



Katz Corner

Councilmember Sidney Katz, District 3

Summer 2018



*Councilmember
Sidney Katz*

Welcome to the Summer 2018 edition of Katz Corner! The County Council recently approved the operating and capital budgets for fiscal year 2019. This was a particularly difficult budget year because the Council had to decide among many worthy competing priorities. My colleagues and I passed a budget that was built upon the framework that the County Executive proposed. We fully funded the school system and we worked with Montgomery County Public Schools to improve the learning environment so that our excellent educators and support staff have the resources that they need.

I was pleased as a member of the Public Safety Committee to champion funding for our Department of Fire Rescue Services, so that it may continue to serve all our residents properly. Funding for increased staff, additional training and the acquisition of apparatus is all covered by this budget.

I advocated for funding for recruit classes in both the Department of Fire Rescue Services and the Police Department. We will be implementing Next Generation 911, which will allow the Emergency Communications Center to receive emergency communications in new ways, including texts and pictures.

As the Lead for Behavioral Health in the Justice System on the Public Safety Committee, I am pleased that the budget reflects the needs of some of our most vulnerable residents and the continued commitment of the Council to serve them. We were able to continue to fund our very successful mental health courts.

I continue to be concerned with the amount of debt that we, as a county, take on. The Council agreed and took the first steps necessary to address this during our spending affordability discussions. There are items that are not funded in this budget that I feel should have been, but we were able to accomplish many things on behalf of our residents.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the residents for working with us to achieve the goals that are important to each and every one of us.

Subscribe to Katz Corner

If you or a friend would like to sign up for Katz Corner, please visit <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Katz/> and click on the “Sign Up to Receive My Newsletter” button at the bottom of the page.

Connect with Councilmember Katz

Phone: 240-777-7906

Email: councilmember.katz@montgomerycountymd.gov

Website: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/katz/index.html>

Voting

Voters may go to any early voting site in Montgomery County and cast a ballot. Primary Early Voting Dates: Thursday, June 14, 2018, 10 a.m.–8 p.m. to Thursday, June 21, 2018, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.

To view the list of approved Early Voting sites:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/EarlyVoting/2015EarlyVotingfor2016/2018PrimaryEarlyVotingSites.html>

The primary will be held on June 26, 2018. Voting sites will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. on that day.

We Want to Hear From You

Public participation is vital to government. The Montgomery County Council regularly holds public hearings on proposed legislation and policy changes. We invite you to be part of that process.

The Council conducts its public hearings in the hearing room on the third floor of the Council Office Building at 100 Maryland Avenue in Rockville. Anyone wishing to testify may sign up online. If you have any questions, please call 240-777-7803.

To see the full calendar of upcoming hearings and to sign up to testify, please visit the Council’s website at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/PHSignUp.html>



Montgomery County's Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Snapshot

Operating Budget \$5.6 billion

Capital Budget \$4.5 billion

Public Safety

\$217.4 million for Fire & Rescue Services

- 1.2% increase from 2018

\$279.9 million for Police Department

- 1.6% increase from 2018
- Added 3 school resources officers to staff middle schools
- Expanded funding for MCPD gang unit
- 2 police candidate classes (44 officers)
- Next Generation 911

Economic Development

- \$8 million for Economic Development Fund & Incubator Programs
- \$4.5 million for Economic Development Fund
- \$5 million for MCEDC
- \$1.8 million for WorkSource Montgomery

Health & Human Services

- \$318.5 million for Department of Health & Human Services
- 1.8% increase from 2018
- 2,000 more primary care visits
- \$60,000 for Smart Sacks
- \$246,500 for Youth Drop-In Center

Community

- \$12.3 million for 249 different grants to nonprofit community partners
- \$38.8 million for Recreation Department
- \$42.8 million for Public Libraries

Parks

- \$107 million to enhance & maintain park system
- \$200,000 to Create urban parks

Education

\$2.59 billion for Montgomery County Public Schools

- 91 new teachers
- Increased counselor and psychologist positions
- Expanded two-way immersion dual language programs
- New career pathways program

