

The Montgomery County Council's adopted FY16 budget is a balanced and constrained one that continues to fund the priorities within our community. In a year of increased need and reduced revenue, the Council worked diligently to provide the funding necessary to our county's programs and services that meet the greatest demand.

Education remains a high priority for our county and we were able to fund Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) at 97.6% of the Board of Education's funding request as well as additional funding for Montgomery College. Education and workforce training are key to a growing and thriving economy, we must ensure our children get the education and technical training necessary to succeed.

Other priorities included funding added to the Health and Human Services budget to support programs that directly impact our residents in need and provide services that positively enhance their quality of life. We also received a record number of Council grant applications this year, reflecting the continuing increase in need of services to our most vulnerable residents. The majority of the applications met the "safety net" priority we had established and I'm happy to say we were able to fund many of these worthwhile programs.

Additionally, I'm pleased that pedestrian safety initiatives will be enhanced with the increased funding going to improve our high incidence areas and provide educational outreach to area schools.

To hear my comments regarding the budget, click on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tS-hGXPQYSo>

For a list of key council actions regarding the budget, please click on: [countycouncilbudgetAdoptionforFY16 5-21-15.doc](#)

- Montgomery County Public Schools:
 - Approved a budget increase of 1.4 percent from FY15 that meets Maintenance of Effort requirements.
 - Includes the county's required contribution to the state's teacher pension costs
 - Additional \$2.0 million approved for MCPS Technology Modernization

- Montgomery College:
 - FY16 budget increase of 4.3 percent from FY15.
 - Funding to support the College's proposed tuition level to ensure access at an affordable rate
 - Program enhancements to help close the achievement gap including ACES and Community Engagement Centers

- Health and Human Services:
 - Additional funding for Montgomery Cares to expand dental services; increase specialty care and enhance behavioral services
 - Funding to provide resource coordination and offset minimum wage impacts on providers of services for the developmentally disabled
 - Programs enhanced for Positive Youth Services and Child Care Expansion
 - 2% inflationary adjustment for contracts with non-profit organizations