



WHEATON URBAN DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Isiah Leggett  
County Executive

Luisa Montero-Diaz  
Director

February 16, 2018

County Executive Isiah Leggett  
101 Monroe Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Executive Leggett:

We are writing to express our concern that the 4% “across the board” cut in the General Fund disproportionately affects the Wheaton Urban District compared to the Bethesda and Silver Spring districts. As you know, Wheaton relies upon a General Fund Transfer for 83% of its revenue, whereas Bethesda and Silver Spring have zero revenue from a General Fund Transfer. The result from this disparity is that Wheaton’s budget is more severely affected by an “across the board” cut in the General Funds. We bring this disparity to your attention with a request on behalf of Wheaton residents and businesses that the county’s budget be adjusted so that Wheaton experiences a comparable reduction to the other urban districts as a proportion of total revenues.

A 4% cut to the General Fund results in the following reduction in overall revenue to the three urban districts:

Wheaton:  $87\% \times 4\% = 3.48\%$   
Bethesda:  $21\% \times 4\% = 0.84\%$   
Silver Spring:  $12\% \times 4\% = 0.48\%$

Thus, Wheaton’s reduction in overall revenue is 4 times more than Bethesda and 7 times more than Silver Spring.

Wheaton’s reliance on the General Fund means that the county’s services to its citizens and businesses are disproportionately affected. We request that the county adjust its budget so that the reduction in overall revenues is equitable among the urban districts and corrects the current bias against the citizens and businesses in Wheaton that the 4% cut imposes.

Sincerely,

Leah Haygood, Chair  
Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee

cc: Jennifer Hughes, Director, Office of Management & Budget  
Hon. Nancy Navarro, Councilmember, District 4