forth in the Notice of Sale and bid award, each Underwriter has agreed in writing that, (i) for each Maturity of the Undersold Maturities, it would neither offer nor sell any of the Bonds of such Maturity to any person at a price that is higher than the Initial Offering Price for such Maturity during the Offering Period for such Maturity, nor would it permit a related party to do so (the "hold-the-price rule") and (ii) any selling group agreement shall contain the agreement of each dealer who is a member of the selling group, and any retail distribution agreement, to comply with the hold-the-price rule. Pursuant to such agreement, no Underwriter has offered or sold any Maturity of the Undersold Maturities at a price that is higher than the respective Initial Offering Price for that Maturity of the Bonds during the Offering Period.

#### 3. Defined Terms.

(a) *10% Maturities* means those Maturities of the Bonds shown in Schedule A hereto as the "10% Maturities."

(b) *Issuer* means The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

(c) *Maturity* means Bonds with the same credit and payment terms. Bonds with different maturity dates, or Bonds with the same maturity date but different stated interest rates, are treated as separate maturities.

(d) *Offering Period* means, with respect to an Undersold Maturity, the period starting on the Sale Date and ending on the earlier of (i) the close of the fifth business day after the Sale Date ([\_\_\_\_\_], 2024), or (ii) the date on which the Purchaser has sold a Substantial Amount of such Undersold Maturity to the Public at a price that is no higher than the Initial Offering Price for such Undersold Maturity.

(e) *Public* means any person (including an individual, trust, estate, partnership, association, company, or corporation) other than an Underwriter or a related party to an Underwriter. The term "related party" for purposes of this Certificate generally means any two or more persons who have greater than 50 percent common ownership, directly or indirectly.

(f) *Sale Date* means the first day on which there is a binding contract in writing for the sale of a Maturity of the Bonds. The Sale Date of the Bonds is [\_\_\_\_\_], 2024.

(g) Substantial Amount means ten percent (10%).

(h) *Undersold Maturities* means those Maturities of the Bonds shown in Schedule B hereto as the "Undersold Maturities."

(i) Underwriter means (i) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the Issuer (or with the lead underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public, and (ii) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (i) of this paragraph to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a retail distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public).

The undersigned understands that the foregoing information will be relied upon by the Issuer with respect to certain of the representations set forth in the Non-Arbitrage Certificate and Tax Covenants and with respect to compliance with the Federal income tax rules affecting the Bonds, and by McGuireWoods LLP, as bond counsel to the Issuer, in connection with rendering its opinion that the interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for Federal income tax purposes, the preparation of Internal Revenue Service Form 8038-G, and other Federal income tax advice it may give to the Issuer from time to time relating to the Bonds.

#### [NAME OF PURCHASER], as Purchaser

By:		
Name:		
Title:		

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2024

#### SCHEDULE A Sale Prices of the 10% Maturities



SCHEDULE B Initial Offering Prices of the Undersold Maturities SCHEDULE C Pricing Wire

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THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION Department of Parks and Recreation 6600 Kenilworth Avenue Riverdale, Maryland 20737

### MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 7, 2024

TO: The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning, Full Commission

FROM: Paul J. Sun, Land Acquisition Specialist **PJS** Park Planning and Environmental Stewardship Department of Parks and Recreation

#### SUBJECT: PGCPB Resolution No. 2024-106 (M-NCPPC No. 24-28)

Attached, please find the above referenced PGCPB Resolution regarding the granting of a perpetual easement on Commission owned property (Rose Creek Connector Trail) to Prince George's County.

The Commission agrees to grant this easement to Prince George's County for the installation of a public storm drainage facility, along General Lafayette Boulevard.

We request that the Prince George's County Planning Board Resolution be scheduled for adoption by the Full Commission in November of 2024.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Attachment:

• M-NCPPC Resolution No. 2024-106

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION



Department of Parks and Recreation 6600 Kenilworth Aveune Riverdale, Maryland 20737

PGCPB No. 2024-106 MNCPPC No. 24-28

#### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission ("Commission") is authorized under the Annotated Code of Maryland, Land Use § 17-205 to transfer any land held by it and deemed by the Commission not to be needed for park purposes or other authorized purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Commission owns a certain tract or parcel of land more particularly described by a Deed dated December 26, 1968, and recorded among the Land Records of Prince George's County, Maryland, in Liber 25406 at Folio 82, and further identified as Tax Map 0154, Grid 00E3, Subdivision 1249, Block C, Parcel G, Tax Account # 11-3746344; and

**WHEREAS,** Prince George's County, Maryland ("**County**") has requested that the Commission convey to the County a  $8,107 \pm$  square foot ( $0.1861 \pm$  acre) perpetual easement over Parcel G for installation and construction of a public storm drainage facility within the easement to be maintained by the County; and

**WHEREAS,** for the benefit of the public, the Commission intends to grant to the County such  $0.1861 \pm acre perpetual easement as requested by the County.$ 

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Planning Board hereby approves the conveyance of the above-referenced easement, contingent on approval by the full Commission.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that, in connection with the transaction contemplated herein, the Acting Executive Director is authorized to execute and deliver, on behalf of the Commission, any and all such certificates, documents, and/or instruments, and to do or cause to be done, any and all such acts, as the Acting Executive Director deems necessary or appropriate to make effective or to implement the intended purposes of the foregoing resolution, without limitation, and the taking of such actions shall be deemed conclusively to be authorized hereby.

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the action taken by the Prince George's County Planning Board of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission on the motion of Commissioner Washington, seconded by Commissioner Geraldo, with Commissioners Shapiro, Bailey, Doerner, Geraldo, and Washington voting in favor of the motion during open session at its regular meeting on Thursday, October 17, 2024.



Adopted by the Prince George's County Planning Board this 31st day of October, 2024.

Peter A. Shapiro Chair

By:

Jessica Jones Planning Board Administrator

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency

<u>Neil A. Murphy</u>

M-NCPPC Office of General Counsel Date: 11/01/2024

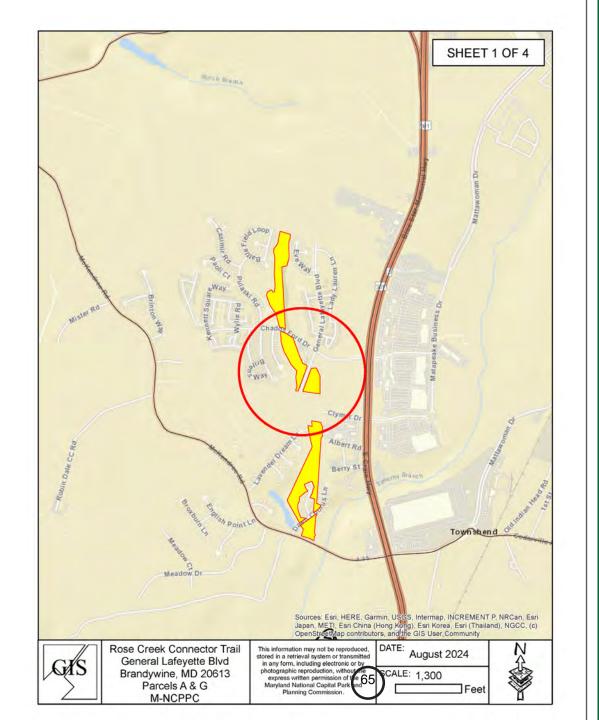
### Department of Parks and Recreation

### Rose Creek Connector Trail: Proposed Storm Drain Easement

Parks & Recreation live more, play more Prince George's County Planning Board

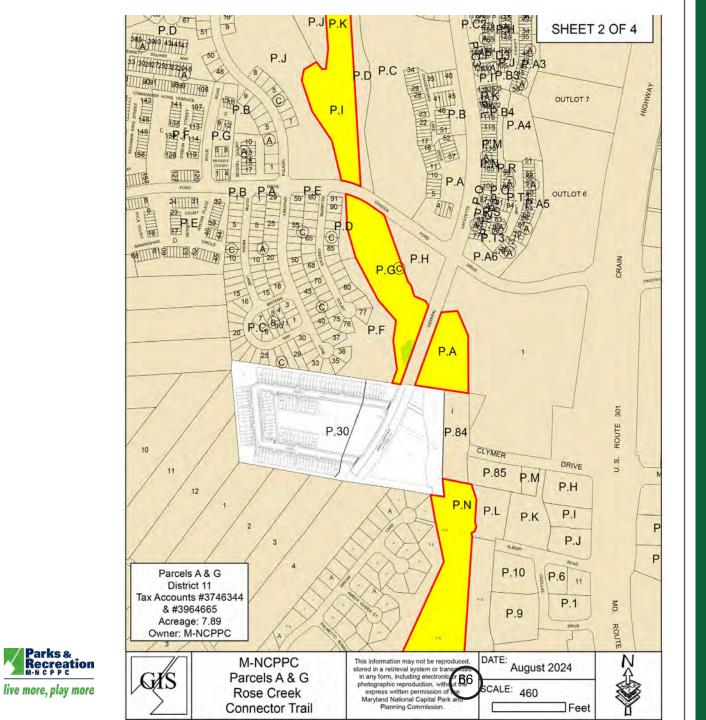
October 17, 2024



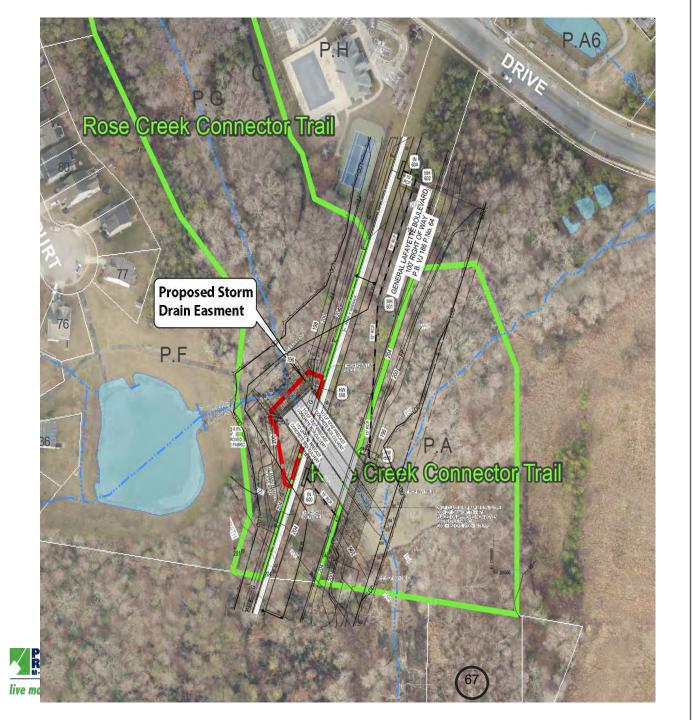


Property of : Maryland –National Capital Park and Planning Commission

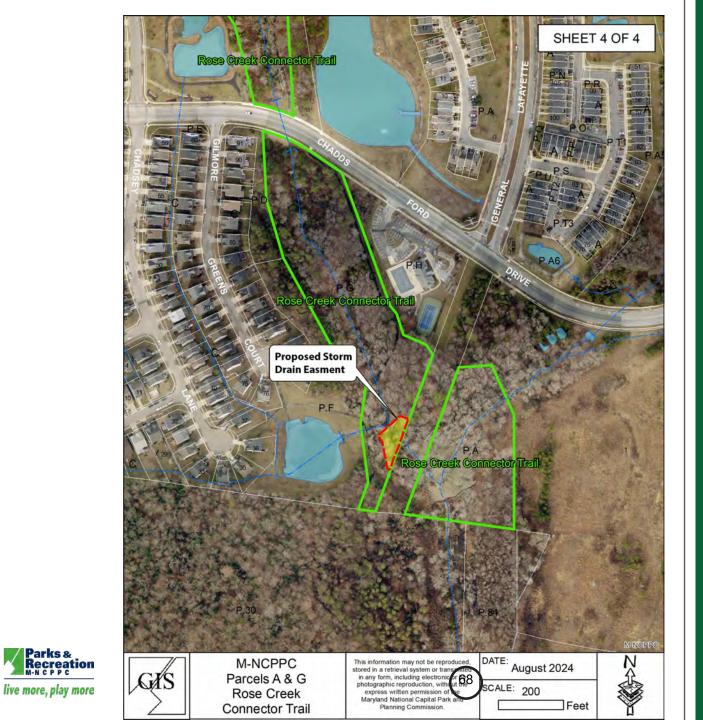




PPS 4-18017 Enclave at Brandywine was approved in 2019



Need to extend General Lafayette Boulevard



8,107± square feet or 0.19± Acre Storm Drain Easement is requested

# STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVAL

Grant of Storm Drain Easement to Prince George's County

(Tyler/Pettiford/Sun)

\* Subject to Final Approval by The Full Commission



Rose Creek Connector Trail

Property of : Maryland –National Capital Park and Planning Commission This page intentionally left blank.



Special Meeting of the Commission **Open Session Minutes** October 3, 2024

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission met virtually via videoconference. The meeting was broadcast by the Montgomery Planning Department.

#### PRESENT

Montgomery County Commissioners Artie Harris, Chair Shawn Bartley James Hedrick Josh Linden Mitra Pedoeem

Prince George's County Commissioners Peter A. Shapiro, Vice Chair **Dorothy Bailey** William Doerner Manuel Geraldo A. Shuanise Washington

Chair Harris called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Pursuant to the Maryland General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 3-305(b)(14), a closed session is proposed to: discuss before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.

Chair Harris requested a motion to move the meeting into Executive Session. Commissioner Pedoeem moved; Commissioner Bailey seconded. All Commissioners in attendance voted in favor of moving to closed session. Open session adjourned and re-convened in closed session at 9:05 a.m.

#### ITEM 1 CLOSED SESSION

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Pedoeem to enter Closed Session. Seconded by Commissioner Bailey 10 approved the items

Open Session resumed at 9:50 a.m.

Chair Harris stated during Closed Session, the Commission discussed and approved moving forward with the proposed ERP / Project MOSAIC software. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:51 a.m.

Technical Writer

Adams, Sehior James

Tracey Harvin, Corporate Policy and Management Operations Director, for William Spencer, Acting Executive Director

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION



6611 Kenilworth Avenue · Riverdale, Maryland 20737

#### WRITTEN STATEMENT FOR CLOSING A MEETING UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT

Date: 10/3/2024 Time: 9:04 am Location: Via Videoconference

Motion to close meeting made by Commissioner Pedoeem. Seconded by Commissioner Bailey.

Members voting in favor: Bailey, Bartley, Doerner, Geraldo, Harris, Hedrick, Linden, Pedoeem, Shapiro, Washington

Opposed: <u>N/A</u> Abstaining: <u>N/A</u> Absent: N/A

### STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CLOSE SESSION, General Provisions Article, §3-305(b) (check all that apply):

- (1) To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals;
- (2) To protect the privacy or reputation of individuals concerning a matter not related to public business;
- (3) To consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto;
- (4) To consider a matter that concerns the proposal for a business or industrial organization to locate, expand, or remain in the State;
- \_\_\_\_\_(5) To consider the investment of public funds;
- (6) To consider the marketing of public securities;
- \_\_\_\_\_(7) To consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter;
- (8) To consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation;
- (9) To conduct collective bargaining negotiations or consider matters that relate to the negotiations;
- (10) To discuss public security, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to the public or to public security, including: (i) the deployment of fire and police services and staff; and (ii) the development and implementation of emergency plans;
- (11) To prepare, administer, or grade a scholastic, licensing, or qualifying examination;
- (12) To conduct or discuss an investigative proceeding on actual or possible criminal conduct;
- (13) To comply with a specific constitutional, statutory, or judicially imposed requirement that prevents public disclosures about a particular proceeding or matter;
- \_\_z\_(14) Before a contract is awarded or bids are opened, to discuss a matter directly related to a negotiating strategy or the contents of a bid or proposal, if public discussion or disclosure would adversely impact the ability of the public body to participate in the competitive bidding or proposal process.
- (15) To discuss cybersecurity, if the public body determines that public discussion would constitute a risk to: (i) security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology; (ii) network security information, such as information that is related to passwords, personal ID numbers, access codes, encryption, security devices, or vulnerability assessments or that a governmental entity collects or maintains to prevent, detect, or investigate criminal activity; or (iii) deployments or implementation of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices.

### FOR <u>EACH</u> CITATION CHECKED ABOVE, <u>THE REASONS FOR CLOSING</u> AND <u>TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED</u>:

Pursuant to the Maryland General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 3-305(b) (14) a closed session is proposed to discuss the content and budget of a contract bid or proposal.

Topics to be discussed: Budget Discussion regarding the M-NCPPC's Enterprise Resource Management System (Project MOSAIC).

This statement is made by:

Artie Harris, Chair, Presiding Officer.

PRINT NAME 10/15/2024

SIGNATURE & DATE

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THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION 6611 Kenilworth Avenue • Riverdale, Maryland 20737

> Commission Meeting Open Session Minutes October 16, 2024

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission met in a hybrid format, from the Wheaton Headquarters Auditorium in Wheaton and virtually via videoconference. The meeting was broadcast by the Montgomery Planning Department.

#### PRESENT

Montgomery County Commissioners Artie Harris, Chair James Hedrick Josh Linden (departed at 10:14 am) <u>Prince George's County Commissioners</u> Peter A. Shapiro, Vice Chair Manuel Geraldo A. Shuanise Washington

NOT PRESENT

**Dorothy Bailey** 

William Doerner

Shawn Bartley Mitra Pedoeem

Chair Harris called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

ITEM 1	<u>APPROVAL OF 10/16/2024 COMMISSION MEETING AGENDA</u> Chair Harris moved item 1b to Section 5, Item d. Due to quorum issues, he also asked for all voting items to be arranged to come at the front of the meeting.
	ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Geraldo to approve the amended Agenda Seconded by Commissioner Hedrick 6 approved the items
ITEM 2	APPROVAL OF MINUTES a) Approval of Commission Minutes – Open Session 9/18/24
	ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Geraldo to approve the 9/18/24 minutes Seconded by Commissioner Hedrick 5 approved the item 1 abstention (Washington) 4 absent
ITEM 5	ACTION/PRESENTATION ITEMS (voting items taken out of order)

 d) <u>Resolution 24-21 Appointment of William Spencer as Acting Executive Director of the M-NCPPC (moved from Item1b) (Harris)</u> Chair Harris thanked former Executive Director Asuntha Chiang-Smith for her 5 years of service to the agency before her resignation at the end of September, and thanked Acting Executive Director William Spencer for his service over the past several months and requested a vote to approve a formal appointment. ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Geraldo to adopt Resolution 24-21 Seconded by Commissioner Hedrick 6 approved the item

b) Budget Transfer Request (Charles)

Corporate Budget Director Charles requested Commission approval to proceed with the annual transfer of non-departmental salary markers to the specific departments and units, totaling \$12.574M. She summarized the breakdown of the transfers by county. The transfer also includes \$275,000 to cover unanticipated increases in compensation related to approved legal settlements.

ACTION: Motion of Commissioner Washington to approve the 9/18/24 minutes Seconded by Commissioner Geraldo 6 approved the item

#### ITEM 3 <u>GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>

- a) Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- b) National Pregnancy and Infancy Loss Awareness Month
- c) National AIDS Awareness Month
- d) Hiring People with Disabilities Month
- e) National Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- f) Italian American, German American and Polish American Heritage Month

Chair Harris noted the October M-NCPPC newsletter, containing very well-written and informative information on both counties, showcasing the agency's one-Commission breadth. He thanked the communications staff throughout the agency on the newsletter. He also noted the upcoming retirement of Employees' Retirement System Executive Director Andrea Rose after 34 years of service to the ERS. Current ERS Deputy Director Jaclyn Harris will be the ERS Administrator starting November 1, 2024.

#### ITEM 4 COMMITTEE/BOARD REPORTS

- a) Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes from September 3, 2024 (for information only)
- b) Audit Committee Activity Report (for Information Only)

#### ITEM 5 ACTION/PRESENTATION ITEMS (resumed, non-voting items only)

a) Inspector General Annual Report (Kenney)

M-NCPPC Inspector General Kenney presented highlights of her report, as included in the packet. She added her appreciation for the Commissioners and Public Members on the Audit Committee who bring a wealth of knowledge to the Committee and whose support has been invaluable each year. She then provided additional detail on major audits and concerns from the report.

Chair Harris thanked Inspector General Kenney, Deputy Inspector General Ogunduyile and the Audit Committee adding he appreciated their work. Vice-Chair Shapiro agreed, adding the work the IG's Office does is critical to the health of the agency and appreciated the audit staff's discretion and diligence, and for providing a management advisory role to help senior staff do their jobs better.

#### c) <u>GLP-1 Prescription Approval Process (Allen/McDonald)</u>

Corporate Human Resources Director Allen introduced Benefits Manager Jennifer McDonald and Benefits Specialist Cynthia Henderson. He provided background on the item, which was first presented during the September Commission meeting, and was asked to return in October to present additional information and options on the approval process for these medications.

Ms. Henderson presented information from the packet discussing GLP-1 medications, their utilization, and cost. Starting on 10/1/24, the M-NCPPC will be using Caremark's Smart Edit and Utilization Management plan to place certain conditions on being prescribed these drugs specifically for weight loss. If there is history of diabetes or pre-diabetes in the past 2 years, the prescription will be automatically approved. If the prescription is specifically for weight loss, the member must have pre-authorization from their physician and meet other criteria to ensure these drugs are clinically appropriate.

Commissioner Hedrick was strongly opposed to the policy and asked for further discussion to consider rolling back the policy. He said there shouldn't be any barriers for accessing diabetic medications, noting records aren't always accessible when switching areas or doctors. A delay of 1-2 months in dispensing critical medication while waiting for approval or preauthorization can be dangerous. Commissioner Harris asked how these new requirements were decided upon. Corporate HR Director Allen said it was recommended by both Caremark and the M-NCPPC's benefits consultant. Ms. McDonald added there is precedent, as there are other medications under the agency's plan that require prior authorization. It is a measure to ensure these drugs are prescribed accurately.

Chair Harris asked if the Benefits team could either come back at a future meeting or via memo to describe the process, discuss similar limits on other drugs, and address Commissioners' concerns. He also instructed Benefits staff to monitor this policy and suggested trying this plan for one year and then re-evaluate. Mr. Allen said the Benefits Office will also explore other pricing options for GLP-1 medications with their rates negotiations in the spring of 2025 for calendar 2026.

Commissioner Hedrick asked what other drugs were under prior authorization restriction, how the agency would measure the program's effectiveness in a year, and cautioned measuring by cost is a bad metric. Better perhaps to measure the number of member requests for appeals and track the health claims. He re-emphasized that the agency should not place barriers of access to these drugs.

Vice Chair Shapiro thanked the team for addressing this complicated issue and agreed with Commissioner Hedrick's remarks. Commissioner Washington also strongly agreed. Mr. Allen said Caremark provides aggregate claims information on a quarterly basis and said he could return every three months to provide data before the end of the year. Commissioner Washington asked for data to include populations served, particularly on diabetics.

Commissioner Geraldo agreed there should be no restriction for diabetics, but if the medication is purely for weight loss, there should be behavior modifications. He also suggested automatic authorization for weight loss, but with a higher copay.

#### ITEM 6 OFFICERS' REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

a) Quarterly Late Evaluation Report, August-September 2024. (For Information Only)

Secretary-Treasurer's Reportb) 115 Trust/OPEB Annual Report (For Information Only)

General Counsel's Reportc) Litigation Report (For information only)

Chair Harris closed the meeting by mentioning how much he and Vice Chair Shapiro enjoyed meeting CAS Staff at the Bi-County Fall Festival Fish Fry earlier in the week and how important it is for us to get together periodically and learn from and about each other.

Chair Harris adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

Senior Technical Writer James Adams,

Tracey Harvin, Corporate Policy and Management Operations Director, for William Spencer, Acting Executive Director



EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, October 1, 2024; 10:00 a.m. Kenilworth Office Building, Riverdale, MD (Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams)

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission ("Commission") Employees' Retirement System ("ERS") Board of Trustees ("Board") met virtually with CHAIR SHAPIRO leading the meeting on Tuesday, October 1, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by CHAIR SHAPIRO.

#### **Board Members Present**

Peter A. Shapiro, Board of Trustees Chair, Prince George's County CommissionerLeft at 10:56 a.m.James Hedrick, Board of Trustees Vice Chair, Montgomery County CommissionerLeft at 10:56 a.m.Gavin Cohen, CPA, M-NCPPC Secretary-Treasurer, Ex-OfficioPamela F. Gogol, Montgomery County Public MemberSheila Morgan-Johnson, Prince George's County Public MemberFindedore J. Russell III, Prince George's County Open TrusteeElaine A. Stookey, Bi-County Open TrusteeSgt. Anton White, FOP Represented TrusteeLisa Blackwell-Brown, MCGEO Represented Trustee

#### **Board Members Absent**

Asuntha Chiang-Smith, M-NCPPC Executive Director, Ex-Officio Caroline McCarthy, Montgomery County Open Trustee

#### **Others Present**

Michael "Wes" Aniton, M-NCPPC Office of the General Counsel, Deputy General Counsel

#### ERS Staff Present

Andrea L. Rose, Executive Director Jaclyn Harris, Deputy Executive Director Alicia C. Stanford, Administrative Specialist Sheila Joynes, Accounting Manager

#### **Presentations**

Meketa Investment Group - Mary Mustard, CFA and Aaron Lally, CFA, CAIA, CIPM

#### ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 1, 2024 CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION: MR. RUSSELL made a motion, seconded by VICE CHAIR HEDRICK to Approve the Consent Agenda of October 1, 2024. The motion PASSED. (9-0). (Motion # 24-28).

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

At 10:03 a.m. the Board went into Closed Session pursuant to the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland Section 3-305(b)(1), to discuss the compensation of an employee, over whom this public body has



jurisdiction; Section 3-305(b)(5), to consider matters directly concerning the actual investment of public funds under the authority of this Board; and Section 3-305(b)(7), to consult with counsel on a legal matter related to the compensation of an employee.

#### ITEM 2. CHAIR'S ITEMS

#### ITEM 2.A. Conference and Training Summary 2024 - No notable items discussed.

#### 2.B. Resolution for the Appointment of Jaclyn Harris to Executive Director

CHAIR SHAPIRO introduced the Resolution for the Appointment of Jaclyn Harris as the ERS Executive Director effective November 1, 2024. CHAIR SHAPIRO congratulated Ms. Harris on her promotion, noting he is pleased with her work at the ERS thus far and believes the ERS will be in good hands under her leadership. She is professional, committed, personable, and deeply understands the business, he remarked. Next, CHAIR SHAPIRO congratulated Ms. Rose on her upcoming retirement from the ERS effective November 1, 2024 as Executive Director. CHAIR SHAPIRO thanked her for her invaluable contributions during 34 years of service to the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) Employees' Retirement System, noting her professionalism, ability to facilitate operations, and exemplary leadership. Each Trustee also provided their remarks and well wishes to Ms. Rose on her retirement. CHAIR SHAPIRO presented Ms. Rose with a crystal award acknowledging her service to the ERS. Ms. Rose commented that she enjoyed her tenure with the ERS and is looking forward to her retirement and joining the M-NCPPC Retirees Association.

