

MEMORANDUM

TO: Education & Culture [E&C] Committee

FROM: Carolyn Chen, Legislative Analyst *CJC*

SUBJECT: **Amendments to the Recommended FY23-28 Capital Improvements Program and the FY24 Capital Budget: Library Refurbishment Level of Effort [P711502]**

PURPOSE: Review and make recommendations for Council consideration – vote expected.

Expected Participants: N/A

Amendments to the Recommended FY23-28 Capital Improvements Program and the FY24 Capital Budget: [Library Refurbishment Level of Effort \[P711502\]](#)¹

Council Staff Recommendation: Recommend approval of FY24 CIP Amendment as submitted by the County Executive on April 18, 2023, to include State Aid designated for FY24:

- **Library Refurbishment Level of Effort [P711502] → FY23-28 Change of +\$1,056,000**
 - **Long Branch Library Building & Site Improvements** → Added FY24 State Aid of \$555,600 → GO Bond savings of \$500,000 re-purposed back to the Long Branch Library project.
 - **Damascus Library & Senior Center** → Added FY24 State Aid of \$500,000

See page ©2 of County Executive’s April 18, 2023:

Culture and Recreation

The Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center project is updated to reflect \$1,000,000 in State aid, allowing us to begin build-out of the facility’s interior in FY28, earlier than previously programmed. In addition, I recommend adding \$1,056,000 in State aid to the Library Refurbishment Level of Effort project to reflect an additional \$555,600 provided to construct building and site improvements at the Long Branch Library, and \$500,000 to support the Damascus Library and Senior Center Refurbishment.

This packet contains:

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April 18, 2023, County Executive Memo: Amendments to the Recommended FY23-28 Capital Improvements Program and the FY24 Capital Budget: Excerpt on [Library Refurbishment Level of Effort \[P711502\]](#)©1-6

¹ Referenced as [2024 CE-AMENDED-2 BUDGET](#) on Open Budget.




OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

MEMORANDUM

April 18, 2023

TO: Evan Glass, President
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, County Executive 

SUBJECT: Amendments to the Recommended FY23-28 Capital Improvements Program and the FY24 Capital Budget

I am transmitting further revisions to my recommended FY23-28 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) based on our State delegation's success in securing additional State aid for critical capital budget projects and to better position key transportation projects to pursue Federal funding.

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

I recommend amending the Bus Rapid Transit: MD 355 South/North, the Bus Rapid Transit: MD 355 Central, and the Bus Rapid Transit: Veirs Mill Road projects to reflect Federal grant conventions regarding cost escalations and contingencies. In addition, the Bicycle-Pedestrian Priority Area Improvements - Veirs Mill Road/Randolph Bicycle project is proposed to be merged into the Veirs Mill Road BRT project to maximize potential Federal funding. New State aid is added to all three BRT projects to reflect additional funding approved by the Maryland General Assembly, and State lottery proceeds dedicated to County BRT projects. Funding from the Op Lanes Maryland project is deferred while Gov. Wes Moore's Administration reevaluates the best way to proceed with addressing transportation improvements along the I-270 and I-495 corridors. In addition, I recommend adding a new Twinbrook Connector Trail project to relocate the existing Parklawn North Connector Trail from the roadway shoulder to facilitate the new BRT line on Veirs Mill Road.

Other Transportation

I recommend an amendment to create a new US 29 Streetlighting project, recognizing \$2,840,000 in additional State aid. This project will support the planning, design, installation, and energization of streetlights along US 29 between I-495 and MD 198.

I recommend an amendment to recognize additional State funds that will support a new \$1,000,000 MD198 Sidewalk Improvements project to add sidewalk connections between Dino Drive and McKnew Road. I also recommend adding \$160,000 to the Traffic Signals project to fund school beacon improvements due to newly appropriated State resources.

The Burtonsville Park and Ride Improvements project is amended to reflect an additional \$1,000,000 in State aid awarded to design and construct a shared parking garage to support FLASH service on the US 29 corridor and redevelopment of the adjacent commercial property.

