

MEMORANDUM

TO: Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee
FROM: Justina J. Ferber,  Legislative Analyst
SUBJECT: Worksession - Executive's Recommended FY15 Operating Budget -
County Executive Office

Those who may attend this worksession:

Timothy Firestine, Chief Administrative Officer
Fariba Kassiri, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer
Dan Hoffman, Chief Innovation Officer
Sonetta Neufville, Manager III, County Executive Office
Jahantab Siddiqui, Management and Budget Specialist, OMB

The Executive's recommendation for the County Executive Office Budget is on ©1-5.

Overview

For FY15, the Executive recommends total expenditures of \$5,058,212 for the County Executive's Office (CE), an increase of \$161,885 or 3.3% from the FY14 budget of \$4,896,327.

(in \$000's)	FY13 Actual	FY14 Approved	FY15 CE Recommended	% Change FY14-FY15
Expenditures:				
General Fund	4,168,610	4,769,707	4,927,854	3.3%
Grant Fund	158,077	126,620	130,358	3.0%
TOTAL Expenditures	4,326,687	4,896,327	5,058,212	3.3%
Positions:				
Full-time	29	29	31	6.9%
Part-time	5	5	5	0.0%
TOTAL FTEs	28.2	30.6	31.6	3.3%

FY15 Expenditure Issues

There are no major changes in this budget. Changes in funding in the Executive Office budget for FY15 relate to increased costs for compensation and benefits; annualization of personnel costs, and increased motorpool and mailing costs. Accomplishments and initiatives for the office are outlined on ©1-2. They include: Innovation Website, Innovation Program

projects, and Innovation Lab at Wheaton High School. Initiatives also include the creation of a DC-Regional performance management practitioners consortium for the CountyStat model and best practices; completion of ten audits and six training sessions on accountability and internal controls. The Committee may want the CAO to elaborate on any item not previously discussed in a GO committee meeting.

Adjustments with no service impact	FTE	Cost \$
Annualization of Personnel Costs	1	7,110
Increase for Compensation Adjustment		134,061
Increase for Group Insurance Adjustment		5,890
Increase for Retirement Adjustment		7,957
Increase for Motor Pool Rate Adjustment		1,967
Increase for Printing and Mail Adjustment		1,162
Subtotal	1	158,147
BRAC Personnel Cost Increase		3,152
BRAC Annualization of FY14 Pers. Cost		586
TOTAL		161,885

Cost changes are discussed below by division.

Office of County Executive FY15 Adjustments and Staffing Changes by Division	
CE - Policy Planning and Development	
FY15 \$1,024,836; 7.0 FTEs	FY14 \$998,233; 7.0 FTEs
\$26,603	Multi-program adjustments including compensation and benefit changes, staffing changes and other budget changes
CAO - Oversight of Executive Branch Departments	
FY15 \$3,238,347; 20.60 FTEs	FY14 \$3,133,466; 19.60 FTEs
\$7,110; 1.0 FTE	Annualization of Personnel Costs
\$1,967	Motor Pool Rate Adjustment
\$1,162	Printing and Mailing Adjustment
\$94,642; 0 FTE	Multi-program adjustments including compensation and benefit changes, staffing changes and other budget changes
Base Realignment and Closure Grant	
FY15 \$130,358; 1.0 FTE	FY14 \$126,620; 1.0 FTE
\$3,152; 0 FTE	BRAC Grant Personnel Cost Increase
\$586; 0 FTE	Annualization of FY14 Personnel Costs
Internal Audit	
FY15 \$416,886; 1.0 FTE	FY14 \$409,464; 1.0 FTE
\$7,422	Multi-program adjustments including compensation and benefit changes, staffing changes and other budget changes
Administration	
FY15 \$247,785; 2.0 FTE	FY14 \$228,544; 2.0 FTE
\$19,241	Multi-program adjustments including compensation and benefit changes, staffing changes and other budget changes

Highlights

Audit Activity: One position remains for contract administration. Audits completed in FY14 are:

1. 7/8/2013 – Contract and Grant Monitoring by MCPD
2. 7/16/2013 – Contract and Grant Monitoring by DOT
3. 10/4/2013 – Audit of Wage Requirement Law Compliance
4. 10/7/2013 – DGS Implementation of Prior Recommendations on the Wage Law
5. 10/23/2013 – Disability Benefit Payments
6. 3/5/2014 – Contract and Grant Monitoring by DED

Chief Innovation Officer: Chief Innovation Officer Dan Hoffman joined the Executive's office in November 2012. The most recent quarterly report dated February 27, 2014, from the CAO is attached at ©9. Also attached at ©7 is the Innovation Week Recap.

Rapid Transit: For FY15 the budget includes \$100,000 for financial advisory services for Rapid Transit. For FY12, FY13 and FY14 \$100,000 was included in the budget for this purpose. The summary on ©6 provides information on the necessity for these financial services.

Staff Recommendation:

- Approve the Executive Office budget as recommended by the Executive for \$5,058,212.

Attachment:	Budget Pages	©1
	Rapid Transit Information	©6
	Chief Innovation Officer – Innovation Week Recap	©7
	Status Report from the Chief Innovation Officer	©9

County Executive

MISSION STATEMENT

The Office of the County Executive provides political leadership to the community and administrative direction to the County's departments and offices. The Office is committed to providing accurate, timely, and effective support to the County Executive and the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) as they carry out their responsibilities to residents and employees of Montgomery County in an atmosphere that is characterized by excellence, efficiency, openness, equity, and integrity.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The total recommended FY15 Operating Budget for the Office of the County Executive is \$5,058,212, an increase of \$161,885 or 3.3 percent from the FY14 Approved Budget of \$4,896,327. Personnel Costs comprise 87.9 percent of the budget for 31 full-time positions and five part-time positions, and a total of 31.60 FTEs. Total FTEs may include seasonal or temporary positions and may also reflect workforce charged to or from other departments or funds. Operating Expenses account for the remaining 12.1 percent of the FY15 budget.

LINKAGE TO COUNTY RESULTS AREAS

The Office of the County Executive supports and also enforces all eight of the County Results Areas.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The primary focus of the Office of the County Executive is to provide policy direction, reinforce accountability, and ensure the achievement of results for our residents. In support of these objectives, this office primarily uses the following tools to measure the effectiveness of the policy directions provided to County departments:

1. Departmental performance plans, headline performance measures, and program performance measures that are reviewed and monitored on a routine basis;
2. A "Dashboard" reporting system on departments' headline performance measures and program performance measures that monitors and reports to the public, in real time, the County's successes and challenges; and
3. High level indicators of County performance and quality of life, that serve as a barometer of County performance benchmarked against a regional and national grouping of comparable jurisdictions.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND INITIATIVES

- ❖ *Kicked off seven projects via the new Innovation Program, including projects dealing with autism technology, open data, food access, interactive touchscreen kiosks, 21st century libraries, and text-to-give.*
- ❖ *Launched a website for the Innovation Program to solicit ideas from residents and provide updates on projects.*
- ❖ *Organized three new first-of-a-kind events for the County: a Hackathon in association with the National Day of Civic Hacking, a Montgomery County Data Science Meet-up, and an Open Data Town Hall.*
- ❖ *Opened the County's first Innovation Lab at Wheaton High School and assisted with the planning of a project-based curriculum, in collaboration with Montgomery County Public Schools.*
- ❖ *Created a DC-Regional performance management practitioners consortium to enable the promotion of the CountyStat model, sharing of best practices, benchmarking, and cross-jurisdictional learning opportunities.*
- ❖ *CountyStat received a Certificate of Excellence Award from ICMA's Center for Performance Measurement; Montgomery County was one of only 28 jurisdictions in the United States to receive this highest level of recognition.*
- ❖ *Monitored implementation of 187 recommendations contained in 31 reports issued since FY 2010 by Internal Audit, the Inspector General, and the Office of Legislative Oversight. Departments have reported that most of the recommendations have already been implemented.*

- ❖ **Issued ten new audit reports that included 39 recommendations for improving internal controls and programmatic operations throughout County government.**
- ❖ **Conducted six live training sessions on accountability and internal controls.**
- ❖ **Productivity Improvements**
 - **CountyStat's continuous attention to overtime use across County departments has resulted in a reduction of the cost of an hour of overtime in FY13 from FY12 levels.**
 - **CountyStat administered the development, distribution and analysis of several internal and external surveys.**

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Sonetta Neufville of the Office of the County Executive at 240.777.2516 or Jahantab Siddiqui of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2795 for more information regarding this department's operating budget.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

County Executive - Policy Planning and Development

The County Executive oversees the enforcement of the laws of Montgomery County and provides executive direction to all departments and offices of the County government. The County Executive develops policies; proposes services, programs, budgets, and legislation to the County Council; adopts Executive Orders and Regulations; and appoints citizens to boards, committees, and commissions.