\$1.8 billion for School Construction (Capital Budget)

\$316 million for Montgomery College

Youth Programming

- \$86 million for Children, Youth & Family Services
- \$4 million for Early Childhood Services
- \$76 million for Headstart & Pre-K programs

Transportation

- \$217 million for Department of Transportation
- Bus Rapid Transit buses
- Road repaving & signal timing
- New bus service between Olney & Rockville
- New bus service between Clarksburg & Germantown MARC Station

Affordable Housing

- \$63.8 million for Housing Initiative Fund capital & operating dollars

Fiscal Year 2019 Budget

Education

Montgomery County is committed to education. More than half of the County's budget--\$2.59 billion--funds Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). This amount fully funds the budget request from the Montgomery County Board of Education and is \$18.6 million above the State's Maintenance of Effort level. The FY19 appropriations will provide new teachers and additional counselor and psychologist positions. The budget also expands two-way immersion dual language programs and adds additional pre-K programs.

School construction funding for the next six years is \$1.86 billion. The budget included \$34 million from the approved Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for school construction and planning funds for Dufief Elementary School (located in North Potomac) in FY19.

County funding for Montgomery College in FY19 is \$316 million, with \$750,000 added by the Council to help finance the budget request from the Board of Trustees.

Health and Human Services

The Council funded \$318.5 million for the Department of Health and Human Services. This includes several service enhancements to provide additional safety-net services for residents such as:

- health care for populations at-risk,
- a Youth Drop-In Center for young people who are homeless,
- support for our non-profit partners and direct service workers who serve our most vulnerable residents, and
- increased weekend food for elementary school children.

Continuing the County's commitment to support early childhood education and pre-K programs, \$86.6 million was allocated for Children, Youth and Family Services. The budget provides for a new early childhood center, additional pre-K classes and summer school classes for pre-K. The increased allocation will expand half-day pre-K services to full-day at eight schools.

Transportation

The Department of Transportation's operating budget for FY19 is \$217 million. This includes funding for road maintenance, leaf collection, Ride On Bus and the parking lot districts. The budget includes funding to begin to pilot bus service on Route 52 between Olney and Rockville. This new service will use shorter buses to broaden the service area. In addition, \$100,000 was approved to restore signal timing optimization in an effort to help keep traffic moving.

Public Safety

The operating budget for the Department of Police is \$279.9 million. Two police candidate classes are included, with a total of 44 candidates. The Department of Police budget includes Next Generation 911 service, additional funding for MCPD gang unit and three school resource officers to staff middle schools.

The operating budget for the Fire and Rescue Service is \$217.4 million. This funding restored services at several stations throughout the County.

In addition, the Sheriff's Office received funding for their body-worn camera program.

Park and Planning

The FY19 operating budget for the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) is \$153.6 million, excluding the capital projects fund. More than \$107 million will enhance and maintain the County's park system, which includes 419 parks and more than 36,800 acres of land. The Council added \$200,000 to create urban parks through place making and \$343,995 to provide service for new and expanded parks across the county.

Affordable Housing

The Council approved a total of \$63.8 million for the Housing Initiative Fund for affordable housing. These funds will increase the preservation and production of affordable housing and support the Building Neighborhoods to Call Home Program and the Inside (Not Outside) Initiative to end homelessness.

Environment

Solid waste services in the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) received funding of \$109.9 million. The Council also appropriated \$30.7 million for the non-solid waste portion of DEP. This includes expenditures for the General Fund and the Water Quality Protection Fund (WQPF). Overall, the WQPF is 91.1 percent of DEP's total budget and covers county costs associated with water quality and the inspection, maintenance and rehabilitation of stormwater management facilities.

Recreation Department

The Recreation Department's FY19 operating budget is \$38.8 million. The Council added funding to improve facilities maintenance and enhance services, especially those focused on positive youth development. The enhancements include restoring grounds maintenance, furniture, fixtures and

equipment, and custodial services. The Council also funded two new Excel Beyond the Bell elementary school sites.