Finally, newly awarded and pre-authorized State aid will facilitate a six-month construction acceleration for the Bowie Mill Road Bikeway.

The Maryland General Assembly has also provided funding to WMATA for the North Bethesda Metro Station Northern Entrance project. MCDOT continues to work with WMATA to refine the project scope and implementation plan and to identify development partners and additional funding sources.

Housing and Community Development

I recommend a supplemental appropriation to create a new project funded by State aid to support the renovation and revitalization of the Burtonsville Crossing Shopping Center. In all, the State has allocated \$7,000,000 for site improvements of this location. In addition, I recommend amending the Countywide Façade Easement Program to reflect \$500,000 in State aid to support White Oak neighborhood revitalization and façade improvements. These projects will assist in reactivating important community assets on the County's East side.

Culture and Recreation

The Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center project is updated to reflect \$1,000,000 in State aid, allowing us to begin build-out of the facility's interior in FY28, earlier than previously programmed. In addition, I recommend adding \$1,056,000 in State aid to the Library Refurbishment Level of Effort project to reflect an additional \$555,600 provided to construct building and site improvements at the Long Branch Library, and \$500,000 to support the Damascus Library and Senior Center Refurbishment.

High School Wellness Centers

I recommend amending the High School Wellness Centers project to add \$1,000,000 provided by the General Assembly to support this important work. Council shares my interest in keeping centers for our neediest students on schedule. These additional funds will be an important hedge against construction cost increases and project delays.

State aid for MCPS Playgrounds

An additional \$1,350,000 in State aid was awarded to Montgomery County to fund improvements for Montgomery County Public Schools playgrounds throughout the County. The

County will coordinate with MCPS to identify playground sites that MCPS will construct.

Olney Police Substation

I recommend creating a new project to support facility planning for the Olney Satellite Police Station and Community Facility serving the 4th District supported by State aid. The County will work closely with the State Delegation to secure the additional State resources needed to implement the project.

Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC)

I am pleased to report that our partners at M-NCPPC have successfully raised non-County funds to support County parks. M-NCPPC staff will be working with County Council and Office of Management and Budget staff to program more than \$13.5 million in additional State and Federal funding in the following projects: Ballfield Initiatives; Legacy Urban Space; Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park Improvements; Park Acquisitions; Park Refreshers; Planned Lifecycle Asset Replacement – Local Parks; Planned Lifecycle Asset Replacement – Non-Local Parks; Power Line Trail; Trails Hard Surface Renovation; and Wheaton Regional Park.

The timing of State aid in these amendments will allow a modest increase in the FY24 set-aside for general obligation bonds. I urge the Council to maintain this additional FY24 set-aside to help manage likely construction cost increases.

I want to thank all those who contributed to these projects – particularly Montgomery County’s representatives in the Maryland General Assembly. We are eager to partner with the State to provide important facilities for our residents.

Department staff is available to answer any questions as you consider these amendments as we work together to finalize the FY24 Capital and Operating Budgets.

ME: mb

Enclosure: FY23-28 Amended Biennial CIP: April Budget Amendments Summary
Amended Project Description Forms
General Obligation Bond Adjustment Chart

cc: Montgomery County Councilmembers
Marlene Michaelson, Executive Director, Montgomery County Council
Karla Silvestre, President, Montgomery County Board of Education
Dr. Monifa B. McKnight, Superintendent, Montgomery County Public Schools
Jeffrey Zyontz, Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board
Executive Branch Department Heads and Office Directors
Office of Management and Budget Staff

