

Racial Equity and Social Justice (RESJ) Impact Statement

Office of Legislative Oversight

EXPEDITED BOND AUTHORIZATION BILL 25-21:

SUMMARY

Based on available information, the Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) cannot discern the impact of Expedited Bill 25-21 on racial equity and social justice in the County.

BACKGROUND

The County Council approved Expedited Bill 25-21 on July 13, 2021. The purpose of the Bill is to allow the County to increase G.O. bond authorization by \$45.5 million. The bond would be used to finance different public facility projects with the Capital Improvement Program. Expedited Bill 24-21 adds the following to Montgomery County Law:

- Authorizes the County to issue certain bonds; and
 - Authorizes the bonds and bonds previously authorized to be issued, consolidated for sale and issued, sold, and delivered as a single use.¹
-

ANTICIPATED RESJ IMPACTS

Expedited Bill 25-21's aggregate racial equity and social justice impacts to the County would require a detailed investigation of the all the public facility CIP projects covered under the appropriations. This investigation is beyond the scope of this impact statement. Because it is unknown how the funding authority will be used, OLO concludes that the racial equity and social justice impact of Expedited Bill 25-21 in the County is indeterminate.

CAVEATS

Two caveats to this racial equity and social justice impact statement should be noted. First, predicting the impact of legislation on racial equity and social justice is a challenging, analytical endeavor due to data limitations, uncertainty, and other factors. Second, this RESJ statement is intended to inform the legislative process rather than determine whether the Council should enact legislation. Thus, any conclusion made in this statement does not represent OLO's endorsement of, or objection to, the bill under consideration.

CONTRIBUTIONS

OLO staffer Dr. Theo Holt, Performance Management and Data Analyst, drafted this RESJ statement.

¹ Montgomery County Council, Expedited Bill 25-21, Bond Authorization, Introduced on June 29, 2021, Montgomery County, Maryland.