ACTION: MR. RUSSELL made a motion, seconded by VICE CHAIR HEDRICK to Approve the Resolution for the Appointment of Jaclyn Harris as the ERS Executive Director effective November 1, 2024. The motion PASSED. (9-0). (Motion # 24-31).

#### 2.C. Resolution for Contingency

Ms. Harris presented a Resolution for Contingency in the event the Executive Director or Deputy Executive Director is not available due to expected and unexpected circumstances. The resolution would grant authority to the Secretary-Treasurer to exercise signature authority on matters or transactions requiring immediate attention to avoid interference with normal activities of the ERS. Ms. Gogol inquired about the formal action if the contingency plan is exercised. Ms. Rose replied that a formal procedure for execution can be added to the Governance Manual. Mr. Aniton advised that language should be added to the Governance Manual that coincides with the Resolution for Contingency to formalize this process and procedure. As follow up, staff will draft a policy to incorporate into the Governance Manual.

- ACTION: VICE CHAIR HEDRICK made a motion, seconded by MS. STOOKEY to Approve the Resolution for the Contingency Plan for the Continued Operations of the ERS in the Event the Executive Director or Deputy Executive Director is unavailable. The motion PASSED. (9-0). (Motion # 24-32).
- **ITEM 3. MISCELLANEOUS** No items to report.

#### ITEM 4. CONSULTANT/MANAGER PRESENTATIONS

Ms. Mustard discussed the August 2024 Investment Update, noting a very volatile month, although most asset classes posted gains. She explained that volatility was mainly due to a weak US job market which caused some speculation



about the timing of the Fed rates cut. The best performers for August were REITs, Russell 2000, International Stocks, and Fixed Income. Ms. Mustard stated that all asset classes performed in-line with policy. Ms. Morgan-Johnson inquired whether Meketa believes that the Fed will cut rates again in the near future given employers are adding less jobs, indicating a shaky job market. Ms. Mustard replied that she believes the job market is shrinking and that she expects the Fed to cut rates. She added that there is typically a lag in the Fed's response to the economy. Due to this lag in response time, the Central Bank tends to overshoot or undershoot in their execution to stabilize the markets.

Mr. Lally conducted a high yield asset class education presentation for the Trustees. High Yield bonds have become a mainstay in institutional investor portfolios due to their return potential resulting from increased risk. These bonds offer a higher yield because they entail a higher risk of default. The high yield market is attractive to companies who desire a fundraising option that will bypass banks. Mr. Lally mentioned that high yield bond issuers tend to issue shorter term bonds. Most bonds in the high yield market are rated BB or B, while CCC rated bonds represent 10-15% of the market. The high yield market is less liquid than the investment grade bond market due to a smaller market size and fewer participants. Returns on high yield bonds fall between investment grade bonds and US equity. Mr. Lally stated that for this asset class Meketa recommends investing in one or two managers. For a one manager structure, that manager should implement a "down the middle" traditional "full market" approach. For two managers, each manager should implement an approach that complements each other (i.e. conservative and opportunistic).

Vice Chair Hedrick left the meeting at 10:56 a.m.

#### ITEM 5. COMMITTEE REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

#### ITEM 5.A. Investment Monitoring Group

Ms. Morgan-Johnson reported that the IMG met on September 17, 2024, with Meketa Investment Group. During the meeting, Meketa presented their recommendations for changes to the ERS Investment Policy Statement (IPS) and Investment Manager Monitoring Policy. Material changes included 1) Changing from the Wilshire 5000 Index to the Russell 3000 Index for the domestic equity benchmark, 2) Changing from the BofAML US High Yield BB-B Rated to the Bloomberg for the US High Yield benchmark, 3) Expanded language on single issuer size to include benchmark relative language, 4) Removal of the language for "representative guidelines" on commingled strategies, 5) Consideration of the removal of the derivatives appendix, and 6) Changing the capital market assumptions to the 2024 Meketa Asset Study. Ms. Morgan-Johnson also reported that Meketa found the Investment Manager Monitoring Policy clear and well thought out but recommended that the IMG put the onus of meeting with investment managers on Meketa, which would result in increasing Meketa's role in the due diligence process and ongoing monitoring of investment managers. Additionally, this would reduce the need for scheduling revolving meetings with the investment managers to present updates to the IMG and the Board. The IMG agreed that Meketa should take the lead in scheduling ongoing due diligence review meetings with the investment managers and report their findings to the IMG on a quarterly basis. The IMG also considered making some additional procedural changes that would streamline current processes and expand the role of the IMG but also align with the IMG Charter. The IMG requested that staff review governing documents and consult legal counsel on the matter of fiduciary responsibility as it relates to the IMG, the Board, and the Investment Services Consultant.

#### ITEM 5.B. Administration and Personnel Oversight Committee

Ms. Harris informed the Board that the Administration & Personnel Oversight Committee used their September 17, 2024 meeting as a working session to review and discuss the drafts of the Trustee Selection Process and Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA) Policy and Procedures. Both policies were reviewed by legal counsel for legal



sufficiency. After discussion, the Committee came to a consensus to recommend both policies for inclusion in the Governance Manual.

ACTION: MR. COHEN made a motion, seconded by MR. RUSSELL to Approve the Governance Manual dated October 1, 2024, which incorporates the Trustee Selection Process and Maryland Public Information Act (MPIA) Policy and Procedures. The motion PASSED. (8-0). VICE CHAIR HEDRICK was absent from this vote. (Motion # 24-33).

#### ITEM 5.C. Audit Committee

Mr. Cohen reported that the Audit Committee met on September 24, 2024 with the auditor, SB & Company, as they presented the ERS June 30, 2024, audit results. SB & Company will issue an unmodified opinion on the June 30, 2024 financial statements. Additionally, SB & Company reported no material weaknesses, no instances of fraud, and obtained full cooperation for the annual reporting process from ERS staff. Lastly, Mr. Cohen reported that there were no issues identified that required any action on the part of the Board.

#### ITEM 6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Harris reported that at the November 5, 2024 Board meeting, actuarial consultant, Cheiron, will present the results of the June 30, 2024 actuarial valuation. Staff are in the process of finalizing the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) which will also be made available at the November 5, 2024 Board Meeting. Ms. Harris informed the Board that the Deputy Executive Director posting closed on October 1, 2024. If the third attempt at filling the position is unsuccessful, staff plan to solicit a headhunter to assist in the search to fill the position.

The Board meeting of October 1, 2024, adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Respectfully,

Alicia C. Stanford

Alicia C. Stanford Administrative Specialist

Jaclyn Harris

Jaclyn F. Harris Deputy Executive Director

#### **MEMORANDUM**



#### EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission 6611 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 100 Riverdale, Maryland 20737 (301) 454-1415 - Telephone (301) 454-1413 - Facsimile <u>http://ers.mncppc.org</u>

#### Jaclyn F. Harris Executive Director

TO:	The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission	DATE: November 8, 2024
VIA:	Peter A. Shapiro Chair, Board of Trustees	
FROM:	Jaclyn F. Harris <i>Jaclyn Harris</i> Executive Director	
Subject:	<b>Resolution #24-23 - Recommendation to </b> <i>the Amount of \$39,551,467 for Fiscal Yea</i>	

#### RECOMMENDATION

At its November 5, 2024 meeting, the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) Board of Trustees ("Board") accepted the June 30, 2024 Actuarial Valuation presented by Cheiron. As a result, the Board recommends the Commission approve Resolution #24-23 which adopts an employer contribution in the amount of \$39,551,467 (18.54% of covered payroll) for fiscal year 2026.

#### BACKGROUND

In accordance with the ERS' Plan Document, Section 2.3(g), the Board shall recommend to the Commission the contributions to be made by the Commission under the provisions of the ERS.

Each year the ERS has an independent actuarial valuation performed to determine the funding requirements for the ERS. The actuarial valuation is designed to measure the current and future cost of retiree benefits based on employee demographics, assets and liabilities, plan provisions, and actuarial assumptions and methods. The actuary recommends an employer contribution to ensure sufficient assets are available for future benefits.

A pension plan is well funded when it has enough money in reserve to meet all expected future obligations to participants. The ERS' funding objective is to meet long-term benefit promises. As a result of a large actuarial experience loss, the unfunded actuarial liability for the ERS increased from \$157.6 million as of June 30, 2023 to \$173.1 million as of June 30, 2024. The June 30, 2024 actuarial valuation indicated a funded ratio (based on the actuarial value of assets) of 87.2% which is slightly down from 87.8% in 2023.

To meet the funding objectives, the recommended employer contribution of \$39,551,467 (18.54% of payroll) is payable July 1, 2025 for fiscal year 2026. The recommended employer contribution

increased from \$35,554,919 (17.95% of payroll) as of June 30, 2023. The increase in the employer contribution can be primarily attributed to: 1) a \$18.8 million loss on liabilities driven by salary increases (for actives) greater than expected and cost-of-living adjustments (for retirees) greater than expected; 2) a \$3.1 million actuarial loss on investments; 3) a \$4.5 million loss due to a programming update made as a result of the external actuarial audit completed during the year; and 4) a large increase in active membership counts (new employees entering the Plan) also contributed to the increased costs of the ERS.

Cheiron's, Janet H. Cranna, FSA, EA, MAAA, Principal Consulting Actuary and Patrick Nelson, FSA, EA, MAAA, Associate Actuary will present the attached presentation at the Commission's November 20, 2024 meeting.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Attachment

1. Pension Actuarial Valuation as of June 30, 2024

Attachment 1

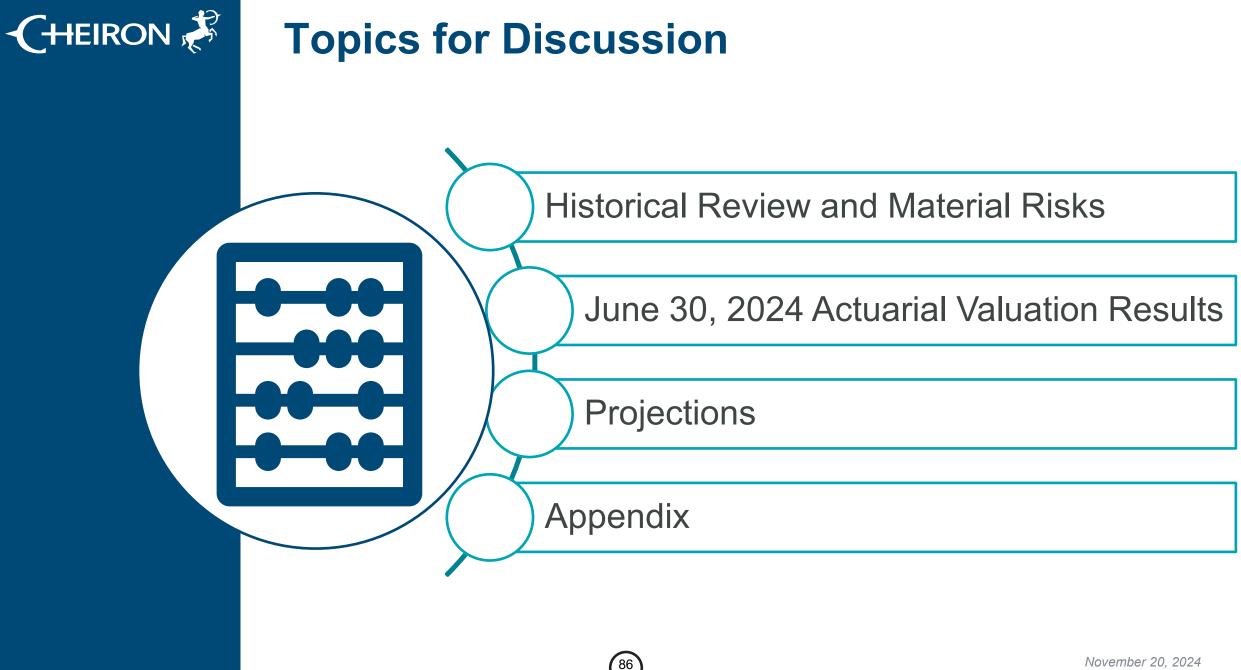
Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Employees' Retirement System

Pension Actuarial Valuation as of June 30, 2024

November 20, 2024

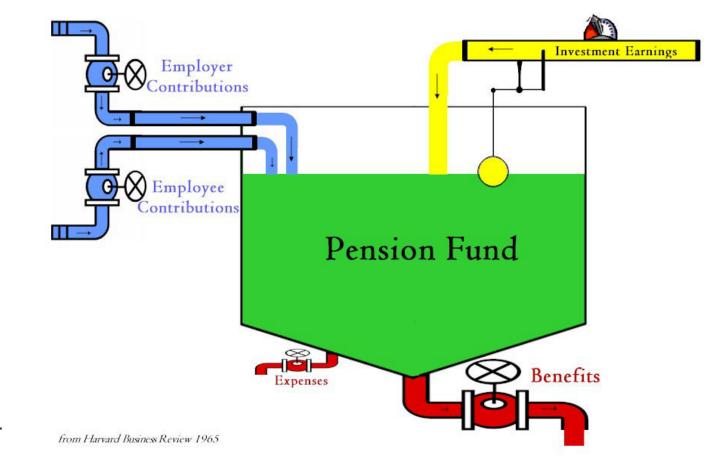
Janet Cranna, FSA, FCA, EA, MAAA Patrick Nelson, FSA, CERA, EA, MAAA Jana Bowers, FSA, MAAA





### Actuarial Valuation Process

- 1. Collect information
  - Member data
  - Plan provisions
  - Asset information
- 2. Apply assumptions
  - Demographic
  - Economic
- 3. Project all future benefit payments
- 4. Determine a present value of the benefits
- 5. Compare to assets
- 6. Calculate employer and employee contributions





Assessment and Disclosure of Risk

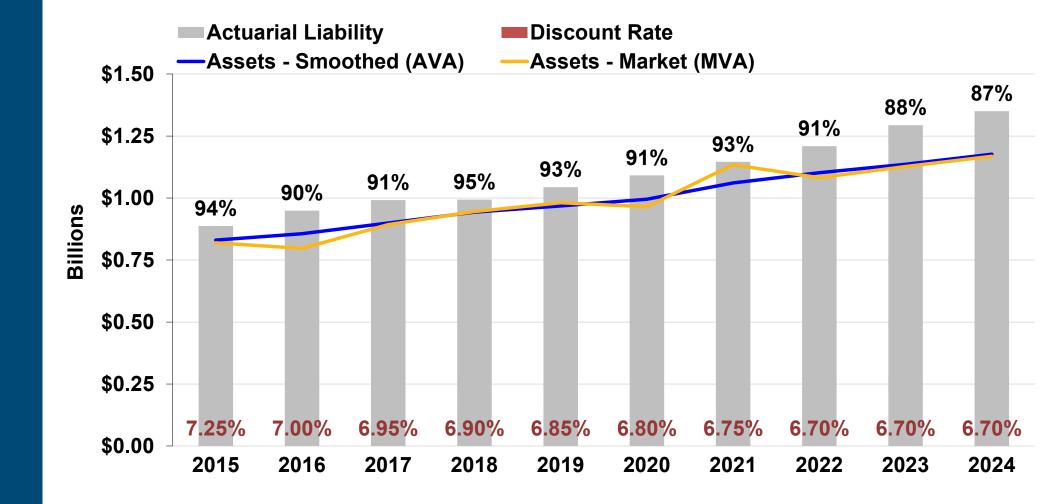
- Assessment and Disclosure of Risk (ASOP 51)
- Material risks identified:
  - Investment Risk the potential for investment returns to be different than expected
  - Inflation Risk the potential that inflation remains higher than expected
  - Contribution Risk the potential that actual contributions will not adequately fund the Plan
  - Longevity and other Demographic Risk the potential for mortality and other demographic experience to be different than expected
  - Plan Change Risk the potential for provisions of the plan to change and impact measurements

88

 Assumption Change Risk – the potential for the environment to change such that future valuation assumptions are different than the current assumptions



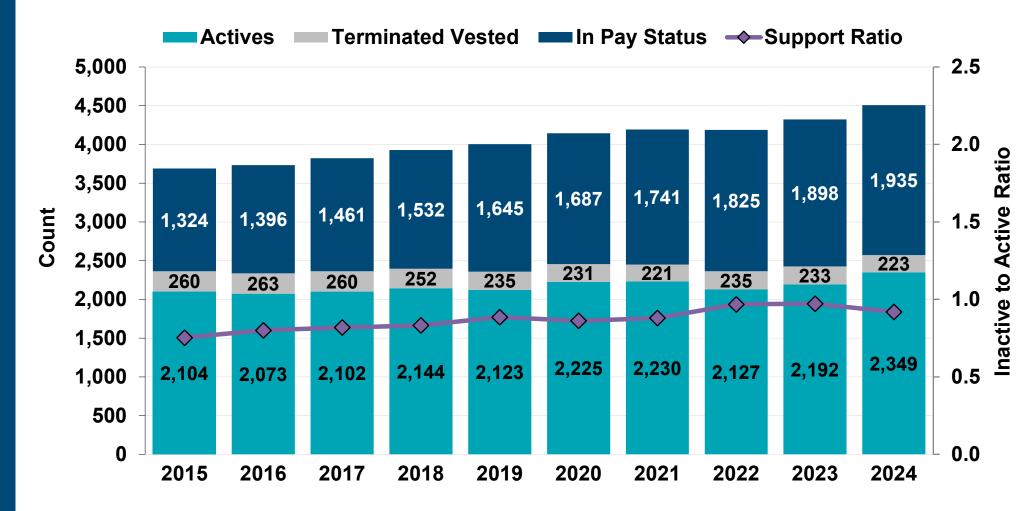
## Assets and Liabilities



(89)



### Membership Trends



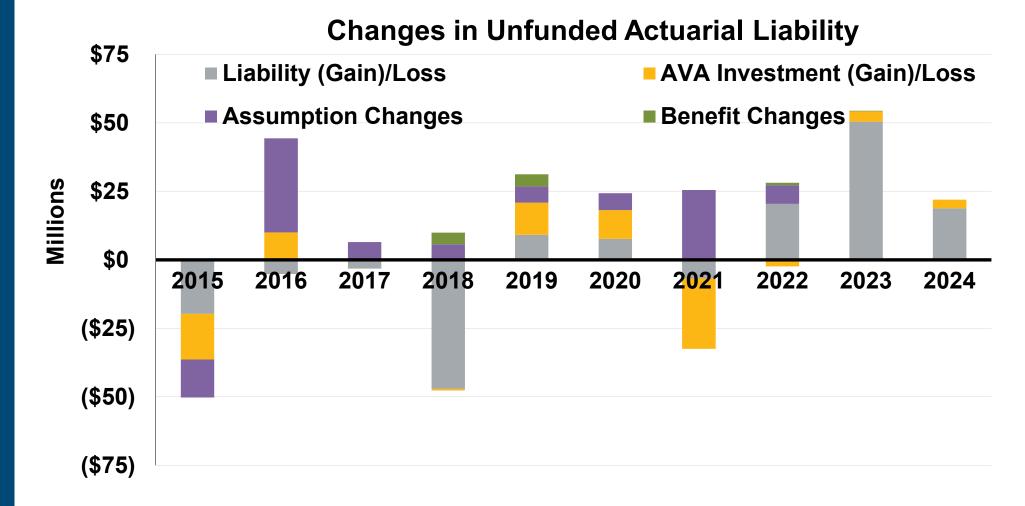
Support Ratio is the ratio of the number of inactive members (Retirees and Deferred Vesteds) per active member.

90



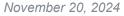
November 20, 2024

### Unfunded Actuarial Liability

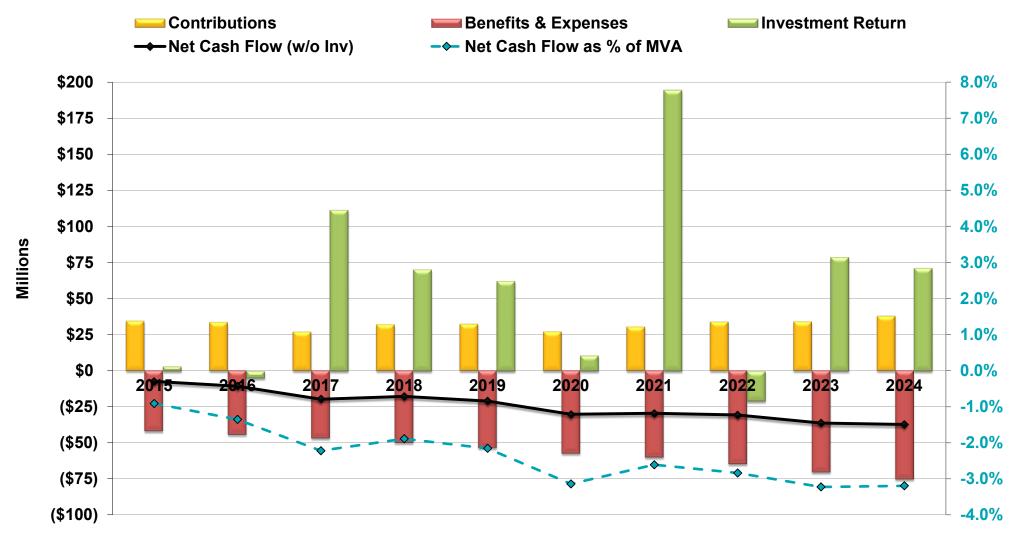


Assumption Changes and Benefit Changes combined for years prior to 2018 2018 Liability (G)/L includes a programming change resulting in a \$49 million gain 2020 Liability (G)/L includes a programming change resulting in a \$4.8 million loss 2024 Liability (G)/L includes a programming change resulting in a \$4.5 million loss





### **Cash Flows**



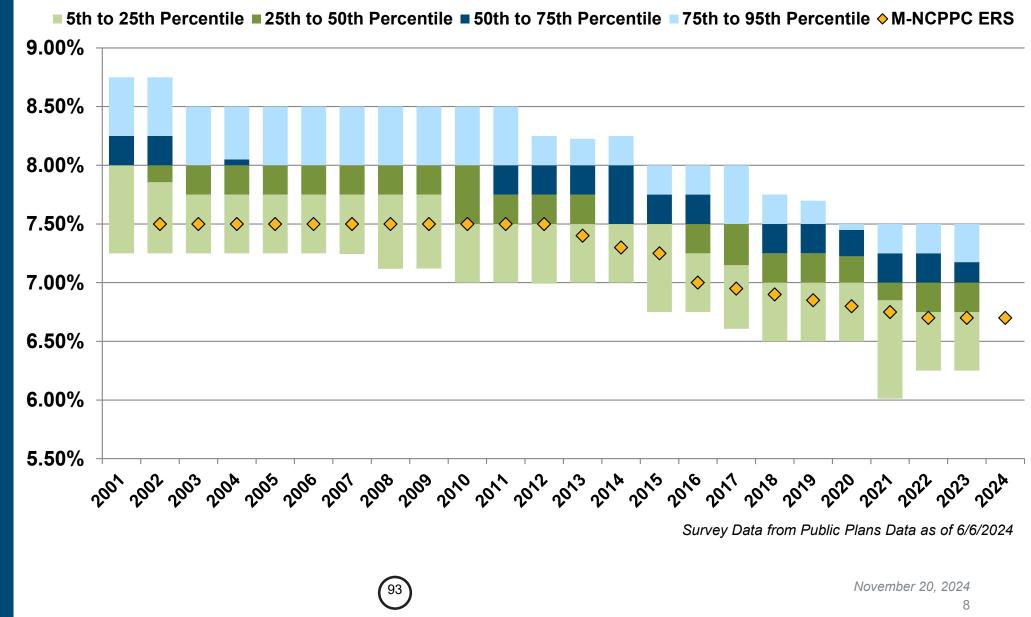
Net Cash Flow as a % of Market Value of Assets as of the end of the year



### Discount Rate

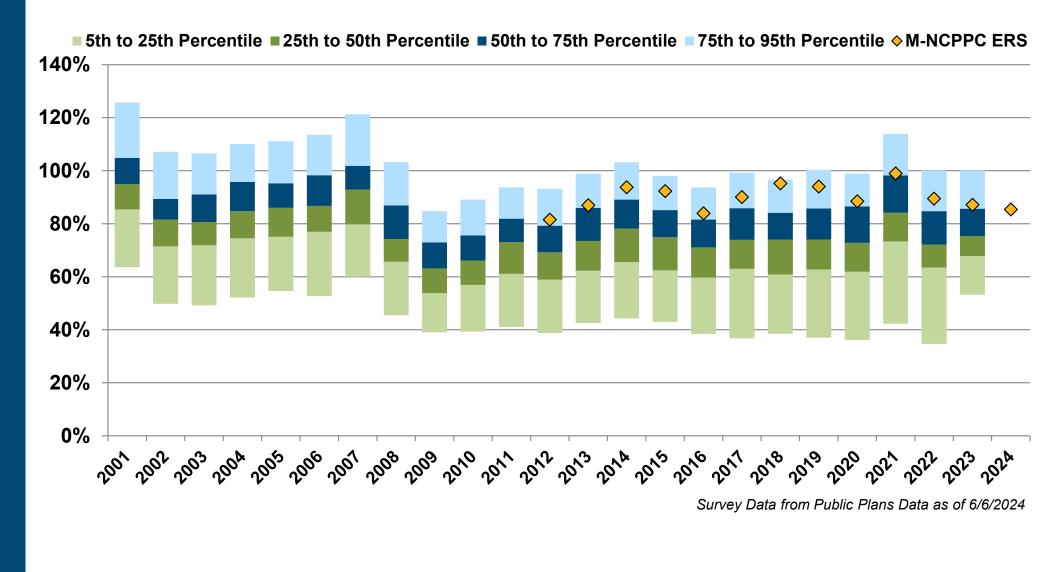
-CHEIRON 🧩

### **Discount Rate**



### MVA Funded Ratio

### **MVA Funded Ratio**





### Assets and Liabilities Comparison

 Market Value of Assets (MVA) returned 6.53% and the Actuarial Value of Assets (AVA) returned 6.42% from June 30, 2023 to June 30, 2024 compared to the assumed rate of 6.70%

- Actuarial loss on investments was \$3.1 million

Actuarial liability loss of \$18.8 million

Assets and Liabilities	As of June 30, 2023	As of June 30, 2024	% Change
Actuarial Liability (AL)	\$ 1,293,753,448	\$ 1,349,938,109	4.34%
Actuarial Value of Assets (AVA)	\$ 1,136,158,437	\$ 1,176,830,678	3.58%
Unfunded Actuarial Liability (UAL)	\$ 157,595,011	\$ 173,107,431	9.85%
Funded Ratio (AVA / AL)	87.82%	87.18%	-0.64%
Market Value of Assets (MVA)	\$ 1,127,163,977	\$ 1,168,470,689	3.66%
Funded Ratio (MVA / AL)	87.12%	86.56%	-0.56%