FY 23-28 Biennial Recommended CIP Budget Amendments Summary (\$000s) - Round 2

Project #	Project Name	Explanation of Adjustment	FY23-28 Change (\$000s)	Funding Sources
New Projects				
P472401	Olney Satellite Police Station and Community Facility	New State Aid-funded project to support facility planning.	100	State Aid
P502406	MD 198 Sidewalk Improvements	New State Aid-funded project to add sidewalk connections between Dino Drive and McKnew Road.	1,000	State Aid
P502405	Twinbrook Connector Trail	New project to relocate the existing trail to maintain connectivity due to Veirs Mill Road Bus Rapid Transit project implementation.	1,500	G.O. Bonds
P502407	US 29 Streetlighting	New project reflecting additional State Aid.	2,840	State Aid
FY23 Supplementals				
P362311	Burtonsville Crossing Shopping Center	Reflects additional State Aid.	7,000	State Aid
Scope Change				
P362309	State Aid for MCPS Playgrounds	Reflects additional State Aid.	1,350	State Aid
P502309	Bus Rapid Transit: MD 355 South/North	Escalates design costs and adds planning/design for Clarksburg Transit Center. Replaces Op Lanes funding for final design with State Aid.	2,796	State Aid, Op Lanes Maryland Transit Funding
P501913	Bus Rapid Transit: Veirs Mill Road	Combines this project with Veirs Mill Road/Randolph Road BiPPA, which had a cost increase following updated estimates. Cost escalation for BRT design, construction and buses.	82,235	Federal Aid, G.O. Bonds, State Aid, State Bus Rapid Transit Fund
P507154	Traffic Signals	Reflects additional State Aid.	160	State Aid
P640902	High School Wellness Center and Expanded Wellness Services	Reflects additional State Aid.	1,000	State Aid
P711502	Library Refurbishment Level of Effort	Reflects additional State Aid to support the Damascus Library and Senior Center which occupy the same facility, and for Long Branch Library Building and Site Improvements.	1,056	State Aid
P762102	Countywide Facade Easement Program	Reflects additional State Aid for White Oak neighborhood revitalization and facade improvement.	500	State Aid
Cost Change				
P502203	Burtonsville Park and Ride Improvements	Reflects additional State Aid and clarifies project scope.	1,000	State Aid
P502005	Bus Rapid Transit: MD 355 Central	Updates expenditures and funding schedule to reflect cost increases and new state/federal aid assumptions.	66,768	Federal Aid, Current Revenue: Mass Transit, State Aid, Op Lanes Maryland Transit Funding
P502003	Bicycle-Pedestrian Priority Area Improvements - Veirs Mill/Randolph	Combines this project with Bus Rapid Transit: Veirs Mill Road (501913) project to maximize federal aid.	(11,466)	Federal Aid, G.O. Bonds



Library Refurbishment Level of Effort (P711502)

Category	Culture and Recreation	Date Last Modified	04/14/23
SubCategory	Libraries	Administering Agency	General Services
Planning Area	Countywide	Status	Ongoing

	Total	Thru FY22	Rem FY22	Total 6 Years	FY 23	FY 24	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27	FY 28	Beyond 6 Years
EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE (\$000s)											
Planning, Design and Supervision	9,458	4,666	285	4,507	706	1,097	716	602	555	831	-
Site Improvements and Utilities	173	67	-	106	-	106	-	-	-	-	-
Construction	20,692	7,607	-	13,085	2,112	4,420	2,497	2,782	-	1,274	-
Other	4,304	1,580	366	2,358	341	330	642	665	-	380	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	34,627	13,920	651	20,056	3,159	5,953	3,855	4,049	555	2,485	-

FUNDING SCHEDULE (\$000s)											
G.O. Bonds	29,649	9,998	651	19,000	3,159	4,897	3,855	4,049	555	2,485	-
Recordation Tax Premium (MCG)	1,035	1,035	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
State Aid	3,943	2,887	-	1,056	-	1,056	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDING SOURCES	34,627	13,920	651	20,056	3,159	5,953	3,855	4,049	555	2,485	-

APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURE DATA (\$000s)			
Appropriation FY 24 Request	4,427	Year First Appropriation	FY15
Cumulative Appropriation	19,256	Last FY's Cost Estimate	32,621
Expenditure / Encumbrances	16,318		
Unencumbered Balance	2,938		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Library Refurbishment Level of Effort (LOE) project provides a structured process to modernize all 21 library branches over 20 years with new technologies and service delivery improvements that reflect the latest in 21st century library trends at much less costs than renovations. The improvements include renovated restrooms, creating group collaboration rooms, providing new sit / stand ergonomic service desks, prekindergarten early literacy display elements, new water fountains with bottle filling features, and a general esthetic refurbishment of new paint, carpet and other flooring, and some furnishings. With the addition of funding from the 21st Century Library Level of Effort project, electric connectivity at many tables and seating groups and loanable laptops are provided. Often other level of effort projects provide funding to address roof, mechanical / Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC), Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), window, and lighting repairs or replacements.

ESTIMATED SCHEDULE

The Library Refurbishment LOE started in FY15 with two refurbishments. In FY16, FY17, and FY18, a total of six libraries were refurbished. In FY19, FY20, FY21, and FY22, a total of three libraries were refurbished and one is under construction and expected to be completed in FY22. In FY23 and FY24, two libraries will be refurbished along with the facility assessment of a third and the design of a fourth. The schedule of refurbishments per fiscal year will then transition to completing the facility assessment of one library, design of one library, and the construction of one library per fiscal year. This will enable all 21 libraries to be refurbished by FY29 where the cycle would start over again. The Library Department identifies the libraries to be refurbished 18 months in advance before the planning and design begins, so that applications for state grant funding can be submitted. Notice identifying the specific library projects for the given fiscal year must be provided to Council at least 60 days before any funding is obligated or spent. The notice to Council includes the scope of work, cost estimate, and expenditure schedule for planning design and supervision, construction, and other costs by fiscal year.

COST CHANGE

An additional \$950,000 is required in FY24 for Damascus Library Refurbishment construction costs. \$500,000 in FY24 State Aid added for Damascus Library and Senior Center which occupy the same facility. \$555,600 in FY24 State Aid added for Long Branch Library Building and Site Improvements. \$500,000 in FY24 GO Bond savings re-purposed to Long Branch Library Building and Site Improvements.

PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

Until the implementation of these projects, many of the County Libraries have not been updated in 20 years. The Library Refurbishment LOE will ensure that all libraries are refurbished and updated on a scheduled basis. This will ensure that the libraries continue to meet the community's needs for programs, services, and facilities. The Library Refurbishment projects enable the County to update more libraries over a shorter period with less money than the old approach of renovating only 1 or 2 libraries. Refurbishments also help avoid future major renovations on many buildings.

FISCAL NOTE

FY15 Supplemental in State Aid for \$387,000 was approved for this project for the refurbishment of Twinbrook (\$128,000) and Kensington Park (\$259,000)

branches. FY16 Supplemental in State Aid for \$800,000 was approved for this project for the refurbishment of Davis (\$400,000) and Little Falls (\$400,000) branches. FY17 Supplemental in State Aid for \$1,500,000 was approved for this project for the refurbishment of the then Bethesda, now Connie Morella, (\$500,000), Quince Orchard (\$500,000), and White Oak (\$500,000) branches. Amended FY18 for State Aid of \$200,000 for the refurbishment of Long Branch (\$100,000) and Marilyn Praisner (\$100,000) branches. Cost estimates will be refined after facility assessments are completed. Recordation Tax Premium will be used to cover the costs to renovate the Maggie Nightingale Library. In FY23, FY25 to FY28 costs were reduced because the Chevy Chase Library refurbishment costs were reflected instead in the Chevy Chase Library and Redevelopment project. Amended FY24 for State Aid of \$500,000 for Damascus Library and Senior Center and \$555,600 for Long Branch Library Building and Site Improvements.

DISCLOSURES

A pedestrian impact analysis will be performed during design or is in progress. Expenditures will continue indefinitely. The County Executive asserts that this project conforms to the requirement of relevant local plans, as required by the Maryland Economic Growth, Resource Protection and Planning Act.

COORDINATION

Department of General Services, Department of Public Libraries, Maryland State Department of Education, and Department of Technology & Enterprise Business Solutions.