Montgomery County Council Infrastructure Funding Workgroup

<u>APPROVED MINUTES</u>

Friday, October 24, 2025
9:05 AM to 11:55 PM
Council Office Building, Capital Crescent Trail Room, 4th Floor

<u>Present Members</u>

- Gene Smith, County Council Staff
- Bilal Ali, County Council Staff
- Lisa Govoni, Montgomery County Planning Department
- Darcy Buckley, Montgomery County Parks Department
- Gary Nalven, Montgomery County Office of Management and Budget
- Adnan Mamoon, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS)
- Haley Peckett, Montgomery County Department of Transportation
- Katie Mencarini, Montgomery County Planning Department

<u>Absent Members</u>

- Robert Goldman, Montgomery Housing Partnerships
- Mike Henehan, Bozzuto Development Company
- Livhu Ndou, County Council Staff

<u>Other County and Agency Staff Participating</u>

- Stephen Kenny, County Council Staff
- Veronica Jaua, Office of Management and Budget

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM.

Action – Approval of September 19 and 26 Minutes
The minutes from the September 19, 2025 and September 26, 2025 meetings were reviewed and approved without amendment. Stakeholder edits from both meetings were incorporated based on feedback.

Discussion – Debrief from stakeholder engagement meetings
The Workgroup discussed takeaways from the two meetings held with stakeholders.

Haley Peckett asked about following up with the Maryland State Highway Administration since a representative did not attend. She and Gene Smith offered to follow up with that agency again.

The Workgroup discussed the skepticism noted by the industry stakeholders regarding prioritization of school or transportation investments. The Workgroup noted that the industry stakeholders did not mention congestion or other large transportation investments (e.g., Bus Rapid Transit). The Workgroup noted that a future meeting could include the industry and agency stakeholders in the same meeting, providing opportunities for deeper discussion.

The Workgroup also discussed the industry stakeholders' comments related to investments in the 1970s and 1980s compared to current investments. Also, the Workgroup discussed the impacts of additional regulation and review for projects that are required when compared to the decades noted by the industry stakeholders. The Workgroup agreed to research more about the potential cost impacts from the required regulations and review for current projects.

The Workgroup discussed some of the examples of other jurisdictions funding models, like Alexandria's dedicated funding, and agreed to identify a group of jurisdictions to include for a comparative analysis.

The Workgroup discussed the industry stakeholder comments related to school enrollment and new development. Adnan Mamoon noted that capacity issues remain for some areas of the County even though enrollment globally is expected to decrease in the coming years.

The Workgroup discussed some of the stakeholders' comments regarding the final report structure. The Workgroup generally agreed that the final report should include a concise background section explaining the history of infrastructure funding in the county, with references to previous task force reports.

Discussion – Capital needs for the agencies
The Workgroup reviewed the current Capital Improvements Program (CIP) data and categories for the required agencies.

The Workgroup discussed next steps to update the Infrastructure Maintenance Taskforce 2024 report to identify outstanding maintenance needs for each agency. This work will be done for review at a future meeting. In addition, the Workgroup was open to reviewing unconstrained policy investments (e.g., Bus Rapid Transit throughout the County or the Superintendent's recent policy goals noted in his proposed CIP).

The Workgroup identified the following items for future consideration and research:
- Identifying and selecting consistent categories for all agencies.
- Defining terms related to maintenance, modernization, and life-cycle replacement to determine if a consistent term can be used to categorize these expenditures.

Discussion – County revenue sources and funding mechanisms
The Workgroup reviewed publicly available data related to the County's revenue sources in the Operating and Capital Budgets and potential funding streams to consider at future meetings.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM.