



**Committee:** Directly to Council  
**Committee Review:** N/A  
**Staff:** Gene Smith, Legislative Analyst  
**Purpose:** Final action – vote expected  
**Keywords:** COVID, Economic development

AGENDA ITEM #4  
May 4, 2021  
**Action**

## SUBJECT

Special appropriation to the FY21 Operating Budget, Office of the County Executive, Connected DMV Contract, Global Pandemic Prevention Center, \$500,000 (Source of Funds: General Fund Reserves)

## EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

## COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- N/A

## DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The Council introduced this special appropriation to help develop and advocate for a new global Pandemic Prevention Center (the “Center”) in the County. The appropriation will support a contract with Connected DMV, a regional non-profit, to create a business plan for the new Center.

## SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- See Connected DMV’s funding proposal on ©1-3.
- This funding will support Connected DMV’s “\$2.5 million Strategy Phase.” Per Connected DMV’s materials, a location decision will be made later in 2021 after completing the Strategy Phase.
- The Council introduced a \$500,000 special appropriation to support Connected DMV’s Strategy Phase for the Center (see ©4-5).
- The source of funding is the undesignated reserves. **Use of these resources were not assumed in the Executive’s recommended FY22 budget.** If the Council approves this appropriation, the County’s resources in FY22 will be \$500,000 less than assumed in the recommended budget.
- Connected DMV notes that it has secured funding from the State of Maryland and funding from certain philanthropic sources for its Strategy Phase.
- **The Executive has negotiated a contract to implement this funding.** The draft contract will disburse the County’s \$500,000 grant in three tranches as Connected DMV completes certain tasks related to the development of the Center’s business proposal.
- The Executive will continue to partner with the State, Connected DMV, and other County economic development partners to identify a site in the County for the Center.
- **An amendment to Section G, as recommended by the Chief Administrative Office, is required to implement this contract should the Council approve this appropriation.**

**This report contains:**

Connected DMV Proposal

©1-3

Proposed resolution

©4-5

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<b>PROJECT NAME</b>	<b>Pandemic Prevention and Biodefense Center</b>
<b>SECTORS</b>	Public, Private, Academia, Nonprofit
<b>SUMMARY</b>	<p>The Connected DMV COVID-19 Strategic Renewal Task Force has approved an initiative for a global Pandemic Center in the Greater Washington Metropolitan area. The Center will serve as the world's epicenter for pandemic prevention and biodefense ecosystem coordination. The Center will also identify and launch strategic projects needed to advance pandemic avoidance and preparedness, while providing the necessary collaboration and coordination for updated public health policy, research and discovery, applied technology, trials, manufacturing, and distribution for strategic solutions.</p> <p>The identified launch project, "AHEAD100", founded by Dr. James Crowe, is an integrated public-private-academia program to generate and stockpile best-in-class, neutralizing monoclonal antibodies for the top 100 known pathogens most likely to result in global epidemics.</p>
<b>REQUESTED AMOUNT</b>	\$500,000 representing 20% of the initial funding request
<b>PAYMENT SCHEDULE</b>	Payment in Full requested by 2/1/2020
<b>PARTICIPATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hans Riemer as Montgomery County Council initiative sponsor</li> <li>• Marc Elrich to serve on the Steering Committee for the Strategy Phase</li> <li>• Scheduled progress updates with the Strategy Team</li> <li>• Membership on the Advisory Committee</li> <li>• Assistance in identifying and incorporating the appropriate Maryland organizations/institutions</li> </ul>
<b>BENEFITS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help establish Montgomery County as the global epicenter for pandemic prevention</li> <li>• Accelerate economic development for pandemic prevention capabilities and solutions</li> <li>• Strengthen the ecosystem and integrate efforts of public, private, academic, &amp; federal partners</li> <li>• Attract talent and create a workforce development pipeline</li> <li>• Recognized sponsorship in Connected DMV press releases, public events, website, social media, and communications</li> </ul>
<b>USE OF FUNDS</b>	Funds will be applied to project payroll, technology, legal and administrative support, and subject matter expertise
<b>SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS</b>	Potential for additional in-kind support by placing Montgomery County representative on 6 months Strategy Team

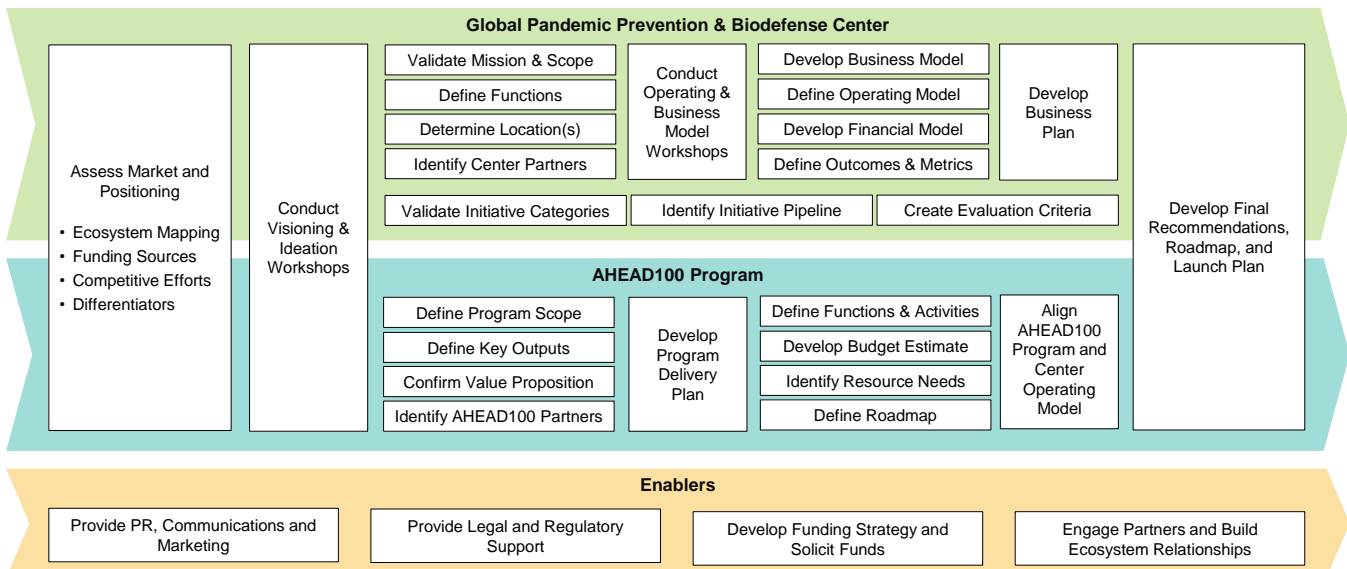


Figure 1. Strategy Phase Scope and Approach

### STRATEGY PHASE BUDGET

The following line items comprise the Strategy Phase Budget summarized in Figure 2:

Item	Estimated Amount
Personnel	\$1,400,000
Subject Matter Experts	\$100,000
Consulting & Professional Fees	\$540,000
Legal Support	\$120,000
Computers and Equipment	\$12,000
Printing and Publications	\$3,000
Materials and Supplies	\$2,000
Indirect Costs	\$3,000
Delivery Phase Mobilization	\$400,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,580,000</b>

1. **Personnel** - Funds salaries and fringe benefits for 10-12 Connected DMV FTEs including solution architects, solution designers, analysts, and stakeholder engagement personnel who will form the Core Team that is managing the project, executing the work, and creating the deliverables. The team also includes marketing and communications professionals to write press releases, respond to media inquiries, post social media content, and develop other marketing materials related to the initiative.
2. **Subject Matter Experts** – Funds to engage contractors who will join the core team of personnel to bring specialized skills and content knowledge required to develop the Pandemic Center strategy including the operating model, pipeline of initiatives, funding models, and delivery plans.
3. **Consulting & Professional Fees** – Funds to engage professional services / consulting firm(s) who will bring relevant domain knowledge, industry expertise, and client experience to the core team. Our expectation is that the consulting firms will provide a combination of billable and in-kind services.
4. **Legal Support** – Funds to engage a law firm who will provide legal, policy, and regulatory advisory services. Our expectation is that the law firm will provide a combination of billable and in-kind services.
5. **Computer and Equipment** – Funds to purchase laptop computers for Connected DMV personnel.
6. **Printing and Publications** – Funds to print and publish an executive summary of the final Pandemic Prevention and Biodefense Center Strategy as well as other materials to support marketing and Delivery Phase fundraising activities.
7. **Materials and Supplies** – Funds to purchase office supplies and other materials, which are expected to be minimal given that most work will be performed remotely with meetings conducted by teleconference.
8. **Indirect Costs** – Funds an allocation of Connected DMV back office support services including technology (e.g., communications platform, videoconferencing, shared document repository) and accounting.
9. **Delivery Phase Mobilization** – Funds to support personnel salaries needed to mobilize the delivery phase over an estimated period of 2 months.

*Figure 2. Strategy Phase Budget*

Connected DMV

<b>PROJECT NAME</b>	Pandemic Prevention and Biodefense Center		
<b>SECTORS</b>	Public, Private, Academia, Nonprofit		
<b>TIME TO CLOSE</b>	2 Months	<b>TIME TO IMPLEMENT</b>	6 Months – Strategy Phase
<b>SUMMARY</b>	<p>The Connected DMV COVID-19 Strategic Renewal Task Force has approved an initiative for a global Pandemic Center in the Greater Washington Metropolitan area. The Center will serve as the world’s epicenter for pandemic prevention and biodefense ecosystem coordination. The Center will also identify and launch strategic projects needed to advance pandemic avoidance and preparedness, while providing the necessary collaboration and coordination for updated public health policy, research and discovery, applied technology, trials, manufacturing, and distribution for strategic solutions.</p> <p>The identified launch project, “AHEAD100”, founded by Dr. James Crowe, is an integrated public-private-academia program to generate and stockpile best-in-class, neutralizing monoclonal antibodies for the top 100 known pathogens most likely to result in global epidemics.</p>		
<b>BUSINESS MODEL</b>	501(c)(3) organization with co-equal participation across industry, government, and philanthropy.		
<b>GOVERNANCE</b>	Independent governance via a steering committee comprised of leaders across relevant domains. Following the Strategy Phase, a formal Board of Trustees will be installed. The steering committee and board will comprise public, private, academic, and community leaders.		
<b>KEY PARTICIPANTS</b>	Initial collaborators include: Dr. James Crowe, Dr. Richard Tubb, Dr. Steve Projan, Honorable Andy Weber, Connected DMV, University System of Maryland, BioHealth Innovation, Maryland Technology Council, Bipartisan Commission on Biodefense, DLA Piper, Aperture Law Group, Biotech and Pharma industry leaders, a global philanthropist, a local government official.		
<b>VALUE PROPOSITION</b>	<p>Global loss of life from COVID-19 exceeds 1.3 million with economic loss estimated at over \$10 trillion. Preparing monoclonal antibodies solutions for the leading pathogens through Phase 1 will cost \$2 billion and enable society to be weeks from a solution when an outbreak occurs saving countless lives and evading massive economic and societal disruption. Further the Pandemic Center:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrates across public, private, academia, and community participants</li> <li>• Will be in proximity with NIH/NIAID, the FDA, DoD, ASPR/BARDA and others</li> <li>• To be funded 50/50 by philanthropic and government monies</li> <li>• Accelerates development/availability of monoclonal antibodies for world’s top 100 pathogens</li> <li>• Places a priority on traditionally underrepresented communities and populations</li> <li>• Integrates with DoD and organizations such as the Bipartisan Commission on Biodefense</li> <li>• Integrates with local government and community pandemic preparedness plans</li> </ul>		
<b>FUNDING MODEL &amp; BUDGET</b>	<p>\$2M Strategy Phase to be funded by philanthropy, industry, and government sponsorships.                  \$2B launch initiative (AHEAD100) to be equally funded by philanthropy and federal government.                  Center operating budget funded as a percentage of strategic initiative budgets.</p>		
<b>USE OF FUNDS</b>	\$2.5M Strategy Phase funds will be applied to project team payroll, technology, legal and administrative support, and subject matter expertise.		
<b>COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY</b>	Pursue as a Day 1 initiative for the Biden administration as a long-term complement to the COVID-19 response team. Equip the new Administration to make this announcement in January 2021, demonstrating a long-term commitment to science and pandemic prevention.		
<b>ECOSYSTEM</b>	The ecosystem will comprise organizations and institutions from: Federal, State, and Local Government, Nonprofits, Industry, Academia, Health Care, Biotech, Defense, and Pharma.		
<b>TIMELINE</b>	The 6 months Strategy Phase begins in December 2020 followed by a formal launch of the Center. AHEAD100 will begin upon confirmation of funding.		
<b>SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS</b>	Confirming this initiative within the new HHS budget will prevent adjustments downstream. The team is beginning communications with the Biden HHS Transition team.		

Resolution No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced: January 19, 2021  
Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTY COUNCIL  
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

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Lead sponsor: Councilmember Riemer

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**SUBJECT:** Special Appropriation to the Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Budget, Office of the County Executive, Connected DMV Contract, Global Pandemic Prevention Center, \$500,000 (Source of Funds: General Fund Reserves)

**Background**

1. Section 308 of the 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. A new coronavirus disease, named COVID-19, appeared in China in December 2019 and spread extremely quickly. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the disease a pandemic.
3. The efforts to contain the spread of the disease and the disease itself continues to have a crippling impact on the economy and health of individuals.
4. Connected DMV is a regional non-profit organization that has convened a broad group of stakeholders from the academic, public, and private sectors within the D.C. region.
5. Connected DMV has identified a global Pandemic Prevention Center as critical to avoid turmoil, loss of life, and economic devastation from future pandemics. Among other initiatives, the global Pandemic Prevention Center will initially develop and maintain a stockpile of monoclonal antibodies that the U.S. Government could rapidly deploy against future pandemics.
6. Connected DMV is seeking financial support to begin this initiative. Through this funding, the County will be provided the opportunity to participate in the foundation of this initiative, including the possibility of locating the global Pandemic Prevention Center within the County.

7. A FY21 Operating Budget special appropriation is requested for the Office of the County Executive:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000	General Fund Undesignated Reserve

8. 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 special appropriation to the FY21 Operating Budget for the Office of the County Executive:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$500,000	\$500,000	General Fund Undesignated Reserve

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

This appropriation may only be used to fund a contract with Connected DMV and its efforts to locate the global Pandemic Prevention Center in the County.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

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Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.  
Clerk of the Council