### Sources of Actuarial Liability (Gain)/Loss

Source	(	Gain) / Loss	% of Liability
New members entering System	\$	1,327,588	0.1%
Salary increases for prior year different than expected		(5,450,520)	-0.4%
Known salary adjustments for upcoming year		8,201,905	0.6%
Status updates		65,691	0.0%
Active member decrements		(393,790)	0.0%
Service Transfers/Purchase		59,634	0.0%
Inactive mortality		(3,069,380)	-0.2%
Retiree COLA more than expected		11,663,865	0.9%
Benefit payments different than expected		(912,910)	-0.1%
Updates due to external audit		4,493,273	0.3%
Miscellaneous and programming changes		2,833,010	0.2%
Total Actuarial Liability (Gain) / Loss	\$	18,818,366	1.4%

(96)



### Contribution Reconciliation

			Exp Liability Exp Assets	Exp Liability ctual Assets	Baseline Liability Actual Assets			Salary Adjustments Actual Assets		
	F	YE 2025						FYE 2026		
AL	\$	1,293.8	\$ 1,331.1	\$ 1,331.1	\$	1,341.7	\$	1,349.9		
AVA		1,136.2	 1,179.9	 1,176.8		1,176.8		1,176.8		
UAL	\$	157.6	\$ 151.2	\$ 154.3	\$	164.9	\$	173.1		
Payroll	\$	198.1	\$ 203.1	\$ 203.1	\$	213.3	\$	213.3		
Gross NC	\$	23.7	\$ 24.5	\$ 24.5	\$	26.2	\$	26.4		
Est Exp		2.6	2.7	2.7		2.7		2.7		
EE Cont		8.9	 9.3	9.3		9.5		<u>9.5</u>		
Net NC	\$	17.4	\$ 17.9	\$ 17.9	\$	19.4	\$	19.6		
UAL Amort	\$	15.9	\$ 15.3	\$ 15.6	\$	16.6	\$	17.5		
ADC BOY	\$	33.3	\$ 33.2	\$ 33.5	\$	36.0	\$	37.1		
% of Pay		16.82%	16.32%	16.47%		16.86%		17.38%		
ADC EOY	\$	35.6	\$ 35.4	\$ 35.7	\$	38.4	\$	39.6		
% of Pay		17.95%	17.41%	17.57%		17.99%		18.54%		

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### Employer Contribution by Plan

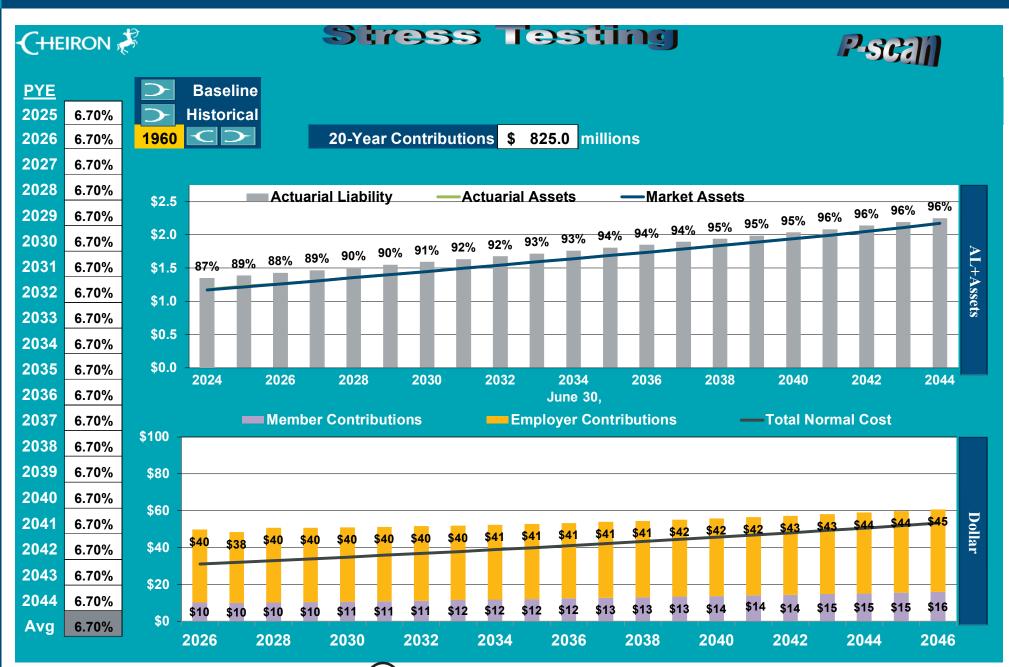
	on-Police Plan A	Police Plan A		Plan B		Plan C		Plan D		Plan E	Total
Active Member Payroll	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$	72,106,930	\$	20,915,206	\$	0	\$	120,261,636	\$ 213,283,772
Normal Costs											
Gross Normal Cost	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$	7,160,157	\$	5,094,271	\$	0	\$	14,178,526	\$ 26,432,954
Estimated Expenses Reduction due to Expected Employee	235,700	5,169		1,735,999		405,674		149,253		168,081	2,699,876
Contributions	0	 0	_	2,765,618	_	1,959,928	_	0	_	4,816,137	9,541,683
Net Employer Normal Cost As a % of Payroll	\$ 235,700 0.00%	\$ 5,169 0.00%	\$	6,130,538 8.50%	\$	3,540,017 16.93%	\$	149,253 0.00%	\$	9,530,470 7.92%	19,591,147 9.19%
Amortization Payment As a % of Payroll	\$ 0 0.00%	\$ 0 0.00%	\$	10,867,668 15.07%	\$	3,461,587 16.55%	\$	0 0.00%	\$	3,147,515 2.62%	\$ 17,476,770 8.19%
Actuarially Determined Employer Contribution payable at Beginning of											
Year	\$ 235,700	\$ 5,169	\$	16,998,206	\$	7,001,604	\$	149,253	\$	12,677,985	\$ 37,067,917
As a % of Payroll	0.00%	0.00%		23.57%		33.48%		0.00%		10.54%	17.38%
Actuarially Determined Employer											
Contribution payable at End of Year As a % of Payroll	\$ <b>251,492</b> 0.00%	\$ <b>5,515</b> 0.00%	\$	<b>18,137,086</b> 25.15%	\$	<b>7,470,711</b> 35.72%	\$	<b>159,253</b> 0.00%	\$	<b>13,527,410</b> 11.25%	\$ <b>39,551,467</b> 18.54%

	С	ontribution for			Contribution
	FY	E June 30, 2026	2	2024 Payroll	as % of Payroll
Non-Police	\$	31,915,988	\$	192,368,566	16.59%
Park Police		7,635,479		20,915,206	36.51%
Total	\$	39,551,467	\$	213,283,772	18.54%



### **Projections**

6.70% Annual Return (Baseline)



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November 20, 2024

### Projected **Cash Flows**

Baseline

10-Year Projection of Employer Costs (dollars in millions)												
Fiscal Year Ending June 30,	١	Normal Cost	A	mortization of UAL		imated penses		erest to I of Year		Total mployer ntribution	Prior Year Payroll	Employer Contribution as % of Payroll
2026	\$	16.89	\$	17.48	\$	2.70	\$	2.48	\$	39.55	\$ 213.28	18.54%
2027		17.28		15.97		2.78		2.41		38.44	218.62	17.58%
2028		17.81		17.23		2.86		2.54		40.44	224.08	18.04%
2029		18.36		16.38		2.94		2.52		40.21	229.68	17.51%
2030		18.92		15.76		3.02		2.53		40.22	235.43	17.08%
2031		19.49		15.11		3.10		2.53		40.23	241.31	16.67%
2032		20.08		14.50		3.18		2.53		40.29	247.34	16.29%
2033		20.67		13.91		3.27		2.54		40.38	253.53	15.93%
2034		21.27		13.34		3.35		2.54		40.51	259.87	15.59%
2035		21.89		12.80		3.44		2.55		40.68	266.36	15.27%
2036		22.52		12.28		3.52		2.57		40.89	273.02	14.98%

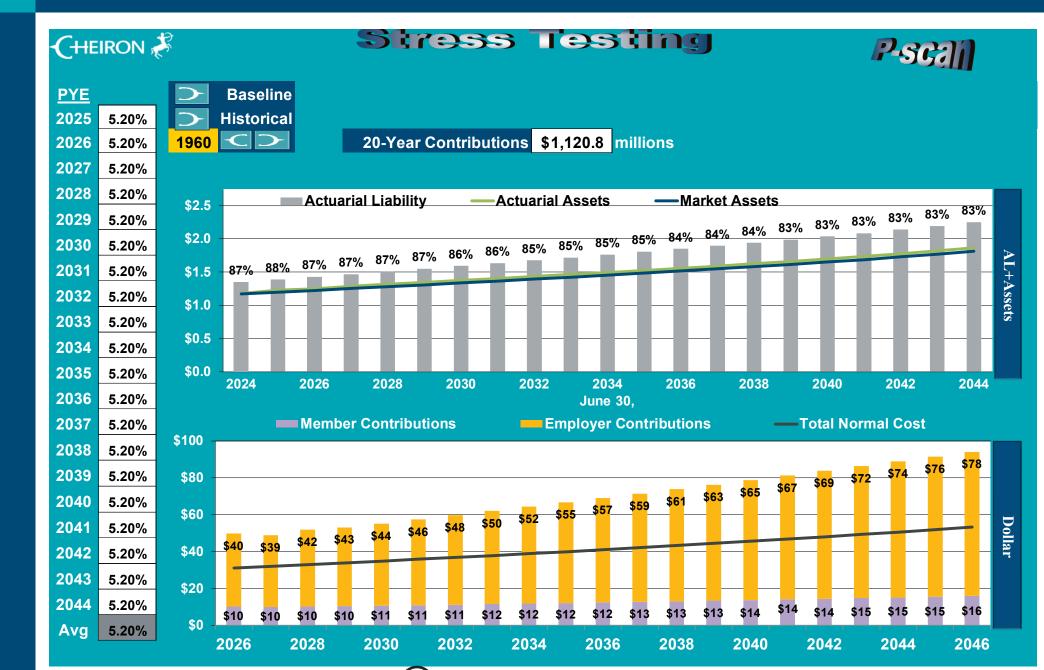
### Assumptions

- Future investment returns of 6.70%
- Total payroll increases 2.50%
- No liability gains or losses



### **Projections**

5.20% Annual Return



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November 20, 2024

### **Projections**

Historical Returns





## Appendix



### Member Counts

	As of	As of	
Member Status	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2024	% Change
Active	2,192	2,349	7.16%
Terminated Vested	233	223	-4.29%
Terminated Non-Vested <sup>1</sup>	622	656	5.47%
Retired, Beneficiaries, and Disabled	1,898	1,935	1.95%
Total	4,945	5,163	4.41%

<sup>1</sup> Members still due a refund of employee contributions



Membership and Liability by Plan





# Change in Liabilities

Source	(Ga	ain) / Loss
Liabilities as of June 30, 2023	\$	1,293,753,448
Change due to:		
Plan Amendments		0
Assumption Changes		0
Actuarial (Gain) / Loss		18,818,366
Benefits Accumulated and Other Sources		37,366,295
Total Liability Increase / (Decrease)		56,184,661
Liabilities as of June 30, 2024	\$	1,349,938,109

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The purpose of this presentation is to present the actuarial valuation results for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Employees' Retirement System (System). This presentation is for the use of the Board and System staff.

In preparing our presentation, we relied on information, some oral and some written, supplied by the System. This information includes, but is not limited to, the plan provisions, employee data, and financial information. We performed an informal examination of the obvious characteristics of the data for reasonableness and consistency in accordance with Actuarial Standard of Practice No. 23.

The actuarial assumptions and methods are outlined in the draft Actuarial Valuation Report as of June 30, 2024. The census data provided to us by the System was as of June 30, 2024.

The assumptions reflect our understanding of the likely future experience of the System, and the assumptions as a whole represent our best estimate for the future experience of the System. The results of this presentation are dependent upon future experience conforming to these assumptions. To the extent that future experience deviates from the actuarial assumptions, the true cost of the System could vary from our results.

Cheiron utilizes and relies upon ProVal, an actuarial valuation software leased from Winklevoss Technologies for the intended purpose of calculating liabilities and projected benefit payments. Projected expected results of future valuations in this presentation were developed using P-scan, our proprietary tool for the intended purpose of developing projections. As part of the review process for this presentation, we have performed a number of tests to verify that the results are reasonable and appropriate. We are not aware of any material inconsistencies, unreasonable output resulting from the aggregation of assumptions, material limitations or known weaknesses that would affect this presentation.

This presentation and its contents have been prepared in accordance with generally recognized and accepted actuarial principles and our understanding of the Code of Professional Conduct and applicable Actuarial Standards of Practice set out by the Actuarial Standards Board as well as other applicable laws and regulations. Furthermore, as credentialed actuaries, we meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the opinion contained in this presentation. This presentation does not address any contractual or legal issues. We are not attorneys, and our firm does not provide any legal services or advice.

This presentation was prepared exclusively for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Employee's Retirement System for the purpose described herein. Other users of this presentation are not intended users as defined in the Actuarial Standards of Practice, and Cheiron assumes no duty or liability to such other users.

Janet Cranna, FSA, FCA, EA, MAAA Principal Consulting Actuary Patrick Nelson, FSA, CERA, EA, MAAA Consulting Actuary Jana Bowers, FSA, MAAA Associate Actuary







Classic Values, Innovative Advice

# Contact us if you have any questions

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Patrick Nelson, FSA, CERA, EA, MAAA tel: 703.893.1456 (ext. 1038) pnelson@cheiron.us



#### **M-NCPPC RESOLUTION NO. 24-23**

## RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE AN EMPLOYER RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$39,551,467 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026

WHEREAS, The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (the "Commission") as Plan Sponsor entered into a Pension Trust Agreement as of July 26, 1972 and amended on June 13, 1979 ("the Agreement") with the Employees' Retirement System of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission ("ERS" or the "Plan"); and

**WHEREAS,** the "FIRST" section of the Agreement states that the Board of Trustees shall be responsible for the collection of contributions to the Plan; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.3(g) of the ERS Plan Document states that the Board of Trustees shall recommend to the Commission the contributions to be made by the Commission under the provisions of the Retirement System; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees engaged Cheiron ("the Actuary") to prepare an ERS Actuarial Valuation as of June 30, 2024; and

**WHEREAS,** the ERS Actuarial Valuation as of June 30, 2024 projected a Fiscal Year 2026 Plan Sponsor contribution in the amount of \$39,551,467.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Commission as Plan Sponsor approves a \$39,551,467 payment to the ERS Trust Fund; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission does hereby authorize the Executive Director, and other officers, to take action as may be necessary to implement this resolution.

APPROVED FOR LEGAL SUFFICIENCY: /s/ *Michael W. Aniton* Deputy General Counsel Office of the General Counsel M-NCPPC November 6, 2024

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The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission 6611 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 302 Riverdale, Maryland 20737 (301) 454-1592 – Telephone Email: 115trust@mncppc.org

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Commissioners

Date: November 20, 2024

FROM: Gavin Cohen, Secretary-Treasurer

SUBJECT: Recommendation to Approve the FY2026 Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust - Employer Contribution for Retiree Group Health Insurance for \$7,377,000

#### **RECOMMENDATION/ACTION:**

Staff recommends that the Commissioners:

- 1. Approve the Actuarial Valuation Report as presented by Bolton Partners, Inc. that sets the Actuarial Determined Contribution (ADC) for Fiscal Year 2026 and;
- 2. Approve the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (Plan Sponsor), Resolution #24-24 for the Fiscal Year 2026 Employer Contribution for Retiree Group Health Insurance payment of <u>\$7,377,000</u> to the Section 115 Trust Fund.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Commission currently maintains the Post-Retirement Insurance Benefits Program (Trust) to provide health insurance benefits for qualified Commission retirees. The Commission pre-funds these benefits through an IRS Section 115 Trust which is managed by a separate Board of Trustees consisting of : one Trustee from the Montgomery County Planning Board, one Trustee from the Prince George's County Planning Board, the Executive Director, Human Resources Director, and the Secretary-Treasurer. The Commission's Corporate Treasury and Investment Manager is appointed as Trust Administrator.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

Each year, the Trustees have an independent actuarial valuation performed to determine the funding requirements of the OPEB (115) Trust. The Trust contracted with Bolton Partners, Inc. to provide the actuary services. The actuarial valuation is designed to measure the current and future cost of retiree health benefits. The actuary recommends an Employer Contribution to ensure sufficient assets are available to pay future benefits.

The primary purpose of the valuation report is to provide a picture of how the Trust is performing and to establish the employer contribution for the upcoming fiscal year. The Trust is pre-funded which means that money is set aside annually as recommended by the actuary to pay for future benefits. The results of the Actuarial Report were presented to the Trustees on October 23, 2024, by Tom Vicente, Timothy Barry, and Rebecca Trauger of Bolton Partners, Inc.



The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission 6611 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 302 Riverdale, Maryland 20737 (301) 454-1592 – Telephone Email: 115trust@mncppc.org

*Two Key financial indicators reflected in the valuation report were as follows:* 

- 1. Funded status on July 1, 2025, is 32.4% with an upward projected trend.
- 2. <u>Employer Contribution for July 1, 2025 is \$7,377,000</u> (decrease from previous fiscal year amount of \$9,006,000 on July 1, 2024).

At its October 23, 2024, meeting, the M-NCPPC Post Retirement Benefits (115) Trust Board made a motion and approval to recommend the Commission adopt a resolution for the FY26 Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Employer Contribution of \$7,377,000.

#### <u>Attachment(s):</u>

M-NCPPC Other Post-Employment Benefits Actuarial Valuation Report as of July 1, 2026

M-NCPPC Resolution #24-24 Approval of Fiscal Year 2026 Employer Contribution for Retiree Group Health Insurance

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION



#### **M-NCPPC RESOLUTION NO. 24-24**

#### APPROVAL OF FISCAL YEAR 2026 EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION FOR RETIREE GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE

**WHEREAS**, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (the "Commission") as "Plan Sponsor" entered into an Amended and Restated Post-Retirement Insurance Benefits Program Trust Agreement as of July 1, 2007 ("the Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, Section 1.1 of the Agreement states that the Plan Sponsor shall contribute such amounts as it deems necessary, in its sole discretion, from time to time, to meet its benefit obligations under the Group Health Insurance Plan ("Plan"). Contributions shall be made to the Trust Fund ("Section 115 Trust Fund") on a periodic basis or in a lump-sum in the discretion of the Plan Sponsor. The Plan Sponsor shall not be required to make contributions unless (and only to the extent) it has obligated itself to do so by resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, although the Commission expects to continue the Group Health Insurance Plan (the "Plan"), it is the Commission's position that there is no implied contract between employees and the Commission to do so and that the creation of a retiree health benefit was not the product of collective bargaining negotiations. Therefore, the Commission reserves the right at any time and for any reason to amend or terminate the Plan, subject to the needs of the Commission and subject to any applicable collective bargaining; and

**WHEREAS**, the Plan Sponsor engaged Bolton Partners, Inc. ("the Actuary") to prepare a Retiree Healthcare Programs Actuarial Valuation as of July 1, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, after consideration of the Retiree Healthcare Programs Actuarial Valuation as of July 1, 2024, projected a Fiscal Year 2026 Plan Sponsor contribution consisting of \$7,377,000 for prefunding the Section 115 Trust Fund; and

**WHEREAS**, funding of the current portion will come from the Commission and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission Employees' Retirement System (for its retirees) in the amounts of \$7,347,300 and \$29,700, respectively.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Commission as Plan Sponsor approves a \$7,377,000 payment to the Section 115 Trust Fund: and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission does hereby authorize the Executive Director and other officers to take action as may be necessary to implement this resolution.

APPROVED FOR LEGAL SUFFICIENCY: /s/ *Wichael W. Aniton* Deputy General Counsel Office of the General Counsel M-NCPPC November 1, 2024



## The Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission

#### **Other Post-Employment Benefits**

Actuarial Valuation as of July 1, 2024 to Determine the Commission's FYE 2026 Contribution

## Bolton

Submitted by:

**Tom Vicente, FSA, MAAA, EA** Senior Consulting Actuary (443) 573-3918 tvicente@boltonusa.com **Timothy Barry, ASA, MAAA** Actuary (667) 218-6926 tbarry@boltonusa.com



October 2, 2024

Abbey Rodman Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission 6611 Kenilworth Ave. Riverdale, MD 20737

Dear Abbey:

The following sets forth the Actuarial Determined Contribution (ADC) for the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) for FYE 2026. Section I of the report provides a high-level summary of the valuation while Sections II through VI contain the development of the Commission's contribution for FYE 2026 along with a summary of the census data, plan provisions, and actuarial assumptions and methods used in the valuation. Section VII provides a glossary of many of the terms used in this report, and the appendix provides a 10-year cash flow projection.

#### Methodology, Reliance, and Certification

This report has been prepared for the M-NCPPC for the purposes of determining the FYE 2026 ADC. It is neither intended nor necessarily suitable for other purposes. Bolton is not responsible for the consequences of any other use, or its reliance by another party.

As requested by M-NCPPC, we are also including a budget forecast that projects the ADC and estimated contribution requirement for M-NCPPC over the next five years. For the budget forecast, it is assumed that the discount rate and expected investment rate of return will remain 6.70% after FY2026.

M-NCPPC is responsible for selecting the plan's funding policy and assumptions. For certain demographic assumptions (retirement, termination, disability, and salary scale), we relied upon the assumptions developed for the Commission's pension valuation. The policies, methods and assumptions used in this valuation are found in Section VI. M-NCPPC is solely responsible for communicating to Bolton Partners, Inc. any changes required thereto. The actuarial methods and assumptions used in this report comply with ASOP 6 and the actuarial standards of practice promulgated by the American Academy of Actuaries.

Future medical care cost increase rates are unpredictable and could be volatile. They will depend upon the economy, future health care delivery systems and emerging technologies. The trend rate selected is based on an economic model developed by a health care economist for the Society of Actuaries. Future medical trend increases could vary significantly from the model. Model inputs will be updated periodically based on the best estimate of the economy at that time. Small changes in the model inputs can result in large actuarial gains or losses. The sensitivity of results to a one percent increase in the current trend assumption is shown in the report. Abbey Rodman October 2, 2024 Page ii

#### Methodology, Reliance, and Certification

This report is based on assets, plan provisions, census data, and claims information submitted by the M-NCPPC and their providers. We have not performed an audit of the data and have relied on this information for purposes of preparing this report. The accuracy of the results presented in this report is dependent upon the accuracy and completeness of the underlying information. The plan sponsor is solely responsible for the validity and completeness of this information.

We make every effort to ensure that our calculations are accurately performed. However, given the complexity of these calculations, there may be errors. We reserve the right to correct any potential errors by amending the results of this report or by including the corrections in a future valuation report.

The report is conditioned on the assumption of an ongoing plan and is not meant to present the actuarial position of the plan in the case of plan termination. Future actuarial measurements may differ significantly from the current measurements presented in this report due to such factors as the following: retiree group benefits program experience differing from that anticipated by the assumptions; changes in assumptions; increases or decreases expected as part of the natural operation of the methodology used for these measurements (such as the end of an amortization period); and changes in retiree group benefits program provisions or applicable law. Retiree group benefits models necessarily rely on the use of approximations and estimates and are sensitive to changes in these approximations and estimates. Small variations in these approximations and estimates may lead to significant changes in actuarial measurements. Due to the limited scope of our assignment, we did not perform an analysis of the potential range of future measurements.

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted many aspects of OPEB valuations, including increasing mortality rates, fluctuating medical plan costs, creating supply shortages which increased inflation, and causing new trends in turnover and retirement rates. The impact of this pandemic through the valuation date is already reflected in the census data and premium rates provided. However, since OPEB valuations are long-term estimates of future costs, we (along with the entire actuarial profession) are closely monitoring experience of all assumptions to determine what the long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic will be. Given the current levels of uncertainty, we have not made any changes to the assumptions to account for any potential long-term impacts but will continue to monitor emerging experience and make changes as necessary.

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which was signed into law in August 2022, is expected to make numerous changes to prescription drug costs for Medicare enrollees and plan sponsors, including capping member out of pocket spending and other plan design changes beginning in 2025 and requiring the federal government to negotiate drug prices for certain high-cost drugs starting in 2026. The expected impact of these changes has been reflected in the trend assumption used for Rx costs for Medicare-eligible participants. Further detail on how this was done can be found in Section VI.

The valuation was completed using both proprietary and third-party models (including software and tools). We have tested these models to ensure they are used for their intended purposes, within their known limitations, and without any known material inconsistencies unless otherwise stated.



Abbey Rodman October 2, 2024 Page iii

#### Methodology, Reliance, and Certification

Bolton Partners is completely independent of the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission, its programs, activities, officers, and key personnel. Bolton Partners, and anyone closely associated with us, does not have any relationship which would impair or appear to impair our independence on this assignment.

Bolton Partners, Inc. ("Bolton") does not practice law and, therefore, cannot and does not provide legal advice. Any statutory interpretation on which this report is based reflects Bolton's understanding as an actuarial firm. Bolton recommends that recipients of this report consult with legal counsel when making any decisions regarding compliance with ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code, or any other statute or regulation.

The undersigned credentialed actuaries are Members of the American Academy of Actuaries and meet the Qualification Standards of the American Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinion contained in this report.

Respectfully submitted,

hours Vicente

BoltonUSA.com

Tom Vicente, FSA, MAAA, EA Senior Consulting Actuary

Timothy Barry, ASA, MAAA Actuary





## Table of Contents

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Appendix I. 10 Year Cash Flow Projections	



#### Background

Bolton Partners, Inc. has prepared the following report that sets forth the FYE 2026 Actuarial Determined Contribution (ADC) for the M-NCPPC. The accounting results under GASB 75 were disclosed in a separate report.

This report has been prepared for budgeting purposes. M-NCPPC contributes to the Trust based on an Actuarial Determined Contribution (ADC). The Commission has elected to determine the ADC using the same method as used to determine the ARC under GASB 45.

#### **OPEB Trust Arrangement and Funding Policy**

M-NCPPC has established an irrevocable Trust for its OPEB plan. The market value of the assets in the Trust as of June 30, 2024 is \$170,567,080 as reported by M-NCPPC. Pay-go benefits are paid from general revenue. M-NCPPC's contribution policy is to contribute the ADC minus expected benefit payments and federal reimbursements paid annually to the Trust.

#### Implications of the Sponsor's Funding Policy

We anticipate the Plan's funded status will gradually improve as M-NCPPC continues to contribute the ADC to its OPEB Trust annually. We anticipate the expected benefit payments will increase 79% over the next ten years (please refer to the Appendix for the expected benefit payment stream).

Significant assumptions used in the assessment are:

- No future changes to plan provisions, assumptions or methods;
- No significant demographic changes in the future;
- Investment returns and claims experience are consistent with the assumptions.

The funded status shown in this report is not appropriate for assessing the sufficiency of plan assets to cover the estimated cost of settling the plan's benefit obligations.

The funded status is appropriate for assessing the need for or the amount of future actuarially determined contributions.