FY15 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY14 Approved	998,233	7.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	26,603	0.00
FY15 CE Recommended	1,024,836	7.00

Chief Administrative Officer - Oversight of Executive Branch Departments

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) oversees the operations and services of all departments and offices of the Executive Branch. The CAO also advises the County Executive on all administrative and government operations/service related matters and coordinates final review and decision-making on policies, programs, service delivery, budgets, legislation, regulations and related matters. The CAO uses the following tools to carry out his responsibilities:

- 1) CountyStat provides a forum for ongoing monitoring and measurement of the effectiveness and efficiency of County government services in order to improve performance, reinforce accountability and focus on results.
- 2) The Constituent Services section coordinates responses to correspondence and electronic mail from our residents and identifies community/residents concerns that require special attention/response.
- 3) The Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission (CJCC) function seeks to enhance cooperation among the agencies involved in the criminal justice system in Montgomery County and to ensure that they address the issues facing the system.
- 4) The Innovation program provides an organized enterprise approach to innovation in Montgomery County. The core function of this program is to engage County employees and residents in order to facilitate innovation and assist with the design, development and implementation of innovative ideas.

FY15 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY14 Approved	3,133,466	19.60
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY14 Personnel Costs	7,110	1.00
Increase Cost: Motor Pool Rate Adjustment	1,967	0.00
Increase Cost: Printing and Mail	1,162	0.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	94,642	0.00
FY15 CE Recommended	3,238,347	20.60

Base Realignment and Closure Grant

This program coordinates the review and analysis of referrals regarding Bethesda Naval Base Realignment related matters and also manages the Base Realignment and Closure grant.

FY15 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY14 Approved	126,620	1.00
Increase Cost: BRAC Grant Personnel Cost Increase	3,152	0.00
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY14 Personnel Costs	586	0.00
FY15 CE Recommended	130,358	1.00

Internal Audit

The Internal Audit program provides independent strategic risk-based auditing services. The core function of this program is to improve internal controls and provide reasonable assurance of reliable financial reporting; effective and efficient operations; legal and regulatory compliance; fraud investigations and deterrence; and the safeguarding of County assets.

FY15 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY14 Approved	409,464	1.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	7,422	0.00
FY15 CE Recommended	416,886	1.00

Administration

The Administration program provides budget development and analysis, fiscal and inventory control, personnel and payroll management, training and supervision, procurement, and contract administration.

FY15 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY14 Approved	228,544	2.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	19,241	0.00
FY15 CE Recommended	247,785	2.00

BUDGET SUMMARY

	Actual FY13	Budget FY14	Estimated FY14	Recommended FY15	% Chg Bud/Rec
COUNTY GENERAL FUND					
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	2,911,068	3,232,539	3,179,825	3,329,595	3.0%
Employee Benefits	863,032	933,171	916,721	991,133	6.2%
County General Fund Personnel Costs	3,774,100	4,165,710	4,096,546	4,320,728	3.7%
Operating Expenses	394,510	603,997	590,783	607,126	0.5%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	—
County General Fund Expenditures	4,168,610	4,769,707	4,687,329	4,927,854	3.3%
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	1	28	28	30	7.1%
Part-Time	0	5	5	5	—
FTEs	1.00	29.60	29.60	30.60	3.4%
GRANT FUND MCG					
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	96,204	96,491	96,491	99,558	3.2%
Employee Benefits	18,160	25,645	25,645	26,316	2.6%
Grant Fund MCG Personnel Costs	114,364	122,136	122,136	125,874	3.1%
Operating Expenses	43,713	4,484	4,484	4,484	—
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	—
Grant Fund MCG Expenditures	158,077	126,620	126,620	130,358	3.0%
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	28	1	1	1	—
Part-Time	5	0	0	0	—
FTEs	27.20	1.00	1.00	1.00	—
REVENUES					
Federal Grants	158,077	126,620	126,620	130,358	3.0%
Grant Fund MCG Revenues	158,077	126,620	126,620	130,358	3.0%
DEPARTMENT TOTALS					
Total Expenditures	4,326,687	4,896,327	4,813,949	5,058,212	3.3%
Total Full-Time Positions	29	29	29	31	6.9%
Total Part-Time Positions	5	5	5	5	—
Total FTEs	28.20	30.60	30.60	31.60	3.3%
Total Revenues	158,077	126,620	126,620	130,358	3.0%