Economic Development

The operating budget funds more than \$5 million in FY19 to support the work of the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC). The Council allocated \$1.8 million in funding for WorkSource Montgomery, which implements the County's work force development policies to promote job growth and attract talent. The Council approved more than \$3.5 million for the County's incubator programs and also provided funding of \$425,000 to create and fund a Small Business Innovation Research Matching Program.

Meet Rachel DuBois

Q&A with the Principal of Bayard Rustin Elementary School

332 West Edmonston Drive, Rockville, MD 20852



- 1. Please tell us a little about your background and the path you followed to arrive at the position of principal for Bayard Rustin Elementary School (BRES)?**
 - Received my undergraduate degree in education from The University of Maryland. Received a master's degree in administration and supervision from Johns Hopkins University.
 - Began my career with Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) in 2000.
 - Served as a classroom teacher for seven years. I taught first and third grades and was a Gifted and Talented teacher, working with students in grades 2-5.
 - Became a staff development teacher, working closely with administrators to support the vision and mission of the school by providing staff with professional development.
 - This is my eighth year in administration--two years as an assistant principal, six as a principal.

- I had been following the process of opening this school over the last few years and have been very interested in its development. I thought this would be an amazing opportunity for me to open a new school and build a new school community from the ground up.

2. What do you see as your earliest challenges in your new job?

- Building community trust
- Hiring an amazing staff
- Making sure I hit all the ordering deadlines... furniture, technology... :)
- Merging three different school communities into one

3. What are you most looking forward to in your new position?

- Uniting all our families, students and staff, and developing a vision and mission for the school, geared towards educational excellence and access and opportunities for ALL.
- Looking forward to merging the Chinese Immersion Program with our general educational program so that we are truly a World Language school.

4. Safety and security at all schools has become a major national issue. How will you help ensure that students feel secure at BRES?

- Safety is a top priority at BRES.
- School will be equipped with a visitor management system and Access control system; both will screen visitors and control access to the school building at all times.
- All staff will be trained in emergency preparedness procedures, including school crisis response plans.
- Our counselors and staff will work with our students and families to ensure physical and psychological safety and create a healthy learning environment.
- Will create a school/community safety partnership.
- Will promote a positive school climate.
- Will promote anti-violence initiatives that encourage students to experience positive emotional development and use nonviolent means to resolve conflict.

5. Is there anything else that you would like the community to know about you?

- Looking to build a positive school climate and culture, one that is community centered, friendly and safe.
- Looking to promote equity and culturally relevant instruction and practices.
- Am a leader who is approachable and seeks to work closely with all stakeholders.
- I believe in collaborative leadership. We can learn from one another and build our strengths and skills sets when we come together as one.
- I have high expectations for myself and others. I believe we are all accountable for our students' success.
- Looking to hire for equity and excellence, searching for the brightest and best who want to take on the amazing challenge of opening a school.
- Students come first: Students' academic and social emotional well-being will drive all the decisions that are made. Value relationships. Will work collaboratively to build trust with students, staff, parents, and community members.

Protecting & Caring For Our Seniors



I recently hosted my 6th Senior Forum and Resource Fair. On April 4, 2018, I visited the Chinese Culture and Community Service Center. The center provides adult day health care services for hundreds of community members. Experts from the State's Attorney's office and Office of Consumer Protection shared information about how to avoid scams and recognize the signs of elder abuse, including physical, mental, sexual and financial abuse and neglect.

I also held a Senior Forum and Resource Fair at the Bauer Drive Community Recreation Center on Friday, April 13, 2018. The forum, titled "A Spotlight on Self Care," focused on caring for the mind and body and ways for seniors to live life to the fullest through

volunteering, in addition to evading senior scams and elder abuse prevention. The presentations were accompanied by an informational resource fair showcasing more than 30 service providers.



These events have always been important to me. I am pleased to bring the County's leading experts together to address these and other pertinent issues.