

## **FY21 Climate Change Non-Departmental Account**

### **Budget Allocation**

The FY21 Climate Change NDA budget of \$400,000 will be used fund technical analysis and begin implementation of the Climate Action & Resilience Plan (CARP). Funding will be used for the tasks outlined below. We anticipate a need to issue multiple RFPs or Task Orders for some of this work. The County is interested in a competitive process for specific work that supports the review of different approaches and accompanying costs from the business community. Therefore, the dollar amounts of projected solicitations are not included, in order to maintain flexibility and maximize competition. The monthly reports will provide an update on the progress in each area and the funds committed as of that date.

#### **Buildings**

- **Building Energy Performance Standard technical support and build-out of Salesforce platform.** Additional technical support will be needed for property-specific data analysis of the County's building stock to develop BEPS interim and long-term standards for various building types. DEP currently uses a Salesforce platform to support the implementation of the Benchmarking Law, which will need to expand to accommodate new requirements under BEPS.

#### **Clean Energy**

- **Energy consultant technical support to develop short-term strategies for state-level clean energy actions.** The County's energy mix is dependent on state level policies and PSC regulations. In order to green the County's energy supply, there is a need to develop state-level legislative strategies for clean energy and climate, and to build multi-jurisdictional coalitions around those strategies. We are seeking assistance from a consultant with expertise in energy procurement/PSC electricity regulation, to help the County develop state-level legislative and regulatory options for greening the electricity supply, in the 2021 General Assembly session and beyond.

#### **Financing**

- **Funding and financial strategy development.** Implementing climate solutions in Montgomery County will require large investments from the public and private sector. There is a need to understand the different types of financial strategies and financing sources to implement climate solutions at a large scale. Examples of topics to include in the analysis: redirection of fuel energy tax to clean energy and energy efficiency projects; use of Opportunity Zones; use of tax credits; and public private partnerships.

#### **Public Engagement**

- **Equitable public engagement for the Climate Action and Resilience Plan.** Provide capacity for vulnerable members of the community to participate in the climate planning process (e.g., stipends), such as through an Equity Advisory Group or Climate Ambassador program.
- **Develop, and launch, branded outreach and communications campaign on climate.** This would involve messaging (using a health frame), creating signage, establishing a social media toolkit, and engaging departments/agencies and external partners.

## **Transportation**

- **Electric Vehicle near-term actions.** Pilot test provision of curbside EV charging using devices mounted to streetlight poles. Explore cooperative purchasing mechanism for EVs, similar to solar cooperatives. Implement EV charger informational campaign to increase visibility of charger locations.