FY15 RECOMMENDED CHANGES

	Expenditures	FTEs
COUNTY GENERAL FUND		
FY14 ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION	4,769,707	29.60
Other Adjustments (with no service impacts)		
Increase Cost: FY15 Compensation Adjustment	134,061	0.00
Increase Cost: Retirement Adjustment	7,957	0.00
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY14 Personnel Costs [Chief Administrative Officer - Oversight of Executive Branch Departments]	7,110	1.00
Increase Cost: Group Insurance Adjustment	5,890	0.00
Increase Cost: Motor Pool Rate Adjustment [Chief Administrative Officer - Oversight of Executive Branch Departments]	1,967	0.00
Increase Cost: Printing and Mail [Chief Administrative Officer - Oversight of Executive Branch Departments]	1,162	0.00
FY15 RECOMMENDED:	4,927,854	30.60
GRANT FUND MCG		
FY14 ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION	126,620	1.00
Other Adjustments (with no service impacts)		
Increase Cost: BRAC Grant Personnel Cost Increase [Base Realignment and Closure Grant]	3,152	0.00
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY14 Personnel Costs [Base Realignment and Closure Grant]	586	0.00
FY15 RECOMMENDED:	130,358	1.00

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Program Name	FY14 Approved		FY15 Recommended	
	Expenditures	FTEs	Expenditures	FTEs
County Executive - Policy Planning and Development	998,233	7.00	1,024,836	7.00
Chief Administrative Officer - Oversight of Executive Branch Departments	3,133,466	19.60	3,238,347	20.60
Base Realignment and Closure Grant	126,620	1.00	130,358	1.00
Internal Audit	409,464	1.00	416,886	1.00
Administration	228,544	2.00	247,785	2.00
Total	4,896,327	30.60	5,058,212	31.60

CHARGES TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Charged Department	Charged Fund	FY14		FY15	
		Totals	FTEs	Totals	FTEs
COUNTY GENERAL FUND					
CIP	CIP	132,309	1.00	189,998	2.00

FUTURE FISCAL IMPACTS

Title	CE REC.	(S000's)				
	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
This table is intended to present significant future fiscal impacts of the department's programs.						
COUNTY GENERAL FUND						
Expenditures						
FY15 Recommended	4,928	4,928	4,928	4,928	4,928	4,928
No inflation or compensation change is included in outyear projections.						
Labor Contracts	0	29	29	29	29	29
These figures represent the estimated annualized cost of general wage adjustments, service increments, and associated benefits.						
Labor Contracts - Other	0	-3	-3	-3	-3	-3
These figures represent other negotiated items included in the labor agreements.						
Subtotal Expenditures	4,928	4,954	4,954	4,954	4,954	4,954

Office of the County Executive
FY15 Proposed Budget

The FY15 proposed budget for the Office of the County Executive includes \$100,000 for financial advisory services related to the implementation of transit projects in the County including the Corridor Cities Transitway (CCT), and Rapid Transit System (RTS) project.

It is imperative that we understand the fiscal implications of pursuing various funding and financing strategies including using traditional funding mechanisms (general obligation or other public debt for development and property or other taxes for maintenance and operations), or adopting a P3 approach for either development or operations.

