

AGENDA ITEM #34
June 22, 2010
Public Hearing/Action

MEMORANDUM

June 18, 2010

TO: County Council

FROM: Essie McGuire, Legislative Analyst *Essie McGuire*

SUBJECT: **Public Hearing/Action – Supplemental Appropriation to the Montgomery County Public Schools’ FY10 Operating Budget, \$264,000 to Retrofit School Busses with Emission Reduction Devices**

Today the County Council will hold a public hearing and take action on a supplemental appropriation to the Montgomery County Public Schools’ FY10 Operating Budget, \$264,000 to retrofit school busses with emission reduction devices. No County dollars are necessary for this appropriation, as the source of funds is a Federal grant.

The Council introduced a resolution to approve this appropriation on May 27 (attached at circles 2-3). The Board of Education requested the appropriation on April 20 (transmittal attached at circles 4-6). The County Executive recommends approval of the appropriation (memorandum attached at circle 1).

The appropriation will allow MCPS to receive and expend a \$264,000 grant award in Federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the Maryland Department of the Environment. The funds will be used to retrofit approximately 52 school busses, and will build onto the \$1,000,000 grant MCPS received from the State Department of Transportation earlier this fiscal year for the same effort.

Council staff recommends approval of this supplemental appropriation.

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ECON DEV



AGENDA ITEM #22(B)
May 27, 2010
INTRODUCTION

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

May 10, 2010

TO: Nancy Floreen, President, County Council
FROM: Isiah Leggett, County Executive 
SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #10-302
FY10 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Public Schools
Retrofit School Buses with Emission Reduction Devices
\$264,000

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On April 20, 2010, the Board of Education (BOE) requested authorization to receive and expend an FY10 supplemental appropriation for a grant award of \$264,000 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funds from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the Maryland Department of the Environment to retrofit 17 school buses with emission reduction devices and install crankcase ventilation systems on 35 school buses.

In April 2004, the EPA identified air pollution as a significant health problem in the metropolitan Washington area and gave local governments five years to reduce the amount of ozone depleted by carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, and particulate emissions from motor vehicles. This grant for emission reduction devices and crankcase ventilation systems will assist MCPS in reducing the amount of emitted particulate matter from school buses to achieve the EPA goals for pollution reduction. This grant will build onto the \$1,000,000 grant MCPS received from Maryland Department of Transportation earlier this year for the same effort.

I recommend that the County Council approve this supplemental appropriation of \$264,000 from the EPA to retrofit 17 school buses with emission reduction devices and install crankcase ventilation systems on 35 school buses. The source of funds is a federal grant.

IL:bd

Attachments: Supplemental Appropriation #10-302
Request from the Board of Education

Resolution No: _____

Introduced: _____

Adopted: _____

COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: County Council

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #10-302
FY10 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Public Schools
Retrofit School Buses with Emission Reduction Devices
\$264,000

Background

1. Section 5-105(d) of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland provides for the expenditure of non-local funds by the County Board of Education after adoption of the budget, only with the approval of the County fiscal authority.
2. Section 307 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that any supplemental appropriation shall be recommended by the County Executive who shall specify the source of funds to finance it. The Council shall hold a public hearing on each proposed supplemental appropriation after at least one week's notice. A supplemental appropriation that would comply with, avail the County of, or put into effect a grant or a Federal, State or County law or regulation, or one that is approved after January 1 of any fiscal year, requires an affirmative vote of five Councilmembers. A supplemental appropriation for any other purpose that is approved before January 1 of any fiscal year requires an affirmative vote of six Councilmembers. The Council may, in a single action, approve more than one supplemental appropriation. The Executive may disapprove or reduce a supplemental appropriation, and the Council may reapprove the appropriation, as if it were an item in the annual budget.
3. The County Executive received the Board of Education's action of April 20, 2010, requesting a supplemental appropriation to the operating budget as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>
09 Student Transportation	<u>\$ 264,000</u>	Federal Grant