#### Actuarially Determined Contribution

The Actuarially Determined Contribution is equal to the Normal Cost plus an amortization of the unfunded liability. The amortization period was initially set up as a closed 30-year period (22 years remaining as of FY2025), and was reset to 25 years for FY2025. There are 24 years remaining as of FY2026. The unfunded liability is amortized on a level percentage of payroll basis, with payroll assumed to increase 3.0% per year.



#### **Comparison with Previous Valuation**

The gross Actuarially Determined Contribution (ADC) and the Net Trust Contribution (after accounting for Pay-Go and Federal Subsidies) decreased from the previous valuation. The ADC decreased from \$39.4M for FYE 2025 to \$37.8M for FYE 2026, and the Net Trust Contribution decreased from \$9.0M to \$7.4M. These decreases were primarily due to favorable claims and investment experience. Unfavorable demographic experience and updating the healthcare cost trend assumption partially offset these contribution reductions. Below is a chart reconciling the ADC and Net Trust Contribution from FYE 2025 to FYE 2026. Amounts are rounded to the nearest thousand.

Comparison of Current and Previous Valuations		
Data as of	July 1, 2023	July 1, 2024
Data is used to calculate ADC for FYE	2025	2026
Census Data – Participants with Medical and/or Rx coverage <sup>1</sup>		
Active Employees <sup>2</sup>	1,867	1,979
Retirees	1,360	1,400
Dependents of Retirees <sup>3</sup>	<u>672</u>	<u>672</u>
Total	3,899	4,051
Census Data – Participants with any Benefit (medical, Rx, dental, and/or vision)		
Active Employees <sup>2</sup>	1,943	2,064
Retirees	1,467	1,507
Dependents of Retirees <sup>3</sup>	<u>742</u>	<u>742</u>
Total	4,152	4,313
		Net Trust
Reconciliation	Gross ADC	Contribution
FYE 2025 ADC (Previous Valuation)	\$39,358,000	\$9,006,000
Increase/(Decrease) due to the Passage of Time	1,009,000	(1,326,000)
Increase/(Decrease) due to Higher-than-Expected FY2024 Federal Reimbursements	0	(148,000)
Increase/(Decrease) due to Less-than-Expected FY2024 Net Contribution	199,000	199,000
Increase/(Decrease) due to FY2024 Investment Experience	(594,000)	(594,000)
Increase/(Decrease) due to Demographic Experience	1,300,000	1,216,000
Increase/(Decrease) due to Claims Experience	(7,238,000)	(3,220,000)
Increase/(Decrease) due to Updating the Healthcare Cost Trend Assumption <sup>4</sup>	3,716,000	2,244,000
FYE 2026 ADC (Current Valuation)	\$37,750,000	\$7,377,000

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As of July 1, 2023, only participants with medical and/or Rx coverage are included in the valuation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Active employee counts include participants on leave or long-term disability.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As of July 1, 2023, 10% of pre-Medicare retirees covering a dependent are assumed to be covering a child rather than a spouse. Therefore, the number of dependents included in the valuation as of July 1, 2024 is estimated to be ~649, since dependent children are not explicitly valued.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Includes reflecting the expected impact of the IRA on future Medicare Rx costs.

#### **Funding Measures**

Below is a summary of the Market Value of Assets and Liabilities for FYE 2026:

Funding Measures	July 1, 2025
(1) Actuarial Accrued Liability	\$ 591,724,000
(2) Expected Market Value of Assets	\$ 191,604,000
(3) Funded Ratio (2 / 1)	32.38%

#### **Plan Provisions**

Retirees and beneficiaries of the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) who had health, prescription drug, dental, and/or vision coverage as active employees are eligible for coverage if they retire from active service after:

- Attaining eligibility to retire directly from active service and are receiving retirement benefits from retirement programs sponsored by M-NCPPC, including the M-NCPPC Employees' Retirement System (ERS), and
- Having maintained coverage continuously for the 36-month period immediately prior to retirement with the Commission's Plan or another employer plan.

The subsidy for employees depends on job category, date of hire, and health coverage. Please see Section IV for more details.

#### **Census Data**

Census data as of July 1, 2024 was provided to us by M-NCPPC. This data included current medical coverage for current employees and retirees.

Although we have not audited this data, we have no reason to believe that it is inaccurate.

#### **Cost Information**

The per capita claims costs are based on monthly paid claims and enrollment information for retirees through June 30, 2024. Claims were split by benefit and provided separately for pre-Medicare and Medicare retirees. Although we have not audited the claims data, we have no reason to believe that it is inaccurate.

The published insurance rates for persons prior to Medicare eligibility are based on a blend of active and pre-Medicare retiree experience, and because there are significantly more active employees, the rates are primarily based on their healthcare usage. However, because retirees tend to use healthcare at a higher rate than active employees, using these blended rates creates an implicit subsidy for the retiree group. Actuarial Standards of Practice (ASOP) 6 and GASB 74/75 require that the cost assumption we use for this valuation be based on the retiree cost. Therefore, we have relied on the claims and enrollment information for retirees only when setting the per capita claims costs for the non-Medicare eligible retirees, rather than relying on the premiums, which are a blend of active and retiree experience, or the claims and enrollment data for active employees. The liabilities could be reduced by publishing rates for retirees prior to Medicare eligibility that more closely reflect the true cost of healthcare for each group.



#### **Demographic Assumptions**

Demographic assumptions (retirement, termination, disability, and salary scale) are based on an experience study performed for the M-NCPPC Employees' Retirement System by Cheiron in 2021. The mortality assumption is based on the SOA Pub 2010 headcount-weighted mortality tables, projected using mortality improvement scale MP-2021. The election rate and spousal coverage assumptions are based on the experience studies performed by Bolton in 2022 and 2023.

Additional information regarding these assumptions is provided in Section VI.

#### **Economic Assumptions**

The results are presented based on an expected rate of return assumptions of 6.70%. For the budget forecast, it is assumed that the discount rate and expected investment rate of return will remain at 6.70%.

The healthcare cost trend assumption was developed using the 2024 version of the Society of Actuaries (SOA) Getzen Long-Term Healthcare Cost Trend Model with baseline assumptions. This model was designed to estimate the trend after 2025. The baseline trend rate was set to 7.5% for 2024 and 7.0% for 2025. This rate is greater than the past valuation due to recent inflation, which we estimate will result in higher medical costs as providers renew their contracts. These baseline trend rates were adjusted to account for the potential impact of the Inflation Reduction Act when projecting the Rx costs for Medicare-eligible participants. The trend for pre-Medicare costs as well as for medical costs for Medicare-eligible participants is expected to be 7.50% in 2024, 7.00% in 2025, and 6.20% in 2026, decreasing to 5.29% by 2030 and 4.54% by 2050, ultimately leveling off at 4.04% in 2075. The trend for Rx costs for Medicare-eligible participants is expected to be 23.63% in 2024, 5.39% in 2025, and 4.93% in 2026, decreasing to 4.66% by 2030 and 4.33% by 2050, ultimately leveling off at 3.83% in 2075.

The SOA Long-Run Medical Cost Trend Model is based on an econometric analysis of historical U.S. medical expenditures and the judgments of experts in the field. The long-run baseline projection, tolerance ranges and input variables have been developed under the guidance of an SOA Project Oversight Group.

Payroll is assumed to increase at 3.00% per annum based on the Commission's ERS wage inflation assumption. This assumption is used to determine the level percentage of payroll amortization factor.



## Section II. Actuarially Determined Contribution

#### FYE 2026 Actuarially Determined Contribution

Below is a summary of the calculations of the Plan's Actuarially Determined Contributions (ADC) based on current plan provisions. Item (8) shows the impact of a 1% increase in trend on the ADC. Results are rounded to the nearest thousand.

		FYE 2026
(1) Interest Rate		6.70%
(2) Accrued Liability		
(a) Active Employees	\$	240,075,000
(b) Deferred Vested Terminations		0
(c) Retirees and Spouses	<u>\$</u>	351,649,000
(d) Total (a + b + c)	\$	
(3) Estimated Assets	\$	191,604,000
(4) Unfunded Accrued Liability (2. – 3.)	\$	400,120,000
(5) ERI Amortizations		
(a) ERI Remaining Years		0
(b) ERI Amount Remaining		\$ 0
(c) ERI Amortization Factor		N/A
(d) ERI Amortization Amount (b / c)		\$ N/A
(6) Gain/Loss Amortizations		
(a) G/L Remaining Years		24
(b) G/L Amount Remaining	\$	400,120,000
(c) G/L Amortization Factor		16.4752
(d) G/L Amortization Amount (b / c)	\$	24,286,000
(7) Actuarial Determined Contribution	•	
(a) Normal Cost	\$	13,464,000
(b) Amortization of Unfunded Accrued Liability	\$	24,286,000
(c) Total Actuarial Determined Contribution (a + b)	\$	37,750,000
(8) 1% Sensitivity (ADC)	\$	47,614,000
(9) Expected Employer Contributions		
(a) Estimated Implicit Subsidy	\$	7,121,000
(b) Expected Explicit Subsidy	\$ \$	19,487,000
(c) Federal Subsidy*	\$	3,765,000
(d) Additional Employer Contributions	\$	7,377,000
(e) Total Expected Contributions (a + b + c + d)	\$	37,750,000

\* The expected reimbursements are not reflected in the per capita cost development

## Section III. Plan Projections

#### Projection of ADC through FY2030

Below is a summary of the Plan's projected ADC for the next 5 years, assuming a 6.70% expected rate of return and discount rate for FY2026. The projection assumes M-NCPPC contributes the ADC to the Trust each year and that the expected rate of return assumption will remain at 6.70%.

	07/01/2024	07/01/2025	07/01/2026	07/01/2027	07/01/2028	07/01/2029
	- 06/30/2025	- 06/30/2026	- 06/30/2027	- 06/30/2028	- 06/30/2029	- 06/30/2030
Assumptions:						
Trust Investment Return	6.70%	6.70%	6.70%	6.70%	6.70%	6.70%
Discount Rate	6.70%	6.70%	6.70%	6.70%	6.70%	6.70%
Payroll Growth Rate	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%
Normal Cost Increase	3.78%	4.04%	6.20%	5.60%	5.50%	5.39%
ERI Remaining Amortization	1	-	-	-	-	-
# Years to Amortize	25	24	23	22	21	20
Unfunded Accrued Liability:						
EAN Liability BOY	601,553,000	591,724,000	618,236,000	645,335,000	673,238,000	702,147,000
Estimated Assets BOY	164,479,000	<u>191,604,000</u>	<u>212,312,000</u>	234,256,000	<u>257,749,000</u>	<u>283,097,000</u>
Unfunded EAN Liability	437,074,000	400,120,000	405,924,000	411,079,000	415,489,000	419,050,000
Percent Funded	27%	32%	34%	36%	38%	40%
<b>BOY ADC (Actuarially Determined Contributio</b>	n):					
Normal Cost	12,997,000	13,464,000	14,299,000	15,100,000	15,931,000	16,790,000
Amortization	<u>26,361,000</u>	24,286,000	<u>25,321,000</u>	26,400,000	27,526,000	<u>28,700,000</u>
Total (ADC)	39,358,000	37,750,000	39,620,000	41,500,000	43,457,000	45,490,000
Expected Employer Contributions:						
Implicit Subsidy	8,699,000	7,121,000	7,722,000	8,311,000	8,813,000	9,385,000
Federal Subsidies	3,467,000	3,765,000	3,765,000	3,765,000	3,765,000	3,765,000
Net Explicit Subsidy	18,186,000	19,487,000	20,899,000	22,116,000	23,307,000	24,531,000
Additional Contribution	9,006,000	7,377,000	7,234,000	7,308,000	7,572,000	7,809,000
Total Contribution	39,358,000	37,750,000	39,620,000	41,500,000	43,457,000	45,490,000
Trust Assets:						
Beginning of Year Amount *	170,567,000	191,604,000	212,312,000	234,256,000	257,749,000	283,097,000
Return on Investments	11,428,000	12,837,000	14,225,000	15,695,000	17,269,000	18,967,000
BOY Contributions**	9,006,000	7,377,000	7,234,000	7,308,000	7,572,000	7,809,000
Return on Contributions	603,000	494,000	485,000	490,000	507,000	523,000
End of Year Amount	191,604,000	212,312,000	234,256,000	257,749,000	283,097,000	310,396,000
Benefit Payments	26,885,000	26,608,000	28,621,000	30,427,000	32,120,000	33,916,000
Benefit Payment as percent of Total Contribution	68%	70%	72%	73%	74%	75%

\* FYE 2025 Beginning of Year amount updated to actual assets.

\*\* The FYE 2025 contribution is based on the previous valuation (report issued November 10, 2023). The FYE 2026 contribution is based on the current valuation (please refer to page 5). All contributions are assumed to be made at the beginning of the fiscal year.





## Section IV. Summary of Principal Plan Provisions

The following summary describes principal plan provisions assumed in calculating the cost of the OPEB Plan.

#### **General Eligibility Rules**

Retirees and beneficiaries of the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) who had medical, prescription drug, dental, and/or vision coverage as active employees are eligible for coverage if they retire from active service after:

- Attaining eligibility to retire directly from active service and are receiving retirement benefits from retirement programs sponsored by M-NCPPC, including the M-NCPPC Employees' Retirement System (ERS), and
- Having maintained coverage continuously for the 36-month period immediately prior to retirement with the Commission's Plan or another employer plan.

Dependents that are not eligible for coverage at the time of retirement cannot be added at a later date.

#### **Retirement Eligibility**

The retirement eligibility requirements of M-NCPPC depend upon job category and date of hire as summarized below:

#### Plan B (General Employees hired before January 1, 2013)

- Age 60 with 5 years of service
- 30 years of service
- Age 55 with 15 years of service (early retirement)
- 25 years of service (early retirement)

#### Plan C (Police Employees)

- Age 55 with 5 years of service
- 25 years of service
- 20 years of service (early retirement)

#### Plan E (General Employees on or after January 1, 2013)

- Age 62 with 10 years of service
- 30 years of service
- Age 57 with 15 years of service (early retirement)
- 25 years of service (early retirement)

#### **Disability Retirement**

No disability retirement benefit is provided.



## Section IV. Summary of Principal Plan Provisions

#### General Eligibility Rules (continued)

#### **Death Benefits**

Members who meet the eligibility requirements for normal or early retirement at time of death are eligible for lifetime coverage for their surviving spouse. Spouses may continue coverage in an M-NCPPC retiree healthcare plan and receive the same subsidy as the member. Benefits end if the survivor remarries.

Surviving spouses of members who did not meet the eligibility requirements for normal or early retirement at time of death receive:

- 6 months of medical and prescription drug coverage under the plan at no cost; M-NCPPC will pay 100% of the medical and Rx premium cost of benefits already elected. Survivors are required to pay the applicable premium co-pay for vision and dental coverage if previously enrolled in those plans.
- 18 months of coverage paid at the same cost sharing percentage with M-NCPPC as active employees.
- 12 months of COBRA coverage at the normal federally allowed percentage.

#### **Benefits Offered**

M-NCPPC offers 3 medical plans for pre-Medicare retirees: a Kaiser HMO, UHC POS, and UHC EPO. Medicare eligible retirees can also choose between 3 plans: the UHC EPO, UHC Medicare complement plan, and the Kaiser HMO plan. A summary of the premium rates for retirees is provided below:

Monthly Premium Rates					
Plan	Single	Two Person	Family		
Pre-Medicare Plans					
Kaiser HMO (includes Rx)	\$589.95	\$1,179.89	\$1,769.84		
UHC Choice Plus POS (medical only)	\$822.79	\$1,645.58	\$2,468.37		
UHC Select EPO (medical only)	\$697.70	\$1,395.40	\$2,093.10		
Caremark Prescription Drug (Rx only)	\$270.11	\$540.22	\$810.33		
Medicare Plans					
Kaiser HMO (includes Rx)	\$295.04	\$590.09	\$885.13		
UHC EPO Medicare (medical only)	\$441.35	\$882.70	\$1,324.05		
UHC Medicare Complement (medical only)	\$299.04	\$598.08	\$897.12		
Caremark Prescription Drug (Rx only)	\$270.11	\$540.22	\$810.33		
Dental & Vision Plans					
Delta Dental PPO	\$34.53	\$69.22	\$128.01		
Delta Dental HMO	\$18.59	\$36.15	\$52.38		
Vision Service Plan - Low	\$3.75	\$7.55	\$11.30		
Vision Service Plan - Medium	\$6.50	\$13.03	\$19.55		
Vision Service Plan – High	\$11.31	\$22.64	\$34.20		



## Section IV. Summary of Principal Plan Provisions

#### **Coordination with Medicare**

All Medicare eligible retirees, surviving spouses, disability recipients, and all eligible dependents are required to enroll in Medicare Parts A and B in order to continue to be eligible for insurance coverage under the plan. The amount payable under the M-NCPPC health plan will be reduced by the amount payable under for those expenses that are covered by both.

Medicare eligible participants are required to choose between enrolling in the Federal Part D prescription drug plan and the M-NCPPC plan. Participants enrolled in both will be required to disenroll from the M-NCPPC plan.

#### **Employer Subsidy**

The subsidy for employees depends on job category, date of hire, and health coverage as follows:

- General Employees hired before January 1, 2013 receive an 80% subsidy from M-NCPPC
- Police Employees hired before January 1, 2014 receive a 78% subsidy from M-NCPPC
- General Employees hired on or after January 1, 2013 and Police Employees hired on or after January 1, 2014 receive a subsidy based on years of service as follows:

Years of	General	Police
Service	Employees	Employees
10	50.00%	50.00%
11	51.50%	52.33%
12	53.00%	54.67%
13	54.50%	57.00%
14	56.00%	59.33%
15	57.50%	61.67%
16	59.00%	64.00%
17	60.50%	66.33%
18	62.00%	68.67%
19	63.50%	71.00%
20	65.00%	73.33%
21	66.50%	75.67%
22	68.00%	78.00%
23	69.50%	78.00%
24	72.00%	78.00%
25+	75.00%	78.00%

• All participants receive an 80% employer subsidy for dental and M-NCPPC subsidizes 80% of the premium rate for the lowest cost vision plan

Changes in Plan Provisions Since Prior Valuation None.

## Section V. Valuation Data

#### Comparison of Current and Prior Data

The following table compares the census data used in the current and prior valuations.

	July 1, 2023	July 1, 2024
Number of Participants <sup>1</sup>		
Active Employees <sup>2</sup>	1,867	1,979
Retirees	1,360	1,400
Dependents of Retirees <sup>3</sup>	672	672
Total	3,899	4,051
Active Statistics		
Average Age	47.1	47.0
Average Service	12.7	12.3
Retiree Statistics		
Average Age (Pre-Medicare)	60.2	60.4
Average Age (Medicare Age)	74.8	75.1

#### Active Age - Service Distribution

Shown below is a distribution by age and service as of July 1, 2024 for all active employees enrolled in medical coverage.

					Years of	Service				
Age	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35+	Total
<25	4	15	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
25 – 29	24	53	46	11	0	0	0	0	0	134
30 – 34	27	81	75	48	7	0	0	0	0	238
35 – 39	29	62	71	41	33	17	0	0	0	253
40 – 44	22	51	64	27	47	38	12	0	0	261
45 – 49	12	57	45	26	44	27	18	9	0	238
50 - 54	11	34	43	24	51	43	34	15	3	258
55 – 59	10	29	33	27	27	48	29	15	11	229
60 - 64	8	32	34	25	43	24	17	20	23	226
65 – 70	2	6	13	12	22	13	11	8	6	93
70+	1	0	2	4	8	7	1	3	3	29
Total	150	420	427	245	282	217	122	70	46	1,979

<sup>1</sup> Counts only include participants currently enrolled in medical and/or Rx coverage.

<sup>2</sup> Includes participants on leave or long-term disability.

<sup>3</sup> 10% of pre-Medicare retirees covering a dependent are assumed to be covering a child rather than a spouse. Therefore, the number of dependents included in the valuation as of July 1, 2024 is estimated to be ~649, since dependent children are not explicitly valued.

Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Cofศิลมุรรion



## Section V. Valuation Data

#### **Retiree and Spouse Age Distribution**

The following table shows the distribution by age of retirees and dependents<sup>1</sup> who are currently receiving medical and/or Rx benefits as of July 1, 2024.

Age	Retirees	Dependents of Retirees <sup>2</sup>	Total
<50	6	21	27
50 – 55	22	30	52
55 – 60	112	68	180
60 - 65	206	116	322
65 – 70	294	147	441
70 – 75	297	131	428
75 – 80	228	99	327
80 - 85	123	44	167
85+	112	16	128
Total	1,400	672	2,072

<sup>1</sup> 10% of pre-Medicare retirees covering a dependent are assumed to be covering a child rather than a spouse. Therefore, the number of dependents included in the valuation as of July 1, 2024 is estimated to be ~649, since dependent children are not explicitly valued.

<sup>2</sup> Since not all retiree dependents' dates of birth were not provided, retiree dependents counts by age band were determined based on the valuation assumption that husbands are 3 years older than wives where spousal date of birth was not provided.

Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission



Actuarial Valuation Date July 1, 2024

Measurement Date July 1, 2025

#### **Roll Forward Method**

Calculations were performed as of the actuarial valuation date and, when necessary, liabilities were rolled from the valuation date to the measurement date through use of a roll forward method. Liabilities are adjusted for passage of time by adding normal cost minus benefit payments all adjusted with interest.

#### **Actuarial Cost Method**

This valuation uses the Entry Age Normal Funding Method calculated on an individual basis with level percentage of payroll.

#### Asset Valuation Method

The Commission has elected to set the Actuarial Value of Assets based on 5-year asset smoothing to reduce contribution volatility year-to-year rather than using the Market Value of Assets. The AVA is still equal to the MVA as of July 1, 2024 since the first year that investment experience will be deferred is during FY 2025.

#### Party Responsible for Assumptions and Methods

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

### Expected Rate of Return on Assets

6.70%

#### **Payroll Growth Rate**

3.00% per annum based on the ERS wage inflation assumption

#### Expected Increase in Normal Cost for Budget Projections

Based on the rate used in the healthcare cost trend assumption

#### Amortization of Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability

The additional liability attributable to the Early Retirement Incentive (ERI) offered in 2010 was amortized over a 15-year closed period as level-percentage of pay. As of July 1, 2024, there is 1 year remaining. Any future Early Retirement Incentives offered will be amortized over 5 years.

The remaining unfunded liability is amortized as level percentage of payroll. The amortization period is closed, and was set to 25 years for the FY 2025 ADC. The amortization period for FY 2026 is 24 years.



#### **Election Rate**

97.5% of active employees who are currently enrolled in medical and/or Rx coverage are to elect coverage in the plan at retirement, based on the Bolton experience study dated September 30, 2022. All active employees who are currently waiving medical and/or Rx coverage are assumed not to enroll at a later date and therefore not be eligible for benefits upon retirement.

#### Spousal Coverage and Age

Actual coverage status is used for retirees, but only 90% of pre-Medicare retirees with dependent coverage are assumed to be covering a spouse. The remaining 10% are assumed to be covering a dependent child, which are not explicitly included in this valuation. This is based on an analysis by Bolton performed in October 2023.

63.375% of active employees who are currently enrolled in medical and/or Rx coverage are assumed to elect dependent coverage at retirement, based on the Bolton experience study dated September 30, 2022. Of those electing dependent coverage, 85% are assumed to be covering a spouse, and the remaining 15% are assumed to be covering a child. This is based on an analysis by Bolton performed in October 2023.

Females are assumed to be 3 years younger than male spouses where actual spousal date of birth was assumed for current retirees. For future retirees and retirees where actual spousal date of birth was not provided, Females are assumed to be 3 years younger than male spouses.

#### Salary Scale

Salaries are assumed to increase for individuals at the following rates based on employee type (Police or General employee) and years of service. This assumption is based on an experience study performed for the M-NCPPC Employees' Retirement System by Cheiron in 2021.

Years of Service	Police	Years of Service	General
0-1	6.30%	0-1	5.40%
2	6.20%	2-4	5.20%
3	6.00%	5	5.00%
4	5.70%	6-9	4.60%
5-6	5.50%	10-11	4.50%
7-10	5.30%	12	4.30%
11-13	4.70%	13-14	4.20%
14-16	4.50%	15	4.10%
17-19	4.00%	20	3.60%
20-25	3.50%	25	2.85%
		30	2.60%



#### Healthcare Cost Trend Assumption

The baseline healthcare cost trend assumption was developed using the Society of Actuaries (SOA) Long-Run Medical Cost Trend Model. The current valuation uses the 2024 version of the model with baseline assumptions. The following assumptions were used as input variables into this model:

Rate of Inflation	2.6%
Rate of Growth in Real Income / GDP per capita	1.4%
Excess Medical Growth	0.9%
Expected Health Share of GDP in 2033	19.0%
Health Share of GDP Resistance Point	17.0%
Year for Limiting Cost Growth to GDP Growth	2075

This model was designed to estimate the trend after 2025. The baseline trend rate for 2024 was set to 7.5% and 2025 was set to 7.0%. These initial trends are greater than in the past valuation due to recent inflation, which we estimate will result in higher medical costs as providers renew their contracts.

The baseline trend rates developed from the model and inputs described above were adjusted to account for the potential impact of the Inflation Reduction Act as follows:

- The changes to the cost sharing structure for Medicare Part D plans effective in 2025 are assumed to increase costs for plan sponsors by 15%.
- The federal government being able to negotiate pricing for certain high-cost drugs starting in 2026 was assumed to result in a 10% savings for the drugs that are selected for negotiations. These drugs were assumed to make up 15% of the market share in 2026, and we expect that the market share for newly selected drugs will decline over time, decreasing to 10% by 2028, 5% by 2032, and ultimately leveling off at 2% in 2041.

These adjustments will only be reflected in the trend assumption for Rx costs for Medicare-eligible participants as the Inflation Reduction Act is not expected to impact medical costs or Rx costs for non-Medicare enrollees.

	Pre-Me	Pre-Medicare		Medicare	
Year	Medical	Rx	Medical	Rx	
2024	7.50%	7.50%	7.50%	23.63%	
2025	7.00%	7.00%	7.00%	5.40%	
2026	6.20%	6.20%	6.20%	4.93%	
2030	5.29%	5.29%	5.29%	4.66%	
2040	4.60%	4.60%	4.60%	4.39%	
2050	4.54%	4.54%	4.54%	4.33%	
2060	4.48%	4.48%	4.48%	4.27%	
2070	4.24%	4.24%	4.24%	4.03%	
2075+	4.04%	4.04%	4.04%	3.83%	

#### Healthcare Cost Trend Assumption (Continued)

The trend for selected years is shown below:

The SOA Long-Run Medical Cost Trend Model and its baseline projection are based on an econometric analysis of historical U.S. medical expenditures and the judgments of experts in the field. The long-run baseline projection and input variables have been developed under the guidance of an SOA Project Oversight Group.

Dental and vision costs are assumed to increase at 4.00% per annum.

Future federal subsidies received estimated for budget projections are assumed to be level after fiscal 2026.



#### **Decrement Assumptions**

Below is a summary of decrements used in this valuation; sample retirement, disability, and termination rates are illustrated in the tables below. These assumptions are based on an experience study performed for the M-NCPPC Employees' Retirement System by Cheiron in 2021.

