

Resolution No.: 16-60
Introduced: January 30, 2007
Adopted: February 27, 2007

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: Special Appropriation to the FY07 Operating Budget
Montgomery County Government
Department of Correction and Rehabilitation
Pre-Trial Services Division; \$40,820 (Source of Funds: General Fund Reserves)

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. Since May 2006, the number of inmates housed in the Montgomery County Correctional Facility has increased substantially. In May 2006, the combined average daily population for local inmates housed in the Montgomery County Detention Center and the Montgomery County Correctional Facility was 803; in October and November of 2006 this average had increased to about 915.
3. The Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission has convened a jail population work group to look at the characteristics of those who are being housed in the jail in an effort to understand the reasons why the population has increased so significantly in a short time and whether these factors would be expected to result in a short-term or long-term increase in the jail population. The work group has asked whether there are inmates being held in a pre-trial status that might be appropriate for community supervision if their cases could be reviewed and brought back to a judge for reconsideration.
4. The Public Safety Committee was briefed on this issue at their January 18, 2007 worksession and recommends the Council approve a special appropriation of \$40,820 to allow the Department of Correction and Rehabilitation to hire a Correctional Specialist who would be assigned to review pre-trial cases in the jail and request a review hearing if it appears an inmate meets the criteria for community supervision. The Committee agreed to review the effectiveness of the position after it has been in place for several months to determine if an adequate number of cases had been shifted from the jail to make the effort cost effective.

5. Notice of public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held.

Action

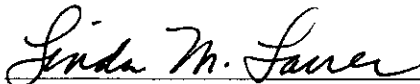
The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, approves the following action:

The County Council approves a special appropriation to the FY07 Operating Budget of the Montgomery County Government to the Department of Correction and Rehabilitation to fund a Correctional Specialist to review certain pre-trial cases where the offender is being held in jail to determine if the offender should be considered for community based pre-trial supervision:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Capital Outlay</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$36,820	\$4,000	\$0	\$40,820	General Fund Reserves

A special appropriation is necessary to act without delay and in the public interest.

This is a correct copy of Council action.


 Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council