The County's financial advisor, Public Financial Management (PFM) has provided valuable financial advisory services over the past year in helping this office assess the potential fiscal impacts of implementing a proposed RTS. In the current year, PFM is working to help us identify the financial implications to commercial property owners along the CCT corridor, should County participation in developing that project become necessary. In addition in FY'15, PFM will assist us in evaluating the fiscal advantages and disadvantages of pursuing a P3 funding model for CCT, and will help us evaluate various organization and funding options for implementation of the RTS and the CCT. There are a number of funding options; each with its own set of consequences. Broadly speaking the options are:

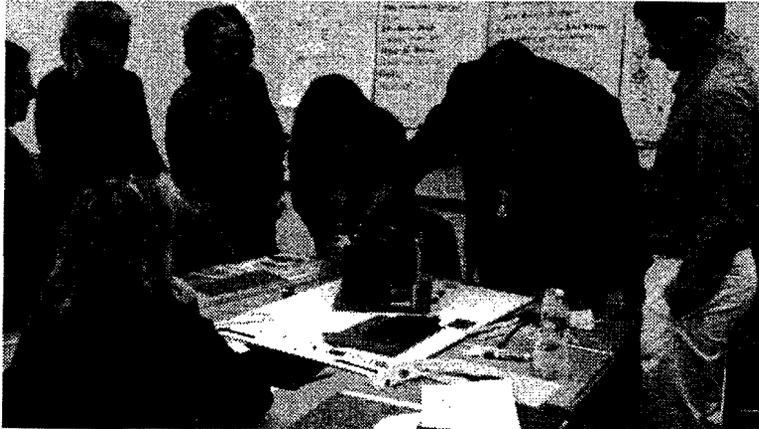
1. Design, Build
2. Design, Build, Operate and Maintain;
3. Design, Build, Operate, Maintain, and Finance.

MDOT has already decided to use a P3 approach for the Purple Line that includes the elements of #3 above.

This office will need professional advisory assistance to help us either make our own local decisions on how these projects are to be funded or financed, or provide input to the state and MDOT as they move these projects forward.

Innovation Week Recap

Innovation Week was developed within County government with inspiration coming from outside partners. The program was planned over several months and involved assistance from multiple departments. Four objectives for the Week were identified that stem from the vision of the



Innovation Program. The specific workshops offered as part of Innovation Week came from discussions with department directors about the needs they envision for their staff. This input was combined with discussions with senior executives from local, private companies about the types of training they were providing their staff to prepare them for the challenges ahead. From this a comprehensive curriculum was

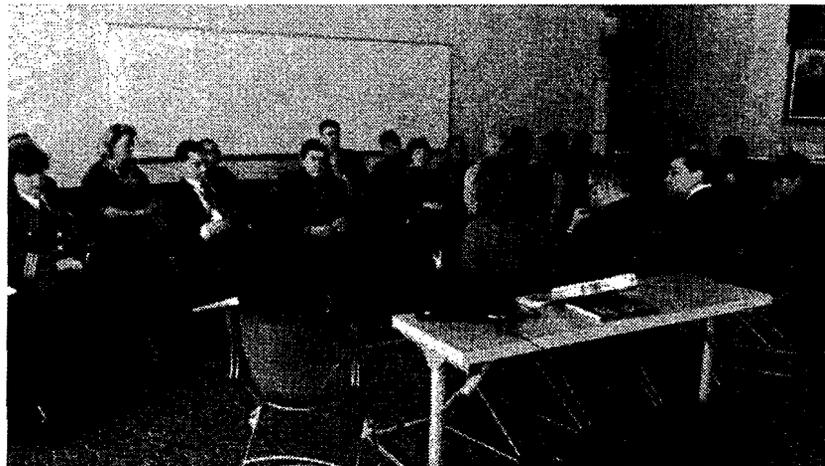
created to provide County managers with a well-balanced program.

- **Build Capacity:** Innovation begins with the proper processes and mindsets. The focus of this objective was to have managers learn about ways they can build an innovative culture in their own department. To accomplish this objective workshop were offered on topics such as Cultural Competency in Innovation, brainstorming, prototyping, and storytelling.
- **Leverage Innovations and New Technology:** By exploring the use of new tools, managers began to understand how they can apply new technology to their own operations. This track included workshops on social media, geographic information systems, 3D printing, and open data.
- **Facilitate Continuous Improvement:** Creating safe places for innovation requires effective