#### Mortality

#### Status/Group Description of Mortality Assumption

#### Active Employees

General	SOA Pub-2010 General Employees Headcount-Weighted Mortality Table, projected on a fully generational basis with mortality improvement scale MP-2021			
Police	Pub-2010 Safety Employees Headcount-Weighted Mortality Table, projected on a fully generational basis with mortality improvement scale MP-2021			
Healthy Retirees and Covered Spouses				
General	Pub-2010 General Retirees Headcount-Weighted Mortality Table, projected on a fully generational basis with mortality improvement scale MP-2021			
Police	Pub-2010 Safety Retirees Headcount-Weighted Mortality Table, projected on a fully generational basis with mortality improvement scale MP-2021			
Disabled Retirees				
General	Pub-2010 General Disabled Retirees Headcount-Weighted Mortality Table, projected on a fully generational basis with mortality improvement scale MP-2021			
Police	Pub-2010 Safety Disabled Retirees Headcount-Weighted Mortality Table, projected on a fully generational basis with mortality improvement scale MP-2021			

#### **Disability**

Age	Police	General
25	0.25%	0.05%
30	0.50%	0.05%
35	0.75%	0.10%
40	0.75%	0.25%
45	1.00%	0.50%
50	1.00%	0.50%
55	1.00%	0.50%
60	1.00%	0.50%



**Decrement Assumptions (continued)** 

Retirement

Police

Years of Service	Probability of Retirement
Service	Retirement
0 – 20	5.00%
21 – 24	10.00%
25 – 29	15.00%
30+	100.00%

100% retirement is assumed at age 65. Age 55 or 20 years of service is the minimum requirement for early retirement.

#### General Employees

Age	Probability of Retirement
45	2.50%
46	3.00%
47	3.50%
48	4.00%
49	4.50%
50	5.00%
51	5.50%
52	6.00%
53	6.50%
54-57	7.00%
58	9.00%
59	14.00%
60-64	11.00%
65	15.00%
66-69	20.00%
70+	100.00%

100% retirement is assumed at age 70. Age 55 or 25 years of service is the minimum requirement for early retirement.



**Decrement Assumptions (continued)** 

Termination

Police

Years of Service	Probability of Termination	
0	9.00%	
1-2	6.51%	
3-4	4.07%	
5-6	2.76%	
7-8	1.92%	
9-10	1.35%	
11-12	0.76%	
13+	0.06%	

General Employees

Years of Service	Probability of Termination
0-1	10.83%
2-3	8.18%
4-5	6.42%
6-7	5.00%
8-9	4.02%
10-11	3.15%
12-13	2.26%
14-15	1.62%
16-17	1.23%
18-19	1.03%
20+	1.00%



#### **Expected Per Capita Costs**

The per capita claims costs are based on claims and enrollment information through June 30, 2024. This information was reviewed separately for Medicare and non-Medicare eligible retirees, and claims were split between medical and prescription drug (Rx) benefits. Per capita costs were developed separately for Medicare and non-Medicare eligible retirees as well as for medical and Rx benefits, and were calculated as follows:

- Total claims (net of Rx rebates) were divided by the average enrollment during the period and then projected to the midpoint of the measurement period using 7.5% trend for medical and Rx benefits.
- Pre-Medicare retiree and spouse expected per capita costs were developed based on a weighted average of experience during FY2023 through FY2024, with weights of 25% and 75% applied to FY2023 and FY2024 experience, respectively.
- Medicare eligible retiree and spouse expected per capita costs were developed based on experience during FY2024.
- Additional loads of 7.5% and 13.6% were applied to the medical costs for pre-Medicare and Medicare retirees, respectively, to account for administrative fees and stop-loss premiums based on the average portion they made up of the claims during FY2024.
- Additional loads of 3.9% and 4.5% were applied to the Rx costs for pre-Medicare and Medicare retirees, respectively, to account for administrative fees, based on the average portion they made up of the claims during FY2024.
- There was no adjustment made to account for EGWP reimbursements.

The resulting average per capita claims costs were age adjusted using the Health Care Cost Institute aging curve. Per capita costs for dependent spouses were assumed to be the same as those for retirees.

Retiree contributions were based on the average retiree rates for the pre-Medicare and Medicare plans separately using a blend of the FY2024 premium rates based on enrollment as of the valuation date.



#### Expected Per Capita Costs (continued)

The following chart shows the average premium (split by Medicare and non-Medicare) as well as the expected medical and Rx per capita costs for a 65-year old male.

	Per Capita Costs		Average Premiums	
	Medical & Administrative Expenses	Rx	Medical	Rx
Pre-Medicare Retiree	\$ 15,516	\$ 7,318	\$ 10,310	\$ 3,573
Pre-Medicare Spouse	15,516	7,318	13,081	4,659
Medicare Eligible Retiree	3,582	4,724	4,202	3,338
Medicare Eligible Spouse	3,582	4,724	4,187	3,351

Additional costs of \$420 and \$78 were assumed for participants with dental and vision coverage, respectively.

#### **Other Assumptions**

- Participants are valued with medical and Rx coverage if they have either medical or Rx coverage in the census data.
- All participants are assumed to elect the Vision Service Moderate Plan for the purpose of this valuation.
- Active participants in the FOP bargaining group were assumed to participate in Plan C.
- General participants hired before January 1, 2013 were assumed to participate in Plan B. Those hired on or after January 1, 2013 were assumed to participate in Plan E.
- Active decrements are assumed to occur in the middle of the year.
- Spouses of retirees are assumed to be the opposite gender of their corresponding spouse.

#### Changes in Methods and Assumptions Since Prior Valuation

- The per capita cost assumption was updated to include claims experience through June 30, 2024.
- The healthcare cost trend assumption was updated based on the 2024 version of the SOA Getzen Model and reflects the expected impact of the Inflation Reduction Act.
- For budgeting purposes, federal subsidies are no longer expected to increase going forward.
- Set the normal cost increase rate assumption in the budget exhibit equal to the medical trend assumption for the given year (previously was the long-term healthcare trend).

## Section VII. Glossary

#### **Actuarial Assumptions**

Estimates or projections of future plan experience such as investment return, expected lifetimes and the likelihood of receiving a pension from the pension plan. Demographic, or "people" assumptions include rates of mortality, retirement and separation. Economic, or "money" assumptions, include expected investment return, inflation and salary increases. Assumptions of a long-term nature are representative of average expectations (i.e., they will not be exactly realized in every year, however over an extended period are a reasonable projection of future outcomes).

#### Actuarial or Experience Gain or Loss

A measure of the difference between actual experience and experience anticipated by a set of Actuarial Assumptions during the period between two actuarial valuation dates, in accordance with the actuarial cost method being used. Such gains or losses are not actual economic gains or losses immediately incurred by a plan, as experience in future years could offset the effect of experience in a single year due to the typically long-term average nature of actuarial assumptions.

#### Actuarially Determined Contribution

For Plans with irrevocable trusts, the recommended contribution to the Plan (determined in conformity with Actuarial Standards of Practice) that is projected to result in assets equaling the actuarial accrued liability within a period of time.

#### **Covered Group**

Plan members included in an actuarial valuation.

#### Discount Rate (Expected Rate of Return)

The rate used to adjust a series of future payments to reflect the time value of money.

#### **Election Rate**

The percentage of retiring employees assumed to elect coverage.

#### **Employer's Contributions**

Contributions made in relation to the actuarially determined contributions of the employer. An employer has made a contribution in relation to the actuarially determined contribution if the employer has (a) made payments of benefits directly to or on behalf of a retiree or beneficiary, (b) made premium payments to an insurer, or (c) irrevocably transferred assets to a trust, or an equivalent arrangement, in which plan assets are dedicated to providing benefits to retirees and their beneficiaries in accordance with the terms of the plan and are legally protected from creditors of the employer(s) or plan administrator.

#### Entry Age Normal Funding Method

A method under which the actuarial present value of the projected benefits of each individual included in an actuarial valuation is allocated on a level basis over the earnings or service of the individual between entry age and assumed exit.

#### **Funded Ratio**

The actuarial value of assets expressed as a percentage of the actuarial accrued liability.

## Section VII. Glossary

#### Healthcare Cost Trend Rate

The rate of change in per capita health claim costs over time as a result of factors such as medical inflation, utilization of healthcare services, plan design, and technological developments.

#### **OPEB** Plan

An OPEB plan having terms that specify the amount of benefits to be provided at or after separation from employment. The benefits may be specified in dollars (for example, a flat dollar payment or an amount based on one or more factors such as age, years of service, and compensation), or as a type or level of coverage (for example, prescription drugs or a percentage of healthcare insurance premiums).

#### **Other Post-Employment Benefits**

Post-employment benefits other than pension benefits. Other post-employment benefits (OPEB) include post-employment healthcare benefits, life insurance, regardless of the type of plan that provides them, and all post-employment benefits provided separately from a pension plan, excluding benefits defined as termination offers and benefits.

#### Pay-as-you-go (PAYGO)

A method of financing a benefit plan under which the contributions to the plan are generally made at about the same time and in about the same amount as benefit payments and expenses becoming due.

#### **Payroll Growth Rate:**

An actuarial assumption with respect to future increases in total covered payroll attributable to inflation; used in applying the level percentage of projected payroll amortization method.

#### **Plan Liabilities**

Obligations payable by the plan at the reporting date, including, primarily, benefits and refunds due and payable to plan members and beneficiaries, and accrued investment and administrative expenses. Plan liabilities do not include actuarial accrued liabilities for benefits that are not due and payable at the reporting date.

#### **Plan Members**

The individuals covered by the terms of an OPEB plan. The plan membership generally includes employees in active service, terminated employees who have accumulated benefits but are not yet receiving them, and retired employees and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits.

#### Post-employment

The period between termination of employment and retirement as well as the period after retirement.

#### Post-employment Healthcare Benefits

Medical, dental, vision, and other health-related benefits provided to terminated or retired employees and their dependents and beneficiaries.



## Section VII. Glossary

#### Select and Ultimate Rates

Actuarial assumptions that contemplate different rates for successive years. Instead of a single assumed rate with respect to, for example, the investment return assumption, the actuary may apply different rates for the early years of a projection and a single rate for all subsequent years. For example, if an actuary applies an assumed investment return of 8% for year 2000, 7.5% for 2001, and 7% for 2002 and thereafter, then 8% and 7.5% are select rates, and 7% is the ultimate rate.

#### Service Cost

That portion of the Actuarial Present Value of plan benefits and expenses which is allocated to a valuation year by the Actuarial Cost Method.

#### Valuation Date

The as-of date for employee census data. Under GASB 75, the valuation date must be within 30 months of the last day of the fiscal year.

## Appendix I. 10 Year Projected Benefit Payments

FYE	Implicit Subsidy	Explicit Subsidy	Total Expected Benefit Payments
2025	\$ 5,820,000	\$ 17,409,000	\$ 23,229,000
2026	7,121,000	19,487,000	26,608,000
2027	7,722,000	20,899,000	28,621,000
2028	8,311,000	22,116,000	30,427,000
2029	8,813,000	23,307,000	32,120,000
2030	9,385,000	24,531,000	33,916,000
2031	9,868,000	25,736,000	35,604,000
2032	10,493,000	26,985,000	37,478,000
2033	11,249,000	28,315,000	39,564,000
2034	11,982,000	29,679,000	41,661,000

Please note:

- The expected benefit payment stream shown above assumes:
  - That the covered population is a closed group, i.e., there are no new entrants or re-entrants, and
  - There will be no changes to the plan provisions, assumptions, or methods in the future.
- The expected benefit payments shown are net of retiree contributions.
- The Plan's actual benefit payments may be greater than or less than the amounts shown, depending on actual demographic experience and claims experience.

SUSTAINABILITY PROGRESS REPORTS

MONTGOMERY COUNTY: ADRIENNE THOMAS & CARL MORGAN PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY: LAUREN BELLE Item 5c



**PRACTICE 6-40 OVERVIEW** 

**REPORTING TIMELINE** 

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

**Q&A SESSION** 

M-NCPPC | Montgomery County | Prince George's County

#### WHAT IS IT?

A living framework document that provides guidelines for sustainability practice and policy at the Commission

#### WHAT DOES IT DO?

Lays out timeframes for reporting and areas to focus on in planning for both counties PRACTICE 6-40 OVERVIEW

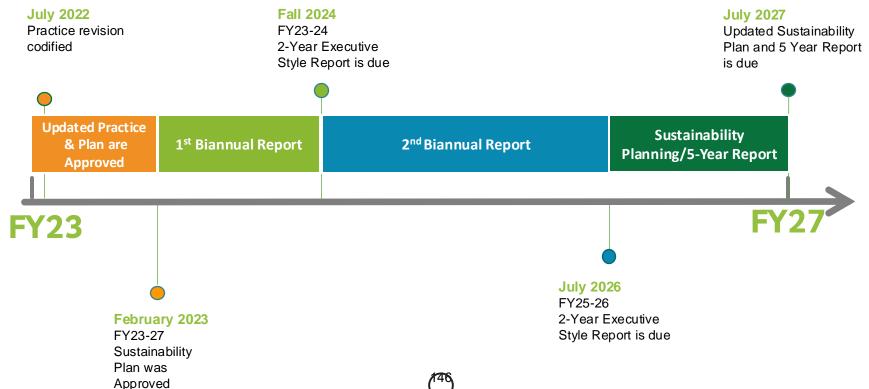
#### HOW DOES IT IMPACT ME & OTHER STAFF?

Sustainability action plans may impact your or others' work program(s) or other practices at the Commission

#### WHY WERE METRICS TAKEN OUT?

Sustainability and Climate Resilience policy and practice are changing at rapid rates

#### FY23-27 SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING/PLANNING TIMELINE



### LAUREN BELLE

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR





### ONE PLANET LIVING

Our plan follows the One Planet Living ® Framework. We've structured our plan around the associated ten focus areas:

Health & Happiness Equity & Local Economy Culture & Community Land & Nature Sustainable Water Local Sustainable Food Travel & Transport Materials & Products Zero Waste Zero Carbon Energy



LAUNCHING STAFF TRAININGS AT THE SUSTAINABILITY LEARNING CENTER

OUR MAJOR FOCUS NEXT REVIEW PERIOD

HEALTH Ro HAPPINESS

## SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE LAUNCHED LUNCH & LEARNS IN FY23



EXPANDED PARTNERSHIPS WITH CBLP & PGCPS' AGRICULTURE & HORTICULTURE SCHOOLS

LARGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

RIGHTS TO ACCESS UMD'S INTERNET CONNECTIONS

**BIGGEST CHALLENGE** 

EXPANDING OUR SUMMER YOUTH ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

OUR MAJOR FOCUS NEXT REVIEW PERIOD



## **SYEP RETAINED 6 YOUTH IN CONSERVATION FY23-FY24**



M-NCPPC | Montgomery County | Prince George's County



## SUSTAINABILITY LEARNING CENTER PROGRESSED TO PHASE 3

WE'RE TRACKING TREE SPECIES REMOVED FROM MANAGED PARK LAND

LARGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

OUR IPM COORDINATOR POSITION IS NOT ON THE BOOKS FOR FY25

**BIGGEST CHALLENGE** 

CLIMATE RESILIENT SPECIES FOR TREES AND NATIVE PLANT LANDSCAPING

WHAT WE'LL FOCUS ON NEXT REVIEW PERIOD

### NATIVE PLANT LEARNING BEDS AT THE SLC FOR TRAINING

BMP PERMEABILITY STANDARDS & BEST PRACTICES DEVELOPED

LARGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

WATER LEAKS & STAFFING FOR STORMWATER MAINTENANCE

**BIGGEST CHALLENGE** 

INVESTMENTS INTO PLUMBING INFRASTRUCTURE

WHAT WE'LL FOCUS ON NEXT REVIEW PERIOD

## UNIVERSITY HILLS DUCKPOND CLEANUP AND REPLANTING

EXPANDED OUR PARTNERSHIPS IN URBAN AG INCUBATOR SPACES

LARGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

GETTING OUR URBAN AG SPACE AT SLC UP AND RUNNING

**BIGGEST CHALLENGE** 

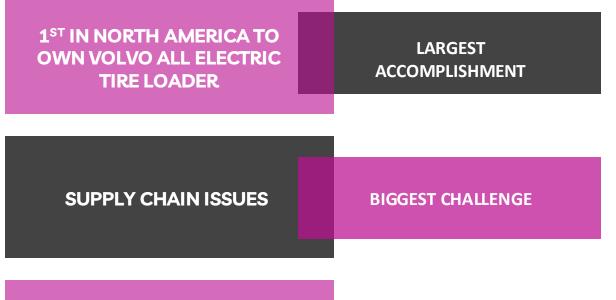
DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS WITH PGCPS FOR FOOD JUSTICE

WHAT WE'LL FOCUS ON NEXT REVIEW PERIOD

4 Ш 

## STARTS AT THE SLC FOR FALL CROP





USING OUR TRAILS TEAM TO INCREASE TRAIL CONNECTIVITY IN THE COUNTY

WHAT WE'LL FOCUS ON NEXT REVIEW PERIOD



### **RESURFACED SPUR TRAIL & BRIDGE TO ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY**

EXPERIMENTING WITH SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS AND PRODUCTS

LARGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

RESPONSIBLE SALVAGE PRACTICE

**BIGGEST CHALLENGE** 

WORKING ON OUR RFP PROCESS TO INCLUDE MORE SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS

WHAT WE'LL FOCUS ON NEXT REVIEW PERIOD





### **CARBON CAPTURE PATIO AT THE SLC**



### **TRIALING THE BIORETENTION MEDIA**

EXPANDED OUR SOLAR PORTFOLIO AT A VARIETY OF SCALES FOR TESTING

LARGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT

LACK OF COMPRABLE TECHNOLOGY

**BIGGEST CHALLENGE** 

WORKING WITH POLICY OFFICE TO DEVELOP EV & EV CHARGING POLICY

WHAT WE'LL FOCUS ON NEXT REVIEW PERIOD



## OUR VOLVO ELECTRIC TIRE LOADER IN ACTION

VOLVO

ELECTRIC

#### **RACHEL CARR** SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR MONTGOMERY PARKS

#### ADRIENNE THOMAS SUSTAINABILITY SPECIALIST MONTGOMERY PARKS

CARL MORGAN ACTING BUDGET MANAGER MONTGOMERY PLANNING



R 

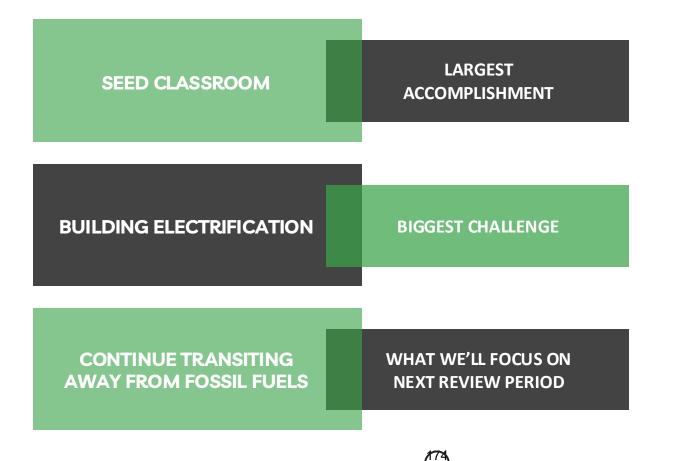
M-NCPPC | Montgomery County | Prince George's County

### **SOLAR ON WHEATON HEADQUARTERS**

M



# MAYDALE NATURE CLASSROOM





## SEED CLASSROOM







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## ELECTRIC EQUIPMENT SHOWCASE



WASTE LESS, LECYCLE MORE

# ONE OF MANY PARK CLEANUPS





# WEED WARIORS

100

Maryland Sustainable Growth Award 2023 for THRIVE 2050

LARGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT



**N** THRIV

Incorporating Montgomery Planning's new Strategic Plan to help achieve sustainability goals

WHAT WE'LL FOCUS ON NEXT REVIEW PERIOD



Igomery County Planning Bio

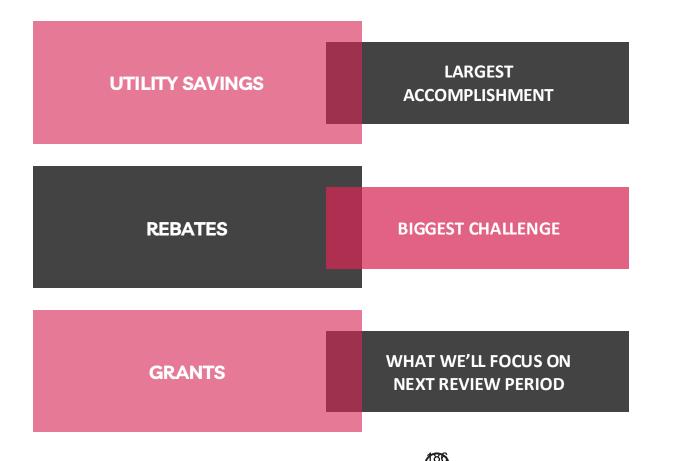
# MARYLAND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AWARD, THRIVE 2025





# **OUR FIRST LUNCH & LEARN AT WHQ**

Questions?



# SOLAR FIELD AT SOUTH GERMANTOWN REC PARK

# QUESTIONS?

Item 5c1



### SAP FY23-FY27

# FY23-FY24 PROGRESS REPORT

What progress have we made on our FY23 - FY27 Sustainability Action Plan?

### **GENERAL OUTLOOK**

As climate change continues to affect the lives and livelihoods of our residents, we're striving to provide a buffer to our community. We're working to make environmentally and fiscally responsible decisions that provide the greatest impacts to the many communities that call Prince George's County home; be they animal, plant, insect, or people. We've taken some strides forward over the last year that are outlined in each of the sections listed on the right.

# **CONTENTS**

3	OVERVIEW
4	HEALTH & HAPPINESS
6	EQUITY & LOCAL ECONOMY
8	CULTURE & COMMUNITY
10	LAND & NATURE
12	SUSTAINABLE WATER
14	LOCAL & SUSTAINABLE FOOD
16	TRAVEL & TRANSPORT
18	MATERIALS & PRODUCTS
20	ZERO WASTE
22	ZERO CARBON ENERGY

Welcome to the Sustainability Action Plan Progress Report! Over the last two fiscal years, Sustainability has been very busy. The formal action plan was not adopted until February of 2023, so this progress update will cover just about one and a half fiscal years.

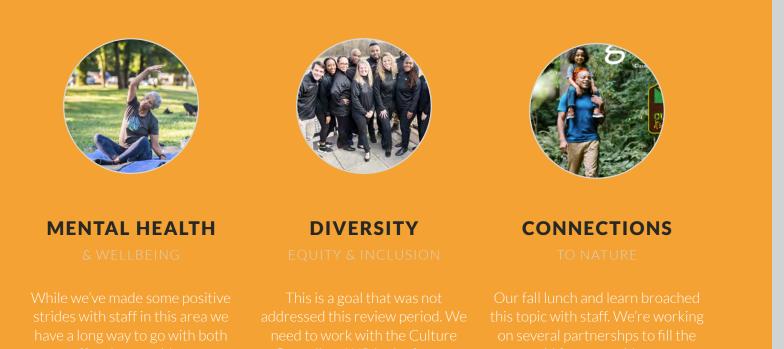
As you can imagine with this shortened timeline, our progress may look a little different. If you aren't seeing the progress toward one of your favorite goals that you thought you would quite yet, please keep in mind that Sustainability in DPR is a two person team and was down to a one person team for all of the reporting period. Still, the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Planning Department have made strides purposely forward together.

We look forward to sharing some of our highs and lessons learned this period as we look to make even more progress in the coming weeks, months, and years. On the next few pages, we're highlighting our progress in each of the ten focus areas of One Planet Living®. We've made positive strides in each area and we know we have our work cut out for us in the coming years.

# **OVERVIEW**



NATURE AS A VIBRANT AND REAL PARTNER THROUGH LIFE AND ALL OF ITS ASSOCIATED WINS AND CHALLENGES





Over the course of the last fiscal year, we have taken action on a few of our targets. We've begun the challenge of including language to contractors and consultants about indoor air quality into our RFP process. We've also launched a partnership with Defensores de la Cuenca that will provide tree planting and care education to immigrant populations and their children in the Bladensburg area. Our health and wellness teams are continuing to strive to get our county active and we expect this to impact the obesity rates of our county. What's our biggest challenge over the course of the next few years? We're looking to measure a net decrease in levels of local air pollutants in and around our parks. We're also planning and launching a public awareness campaign for nature benefits. Staff training also continues to be a gap we need to address. The Sustainability Learning Center is slated to open in FY25. In the meantime, the Sustainability Committee has launched Lunch and Learns that are hosted by Montgomery County in the Spring and Summer and Prince George's in the Fall and Winter. To date, we've had a full year of successfull and well received events.

# **EQUITY &** LOCAL ECONOMY

WHAT IS OUR IMPACT?

# BEING RESPONSIBLE TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND OUR COMMUNITY WITHOUT DOING WITHOUT

In Prince George's County, we strive to be Luckily, we've also had a few major wins this jobs and training, and supporting local businesses with our purchasing power.

We faced a few challenges this review period, particularly involving the living wage debates. We've also reached a few hiccups in the wifi in parks partnership with University of Maryland involving access and rights to their internet connections. Discussions are ongoing and a pilot should start sometime next review period. We're working toward a brighter digital future for all.

a vital partner to our community; insulating review period. We're working on MOUs them from eEffects of disasters, providing with County schools to grow some of our plants. Our Horticultural Conservationist is working with the schools on greenhouses. We've also launched the youth conservation corps, a team of high school students that started in a Summer Youth Enrichment Program (SYEP) and now work part time for us doing conservation landscaping and invasive removal. Our partnership with CLBP has allowed us to implement trainings on sustainable salting and recertification as well as allow for the youth conservation corps to acquire their CBLP-A certifications.



**CBLP PARTNERSHIP** PROGRAMS

CB

**OUTDOOR WORK STATIONS OFFICIALLY INSTALLED** 

2



RETENTION RATE OF SYEP IN CONSERVATION FY 23-24

**SPECIES GROWN WITH** SYEP TO INSTALLATION

13

3

**NEW PARTNERSHIPS** WITH AREA AG & **HORT SCHOOLS** 



# CULTURE & COMMUNITY

WHO DO WE IMPACT?

EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY TO CELEBRATE OUR UNIQUE CULTURES AND LOVE THE EARTH WITH US



# Our cultures make us stronger, both residents and staff

The overall focus of this review period has been creating a culture of sustainabiliity at the Department of Parks and Recreation. Sustainability starts internally and the Sustainability Action Plan is meant to guide the actions of our staff. A great example of taking strides together to impact our community is our upcoming Free Our Water campaign that aims to engage with staff about single use plastics and offers them non plastic alternatives.

There are a few challenges we need to address in future review periods. The Sustainability Team is working diligently to create a project plan for the fall Week of Service. Trainings have started on certain sustainability related topics in certain sustainability outcome related job programs. The team for most of the review period was one person and there are large gaps in trainings that need to launch. Meetings with each division will also start once we reach full staffing capacity.

We've also had a few wins this review period. The team is working with the Sustainability Committee to get sustainability topics integrated into onboarding of all Commission staff. We had an overall reduction of violent crimes on park property and several programmers have expressed interest in integrating a sustainability component into all Departmental programming. Volunteer opportunities in sustainability projects are also expected to increase as we launch the Weed Warrior program. While we may not have seen the progress we would have liked, we've still come a long way from the start.

# What outcomes are we striving toward and what have we done?

New sustainability team member in DPR

5

Bi-County Sustainability Lunch & Learns hosted



### **Celebrating cultural identities:**

Parks and Recreation has always strived to celebrate all of the unique cultural identities of our population. We're striving to add a sustainability component to each of these celebrations.

### **Empowering our communities:**

We have a long way to go on this outcome. During the review period we hosted just 5 co-design workshops.

### **Creating sustainable culture:**

This was the focus of much of the reporting period. We've begun to provide programming and training for staff on certain topics such as stormwater, the nine planetary boundaries, and sustainable crafts. Our biggest win this review period is the amount of progress on the Sustainability Learning Center. This center will provide staff training and community outreach opportunities.

# LAND & NATURE

WHAT DO WE IMPACT?



 $\mathbf{01}$ 

# **Increase bio diversity**

In this outcome we've developed an iNaturalist interest group to help increase the number of observations throughout the park system. Our youth conservation corps is also active in bioblitzes prior to and follwoing up on native plant installations.

Hands on staff trainings will start on how to care for and plant native plant landscapes when the Learning Center is open for staff. Currently, we rely on a partnership with CBLP to deliver specialized trainings for staff.

Our IPM Coordinator position is currently not on the books or planned for FY 25. To make progress on this, we will need to ask for a new position or repurpose an underused one.

surrounds people even where they conservation ordinances will need least expect it. In this vein, we've begun the Inour managed park lands, we have unexpected nature education begun to track species and location programs with Mt. Rainier Nature of removals and reason for decline Center and our youth conservation (age, disease, or environmental corps to serve as ambassadors upheaval) so that we can create for nature to their communities. a roadmap to replant responsibly Unexpected nature focuses on with climate resilient species. In appreciating nature where you particular, we've seen a massive least expect to find it whether its decline in our Northern Red Oak in the cracks on the sidewalk or (Quercus rubra) population and in a stormwater BMP. We also expect this to only intensify as trialed a love your lawn program in we experience a warmer wetter Hyattsville focused on native plant climate. Replacement trials have "weeds" in lawns.



# 03

## **Ensure access to** nature for residents

02

# **Break even on number** of native trees

Through climate resilient park Over the course of the last fiscal management we're striving to year, there have been a few increase access to nature. We're challenges associated with tracking also developing programming native trees. State legislation has to teach about the nature that changed and our subtitle 25 tree to change with it.

started with other oak species.

# SUSTAINABLE WATER

### WHERE CAN WE IMPACT? =

We are lucky enough as an agency to be the largest land owner in Prince George's County. Additionally, we're the stewards of much of the county's stream valleys and flood plains. We've expanded our partnerships with the Cleanwater Partnership, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Anacostia Watershed Society this review period. Our goal of having a positive impact on Stormwater Management throughout the county looks bright indeed.

We've taken a pause on investing in cistern and vault technology as we onboard new staff. Instead, we've worked to map where technologies exist already on our park land and integrate plans for use, reuse, or more use of them in the future. Staff has been receptive of reconnecting irrigation at both Southern Regional Technology and Recreation Complex and Showplace Arena. We're looking forward to realizing the impacts of these efforts in the future.

Significant progress has been made on including language to contractors and consultants about BMP permeability standards and best practice. Through trainings provided to staff about correct stormwater specs, we're seeing a real impact on failure rates of new construction. Challenges to our existing stormwater BMP structures remain. Over the course of the next review period we'd like to invest in a consultant to create a BMP retrofit infrastructure plan with priorities for implementation. This will help us to direct time and resources where they best benefit.

One of the biggest challenges to our reduction of total water consumption Department wide has been water leaks. While we are roadmapping a responsible use policy, existing infrastructure inadequacies, especially at large aquatic facilities will continue to impact this metric. Switching irrigation to non potable water is an ongoing effort and more investment into this will help us to offset some of the water leak issues that arise. Investment into plumbing infastructure and outfits such as low flow toilets and sinks would also impact this metric.



# ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACT ON WATER SYSTEMS

We're poised to have a warmer, wetter, more humid climate over the course of the next 30 years, but what does that mean? Climate wise it means we're looking at a rainfall, humidity, and disaster index much more comparable to Charleston, SC. We're going to be in the path of more direct hits from more intense hurricanes. Sea levels will rise between one and three meters with a real possibility for more rise as ice flow melts increase. This will effect certain areas of our County as some land will convert to open water and associated wetlands will migrate inland. What can we do? We need to foster care of and enhance the health of our existing wetlands, promote responsible development practice, and manage the flow of water through our watersheds by taking action on park properties. Beyond this, we must actively seek to keep our infrastructure like swimming pools out of critical areas or areas with high water tables.





## **Produce local** sustainable produce

The urban agriculture site at Watkins Regional Park has already produced results, the partnership is being expanded to Walker Mill Regional Park. Additionally, we're working to stand up the urban ag demo site at the Sustainability Learning Center.

# **Increase plant based** offerings

Our catering vendors are very receptive to our initiatives as a large number of them have their own sustainability or climate resilience plans. We're planning to include specific language about local produce in future contracts. More work is needed in what we offer to the public.

# **Increase food security** and food justice

We're developing partnerships to increase the food security and food justice pathways in our county. Partnerships with University of Maryland and ECO City Farms are being expanded. In the next review period we plan to reach out to PGCPS and develop curriculum.



# Traditional agricultural systems really impact our environment and our health

Our country's food system is sick and in turn is making us sick. We've known for decades now that the effects of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers on both the foods we produce and the environments we displace are not doing the earth or us any favors. This review period, in additiion to partnerships with ECO City Farms and the Soil Conservation District, we've focused efforts on figuring out soil health best practice. At the Sustainability Learning Center we are busy creating an urban agriculture demonstration plot that will put these practices to the test. We're planning to donate much of the produce we produce through this initiative to an area foodbank. A portion of the produce will be used in food justice programming, cooking demonstrations, and staff education as we strive to create sustainable culture within M-NCPPC.

During the next review period, we anticipate that we will be able to develop partnerships with area schools to foster food security in our community. We've also received interest in hosting sustainable catering demonstrations for staff. Working in partnership with our existing catering vendors, we're increasing the number of plant based entrees available to staff. One of the guiding principles we use in sustainability is to never make staff feel like they're doing without. Instead we offer plant based entrees alongside traditional entrees. One such example is offering mushroom tacos alongside more traditional offerings such as al pastor and carne asada tacos. The mushroom tacos turned out to be a surprise hit! Small strides like this matter.

COURTESY PGSCD

# **PROVIDING FOR OUR COMMUNITY** AND ENCOURAGING **RESPONSIBLE FOOD SYSTEMS**



# TRAVEL & TRANSPORT CHOOSING OUR IMPACT ——



PROVIDING OUR COMMUNITY WITH REAL WAYS TO REDUCE THEIR CARBON FOOTPRINT AND WORKING ON OUR OWN



# Investing in trails, in transport, and in infrastructure to save the world

The focus of this review period has been somewhat dual pronged. We've worked on both procuring different types of EVs and taken steps to enable ourselves to care for, maintain, and upgrade trails equitably. We've also secured funding for some trail connectivity work. Overall, we've made some sustainable progress.

There are a few challenges we need to address in future review periods. The Fleet Team and Sustainability are working diligently to create a projected timeline for EV replacement of the passenger fleet. Much of the progress we've made is due to slightly better supply chains, but the availability of EVs and types of EVs on the market still present challenges. One of the largest is that there is no EV comparable for minivans on the near horizon. We're essentially waiting for technology to catch up to demand. We also need to make progress on measuring staff commutes.

We've also had wins of some significance this review period. We were able to stand up a trails team almost a year ahead of schedule by repurposing existing positions. On the vehicle side, we invested in our heavy equipment, In FY24, we became the first in North America to own a Volvo all electric tire loader. Despite supply chain issues, we increased our fully electric car complement by over 200%; although this reflects an increase from 3 to 9. We've also identified alternatives to sprinter vans and will begin to source them this review period. The trail planning team hired a natural surface trails member to help us increase trail connectivity even further. More investment in trails is needed this review period.

What outcomes are we striving toward and what have we done?

positions repurposed to create the Trails Team

miles of NEW trails added to our system between FY23 & FY24

6

fully electric vehciles added to the Department's fleet during FY23 & FY24

# Prioritize investment in connectivity of our trail system:

We've secured grant money to help us to update and connect pieces of our trail system. Additionally, we've launched the Central Avenue Connector Trail working groups and schematic process.

# Decrease our overall transport carbon footprint:

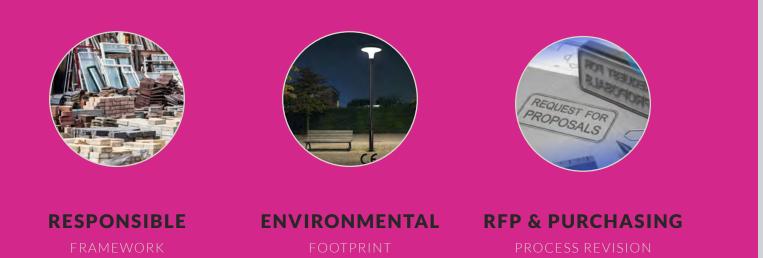
We've made significant progress on this goal during the review period. We've increased both the numbers and the types of EVs now in our fleet. That being said, EVs make up just 8% of the fleet so there is a ways to go. Investment in chargers is key.

# Care for & maintain our trail system equitably:

We've taken steps to launch our trails team and should have full staffing by FY25. This should allow us to increase the miles of trails surfaced or upgraded. We've also seen an overall decrease in trail crimes.



BEING RESPONSIBLE TO THE EARTH IN WHAT WE USE TO BUILD, TO CONDUCT BUSINESS, AND TO PLAY WITH





The permable pavers installed in the collaboration patio at the Sustainability Learning Center are not only beautiful, they're made with a special type of carbon capture concrete that sequesters carbon. Carbon dioxide captured from factory exhaust is introduced to replace a portion of water in the traditional concrete paver curing process. This 3,300 square foot patio squesters as much carbon as planting 300 trees. Additionally, because carbon dioxide is used to cure the concrete in partnership with water, the resulting concrete is both stronger and less less likely to suffer primary efflorescence (the white fluffy deposits that can happen with traditional concrete products). Innovative earth friendly products continue to become commercially available. It is in the Department's best interest to experiment with these types of products before scaling up. There is a real need to invest in carbon capture technologies; but we will continue to aim to do so in a fiscally responsible way.

# ZERO WASTE **REDUCING OUR IMPACT**



01

## Maximize our waste diversion rate

our tree farm, and refreshing our coming years. turf lawn aeration operations.

02

# **Divert a larger** percentage of waste

This area of focus needs attention We've made modest strides this We've been working to create an in the coming years. We currently review period in our diversion online training on recycling that is do not track composting tonnage rate goal of 75%. Identification of standard across the Commission. although we will start with the potential single use plastic free. It will be available on Learning Sustainability Learning Center's facilities and parks for a pilot to Central, the new shared learning pilot program. There are very few launch in FY 26 is underway and platform. The Sustainability (less than 10) programs offered there is interest in it. Challenges Committee is finalizing content across the Department that faced with this are public outreach for this and it should launch in are centered around reuse and and education as well as catering FY25. Recycling guidelines are upcycling. Its an area that has huge related. We plan to have one park, constantly changing so updates potential and a modest increase is one facility (the Sustainability are expected to take place as expected when the Sustainability Learning Center), and one needed with review on an annual Learning Center begins to host community center as part of the basis. We've also expanded our "teach the teacher" trainings pilot. Partnerships continue to be a outdoor park recycling programs for upcycling crafts. We've also big part of this goal and developing and included more bins at some of developed four new use cases for stronger ties to reuse/upcycle our our more popular sites. Recycling our existing compost including construction waste with groups tonnage is reported on a calendar engineered soils, grow media for like Community Forklift are a low year basis and in 2023 we recycled native plants, filling grow bags at hanging fruit to address in the 2.4M tons.



# 03

# **Re-energize our** recycling program

# ZERO CARBON ENERGY

LOW IMPACT ENERGY

# ENSURING THAT WE ARE WORKING TOWARD CARBON NEUTRALITY OR POSITIVITY IN FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE WAYS

of work testing solar applications at various timelines for fiscally and environmentally scales. The Solar Flower at Randall Farm friendly replacement. adds to our solar porfolio and will be used to increase the safety of staff by powering pole lights. The available smaller size of this flower is able to charge one EV.

for zero carbon energy use this review fleet vehicles to the RFP process for new period. Supply chain issues, unknown battery construction buildings. The renovation and equipment. Another challenge? Cost. We integrated solar. We've also seen a modest want to responsibly convert our equipment decrease in our GHG emissions.

This review period, we've done quite a bit so we're currently working on potential

We've also had a few wins this year. We're working to bring on a building envelope consultant to help us to target some of our largest energy users; our indoor pools. Challenges seemed to abound in our quest We're also working to add EV charging for life, and lack of comparable technologies addition at Publick Playhouse is following continue to plague the conversion of our yard Passive House guidelines and features



# GHG EMISSIONS

16,778.26 t CO2e



# **ELECTRIC YARD EQUIPMENT**

- **45%** STICK TRIMMERS
  - **30%** PUSH MOWERS
- **12%** BLOWERS
- **7%** ZERO TURN MOWERS



30% OUR 7 BIGGEST ENERGY USERS

### **EV INFRASTRUCTURE** INTERNAL UTILITY PROVIDERS

**21** FOR COMMISSION USE ONLY

**75** PUBLIC FACING AND



### Thanks so much for reading!

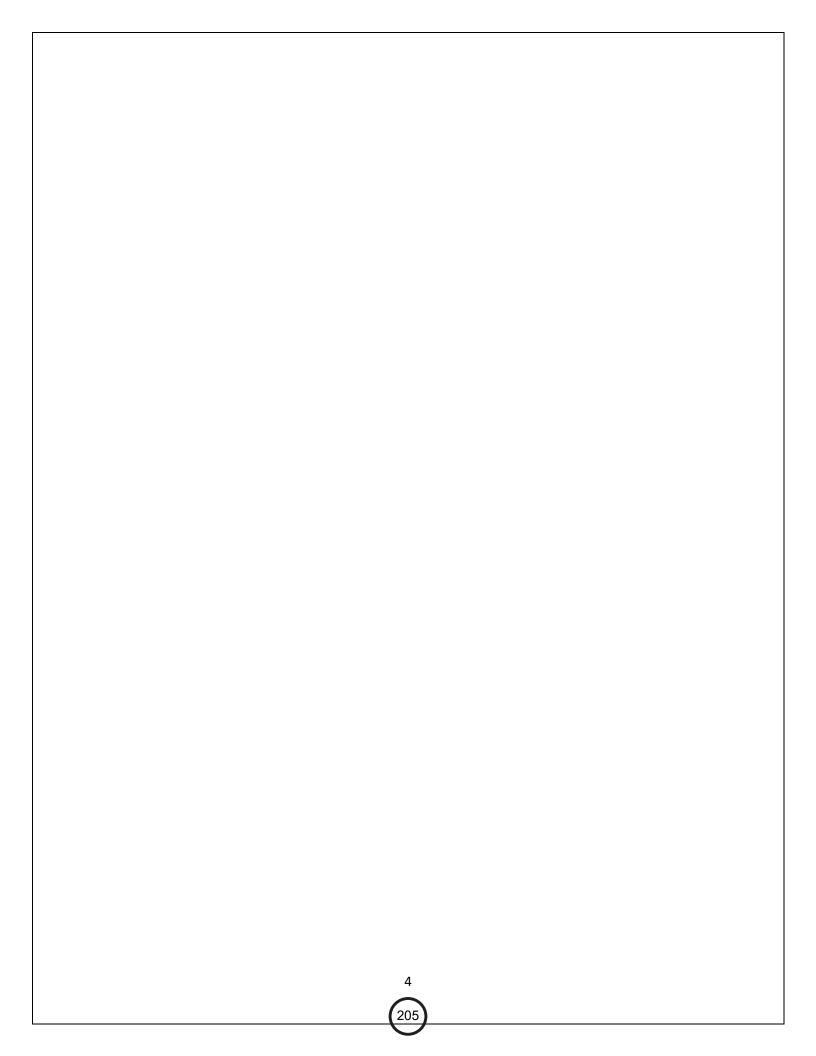
As we continue on our journey toward our goals together, we hope you continue to support our efforts!

# FY23-24 Montgomery County Sustainability Report

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# INTRODUCTION



200-year-old sycamore tree at Locust Grove Nature Center

The Montgomery County Department of Parks and Montgomery County Department of Planning<sup>1</sup> are part of the Maryland National Capital and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC or 'the Commission'), a bicounty agency created by the Maryland General Assembly in 1927. The agency, which is charted by the State of Maryland, has authority over land use regulation, transportation planning, and the management and operation of parks in Montgomery County and Prince George's County. M-NCPPC's work has a significant impact and reach into the health of the local environment, but also to that of the communities the Commission serves.

Since M-NCPPC's inception, the Commission has been a leader in protecting and stewarding natural resources and planning great communities that are vibrant, livable, accessible, and sustainable. The Commission's history of commitment to sustainability and protection of the environment has endured now for almost hundred years. The Commission began codifying its commitment to sustainability with the 2012 amendment to M-NCPPC Practice 6-40: Sustainability Standards, which called for the creation of Sustainability Plans for each county. Shortly thereafter, M-NCPPC established its first full time staff positions in sustainability and created the Bi-County Sustainability Committee. Since 2012, many of M-NCPPC's sustainability efforts have focused on strategies to reduce the Commission's greenhouse gas emissions as well as other operational aspects of sustainability.

The most recent 2022 amendments to Practice 6-40 established a recommitment to sustainability by the Commission, which lays the foundation for a more integrated approach to sustainability through a new framework. The amended Practice establishes goals under 3 pillars of sustainability: environmental responsibility, social equity, and economic vitality. The new framework will continue to advance sustainable operations throughout the Commission while also advancing its reach in other areas of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In this document, the departments are often referred to individually as *Montgomery Parks* and *Montgomery* Planning and collectively as the *Montgomery Parks and Planning Departments*, or simply *Parks and Planning Departments*.

sustainability that incorporate concepts of fairness and equity; integrate principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion; and embrace outreach and community participation through effective planning and community development.

M-NCPPC has increased its engagement in regional sustainability efforts within the past ten years. Specifically in Montgomery County, the Parks and Planning Departments have been engaged in countywide sustainability efforts, such as the creation of the first Montgomery County Climate Action Plan. As an agency with authority over land use regulation and management of a large park's operation, the Departments play a critical role in helping the County achieve its sustainability goals by achieving their own.

Sustainability at M-NCPPC advances initiatives that benefit the environment, the communities we serve, and fiscal responsibility. The *M-NCPPC Montgomery County FY23-27 Sustainability Plan* (also referred to as 'the Plan') will evaluate how both the Parks and Planning Departments provide services, amenities, and opportunities, from initial design through long-term maintenance, to ensure the organization is supporting organizational and regional sustainability. The Plan celebrates the successful legacy of sustainability initiatives implemented by the Departments, as well as forges a path towards a more integrated approach to sustainability for the future.

Within The Plan, the Sustainability Committee is required to present a 2-year Executive Style Summary Report, shown below. It covers updates for each focus area for FY23-24.

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## **Executive Summary**

In July of 2022, M-NCPPC amended Practice 6-40 to better incorporate all three pillars of sustainability: environmental responsibility, social equity, and economic vitality. This focus shift and inclusion identifies the globally recognized intersection of these issues and better reflects M-NCPPC's commitment to enhancing the lives of current and future generations. The new version of the Practice removed outdated and prescriptive language, as to serve more as a guiding framework. This allows the Sustainability Plans of each county to be flexible to ever changing policies, sustainable technology, and current scientific research and understanding. The full newly amended Practice, which sets overarching sustainability goals for the Commission, is located within Appendix A.

This Plan prescribes methods Montgomery Parks and Montgomery Planning will undertake within the next 5 years, within nine focus areas. The Plan also evaluates current progress the Departments have made towards sustainability goals by evaluating programs and projects implemented and reporting and analyzing certain sustainability metrics. The recommended actions within the Plan were created through internal stakeholder engagement workshops with staff across both Departments. The goal of the workshops was to identify opportunities that were high impact and leverage existing initiatives to implement sustainability projects and programs.

While Practice 6-40 builds the overall framework of the Plan, other key Plans, such as the Thrive Montgomery 2050 General Plan (Thrive), 2022 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan, and Montgomery County Climate Action Plan (CAP), were incorporated to ensure the objectives and goals of this Plan were aligned. Thrive 2050 and the 2022 PROS Plan are both guiding documents that influence the Departments' priorities and goals. This Plan serves to review the goals and recommended actions of both the new General Plan and PROS Plan and address how they can promote Commission Sustainability and County Climate Action goals.

The County CAP was in direct response to the Montgomery County Council's Emergency Climate Mobilization Resolution and serves as a road map to achieve an emissions free county by 2035. The CAP includes goals and actions aimed at mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and reducing climate risks. A critical component to successful implementation of the CAP is direct collaboration between County Government and external agencies like M-NCPPC. The Parks and Planning Departments have been actively involved in the countywide climate action planning and implementation. In recognition of the existential threat of climate change and the important role of both Departments in regional climate action, this Plan will provide recommendations to:

- Reduce GHG emissions
- Help the communities we serve become more resilient to climate change
- Increase the adaptive capacity of the organization to climate change

This Plan serves as a continuation of the Parks and Planning Departments' commitment to countywide climate action by ensuring the recommendations are consistent with the CAP.

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The Sustainability Plan builds upon the achievements of the Parks and Planning Departments and identifies opportunities for continued progress towards specific goals that enhance both human and ecological health of the communities we serve. The Plan will also review the operations of the Departments and provide recommendations that reduce the ecological footprint of those operations. This Plan advances existing sustainability commitments of M-NCPPC by establishing goals in nine primary focus areas. Each focus area has a set of goals and prioritized actions to achieve those goals. There are also recommendations included to strengthen methods for tracking and reporting progress over time.

## Focus Area Summary of Goals

### Be Climate Friendly & Climate Ready:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with operations (climate mitigation)
- Increase resilience to climate change (climate adaptation)

### Energize Parks – Lean, Clean, & Carbon Free:

- Improve facility energy performance
- Increase the amount of renewable energy generated on parkland and facilities

### Green Our Buildings & Facilities:

- Improve building and facility environmental performance
- Transition building heating systems away from fossil fuels
- Reduce overall utility consumption of building and facilities

### **Riding To Zero Emissions:**

- Transition fleet and equipment to zero-emissions alternatives
- Implement sustainable best management strategies to ensure safety, fuel efficiency, and increased lifecycle of vehicles and equipment
- Encourage staff to engage in sustainable commuting
- Support expansion of publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging in the County

### Waste Less, Recycle More:

- Reduce the total amount of waste generated through operations and within the parks
- Increase the diversion rate of organic and non-organic materials
- Implement sustainability-focused policies into the procurement process

### Preserve Our Parks, Green Our Grounds:

- Integrate sustainable best management practices (BMPs) into operations and maintenance of managed park spaces
- Retain land-based natural resources within parks
- Enhance ecological services and biodiversity on parkland
- Create sustainable park design standards that enhance ecosystem services and increase resiliency of parks to impacts of climate change

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### Plan To Thrive:

• Facilitate inclusive community engagement in planning and project development

- Ensure equitable distribution of services, programs, natural environment, and parks
- Implement land-use policies that simultaneously improve environmental quality and public health

### **Foster Community Action:**

- Increase public outreach and program offerings around sustainability
- Increase opportunities for Commission staff to engage in sustainability
- Remove cultural, physical, and economic barriers to accessing Parks' programs, services, and facilities

### Invest In Our Future:

- Maintain reliable indicators to measure and track sustainability progress
- Reduce upfront investment of taxpayer monies for sustainability projects
- Increase economic opportunities in services area communities

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# BE CLIMATE READY AND CLIMATE FRIENDLY

## Goals

- 1. Implement nature-based climate solutions
- 2. Ensure facilities, natural resources on parkland, and communities are resilient to climate change
- 3. Design climate actions that advance racial equity and social justice

## Accomplishments

### Climate Assessment Tool

The Planning Department worked in coordination with a consultant to create a Climate Assessment Tool to conduct analysis of proposed Zoning Text Amendments (ZTAs) and master plans and master plan amendments. The new tool allows Planning staff to assess the emissions, sequestration, and resilience impacts of a ZTA or master plan. The tool provides both quantitative and qualitative approaches for estimating these effects that consider timing, data quality and availability, and existing methods and tools. This approach is a starting point for the assessments and will evolve over time as additional data or methods become available, and as Montgomery Planning learns lessons through conducting the assessments over time.

Any ZTAs or master plans submitted after January 2023 included a climate assessment documenting any climate impacts. Check out completed Climate Assessments below:

- Fairland and Briggs Chaney Master Plan
- Pedestrian Master Plan
- <u>Takoma Park Minor Master Plan Amendment</u>

The Planning Department hopes to incorporate climate assessment principles into the master planning process to evaluate alternatives and otherwise craft a master plan that maximizes climate benefits, both in terms of greenhouse gas emissions and community resilience.

### No Net Loss of Forest

As part of the Planning Department's No Net Loss of Forest initiative, the Department and stakeholders developed an amendment to the Montgomery County Forest Conservation Law, which was passed in March 2023. The amended legislation seeks to achieve a more balanced approach to forest conservation in Montgomery County by ensuring an equal or greater area of forest is planted than forest removed on a county-wide level, by projects subject to the law. The amendments included:

- Incentivize strategic protection of existing forest,
- Encourage planting new forests in areas of the county where forest cover is lacking, and
- Expand options to create forest ecosystems and increase long-term resilience of planted forests.

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These updates ensure important developments like affordable housing and public transportation projects are balanced with forest conservation, while also meeting the environmental goals in the Climate Action Plan and Thrive Montgomery 2050.

### **Expanding Reforest Montgomery**

The Planning Department's <u>Reforest Montgomery</u> program experienced growth during FY23-FY24. The program:

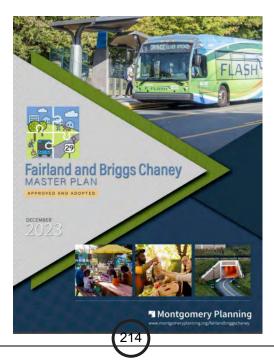
- Gained an additional full time staff member now dedicated to operating the programs, including compliance enforcement during Regulatory Review.
- Expanded the easement reforestation program (reforesting private properties) in early 2023. With this update, property owners willing to grant a new Category I forest conservation easement to the Commission may also receive free reforestation through our program.
- Began a partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools to increase tree canopy in Montgomery County by planting trees on school property.
- Free shade trees are now being prioritize for property owners located in Equity Focus Areas.
- Updated the Reforest Montgomery coupon, which increased the discount from \$40 to \$50 off a native tree purchased at a participating retailer.



