

## **Montgomery County Council Infrastructure Funding Workgroup**

### **APPROVED MINUTES**

Friday, July 11, 2025

9:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Council Office Building, Capital Crescent Trail Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

#### **Present Members**

Gene Smith, County Council staff

Livhu Ndou, County Council staff

Bilal Ali, County Council staff

Katie Mencarini, Montgomery County Planning Department

Lisa Govoni, Montgomery County Planning Department

Darcy Buckley, Montgomery County Parks Department

Haley Peckett, Montgomery County Department of Transportation

Gary Nalven, Montgomery County Office of Management and Budget

Adnan Mamoon, Montgomery County Public Schools

Mike Henahan, Bozzuto Development Company

Robert Goldman, Montgomery Housing Partnerships

#### **Absent Members**

Todd Fawley-King, Montgomery County Department of Finance

#### **Other County and Agency staff participating**

Stephen Kenny, County Council staff

Andrea Swiatocha, Montgomery County Public Schools

### **Call to Order and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM and each member introduced themselves.

### **Briefing – Overview of Council Resolution and Open Meeting Requirements**

Mr. Gene Smith presented information about the key elements of the Council Resolution authorizing the creation of this workgroup and its work product. Ms. Livhu Ndou presented key elements of the Open Meetings Act and how the workgroup will operationalize them.

### **Discussion – Council Resolution and Open Meetings Requirements**

The floor was opened for discussion by workgroup members on the Council Resolution and open meetings requirements. Members requested and discussed information about the meeting materials and previous reports on infrastructure funding.

## **Briefing – Overview of Infrastructure Categories**

Mr. Bilal Ali presented information about potential ways to categorize the County's infrastructure needs for the workgroup's discussion.

## **Discussion – Infrastructure Needs and Future Follow Up**

The floor was opened for discussion by workgroup members on the potential ways to categorize the County's infrastructure needs. The workgroup discussed the following topics:

- A request for a future review and discussion of legal requirements for fees vs. taxes, including a review of other jurisdictions funding mechanisms;
- A request about the data sources for the County's infrastructure needs, which will be generated by the respective members of the workgroup from Montgomery County Department of Transportation, Montgomery County Public Schools, and Montgomery County Parks Department.
- The difficulty in categorizing and defining "growth" projects for some or all County agencies;
- A request for a future discussion about the appropriate categories and definitions, including a discussion about the term "adequacy" instead of "growth" and defining and agreeing to terms such as upgrades, repairs, and maintenance;
- A request for a future discussion about how the workgroup will review and consider issues related to racial equity and social justice, including data sources for such an analysis; and
- A request for a future discussion about the workgroup's consideration and role in determining future policy options (e.g., different potential built environments) to estimate the County's infrastructure needs.

The discussion was closed with a request that Montgomery County Department of Transportation, Montgomery County Public Schools, and Montgomery County Parks Department review and compile internal data to categorize and quantify infrastructure needs to be shared for the workgroup's consideration at a future meeting. Mr. Bilal Ali was assigned to work with the different agencies on this task.

## **Break**

## **Discussion – Draft Project Timeline and Next Steps**

The workgroup requested that the discussion on the project timeline be moved after the break. Mr. Gene Smith presented a draft project timeline to the workgroup and opened the floor to discussion.

The workgroup discussed the timing of different agencies' decision points (e.g., when the Board of Education will review funding needs) and the workgroup's decision points. The workgroup was open to meeting about once a month, dependent on decision points for the final work product.

## **Discussion – Outreach Efforts and Follow Up**

The floor was opened to discuss the key stakeholders to include and ways to engage them. The workgroup also discussed public engagement generally.

Members listed potential stakeholders to include for comment before and after the workgroup's recommendation. The workgroup supported an approach to host a future meeting to invite stakeholders to provide feedback for the workgroup's consideration. The workgroup also discussed ways to engage the public but noted that this engagement would need to occur later in the process.

The discussion closed with a request that the workgroup members review a draft approach for stakeholder engagement that will be considered by the workgroup at a future meeting.