

**Climate Change Non-Departmental Account**  
**Monthly Reporting**

In May 2020, County Council approved reporting language in its Operating Budget miscellaneous provisions of Resolution 19-472 with regards to the Climate Change NDA:

*This resolution appropriates \$400,000 to the Climate Change Planning Non-Departmental Account (NDA). Funds in this NDA must be used for the prioritization of greenhouse gas reduction strategies, developing an implementation plan to meet the County's goal of an 80 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2027 and a 100 percent reduction by 2035, and to develop climate change adaptation strategies. Only after the previously described work is completed may funds be used for other climate change-related initiatives. The Executive must transmit within 15 days after the end of a month a report on the previous month's expenditures from this account.*

In accordance with the resolution, the Executive hereby transmits the monthly report for September 2020.

**FY21 Climate Change NDA expenditures reporting:**

(includes expenditures incurred through 10/5/20):

<b>Expenditure Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Resilience Ambassador pilot (resilience surveys to inform the climate plan and operating expenses)	\$ 4,135.11

**September highlights:**

- Climate Planning update: In addition to the information gathered through the five technical workgroups, the County expanded engagement to organizations that work with and serve vulnerable groups. The County held a two-part Racial Equity and Social Justice Workshop in September with community organizations spanning public health, economic development, environmental justice, civil rights, and religious areas. This broadened engagement allowed the County to begin to identify existing blind spots and barriers to implementation, incorporate diverse voices and perspectives into climate plan development, and start conversations with vulnerable communities that will continue through action development and implementation.

The draft climate plan will be released at the end of November to the members of the climate technical workgroups and to the Racial Equity and Social Justice Workshop participants. In December, the draft plan will be opened for general public comments for

a 60-day review period. (Note that the climate planning effort is being funded with FY20 Climate Change NDA funds.)

- MCG climate change training series concludes: The County partnered with the Association of Climate Change Officers to offer climate change trainings to department and agency leaders and senior staff. The multi-part training was made available through an FY20 community grant and took place between June and September, for 170 County leaders and staff. The training served as an important step in our efforts to institutionalize climate change into decision-making across a broad range of County planning, policy and operations, and to galvanize support and understanding of climate change across our departments. At the graduation ceremony for the training, the County Executive announced several new initiatives to continue institutionalizing climate change action into the day-to-day work of departments. The Association of Climate Change Officers is also developing climate change video modules for all MCG staff, and recently conducted a climate change awareness survey that went out to all staff.
- County rolls out first four electric RideOn buses; accelerates efforts to reduce transportation emissions: On September 3, 2020, the County's first four Ride On electric buses were launched with a ceremonial "unplug" event in Rockville. The buses were funded through a grant from the Federal Transit Administration and are estimated to save the county \$150,000 a year in operating costs.

**For more information:**

A description of the FY21 Climate Change NDA budget allocation is available at:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/Resources/Files/climate/fy21-climate-nda-budget.pdf>

The complete list of the County's FY21 climate initiatives is available at:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/Resources/Files/climate/fy21-montgomery-county-climate-work-plan.pdf>