### **Climate Mitigation and Resiliency in Land Use Planning**

Thrive Montgomery 2050 was developed in coordination with the county's Climate Action Plan (CAP). With the approval of Thrive 2050, climate mitigation, resiliency, and environmental justice have been more intentionally incorporated into master plans and design standards. Below are some examples:

- <u>Pedestrian Master Plan</u>: In addition to the general goal of increasing the number of people walking, the master plan has several recommendations that support climate goals:
  - Develop strategies to improve shading along sidewalks with a focus on adding shade in Equity Focus Areas (EFAs).
  - Study and compare how different surface materials, colors, and other streetscape elements can mitigate urban heat island effects.
  - Use environmentally sensitive trail materials and construction approaches to provide pedestrian connections through parkland.
  - Develop and implement a countywide transportation demand management plan for schools addressing all school-related travel.
- <u>Fairland and Briggs Chaney Master Plan</u>: The master plan was recently approved and adopted in January 2024, with several recommendations focusing on the impacts from and resiliency to climate change:
  - Complete a food system assessment to identify opportunities for a robust local food system.
  - Promote green job opportunities in the plan area, consistent with the Montgomery County CAP and High Road Inclusion Framework for an Equitable, Climate-Ready Economy.
  - Focus on decreasing the urban heat island effect by increasing tree canopy coverage with prioritization given to areas with excessive impervious surface.
  - Establish a Resilience Hub and Environmental Learning Center that serves the community and provides a destination with reliable electricity, potable water, temporary shelter, food, and indoor heating or cooling during public emergencies.



 <u>Cool Street Guidelines</u>: Developed during the recent master planning efforts for downtown silver spring. It assessed the Universal Thermal Temperatures associated with various impervious surfaces within Silver Spring and made recommendations for cooling the urban streetscape. In this process Planning staff have advanced the research in costs, benefits, maintenance, and priority areas for urban cooling strategies to mitigate the effects of urban heat and climate change.

#### **Interagency Climate Planning**

Both the Parks and Planning Departments are still active members in Montgomery County's Climate Action Leadership Team. Both departments also served on climate planning work groups to work towards increasing climate resilience of Montgomery County, such as:

- Nature-Based Climate Solutions Working Group: Local stakeholders partnered with Urban Sustainability Directors Network's Nature-Based Climate Solutions (NCS) initiative to investigate a land-use decision support tool to assess and prioritize implementation of nature-based climate solutions. This resulted in a report to identify gaps and provide recommendations for the County to move forward in implementing NCS as part of the County Climate Action Plan.
- Comprehensive Flood Management Plan (CFMP): Both Park and Planning staff are active members in the creation of the <u>County's CFMP</u>. The CFMP is a multiyear effort designed to improve the County's ability to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from flooding. The CFMP will include policy and programmatic components and technical studies. Phase 1 of the Plan was completed in May 2023, with Phase 2 actively underway.

## ENERGIZE PARKS – LEAN, CLEAN, & CARBON FREE

### Goals:

- 1. Improve facility energy performance
- 2. Increase amount of renewable energy generated on parkland and facilities

## Accomplishments

#### Solar Installation

Since 2019, Montgomery Parks' has focused on identifying good locations for on-site renewable energy generation. Our current strategy to reducing the carbon footprint our electricity is to prioritize the installation of onsite solar energy that the department maintains ownership of. Installation of on-site renewables reduces Parks' reliance on the electrical grid, energy costs, and greenhouse gas emissions associated with electricity.

In FY24, we successfully installed **3** new solar arrays on our facilities:

- Meadowbrook Maintenance Yard: **95 KW** system that will cover **100%** of the energy used at the facility. The solar is estimated to annually produce **120,000 kWh** of clean energy saving approximately **\$13,200** in utility bills.
- Wheaton Maintenance Yard: **27 KW** system was installed on a shed structure at the maintenance yard. The solar is estimated to annually produce **35,690 kWh** of clean energy saving approximately **\$3,900** in utility bills.
- Black Hill SEED Classroom: **5.7 KW** system was installed on the new net-zero SEED Classroom. The solar is intended to produce more energy than the building is consuming and will be used for educational programing.



#### **LED Retrofits**

A priority focus has been placed on retrofitting all our interior and exterior lights to LED, which typically provides quick energy and maintenance savings. Facilities Management's electric shop became fully staffed near the end of FY23, which allowed the staff to dive headfirst into these energy conservation projects. In FY23-FY24 the department retrofit a total of **431** exterior park lights to LED and **23** buildings to LED lighting. Additional financial savings for the project were obtained applying for rebates through the EMPOWER MD program.

Light Type	Athletic Field Exterior Light Fixtures	Non-Athletic Exterior Light Fixtures	All Exterior Light Fixtures
LED	14	1,518	1,532
Metal Halide	1,238	270	1,508
Induction	0	28	28
High Pressure Sodium	0	6	6
Other	0	12	12
Percentage of Exterior Lighting Retrofit of LED	1%	83%	50%

#### Figure 1: Current Park Exterior Lighting Assets

A large LED retrofit project completed FY24 was at Ridge Road Recreation Park where staff replaced 55 parking lot and trail lights. The project was identified as critically important. Over the past couple of years, the lights had annually absorbed 32 hours or more of labor per year. Required maintenance, due to outdated wiring and fixtures, cost Parks around \$3,000 a year in labor and materials. In 2022 alone, Parks has spent around \$5,588 to return the lights to service. This much needed project is estimated to save over **42,000 kWh** of energy annually and resulting in nearly **\$6,000** in utility costs savings each year on top of savings in maintenance.



## **GREEN OUR BUILDINGS & FACILITIES**

## Goals

- Improve building and facility environmental performance
- Establish internal sustainable specifications for siting, design, material selection, construction, retrofit, and maintenance of facilities, structures, and amenities on M-NCPPC parkland
- Transition building heating systems away from fossil fuels
- Reduce overall utility consumption of buildings and facilities

## Accomplishments

#### **Building Electrification**

Montgomery Parks has been working to reduce fossil fuel consumption associated with heating systems in buildings by transitioning those systems to electric whenever possible. This entails replacing old inefficient HVAC units with efficient electric air source heat pumps. In FY23-FY24 air-source heat pumps were installed in **14** buildings. The new heat-pumps will prevent over **11,000** gallons of propane, **680** gallons of fuel oil, and **6,300** therms of natural gas from being burned to heat the buildings.

#### Sustainable Education Every Day (SEED) Classroom

The Black Hill SEED Classroom completed construction in May of 2024. The classroom is an environmentally responsible structure that will serve as a unique education tool for students and families. It will be completely self-sustaining – being net-zero water and net-zero energy – and will allow students to track energy production and rainwater collection.

The planned facility includes:

- Prefabricated self-sustained building structure
- Rooftop solar panels
- Restroom with composting toilet
- Indoor living lab space
- Rainwater cistern for water recycling
- Indoor living wall that utilizes recycled rainwater



## **RIDING TO ZERO EMISSIONS**

### Goals

- Transition fleet and equipment to zero-emission alternatives
- Pursue opportunities to right-size fleet and equipment
- Implement sustainable best management strategies to ensure safety, fuel efficiency, and increased lifecycle of vehicles and equipment
- Encourage staff to engage in sustainable commuting and reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT)
- Support expansion of the publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging network in the County, including at Commission facilities

## Accomplishments

#### Landscape Equipment Electrification

To reduce air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions and gasoline consumption, our operational divisions have actively been transitioning lawn equipment to electric alternatives. As of FY24, the Southern and Northern Divisions transitioned all hand-held 2-cycle lawn equipment to electric, this includes hand-held leaf blowers, trimmers and edgers. Our operational divisions have transitioned a total of **57** riding mowers, **16** push mowers, and **537** pieces of hand-held 2-cycle lawn equipment to electric. Beyond environmental benefits, the electric equipment is significantly quieter providing enhanced safety for park maintenance staff and relief for nearby neighbors. Montgomery Parks is leading in this transition and in order share information to other local jurisdictions held an Electric Equipment Showcase in fall of 2023.

The electric equipment transition has been a multiyear effort and a large investment for the Department that will benefit our staff and communities for years to come.

Equipment	Number of Equipment Transitioned	Investment
Pole Saw	38	\$7,986
Edgers/Trimmers	200	\$85,832
Chainsaws	75	\$14,705
Blowers	224	\$120,274
Batteries/Chargers	929	\$155,569
Push Mowers	16	\$7,094
Riding Mowers	57	\$1,234,156
Electric Charging Trailers	17	\$255,147
	Total Investment	\$1,880,763

#### **Electric Landscape Equipment Inventory**



#### EV Chargers in the Parks

Montgomery Parks has partnered with Pepco to install EV chargers in the Parks. In FY23-FY24 there were **25** charging stations installed on Parkland. There are currently **29** operational EV chargers within our parks, which have hosted over **4,800** charging sessions that have offset **114,000** lbs of CO2 emissions and saved **5,800** gallons of gas. There are currently **9** more charging stations under construction in the parks.



## WASTE LESS, RECYCLE MORE

### Goals

- Reduce the total amount of waste generated through operations and within the parks
- Increase diversion rate of organic and non-organic materials
- Implement sustainability-focused policy into the procurement process
- Implement marketing, education, and outreach campaigns to staff and park patrons around waste reduction, recycling, and litter prevention

## Accomplishments

#### **Expanding Our Recycling Programs**

In 2023, Montgomery Parks and Planning smashed recycling records of the past by achieving an **85%** diversion rate, diverting **7,620** tons of waste. Overall, in 2023, there was a **13.5%** decrease in trash sent to the incinerator/landfill.

The Departments were hard at work these past two fiscal years to expand the types of items we can recycle by adding more recycling streams.

- Shoe Recycling Pilot: Green Farm Maintenance Yard ran a shoe recycling program for work boots and expanded the program to include non-work shoes as well. The program was so successful Brookside Gardens decided to run the program at their site as well. The program recycled 140 lbs of shoes.
- **Tennis Ball Recycling:** Cabin John Region begun a tennis ball recycling program at 3 outdoor tennis courts. Since starting the program in February 2024, they have recycled **1,531** tennis balls. Enterprise Division is currently working to expand the program to the indoor tennis facilities.
- Plastic Bag/Film Recycling: Plastic bags and films are not traditionally accepted in our comingle recycling bins. In August of 2023, we begun a plastic film recycling program at Wheaton Headquarters and Green Farm Maintenance Yard to start recycling plastic bags, wraps, film, and bubble wrap. Since the inception, the program has expanded to the Southern Region Maintenance Yards and Pope Farm and recycled **30** cubic yards of plastic film.



#### Zero Waste Innovations

Many staff took it upon themselves to find innovative solutions to reduce waste within their work programs, below are just a few examples:

- Meadowside Zero-Waste Kit: Staff at Meadowside Nature Center go above and beyond to
  reduce waste at events with the creation of a zero-waste kit. The kit includes reusable stainless
  steel coffee cups, tumblers, cloth napkins, dishware, silverware, magnetic name tags, a compost
  bin, and kitchen/bathroom scale. This kit is used at all staff meetings and smaller scale public
  programming. Since implementing in 2023, the kit has diverted over 500 disposable items from
  the landfill through reusable alternatives.
- **Sustainable Tree Guards:** Our Urban Forestry team is piloting the use of coconut fiber as an alternative to welded wire or plastic tree guards for deer protection on newly planted trees at Edgewood Neighborhood Park and Stewartown Local Park as part of an Urban Forest Patch restoration project. A total of **95** trees received the coconut fiber deer protection.
- Reuse of Salvaged Wood: Salvaged wood for parkland tree removal has been processed and reused in unique ways. The raised beds in Edgewood Community Park were constructed using salvaged wood. In FY23-FY24 the Parks' Annual Urban Wood Sale sold 34,900 board feet of wood was sold totaling \$74,600 in revenue.

#### **Cleaning Up Our Parks**

The Park Clean-Up program experienced growth this past year with additional help from interns and seasonal staff funded through grants. In FY23-FY24, the program ran about 900 clean-up events and removed over 197,000 lbs of waste from the parks. 56% of the clean-ups took place in parks located in Equity Focus Areas.



## PRESERVE OUR PARKS, GREEN OUR GROUNDS

## Goals

- Integrate sustainable best management practices (BMPs) into operations and maintenance of managed park spaces
- Retain natural resources within parks
- Enhance ecological services and biodiversity on parkland
- Create sustainable park design standards that enhance ecosystem services and increase resiliency of parks to impacts of climate change

## Accomplishments

#### **Expansion of Ecosystem Management**

Parks natural spaces are experiencing threats from non-native invasive species (NNIs) and that threat is exasperated by climate change. These ecosystems need to be sustainably managed to ensure long-term viability. In recognition of this threat Parks has increased resources and funding and incorporated new best management practices to support enhanced management of these spaces, as listed below:

**Expanded Urban Forestry Program:** In FY24, the Arboriculture Section hired an Inventory Arborist to ensure our tree inventory is up to date. This staff person is also conducting assessments within Urban Forest Patches and is helping to determine varying levels of effort needed to support management of these resources and develop management plans for these spaces. This data supports our ability to accurately assess genus/species diversity and can help inform future planting needs.

- Natural Resource Maintenance Crew: In FY23, the Natural Resources Section received funding to hire two new full-time staff members to act as an in-house restoration crew. The crew will do NNI management in prioritized areas and expand efforts in equity focus areas. This will drastically increase our annual impact on managing our resources to be best prepared for the changing climate.
- New Weed Warrior Staff Member: In FY23, the Natural Resources Section received funding to hire an additional full-time staff member to assist in the management and expansion of the Weed Warrior Program.
- **Prescribed Fires:** In 2024, Montgomery Parks began utilizing prescribed fire, within meadows. Prescribed fire is used to replicate historic ecosystem disturbances that maintain and enhance native biological diversity and in turn make it more resilient. Prescribed fires as a management method are only required every 3 to 4 years and eliminates the need for annual mowing, which often takes days to complete.



• Stream and Outfall Restoration: In addition to implementation of the stream and outfall restoration programs that support Montgomery Parks' MS4 NPDES Permit, staff have taken on the design, permitting, and implementation of numerous environmental restoration projects on parkland that directly support Montgomery County's MS4 NPDES Permit. Over FY23 and FY24, this has included the completion of 10 outfall restoration projects in partnership with Montgomery County Department of Transportation, the completion of one stream restoration project on behalf of Montgomery County DEP, active construction on an additional stream restoration project being implemented on behalf of Montgomery County DEP, and initiated designs on an additional 4 stream restoration and 5 outfall restoration projects on behalf of Montgomery County DEP to support their stormwater permit.

#### **Enhancing Climate Resiliency and Equity through Tree Planting**

In August 2022, Montgomery County conducted the <u>first heat-mapping initiative</u> to identify areas of the County most impacted by the heat island effect. The mapping project not only showed the importance of parks in providing shade and cool, but also where improvements could be made. The Arboriculture Section have begun incorporating tree diversity, urban heat map, and equity focus area data into site selection for landscape tree planting. By integrating available datasets, site



selection for landscape tree planting can now focus on establishing more diverse and resilient managed areas of parkland, maximizing the benefits of nature-based climate solutions, and ensuring climate mitigation measures are prioritized in the areas of greatest need.

#### **Increasing Natural Resources on Parkland**

While management of already existing natural resources was a priority, Montgomery Parks also focused on increasing the natural resources and ecosystems on parkland.

In FY23-FY24 Montgomery Parks:

- Acquired **700 acres** of additional forest and natural habitat, in targeted biodiversity or ecologically sensitive areas. Public ownership of the property will ensure long-term preservation and care.
- Implemented meadow restoration projects in 3 parks to enhance natural regeneration, resiliency to NNI, and to promote native pollinator and wildlife support. A total of 22 acres of meadow habitat was restored. Meadow restoration sites at Meadowbrook and Locust Grove Nature Center's will be used for demonstrations and environmental education.
- Planted **1,238** trees in landscaped areas of parkland. FY24 nearly **70%** of the trees installed went into parks that fall within an equity focus area, which are communities that may be at greater risk of experiencing the negative effects of climate change.

#### Stormwater Management

Montgomery Parks is regulated by a Phase II General Permit under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program for stormwater discharges from small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s). The purpose of the program is to eliminate nutrient and sediment pollution from stormwater within the Chesapeake Bay watershed through the implementation of best management practices, or techniques that manage the quantity and quality of stormwater runoff. The permit also requires that 20% of existing untreated impervious surface be treated by the year 2025. Thus far, Montgomery Parks has achieved more than 80% of the restoration requirement and is well poised to fulfill requirements by the deadline.

In FY23, Parks completed three outfall restoration projects that were accompanied by robust plantings of native plugs, shrubs, and trees to improve the local vegetative community. Outfall restoration projects stabilize eroded banks and create additional stormwater capacity, which reduces sediment loads, improves downstream water quality, and allows for better floodplain connectivity. In FY23, three microbioretentions were installed to provide stormwater treatment for existing untreated impervious at Dale Drive Neighborhood Park, Stewartown Local Park, and Nolte Local Park. These formal stormwater management facilities have a unique mix of filtering media and are vegetated with shrubs and herbaceous plants that aid in the treatment of stormwater and can provide habitat. Parks also completed 11 individual projects to convert impervious to pervious land, totaling approximately 1.6 acres of impervious removed in FY23.

In FY24, Parks installed an additional micro-bioretention at Nolte Local Park and completed one outfall restoration project to help meet the goals of the MS4 permit. In addition to the NPDES Program, Parks is always seeking out opportunities to improve the environment in conjunction with park improvement projects. In FY24, Parks was able to restore a portion of two streams in conjunction with pedestrian

bridge replacement projects and completed one outfall stabilization project. Stream restoration and outfall stabilization projects restore floodplain connectivity and improve riparian zones with the ultimate goal of improving the overall water quality of the downstream resources.



## **PLAN TO THRIVE**

## Goals

- Facilitate inclusive community engagement in planning and project development, particularly for communities that have been historically underrepresented in the planning process
- Ensure equitable distribution of services, programs, natural environment, and parks
- Apply and incorporate an equity lens to plans, policies, and practices
- Incorporate environmental justice principles and climate vulnerabilities into land-use decision making
- Implement land use policies and practices that reduce use of personal automobiles and increase use of transit and active transportation
- Implement land use policies that simultaneously improve environmental quality and public health

## Accomplishments

#### Thrive is Approved and Awarded!

Thrive was approved by the County Council in October of 2022. The General Master Plan integrates principles of sustainability and climate action, which will ensure other master plans and regulatory controls will prioritize social equity, environmental resilience, and economic competitiveness. In 2023, Montgomery Planning received a <u>Maryland Department of Planning Sustainable Growth Award</u> in recognition of the Plan's promotion of sustainability and vibrancy for Montgomery County's Communities.

#### **Community Equity Index**

As part of the Planning Department's Equity Agenda for Planning, the Department created the Community Equity Index (CEI). CEI is a composite measure of equity-related indicators that helps users understand socio-economic conditions that drive advantage and disadvantage across the county. It measures the extent to which individual neighborhoods are representative of the socio-economic diversity of the county. This project recognizes that it is not enough to document county-level inequity; planners must document and analyze conditions at smaller geographies to understand how the individual parts are summing up to the whole. The CEI data is accessible through the <u>CEI Interactive Explorer</u>, which includes tutorials on how to use the map and overlays U.S. Climate Vulnerability Index with the CIE analysis.

#### **Encouraging and Expanding Access to Active Transportation**

• **Bikeway Branding Project:** The Planning Department has partnered with Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) to develop the <u>Bikeway Branding Project</u> to actively market the bikeway system in the County and increase biking. The project develops a cohesive brand identity and provides recommendations on how to implement a consistent and

recognizable look and feel to communicate the benefits of the bikeway system. The project also includes a wayfinding and signage system that will further create a connective experience for people utilizing the bikeway network. The Planning Department and MCDOT have been piloting one of the outcomes of the project -- a wayfinding approach -- in the North Bethesda area.

- Wheaton Regional Park Master Plan: <u>Wheaton Regional Park Master Plan</u> was finalized and approved in June of 2022. The Plan recognized the potential for the park trails to serve as connective routes through out Wheaton and to the Metro. However, issues around wayfinding and lack of signage and limited entrances to enter the park by walking or biking posed a barrier for residents to utilize the trails to their full potential. Recommendations to enhance active transportation and trail connectivity include:
  - Creating a comprehensive sign plan to include directional/wayfinding signage throughout the park and surrounding state and county roads.
  - Providing multiuse trails which include bicycles to all park destinations and enhancing connectivity of trail system.
  - o Enhancing the user experience through signs, maps, wayfinding, and other amenities.
  - Adding additional park entrances to formalize pedestrian access.
  - Adding bike racks to provide secure bike storage.
  - Improving transit service to the park through collaboration with Montgomery County Department of Transportation.
- Pedestrian Master Plan: In October 2023, the County Council approved the final draft for <u>Montgomery County's Pedestrian Master Plan</u>. The Plan is Montgomery Planning's first comprehensive vision to create safer, more comfortable experiences walking or rolling around the county, and to make getting around more convenient and accessible for every pedestrian. The plan's vision is supported by four goals:
  - o Increase walking rates and pedestrian satisfaction.
  - o Create a comfortable, connected, convenient pedestrian network.
  - o Enhance pedestrian safety.
  - Build an equitable and just pedestrian network.



## FOSTER COMMUNITY ACTION

## Goals

- Increase public outreach and program offerings that inform and engage local community members in sustainability, climate change, conservation, and health/wellness
- Increase opportunities for Commission staff to engage in sustainability training and professional development, sustainable habits in the workplace, and implementation of the Sustainability Plan
- Remove cultural, physical, and economic barriers to accessing Parks' programs, services, and facilities

## Accomplishments

#### Staff Sustainability Engagement and Training

Both Montgomery Parks and Planning worked hard to spread awareness and educate staff on various sustainability topics. A huge focus in FY23-FY24 was providing in-person and virtual training and event opportunities for staff to learn more about sustainability and gain technical knowledge to implement climate action within their work.

- Sustainability Lunch & Learns: In 2023, Bi-County Sustainability Committee launched Sustainability Lunch & Learns. The events happen every quarter and are available for all Commission staff to attend. So far, the committee has run 5 events with 250 attendees.
- Recycling Trainings: The Sustainability Team continued to offer both in-person and virtual recycling trainings for staff to ensure proper waste sorting and reduction in contamination of the waste



streams. In FY23-FY24 160 staff participated in the training.

- Earth Month Day of Service: For Earth Month 2024, the Sustainability Team organized park clean-ups at 4 different parks, providing staff with 2-hours of admin leave to participate. The clean-ups resulted in 250lbs of trash being removed from parks.
- **Climate Professional Development:** Multiple opportunities were provided to staff to receive continuing education around climate change.
  - Climate Education Training: In 2023, all Montgomery Parks Naturalists received training around climate communications and education. The training included presentations on the Montgomery County CAP, training from National network for Ocean and Climate Change Interpretation on climate communications, and trainings on climate change education through Project WET.

- U.S. Forest Service's Climate Adaptation Training: The Vegetation Ecology & Management staff completed this training provided by the Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science. The course provided natural resource practitioners with adaptation actions that they can integrate into their day-to-day work.
- Miyawaki Forest Training: Some select Vegetation Ecology & Management staff also took a training focused on practice and implementation of Miyawaki forest methods. The Miyawaki forest method is an afforestation technique for cultivating fast growing forest patches.
- Climate Innovation Accelerator Program: Montgomery Parks and Montgomery County Government (MCG) collaborated to provide Park and Planning and MCG staff the Climate Innovation Accelerator training. The program was a 3-day course that provided staff with problem solving skills to help overcome barriers to implementing climate solutions.
- Innovate MoCo Parks: The Sustainability Team sponsored a campaign through the Innovate MoCo Parks program focused on solutions to reducing trash within our parks. The **30** staff were actively engaged in the campaign, and we received **34** ideas from staff. An internal working group is currently working on implementing waste reduction strategies from the campaign.

#### Hosting Sustainability Professional Development Opportunities

Montgomery Parks and Planning went beyond providing opportunities for internals staff to receive training in sustainability and served as hosts for professional development opportunities related to sustainability.

- <u>Makeover Montgomery 5</u>: Montgomery Planning hosted a 3-day public conference with planners, architects, developers, real estate professionals, economists, social scientists, ecologists and others to discuss cutting-edge ideas to help Montgomery County thrive. The sessions were organized into four themes under the general topic of resilience: economic resilience, neighborhood and social resilience, environmental, climate, and infrastructureresilience, and public health resilience.
- <u>Urban Tree Summit</u>: Montgomery Parks partnered with Casey Trees to provide an opportunity to learn from experts, experienced peers, and local, tree-focused, and mission-driven organizations at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Urban Tree Summit. A combination of field sessions and virtual sessions were offered, and attendees were able to receive Continuing Education Units (CEUs) by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), MD Licensed Tree Expert (MD LTE), and Society of American Foresters (SAF).
- <u>Greenscapes Symposium</u>: Brookside Gardens hosted the annual Greenscapes Symposium in winter of 2022 and 2023. The symposium explores the latest topics related to landscape sustainability and the environment. Attendees could receive CEUs from the multitude of organizations for attending sessions.

#### **Expanding Community Gardens**

The Community Gardens Program plays an important role in expanding access to healthy, fresh, local food. During FY23-24 the program experienced growth:

- Received funding and hired an additional full-time staff member to help increase program and staff capacity.
- Opened **2** new community gardens in Edgewood Neighborhood Park and Black Hill Regional Park. The new community gardens added an additional **40** plots, **3** of which are accessible gardening tables.
- Community Garden's in 2023 begun running Foodie Fridays. This is a monthly speaker series focused on highlighting food-related topics as well as how the food system impacts residents of Montgomery County. The new event series was a success with 5 events and 202 attendees. The series was even highlighted on the local news!

Additionally, a core priority of the program is to reduce food waste and food insecurity within the county through food recovery and donations. The Community Gardens' Program works to address food insecurity by encouraging gardeners to participate in food recovery efforts that eliminate food loss and waste. Grown@Pope aims to reduce food insecurity in the County by growing produce for donation to local food assistance providers. In FY23-24 the community gardens program donated a total of **9,000 lbs** of food.



#### **Great Year to Volunteer!**

Montgomery Parks' Volunteer Services Office has been hard at work to provide plenty of opportunities for our residents to get in our Parks and volunteer. Many of the volunteer programs provided in FY23-FY24 help preserve the natural resources on parkland and provide meaningful opportunities for environmental education. In addition to already existing programs, new programs like the Meadowside Raptor Breeding Monitors provide an opportunity for residents to track breeding raptors and encourages community science!

