



**Testimony of the Rockville Mayor and Council  
County Executive's FY 26 Recommended Capital Budget and  
Amendments to the  
FY25-FY30 Capital Improvements Program.**

Good afternoon, Council President Stewart, Vice President Jawando, and members of the County Council. I am Monique Ashton, Mayor of the City of Rockville. On behalf of our entire Council, thank you for this opportunity.

We respectfully and urgently ask for your support for the following Rockville priority MCPS capital projects:

- We are very concerned that the recommended CIP removes \$3 million in out years expenditures for the **Twinbrook Elementary School** Major Capital Project and delays construction funds and the completion date to a future CIP. We urge the County Council to ensure that the project is completed in the FY25-FY30 CIP. The project is desperately needed. It is a matter of equity and inclusion for this underserved community for this seventy three year old school to be completely rebuilt. It is not ADA compliant and lacks decent space for specialists to provide individualized support for students which is critical to closing the achievement gap.
- The City supports the additional funding requested in the recommended CIP for the **Crown Farm High School** to fund the auditorium and other spaces and maintains the August 2027 opening. This new school will relieve persistent overcrowding at **Richard Montgomery High School**, which has more than 2,300 students.
- Regarding the **Wootton High School** Major Capital Project, we are exceedingly concerned that all planning and construction funds and the August 2029 construction completion date were removed from the

adopted CIP and are not included in the Recommended CIP. We implore you to add this project back to the FY25-FY30 CIP and expedite it to address the substandard building conditions. We are thankful that MPCS completed the first phase of the work to address the ADA and safety issues. The City looks forward to the phase two project completion in August 2025 which would shift the bus driveway to the upper parking lot.

The Mayor and Council also endorse:

- The prompt installation of fencing along the tree line at the rear of **Meadow Hall Elementary School** to limit access to the playground during school hours and a digital marquee school sign at the school property entrance.
- The funding included in the recommended CIP for **Woodward High School** which maintains the August 2027 completion date, and includes the interior fit out for the auditorium and associated spaces.
- The timely completion of a feasibility study for the **Gaithersburg Middle School** capital project.
- In closing, we urge you to include funding for the design of the relocation of the MPCS Materials Management Facility. The City is thankful that MCPS removed most of the dilapidated trailers from the property and encourages the County to partner with MCPS, the Housing Opportunities Commission, and other partners to address the inequity of this blighted property in our Historic African American Lincoln Park Community and the restoration of Lincoln High School. We continue to support the implementation of the Stonestreet Masterplan and believe this initiative will expand opportunities for workforce housing for teachers and the community. We also encourage partnership with the Housing Opportunities Commission to renovate the vacant Town Center Apartments.

Thank you.