

PUBLIC ELECTION FUND COMMITTEE

Hon. Evan Glass, President Montgomery County Council 100 Maryland Ave. Rockville, MD 20850 January 9, 2023

Re: 2023 Report of Committee to Recommend Funding for the Public Election Fund (PEF)

Dear President Glass and Councilmembers:

The 2022 election cycle ended with total disbursements from the Public Election Fund (PEF) of c.\$3.8M, and with a remaining balance in the fund of another c.\$3.8M.

The Committee believes that the program's success over the past two election cycles is due in part to the willingness of the Council and Executive to fund the program at a level representing the higher end of the range that could be required as matching payments, thereby avoiding any fear that the fund might be unable to meet its obligations.

We therefore recommend that:

- 1) The \$3.8M currently in the fund remain there, increasing as investments may allow; and
- 2) An additional \$250,000 be added to the fund annually over the next four years, to bring the total closer to the c.\$5.2M that was disbursed in the 2018 election cycle.

We thank the Council for the opportunity to assist in the development of this important program.

Respectfully submitted,

David Scull, Chair Nancy McMahan Farrar, Vice Chair Lee Annis William Ewing Lionel Lissom Jackie Sackstein Stephen Whitted