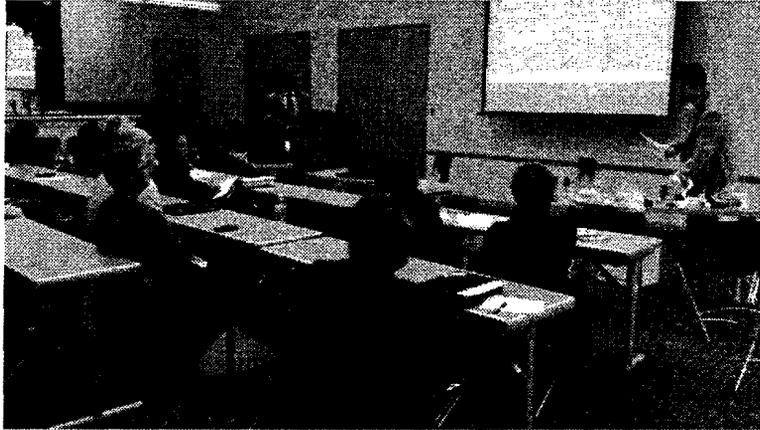
management of innovation projects. In this track managers gained insight on how to manage their own innovators with workshops on project management and managing millennial employees.

- **Challenge the Status Quo:** New

tools, processes, and an ever changing environment will reshape the way we govern in the future. To provide insights from subject matter experts who understand the changing landscape Innovation week offered a series on governance, transportation, cyber trends, and healthcare.



To provide fresh, valuable content to our staff we had to look outside the organization. Two of the workshops were facilitated by local authors who had written on the needed content. Some of the technical subject matter, such as 3D printing and geographic information systems, was



presented by experts from private industry. To cap off the week, we also included a trends series that leveraged local talent that volunteered their time. Montgomery County is fortunate to be one of the more highly educated jurisdictions in the country and we took advantage of this. Nationally renowned experts such as the Vice President of Infectious Disease Research at Medimmune, a senior program manager from

the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Chief Medical Officer from the Washington Adventist Hospital system and others gave their time to participate in small group (15-20 senior managers) discussions on innovations that will change the way we govern, protect and serve our populace for decades to come. The program was successful and managers have already inquired as to when it will be held next year and they are offering suggestions for workshop topics.

Over 175 senior managers participated in Innovation Week. Several workshops were full with a waitlist. At the end of every workshop feedback forms were given out to attendees. Attendees were asked ten questions dealing with topics such as the usefulness and relevance of the material, quality of the instruction and organization of the material. They were also asked for an overall rating on the workshop from one to five with five being "Excellent" and one being "Very Poor". The workshops averaged a 4.5 with most attendees feeling the workshops were "Good" or "Excellent".

Although the high marks validated the concept of Innovation Week, the most useful feedback came from those who were critical. For example, the 3D printing workshop got generally high marks but the feedback clearly indicated that we needed a better instructor. For our open data workshop the quality of instruction was very high, but participants wanted it to be more interactive. And almost every workshop should have been longer. The organizers felt good about the feedback they received and their ability to provide an even better program next year.



Beyond the numbers, the individual comments also demonstrated the impact Innovation Week had on individual staff. With comments such as, "Good job and thanks... We have lots of good things moving forward in a positive direction and it is fun to be a part of that" we knew we had struck a positive tone with our managers. A vast majority also indicated in their comments that they were hungry for more. We look forward to providing them with that in year two.



OFFICES OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Timothy L. Firestine
Chief Administrative Officer

Innovation Program Status Report GO Committee, February 27, 2014

This report is divided into two categories project-based innovations and support provided to ongoing programs. Project-based innovations are pilots, prototypes and proof of concept projects initiated by the Innovation Program in partnership with another department, agency, or external stakeholder. Supports for ongoing programs are situations in which the Innovation Program is acting as a consultant or partner to an existing or new initiative.