Total \$ 264,000

4. The Board of Education has stated that this appropriation is needed to receive and expend \$264,000 for the grant fund. In April 2004, the EPA identified air pollution as a significant health problem in the metropolitan Washington area and gave local governments five years to reduce the amount of ozone depleted by carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, and particulate emissions from motor vehicles. This grant for emission reduction devices and crankcase ventilation systems will assist MCPS in reducing the amount of emitted particulate matter from school buses to achieve the EPA goals for pollution reduction. This grant will build onto the \$1,000,000 grant MCPS received from Maryland Department of Transportation earlier this year for the same effort.
5. The County Executive recommends a supplemental appropriation to the FY10 Operating Budget of \$264,000 and has specified that the source of funds will be a federal grant.
6. Notice of a public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following action:

A supplemental appropriation to the FY10 Operating Budget of the Montgomery County Public Schools is approved as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Funding Source</u>
09 Student Transportation	<u>\$ 264,000</u>	Federal Grant
Total	\$ 264,000	

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

April 20, 2010

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable Isiah Leggett, County Executive
The Honorable Nancy Floreen, President,
Montgomery County Council

From: Jerry D. Weast, Superintendent of Schools 

Subject: Transmittal of Board of Education Item #5.3.2

Recommended FY 2010 Supplemental Appropriation to Retrofit Buses with Emission
Reduction Devices

BOE Meeting Date: April 15, 2010

Amount of Money: \$264,000

Type of Action: Supplemental Appropriation

JDW:LAB:MCS:jp

Attachment

Copy to:
Dr. Spatz
Montgomery County Office of Management and Budget

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

April 15, 2010

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Jerry D. Weast, Superintendent of Schools 

Subject: Recommended FY 2010 Supplemental Appropriation to Retrofit Buses with Emission Reduction Devices

Recommendation in Brief

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has awarded \$264,000 in *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* (ARRA) funds to Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) to retrofit 17 MCPS' buses with level 3 diesel particulate filters. The devices will reduce the amount of emitted particulate matter and volatile organic compounds emitted into the air. The grant funds also will be used to install crankcase ventilation systems on 35 school buses. Approval is requested to receive and expend an FY 2010 supplemental appropriation of \$264,000 for the bus improvements.

Background Information

In April 2004, when the EPA identified air pollution as a problem in metropolitan Washington D.C., local governments were given five years to significantly reduce the amount of ozone depleted by carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, and particulate emissions from motor vehicles. Having the seventh largest publicly owned school bus fleet in the United States (1,271 school buses), MCPS needed to find a solution to reduce the amount of emitted particulate matter from school buses to achieve the EPA goals for pollution reduction.

On January 12, 2010, the Board of Education approved a recommended FY 2010 supplemental appropriation of \$1,000,000 from the State Highway Administration of the Maryland Department of Transportation to retrofit 70 transit-style buses with diesel particulate filters. This new grant provides \$264,000 for a total of \$1,264,000 that has now been awarded for this effort in FY 2010.

Relationship to Ongoing Program

The project is part of the MCPS Department of Transportation's (DOT) commitment to reduce pollution emissions from its school buses by installing equipment on older buses to reduce particulate matter pollution, and purchasing new buses with the latest green technology. DOT has taken several steps to improve the efficiency of its fleet with efforts to conserve fuel consumption through the monitoring of bus idling and reviewing bus routes for increased route efficiency without impacting the safety of students.

Recommended Resolution

WHEREAS, The Environmental Protection Agency, Maryland Department of the Environment, and Montgomery County Board of Education support reducing particulate matter associated with diesel fuel exhaust by retrofitting buses in Montgomery County Public School's fleet with new filters and ventilation systems; and

WHEREAS, The Montgomery County Public Schools' Department of Transportation will continue to use cleaner fuel, reduce bus idling time, and implement route efficiencies; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education approved a supplemental appropriation of \$1,000,000 from the State Highway Administration of the Maryland Department of Transportation to retrofit 70 buses with filters; and

WHEREAS, The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through the Maryland Department of the Environment has awarded funds under the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* to purchase diesel particulate filters and ventilation systems to reduce particulate pollution; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the superintendent of schools be authorized to receive and expend, subject to County Council approval, an FY 2010 supplemental appropriation of \$264,000 to retrofit 17 buses with a level 3 diesel particulate filter, and 35 buses with a crankcase ventilation system, in the following category:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Amount</u>
9 Student Transportation	<u>\$264,000</u>
Total	<u>\$264,000</u>

and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the county executive and County Council; and be it further

Resolved, That the county executive be requested to recommend approval of this resolution to the County Council.

JDW:LAB:MCS:jp