



**Committee:** None  
**Staff:** Susan J. Farag, Legislative Analyst  
**Purpose:** To introduce agenda item – no vote expected  
**Keywords:** #ViolenceReduction; #Police; #PublicSafety

AGENDA ITEM #5(E)  
May 26, 2022  
**Introduction**

## SUBJECT

**Introduction:** Special Appropriation #22-X to the FY22 Operating Budget  
Department of Police, COVID-19 ARPA Relief Funds (\$731,125)  
(Source of Funds: Federal Aid)

## EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None.

## DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

- The Council reviewed the proposed funding options for the remaining \$27.5 million in unallocated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding on April 19, 2022. The Council supported these proposals with some amendments. The subject resolution appropriates the tranche identified for violence reduction/public safety programs.
- This supplemental appropriation to the FY22 Operating Budget of the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) will provide a targeted emergency response to address an increase in gun violence associated with the pandemic. The total appropriation is \$731,125.
  - \$471,875 will be used to create a Violent Crime Information Center, with four crime analysts that conduct link analysis, track weapons data, and generate violent crime statistical reports for Command Staff. It includes funding for training and supplies. These efforts will help identify individuals who can participate in group violence prevention initiatives.
  - \$156,250 for a Gun violence Intervention Initiative. This violence prevention best practice requires partnerships with Street Outreach Network in HHS. A portion of this funding is to hire two hospital navigator positions at Suburban Hospital that will help mediate conflicts during gang and violent situations.
  - \$37,500 for Youth and Family Violence Prevention. This initiative will allow for much broader advertising and outreach regarding the County's domestic violence prevention programs. MCPD will coordinate with the Family Justice Center and the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council.
  - \$65,500 for the Midnight Madness Activities Program Pilot. The Police Department is attempting to launch a Midnight Madness basketball league with the Montgomery County Recreation Department and Police Foundation to provide a 3 on 3 basketball league at one recreation center. This program will provide a free basketball league to youths ages 14 through 17 on Friday evenings. The participants will have access to other activities available at the recreation center.

This supplemental appropriation is tentatively scheduled for a public hearing/action on June 14, 2022.

**This Staff Report Contains:**

Proposed Resolution

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Resolution No: \_\_\_\_\_  
Introduced: \_\_\_\_\_  
Adopted: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY COUNCIL  
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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By: Council President

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SUBJECT: Special Appropriation #22-X to the FY22 Operating Budget  
Montgomery County Government  
Department of Police  
(Source of Funds: Federal Aid)

**Background**

1. Section 308 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that a special appropriation: (a) may be made at any time after public notice by news release; (b) must state that the special appropriation is necessary to meet an unforeseen disaster or other emergency or to act without delay in the public interest; (c) must specify the revenues necessary to finance it; and (d) must be approved by no fewer than six members of the Council.
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. President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) on March 11, 2021, to support the country’s recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The County Government is expected to receive 204.1 million in two equal tranches to support its efforts to recover from the pandemic.
4. The U.S. Treasury final rule for ARPA funding states that ARPA funds may be used to respond to an increase in gun violence associated with the pandemic. Specifically, funding may be used for “evidence-based practices like focused deterrence, street outreach, violence interrupters, and hospital-based violence intervention models, complete with wraparound services such as behavioral therapy, trauma recovery, job training, education, housing and relocation services, and financial assistance

5. The County seeks to reduce community violence, particularly gun violence, by establishing: (1) a Violent Crime Information Center Hiring that will provide enhanced crime analysis, tracking weapon data, and generating violent crime statistical reports to better target firearms-related crime. These violent crime analyses will also be used to identify individuals who would benefit from the gun violence intervention initiative; (2) a Gun Violence Prevention Initiative that partners with Street Outreach Network. The funding will be used to hire two contractual hospital navigator positions at hospitals that will help mediate conflicts during gang and violent situations; (3) a Midnight Madness basketball with the Montgomery County Recreation Department to provide a 3 on 3 basketball league at one recreation center to positively engage youth at risk for violence; and (4) broader advertising and outreach to inform community residents of available domestic violence resources.

6. The Council recommends the following appropriation increase to Montgomery County Police Department’s FY22 Operating budget:

Personnel <u>Services</u>	Operating <u>Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	Source <u>of Funds</u>
\$387,685	\$343,440	\$731,125	Federal Aid

- 7. This special appropriation is needed to implement these COVID-19 recovery programs.
- 8. Notice of a public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held.

**Action**

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

1. A special appropriation to the FY22 Operating Budget for the Department of Police is approved as follows:

Personnel <u>Services</u>	Operating <u>Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	Source <u>of Funds</u>
\$387,685	\$343,440	\$731,125	Federal Aid

2. The funds appropriated in this special appropriation must be placed in a Police Department Fund account, in which any unspent funds will be re-appropriated in Fiscal Year 2023.

3. The County Council declares that this action is necessary to act in response to a public health or safety emergency and to act without delay in the public interest.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

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Judy K Rupp, Clerk of the Council