



Bus Rapid Transit: Flash Howard County Expansion

(P502514)

Category	Transportation	Date Last Modified	12/29/25
SubCategory	Mass Transit (MCG)	Administering Agency	Transportation
Planning Area	Bi-County	Status	Planning Stage

EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE (\$000s)

Cost Elements	Total	Thru FY25	Est FY26	Total 6 Years	FY 27	FY 28	FY 29	FY 30	FY 31	FY 32	Beyond 6 Years
Other	4,800	-	4,800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	4,800	-	4,800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

FUNDING SCHEDULE (\$000s)

Funding Source	Total	Thru FY25	Est FY26	Total 6 Years	FY 27	FY 28	FY 29	FY 30	FY 31	FY 32	Beyond 6 Years
Federal Aid	3,350	-	3,350	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	1,450	-	1,450	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES	4,800	-	4,800	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (\$000s)

Impact Type	Total 6 Years	FY 27	FY 28	FY 29	FY 30	FY 31	FY 32
Program-Other	5,031	790	814	838	863	863	863
Offset Revenue	(5,031)	(790)	(814)	(838)	(863)	(863)	(863)
NET IMPACT	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURE DATA (\$000s)

Appropriation FY 27 Request	-	Year First Appropriation	FY25
Appropriation FY 28 Request	-	Last FY's Cost Estimate	4,800
Cumulative Appropriation	4,800		
Expenditure / Encumbrances	-		
Unencumbered Balance	4,800		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will procure four zero-emission buses to extend the U.S. 29 Flash Bus Rapid Transit Service into Howard County. Howard County will construct four new Flash stations serving Columbia, Merriweather Drive, Maple Lawn, and the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. The buses will be purchased with a combination of Federal funding and funds provided by Howard County. The Montgomery County Department of Transportation will operate the service under a Memorandum of

Agreement with Howard County. The service operation is anticipated be fully subsidized by Howard County.

LOCATION

U.S. 29 from Burtonsville to Columbia, Maryland

ESTIMATED SCHEDULE

Buses will be purchased in FY26, with service anticipated to begin in the Fall of 2026.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

The project will transform mobility options along the U.S. 29 corridor with the implementation of a Flash service extension to Columbia in Howard County. This premium, branded, limited-stop bus rapid transit service will improve transit travel time and increase opportunities for a broad range of users, providing direct transit service from points in Howard County to the Silver Spring Transit Center. The project will improve passenger transit mobility by connecting riders to high density housing and employment centers.

FISCAL NOTE

The project is receiving a Community Project Funding Grant of \$3.35 million from the Federal Transit Administration. \$1.45 million will be provided by Howard County via a Memorandum of Agreement with Montgomery County. This funding was appropriated by a supplemental appropriation in FY25.

COORDINATION

Howard County Department of Transportation and Public Works; Federal Transit Administration