
PRESENT

Councilmember Sidney Katz, President  Councilmember Tom Hucker, Vice President
Councilmember Gabe Albornoz  Councilmember Andrew Friedson
Councilmember Evan Glass  Councilmember Will Jawando
Councilmember Nancy Navarro  Councilmember Craig Rice
Councilmember Hans Riemer

The President in the Chair.

WORKSESSION - FY21-26 Capital Improvements Program (CIP):

(1)  Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS)

Participating in the discussion were Dr. Smith, Superintendent, Ms. McGuire, Associate Superintendent of Operations, MCPS; Ms. Evans, President, Board of Education; Ms. Beck, CIP Manager, Office of Management and Budget (OMB); and Mr. Levchenko, Senior Legislative Analyst.

Mr. Rice, Chair of the Education and Culture (E&C) Committee, noted that the Committee did not have a chance to review the non-recommended reductions so Committee members would be given a chance to present brief remarks.

Ms. Navarro noted that the staff recommendations are solid but that she believes there may be room to accommodate additional projects, in particular Magruder High School and the Watkins Mill High School Early Childhood Center. Mr. Jawando commented on the need to invest in the future of students, as well as the importance of being able to restore some of the non-recommended reductions.

Mr. Rice remarked that Mr. Levchenko would first give an overview of the staff report and the Council would then focus on reviewing each of MCPS’ non-recommended reductions.
Mr. Levchenko noted that the E&C Committee only had a chance to meet once before COVID-19 interrupted the Committee’s budget meetings. He reviewed the fiscal summary, State aid (noting that further analysis by OMB, MCPS, and Council Staff is needed to determine what State aid levels should be assumed in FY22 and beyond), and non-recommended reductions.

Discussed MCPS’ Non-Recommended Reductions, as contained on page 7 of the attachment to the staff report.

Unanimously approved Mr. Rice’s motion to support the following Tier I recommendations: restore the original schedule (removing one-year deferrals) for Crown High School; Northwood High School Addition/Facility Upgrade; and Woodward High School Reopening projects.

Unanimously approved Mr. Rice’s motion to support the following Tier II recommendations: add Clarksburg Cluster Elementary School #9 (remove one-year delay); Magruder High School (restore September 2026 completion); Bethesda Elementary School Addition (restore September 2023 completion); and Watkins Mill High School Early Childhood Center (restore September 2022 completion).

Noted that it might be possible to restore additional non-recommended reductions after the State aid analyses is completed for FY22 and beyond.

Unanimously approved Mr. Rice’s motion to accept the staff recommendations on technical adjustments and non-controversial items, as contained in the staff report, and to approve the MCPS FY21-26 CIP, as amended.

The meeting adjourned at 12:46 P.M.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Approved/Signed by Clerk of the Council

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.
Clerk of the Council