Project-based Innovations

- *Autism Communication and Technology Pilot:* The pilot intends to use new methods, some of which are highly reproducible, as well as new tablet applications to improve the educational outcomes of non-communicative students diagnosed with autism. A pilot program began this fall at two Montgomery County elementary schools in collaboration with Montgomery County Public Schools and their special education department. Thus far the pilot has shown tremendous promise. All five students have shown progress and are spending significant parts of their day working in an academic setting with their non-disabled peers. As one principal put it, "This has been terrifying and exhilarating because these students are in the 5th grade and this potential has been there, locked inside". More information can be found in this communication on the Innovation Program website from December. The Innovation Program is currently working with MCPS and the Department of Recreation for opportunities to expand the program in the coming school year.
- *Food Economy Innovations:* Working with the Montgomery County Food Council the Innovation Program is planning a series of pilots to enhance the local food economy and food recovery in Montgomery County. This project can be broken down into four sub-projects:
 - *Food Recovery:* Using dataMontgomery as the repository, applications can be developed that will enable food recovery and gleaning efforts.
 - *Kitchen Incubator:* The Innovation Program is working to develop a food service specific business incubator that promotes economic development for new Americans with culinary skills.
 - *Food Hub:* To create an economic ecosystem that makes start-up farming more viable and a catalyst for economic opportunity in the Agricultural Reserve, the Innovation Program is working with the Department of Economic Development and other stakeholders to explore the creation of a food hub in Montgomery County. For more information about food hubs, visit <http://www.ngfn.org/>.

- *Food Truck Catalyst Project:* To address a growing business segment (Food Trucks and other mobile vendors) in the County, a work group will begin to outline a pilot program that will make public space available for food truck vendors utilizing the dataMontgomery platform.
- *Innovation Week:* To help build the capacity for innovation within Montgomery County departments, the Innovation Program has organized a weeklong series of workshops for Management Leadership Staff. The workshops will cover a range of topics including 3-D printing, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), managing millennials, and prototyping. Some workshops will feature interactive presentations, hands-on activities, or panels with external subject matter experts. Innovation Week is scheduled for the week of March 10th.
- *Innovation Community Building:* To help build an innovative community in the county, the Innovation Program has created a series of events to bring together civic-minded people and businesses: Open Data Town Halls, Data Science Meet-ups, Hackathons, and subject matter focused data workshops. Two Open Data Town Halls were held in November and January. These two events were the first of their kind in the County. Data Workshops were held on the topics of public safety data and financial transparency. The next hackathon will be in coordination with the National Day of Civic Hacking, as it was last year. The event will be held the weekend of 5/31-6/1. The Innovation Program also runs an Innovation Lab at Wheaton High School with six students selected as “Innovation Fellows”. The Program is getting ready to select a new group that will begin their work this summer.
- *SmartAmerica Challenge:* The Innovation Program is leading a demonstration project in collaboration with DTS as part of the SmartAmerica Challenge. This challenge is being organized by the White House and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. The team putting together the County’s entry in the Challenge includes IBM, SigFox, MIT, UC-Irvine, Schneider Electric and several others. The project will demonstrate our ability to use existing processes and technologies to extend the safety provided by the “internet of things” to all people regardless of their ability to pay for broadband access.
- *Social Media Intelligence Center:* In the wake of the Boston Marathon bombing, jurisdictions having increasingly begun exploring the use of social media in preparation for or in response to an incident. The Innovation Program, in collaboration with MCPD, MCFR and OEMHS are planning to incorporate social media in an upcoming incident response simulation. The Innovation Program is planning the dashboards and processes that emergency responders would use in the exercise. The result of the project would be an enhanced incident response capability by MCPD/OEHMS, and MCFR through the use of social media data.
- *MakerSpace/FabLab Prototype:* The Innovation Program is working with MCPL to identify and test concepts for 21st century libraries. This includes the creation of a maker space and/or FabLab (a 3D printer lab). Planning is underway and it is anticipated that an announcement will be made in a few weeks about the establishment of such a space in Davis library. For more information about maker space and the maker movement, visit <http://makerfaire.com/maker-movement/>

Ongoing Program Support

- *Text to Give:* This technology, although not new, would be a first for the County. As part of a County campaign to reduce panhandling and increase funding for homelessness

prevention and outreach, the Innovation Program has set up the ability for residents to donate via their mobile device. Soon residents will be able to text a keyword to a number on their cell phone and donate to the Community Foundation for Montgomery County. The campaign seeks to raise funds for homelessness prevention and outreach. The campaign idea comes from multiple sources, but the text to give component was guided by the Innovation Program.

- *dataMontgomery Dataset Inventory and Prioritization:* Working with CountyStat and DTS, the Innovation Program is helping to develop an inventory of datasets and then rank them using a dataset scorecard. This scorecard helps provide an apples to apples comparison of the value of datasets. This is the first time prioritization has been attempted in this manner in the county and has been lauded by the Sunlight Foundation as a model for others.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Chief Innovation Officer, Dan Hoffman.