Below are a few highlights from FY23-24:

- Weed Warriors: The Weed Warriors program is one of the oldest volunteer programs within Montgomery Parks and experienced a record setting amount of volunteer hours in FY23 and a ton of growth in FY23-FY24:
  - Removed over **33,900** tree killing vines from riparian buffer habitat.
  - Trained and certified 163 new Weed Warrior volunteers and 13 new Weed Warrior
     Supervisors, dedicated to non-native, invasive plant management and restoration efforts in community focus area and priority focus area parks.
  - Expanded program efforts to include restoration of treatment areas using native seed and/or plantings. Volunteers restored approximately 8 acres of parkland, planting 2,275 native plants.
  - Expanded the program to include corporate and school groups workdays, which also include an ecology lesson for volunteers.
  - o Over 5,590 volunteers provided 24,750 hours to Montgomery Parks
- Park Volunteer Clean-Ups: Park clean-ups continued to be a huge success in FY24, hosting about 760 clean-up events. There were 7,097 volunteers who provided 13,202 hours of service. The labor provided by volunteers is estimated to value over \$461,920 in benefit to the Parks.
- **Community Science:** There are multiple volunteer opportunities that allow residents to engage in community science. In FY24, **78 volunteers** provided **814 hours** of service and community science to the Parks department.
  - FrogWatch Program volunteers are trained to identify frog and toad calls at wetland sites and report their observations online to a national database. Data is compiled and analyzed to develop conservation strategies for amphibian species and their habitats. 35 volunteers contributed 208 hours in FY24.
  - Bird Breeding Program volunteers track different breeding birds in early spring, monitor potential damage and/or growth of populations, and best breeding locations. For FY24, 16 volunteers reported approximately 180 hours towards listening and analyzing bird data.
  - **Raptor Breeding Monitors** from Meadowside Nature Center continued their success tracking raptors in the early spring of 2024 with **27 volunteers** contributing **426 hours.**

## INVEST IN OUR FUTURE

### Goals

- Create and maintain reliable indicators to measure and track sustainability project performance and cost-effectiveness
- Reduce upfront investment of taxpayer monies for sustainability projects using innovative funding sources
- Increase economic opportunities in services area communities

## Accomplishments

#### Grants to Support Sustainability

As a public agency it is critically important to identify and proactively apply for creative funding sources. Below are some recent examples of grants Montgomery Parks was awarded to support sustainability related projects and programs:

- In 2023 Enterprise Division completed large interior LED retrofits of both the Cabin John and Wheaton Ice Rinks. They received over \$28,700 in utility rebates which covered 82% of the material cost of the retrofit. The projects resulted in 404 lights being retrofitted to LED and an energy and cost savings of nearly 130,000 kWh and \$31,000 annually..
- Volunteer Services and Montgomery Parks Foundation collaborated and secured a total of \$121,500 of grant funding. This funding provided additional resources for community outreach and engagement in the Volunteer Park Clean Ups Program specifically to increase the capacity in Equity Focused Areas.

#### **EmPOWER Maryland Rebates**

Energy utility companies operating throughout the state of Maryland manage energy rebates programs for their customers through the EmPOWER Maryland program. In the past it has been difficult for Montgomery Parks to take advantage of the rebates due to labor intensive applications. However, in FY24 we were able to identify contractors and vendors who could apply for the rebates and provide an instant discount to the price of materials and service contracts. In FY23-FY24, Montgomery Parks received **\$87,873.50** in utility rebates to reduce the upfront costs of the projects.

Most notably the Enterprise Division completed large interior LED retrofits of both the Cabin John and Wheaton Ice Rinks. They received over **\$28,700** in utility rebates which covered **82%** of the material cost of the retrofit. The projects resulted in **404** lights being retrofitted to LED and an energy and cost savings of nearly **130,000 kWh** and **\$31,000** annually.



#### **Estimated Utility Cost Savings**

The energy conservation and renewable energy projects have benefits beyond a reduction in carbon emissions and result in financial savings through a reduction in utility bills. Projects completed in FY23-FY24 are estimated to save the Commission **\$246,025** annually in utility/maintenance costs.

#### Estimated Annual Cost Savings from Energy Projects Completed in FY23-FY24

Project Type	Total Spent on Projects	Estimated Annual Savings	Return on Investment
LED Retrofits	\$252,602	*\$178,628	1.4
HVAC Replacements	\$95,000	\$40,397	2.4
Solar Installation	\$407,170	\$27,000	15.1

\*Includes utility and maintenance savings of LED retrofits

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TO:	Commissioners
FROM:	Mazen Chilet, Chief Information Officer
DATE:	11/20/2024
SUBJECT:	Chief Information Officer Report – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter - 2024 – Open Session

# Update on the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP): Project Mosaic, Kronos/UKG Migration Project, and Microsoft Copilot.

#### **ERP: Project Mosaic**

#### Brief Background

A Comprehensive Overview was presented to the Commission on October 03, 2024. The presentation covered the following topics: Project Benefits, Executive Summary, Project History, Evolution of Requirements, Financial Analysis, and a recommendation for a move to approve a total project cost of \$14 million for the ERP: Project Mosaic for the Commission-wide ERP system replacement. The Commission supported and motioned to approve the \$14 million.

#### **ERP Funding: Summary**

- On Thursday, October 3, 2024, the Commissioners approved an updated budget for the ERP project, which now has a funding authority set at \$14 million.
- The Commission has approved the closure of six CWIT activities and the reallocation of their funding to the ERP project, specifically for ERP Project Activity.

#### Timeline

- As we conclude Phase 3 of the Requirements Gathering Process, we are set to release the RFP Package on Wednesday, November 20, 2024.
- Procurement will be responsible for the RFP Package release and following interactions with vendors, Legal, OCIO, and Sponsors leading up to the award. Notable dates to remember coming up are: Pre-Proposal Meeting, December 18, 2024; Proposal Question Deadline, January 8, 2025; and RFP Responses from Vendors Due by February 28, 2025.
- Procurement is working on developing the timeline for the evaluation and selection process.

#### **RFP Schedule**

## **Project Approach and Schedule**

Phases:	Oct - Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
P1 - Strategize	Project Planning	P1 Launch										Legend	
Deliverables:		ERP									M-NC	PPC & ITRG Joi	nt Effort
<ul> <li>Phase1Launch</li> <li>ERP Strategy</li> </ul>	Strategy Review &	Education										ITRG Own & Le	ed
<ul> <li>ERP Operating Model</li> <li>ERP Mega Process Framework</li> </ul>	Comment		gy, Op Model ocess Framewo	ork							м	-NCPPC Own 8	Led
P2 - Elicit					Procurement E	nd-of-Year Rus	h						
<ul> <li>Solution Requirements</li> <li>Vendor Landscape</li> </ul>					Core T (Req	eam Working s uirements Gath	essions ering)					RFP R	elease
<ul> <li>RFP Document</li> </ul>					Req	uirements	Def.						
<ul> <li>Response Template</li> <li>Evaluation Scorecard</li> </ul>					RFP	Developme	nt						
P3 - Select Deliverables: • Field RFP									Fie	id RFP	Review/ Down Select	Derno Prep	
<ul> <li>Short List Recommendations</li> </ul>													Demos
<ul> <li>Demonstration Scripts</li> <li>Vendor demonstration</li> </ul>													-
<ul> <li>Vendor demonstration</li> <li>Vendor Selection</li> </ul>											We	are here!	
<ul> <li>Negotiations</li> <li>Award</li> </ul>												tion, Negotiati tation Mobiliza	

RFP Sponsors' Review	October 18-24
Info-Tech and Procurement address Sponsors' comments	October 25-November 1
Review Committee reviews the RFP package	November 4-8
Info-Tech addresses Review Committee's comments	November 11-15
RFP package released	November 20
Pre-Proposal Meeting	December 18
Proposal Question Deadline	January 08, 2025
RFP Responses Due Date	February 28, 2025

#### **Kronos/UKG Migration Project**

The Kronos/UKG Migration Project is a significant initiative aimed at enhancing the Commission' timekeeping and payroll systems. Here are some key points about the project:

#### **Project Overview**

UKG (formally Kronos) will retire the UKG Workforce Central Timekeeper product and its hosting option at the end of December 2025. The upgrade involves migrating from Kronos to UKG Workforce Pro. This includes enhancements, such as a mobile app, time-off requests, easier historical corrections, and a cleaner look and feel. It also includes payroll synchronization, during which two payroll cycles—primary and secondary—will be combined into just one primary payroll cycle.

# Cutover to the new system: <u>The Go-Live date for UKG Workforce Pro is set for December 8,</u> <u>2024.</u>

#### Project Details

#### Phase I

- Migration from UKG Workforce Timekeeper to UKG Workforce Pro Management.
- Synchronization (Consolidation) of the agency's payroll cycles into a single pay schedule and related processes.
- Retain historical data access to attendance data on-premise.

#### Phase II

• Deployment of UKG Workforce Pro Management mobile app.

#### Training

- There are two trainings for employees, and both are mandatory.
- They are mandatory for compliance with Maryland Labor Law and the Commission's Administrative Procedure 19-02: Attendance, Completion and Approval of Timecards.

#### HR-Payroll Synchronization: UKG Workforce Pro: Business Process Training.

• This self-paced training is tailored to business process changes related to payroll synchronization.

# End-user Training: Time and Attendance Management to train the end-user on the new UKG functionality.

- There are three trainings, and they are identified as All Staff, Managers, and Time Administrators.
- The trainings are 45-minute live sessions daily on Teams: November 18-22, 2024, and December 2-6, 2024, at 9:30 am and 1:30 pm.
- Registration opened on Friday, October 25, 2024. Employees must register in Learning Central.
- Employees who use clocks do not need to take the training.
- Also, on-demand videos and text-based materials will be available as references.

**Microsoft Copilot Training:** The Chief Technology Officers (CTOs) of the Commission's IT Division have collaborated and secured training from a third-party provider to deliver introductory Copilot training for employees slotted to receive a Copilot license. The initial training session is scheduled to take place on:

- Tuesday, November 19, 2024, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.
- Thursday, November 21, 2024, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.

CTOs also will collaborate to introduce additional Copilot training sessions into 2025.

End of Report

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The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
Office of the General Counsel

Reply to:

Debra S. Borden, General Counsel Office of the General Counsel 6611 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 200-201 Riverdale, Maryland 20737 Phone: 301-454-1670 • Fax: 301-454-1674

November 4, 2024

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO: The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

FROM: Debra S. Borden General Counsel

**RE:** Litigation Report for October 2024 – FY 2025

Please find the attached litigation report we have prepared for your meeting scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, 2024. As always, please do not hesitate to call me in advance if you would like me to provide a substantive briefing on any of the cases reported.

#### Table of Contents - October 2024, Fiscal Year 2025 Report

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Litigation Report Ordered by Court Jurisdiction	Page 09

## October 2024

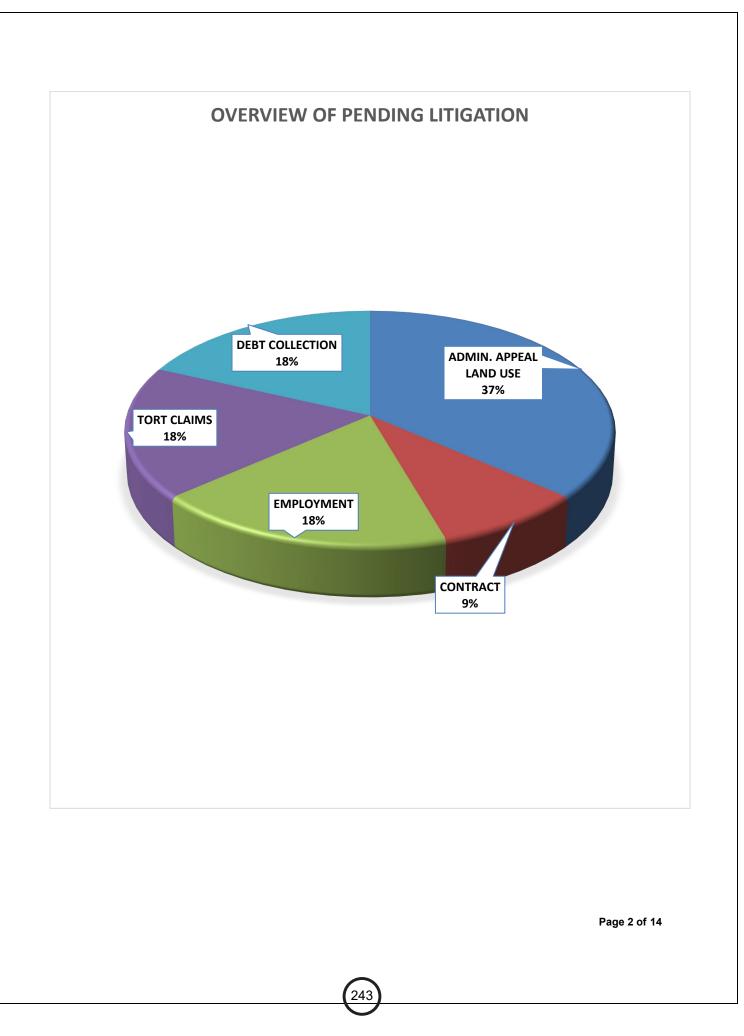
## **Composition of Pending Litigation**

(Sorted by Subject Matter and Forum)

	STATE TRIAL COURT	APPELLATE COURT OF MARYLAND	SUPREME COURT OF MARYLAND	FEDERAL TRIAL COURT	FEDERAL APPEALS COURT	U.S. SUPREME COURT	SUBJECT MATTER TOTALS
ADMIN APPEAL: LAND USE	3	1					4
ADMIN APPEAL: OTHER							0
BANKRUPTCY							0
CIVIL ENFORCEMENT							0
CONTRACT DISPUTE	1						1
DEBT COLLECTION	2						2
EMPLOYMENT DISPUTE	2						2
LAND USE DISPUTE							
MISCELLANEOUS							
PROPERTY DISPUTE							
TORT CLAIM	2						2
WORKERS' COMPENSATION							
PER FORUM TOTALS	10	2					11

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	COUN		IONTH	COUNT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024			
	Pending Sept. 2024	New Cases	Resolved Cases	Pending Prior FY	New Cases FY To Date	Resolved Cases FY To Date	Pending Current Month
Admin Appeal: Land Use (AALU)	4			4	2	2	4
Admin Appeal: Other (AAO)	1		1	2	1	2	0
Bankruptcy (B)	0			0			0
Civil Enforcement (CE)	0			0			0
Contract Disputes (CD)	1			1	1	1	1
Debt Collection (D)	1	1		0	2		2
Employment Disputes (ED)	2			4		1	2
Land Use Disputes (LD)	0			0			0
Miscellaneous (M)	0			0			0
Property Disputes (PD)	0			0			0
Tort Claims (T)	2			3	1	1	2
Workers' Compensation (WC)	0			5			0
TOTALS	11	1	1	19	7	7	11

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## **October 2024 Litigation Activity Summary**

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### INDEX OF YTD NEW CASES (7/1/2024 TO 6/30/25)

A. New Trial Court Cases.	<u>Unit</u>	Subject Matter	<u>Month</u>
Asare v. Commission	PG	Tort	Aug.
In the Matter of Cameron Hills Owner's Association Inc., et al.	MC	AALU	Aug.
Commission v. Denis	MC	DC	Sept.
Hallman v. Cowell, et al.	PG	CD	Sept.
Greater Capitol Heights Improvement Corporation, Inc. v. Commission	PG	AALU	Sept.
Commission v. Brewer	PG	DC	Oct.

B. New Appellate Court Cases.	<u>Unit</u>	Subject Matter	<u>Month</u>
Paige Industrial Services, Inc. v.	MC	AAO	July
Commission			

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### INDEX OF YTD RESOLVED CASES (7/1/2024 TO 6/30/2025)

A. Trial Court Cases Resolved	<u>Unit</u>	Subject Matter	<u>Month</u>
Commission v. Chen	MC	CD	July
Mays v. Commission	PG	ED	July
In the Matter of Forest Grove Citizens	MC	AALU	July
Association, et al. (C-15-CV-23-002405)			-
In the Matter of Forest Grove Citizens	MC	AALU	July
Association, et al. (C-15-CV-24-000505)	MC	AALU	July
Chisley v. Commission	PG	Tort	July
Evans v. Braveboy, et al.	PG	Tort	Aug.
Weisman v. Commission, et al.	MC	ED	Aug.

B. Appellate Court Cases Resolved	<u>Unit</u>	Subject Matter	<u>Month</u>
Paige Industrial Services, Inc. v.	MC	AAO	Sept.
Commission			

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	Disposition of FY25 Closed Cases Sorted by Department	
CLIENT	PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF ACTION IN DISPUTE	DISPOSITION
Employees Retirement System		
Finance Department		
Department of Human Resources & Management		
Montgomery County Department of Parks		
Commission v. Chen	Breach of Contract matter to recover funds for rental of recreational fields.	07/18/2024 – Case voluntarily dismissed after payment of outstanding funds.
Paige Industrial Services, Inc. V. Commission	Judicial Review of the decision of the administrative agency (CCRC). Contractor's claim for additional payments for construction at Rock Creek Maintenance Yard.	07/12/2024 – Decision of the CCRC affirmed. However, case appealed to the Appellate Court of Maryland.
Paige Industrial Services, Inc. V. Commission	Appeal of decision affirming the decision of the administrative agency (CCRC). Contractor's claim for additional payments for construction at Rock Creek Maintenance Yard.	09/04/2024 Case dismissed by Order of the Appellate Court of Maryland.
Montgomery County Park Police		
Weisman v. Commission, et al.	Plaintiff, a former police sergeant, filed a complaint against the Commission and the Montgomery County Chief of Police, alleging a hostile work environment due to discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and religion.	08/12/2024 – Motion to Dismiss granted.

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Montgomery County Planning Board		
In the Matter of Forest Grove Citizens Assoc. et al. (C-15-CV-23-002405)	Petitioners sought Judicial Review of the Montgomery County Planning Department's decision regarding 9801 Georgia Avenue Sketch Plan 320230020.	07/29/2024 – Judgment of the Planning Board affirmed.
In the Matter of Forest Grove Citizens Assoc. et al. (C-15-CV-24-000505)	Petitioners sought Judicial Review of the Montgomery County Planning Department's decision regarding 9801 Georgia Avenue Sketch Plan 320230020.	07/29/2024 – Judgment of the Planning Board affirmed.
Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation		
Mays v. Commission	Employee terminated from the Commission for her COVID vaccination status brought suit alleging several employment-related claims, such as religious and genetic discrimination, retaliation, and wrongful discharge.	07/27/2024 – Case settled and dismissed.
Chisley v. Commission, et al.	Plaintiff alleged he tripped and fell in a concealed hole at Enterprise Golf Course.	08/04/2024 – Case dismissed for lack of prosecution.
Evans v. Braveboy, et al.	Plaintiff alleged she tripped and fell at Fairwood Community Park due to uneven sidewalk pavement resulting in injuries.	08/07/2024 – Motion to Dismiss granted.
Prince George's County Planning Board		
Prince George's Park Police		
Office of Internal Audit		

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#### DISTRICT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Case No. D-06-CV-24-022979 (DC)

Lead Counsel: Other Counsel:	Johnson	
Abstract:	Action to recove	r losses for damage(s) to Commission property.
Status: Docket:	Complaint filed a	and service pending.
	09/17/2024	Complaint filed
	09/23/2024	Summons issued
	10/22/2024	Affidavit of non-service

#### DISTRICT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Request for Summons Renewal

10/22/2024

#### Commission v. Brewer

Case No. D-05-CV-24-044346 (DC)

Lead Counsel:	Johnson	
Abstract:	Action to recove	er losses for damage(s) to Commission property.
Status: Docket:	Complaint filed a	and service pending.
	10/22/2024	Complaint filed
	01/27/2025	Hearing scheduled pending service
		Hallman v. Cowell, et al. No. D-05-CV-24-033378 (CD)
Lead Counsel: Other Counsel:	Rupert	
Abstract:	Action for paym	ent of services rendered at Suitland Community Center.
Status: Docket:	Case dismissed	
	08/25/2024	Complaint filed
	09/10/2024	Commission employee served
	09/13/2024	Notice of Intent to Defend filed
	10/03/2024	Stipulation of Dismissal
	10/11/2024	Order - Motion to Continue moot

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#### CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

## In the Matter of Cameron Hill Owner's Association, Inc., et al. Case No. C-15-CV-24-004664 (AALU)

Lead Counsel: Other Counsel:	Mills	
Abstract:		udicial Review/Mandamus of the Montgomery County Planning regarding 8676 Georgia Avenue Sketch Plan 320230060 and I20230150.
Status:	Hearing set.	
Docket:	08/26/2024 09/13/2024 09/20/2024 02/06/2025	Petition for Judicial ReviewAnswer to Petition for Judicial ReviewAnswer to Petition for Judicial ReviewHearing set
		prest Grove Citizens Association, et al. b. C-15-CV-24-001622 (AALU)
Lead Counsel: Other Counsel:	Mills	
Abstract:		udicial Review of the Montgomery County Planning Board's Georgia Avenue Plan no(s). 120230160, 820230130 and
Status:	Hearing set.	
Docket:		Detition for Indiaial Devices
	04/08/2024	Petition for Judicial Review
	04/17/2024	First Amended Petition for Judicial Review
	05/01/2024	Answer to Petition for Judicial Review
	05/08/2024	Answer to Petition for Judicial Review
	05/31/2024	Administrative Record received
	06/26/2024	Order of Court. Case Nos. C-15-CV-24-001622, C-15-CV-24- 002507 and C-15-CV-24-001628 be consolidated pursuant to Maryland 2-503; and it is further ordered that all future pleadings shall be filed in Civil No. C-15-CV-24-001622 and said case shall be designated as the lead case.
	07/29/2024	Memorandum in Support of Petition for Judicial Review
	09/12/2024	Respondent's Memorandum filed
	10/02/2024	Reply in Support of the Petition for Judicial Review

Hearing set

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11/06/2024

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#### CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

Aisha Asare v. Commission Case No. C-16-CV-24-003596 (Tort)

Lead Counsel: Other Counsel:	Thornton	
Abstract:		juries at Southern Recreation Center as a result of a physical articipating in Xtreme Teen's program.
Status:	Motion pending.	
Docket:	08/02/2024 08/20/2024 09/12/2024 10/21/2024	Complaint filedCommission servedMotion to Dismiss and supporting memorandum filedRequest for extension of time to respond to Motion to Dismiss
<u>Tiffany Ce</u>		ational Capital Park and Planning Commission b. C-16-CV-23-003168 (ED)
Lead Counsel: Other Counsel:	Ticer Johnson; Rupert	
Abstract:	Defendant is allegir disability, as well as	ng employment discrimination based upon race, sex, and s retaliation.
Status:	In discovery.	
Docket:	07/12/2023 09/26/2023 12/28/2023 01/03/2024 02/14/2024 02/28/2024 05/30/2024 06/11/2024 07/03/2024 07/03/2024 07/16/2024 08/05/2024 10/17/2024 11/26/2024 01/21/2025	Complaint filedSummons reissuedComplaint received from SDAT via certified mail.Answer filedStipulation Order Regarding Confidentiality of Discovery Material filedOrder of Court regarding Confidentiality of Discovery Material Scheduling Order issuedMotion to Modify scheduling order to reschedule settlement conferenceOrder of the Court granting Motion to Modify scheduling order.Motion to Strike Appearance of J. StolarzOrder of Court granting Motion to Strike and Notice to Employ new counsel.Notice of AppearanceHearing – Settlement ConferenceTrial

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Case No. C-16-CV-24-003895 (AALU)	
Lead Counsel: Other Counsel:	Warner
Abstract:	Petitioners seek Judicial Review of the Prince George's County Planning Board's Decision approving Preliminary Pan of Subdivision No. 4-22014.
Status:	Hearing set.
Docket:	08/21/2024Petition for Judicial Review09/24/2024Response to Petition for Judicial Review filed.10/21/2024Scheduling Order07/28/2025Hearing set
Lead Counsel: Other Counsel:	Thornton Bansal
Abstract:	Tort suit for injuries allegedly sustained while attending a Bowie Baysox game at Prince George's Stadium.
Status:	Commission served.
Docket:	06/21/2024Complaint filed10/23/2024Complaint received via certified mail.

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#### Greater Capitol Heights Improvement Corporation, Inc. v. Commission

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#### Rakiya-Rae Wallace v. Commission, et al. Case No. C-16-CV-23-003055 (ED)

Lead Counsel: Other Counsel:	Ticer Thornton, Rupert
Abstract:	Former employee alleges discrimination and wrongful termination relating to her COVID vaccination status.
Status:	Case settled and dismissed.

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Docket:

07/03/2023	Complaint filed
07/12/2023	Commission served
08/07/2023	Motion to Dismiss and Supporting Memorandum
08/21/2023	Consent Stipulation to Extend Time to Respond to Motion to
	Dismiss
09/05/2023	Response in Opposition to Defendants' Motion to Dismiss
09/05/2023	Amended Complaint
09/18/2023	Order of Court. Motion to Dismiss Denied as Moot
09/22/2023	Motion to Dismiss Amended Complaint
10/06/2023	Response in Opposition to Dismiss Amended Complaint
10/18/2023	Reply to Opposition to Motion to Dismiss
02/16/2024	Motion to Stay and/or Modify Scheduling Order
02/27/2024	Order of Court striking scheduling order issued on 10/12/2023.
03/28/2024	Motion for Postponement of Hearing on Defendants' Motion to
	Dismiss
03/29/2024	Hearing held. Order of Court – Motion to Postpone hearing on
	Motion to Dismiss granted. Parties to brief issue raised.
	Decision to be made without further hearing.
04/10/2024	Defendants' Motion to Dismiss withdrawn by consent.
04/10/2024	Order of Court – Motions Withdrawn. Plaintiff to file a Second
	Amended Complaint within thirty days.
04/30/2024	Second Amended Complaint filed
05/06/2024	Red-lined Second Amended Complaint
05/30/2024	Answer to Second Amended Complaint
09/27/2024	Mediation held
10/16/2024	Stipulation of Dismissal filed

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#### **APPELLATE COURT OF MARYLAND**

#### Brij Bhargava, et al. v. Prince George's County Public Schools Proposed Southern K-8 Middle School, et al.

Case No. ACM REG – 0659-2023 (AALU)

(Originally filed under CAL21-13945 in Prince George's County)

Lead Counsel: Other Counsel:

Abstract: Appeal of decision affirming the Prince George's County Planning Board's decision to affirm the Planning Director's approval of a tree conservation plan, a revision of that tree conservation plan, and variances to the Woodland Conservation Ordinance that allowed removal of specimen trees.

Status: Opinion pending.

Warner

Docket:

05/31/2023	Appeal filed
06/27/2023	Order to Proceed
08/25/2023	Briefing Notice
08/30/2023	Joint Stipulation to Modify Briefing Schedule
10/11/2023	Record Extract
10/13/2023	Appellant Brief
12/01/2023	Appellees Brief filed
12/21/2023	Reply Brief
01/25/2024	Scheduling Notice
03/12/2024	Oral argument reset for June.
06/04/2024	Oral argument held.

#### SUPREME COURT OF MARYLAND

No Pending Matters

#### U.S. DISTRICT COURT OF MARYLAND

No Pending Matters

#### **U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT**

No Pending Matters

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