



Committee: Directly to Council
Committee Review: N/A
Staff: Gene Smith, Legislative Analyst
Purpose: To receive testimony/final action - vote expected
Keywords: COVID-19, economic development

AGENDA ITEM #7
December 8, 2020
Public Hearing/Action

SUBJECT

Special Appropriation to the Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Government, Community Engagement Cluster, Support for COVID-19 Response - Winterization for Streeteries, \$1,250,000

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- N/A

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The subject appropriation will provide winterization funding for streeteries in the County. This is not a direct grant program to local businesses, and it will be implemented through the Regional Services Centers.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- Action for the subject resolution is tentatively scheduled immediately following the public hearing.
- The source of funding is the Federal grant for COVID-19 relief.
- This is not a direct grant program given the limited time to disburse the funding by December 30, 2020 to meet the Federal requirements.
- The Regional Services Centers will implement the funding in each of the County's districts based on the resolution's requirement that the streeteries either use part of a County right-of-way or involve the County's partnership to assemble the outdoor eating space.

This report contains:

Proposed resolution

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Resolution No.: _____
Introduced: December 1, 2020
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Sponsored By: Councilmembers Friedson and Katz, Council President Hucker, and
Councilmembers Navarro and Rice
Co-sponsored by: Councilmember Riemer

SUBJECT: Special Appropriation to the Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government, Community Engagement Cluster, Support for
COVID-19 Response – Winterization for Streeteries, \$1,250,000 (Source of
Funds: Federal Grant)

Background

1. Section 308 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that a special appropriation is an appropriation which states that it is necessary to meet an unforeseen disaster or other emergency, or to act without delay in the public interest. Each special appropriation shall be approved by not less than six Councilmembers. The Council may approve a special appropriation at any time after public notice by news release. Each special appropriation shall specify the source of funds to finance it.
2. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared coronavirus COVID-19 a pandemic and it has spread rapidly throughout the world. As of November 24, 2020, the Montgomery County Government COVID-19 data dashboard reported 31,622 confirmed cases and 893 confirmed deaths in the County.
3. To slow the spread of the disease, Maryland Governor Hogan first declared a State of Emergency on March 5, and has issued several Executive Orders with actions that include, but are not limited to: closing schools; prohibiting activities by non-essential businesses that restrict traditional on-site operations; limiting the number of people that can gather; and closing all gyms, movie theaters, and bars and restaurants (excluding carryout and delivery service).
4. The efforts to contain the spread of the disease and the disease itself continues to have a crippling impact on Montgomery County's local business community.
5. The State and County health regulations provide opportunities for food service establishments to provide outdoor eating areas. In some areas of the County, businesses and property owners have partnered with the County to create large, contiguous areas of

open area that benefit multiple nearby food service establishments. This type of assemblage is commonly referred to as a “streeter.”

6. As the winter months begin, streeteries must winterize the outdoor area to provide heating and protection from the elements to maintain a level of businesses like the warmer months. The ability to serve additional customers beyond the health requirements for indoor space is crucial for food service establishments.
7. This appropriation provides funding to support streeteries that use part of a County right of way or that involve the County’s partnership to assemble the outdoor eating space.
8. This funding will be administered by the Regional Services Center in each County district.
9. A FY2021 Operating Budget special appropriation is requested for the Community Engagement Cluster:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	Federal Grant

10. Notice of public hearing was given and a public hearing was held.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

A FY2021 Operating Budget special appropriation is requested for the Community Engagement Cluster:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	Federal Grant

This appropriation is needed to act without delay in the public interest.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.
Clerk of the Council