

## OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Marc Elrich
County Executive

Tiffany Ward

Director and Chief Equity Officer

## **MEMORANDUM**

April 11, 2023

To: Jennifer Bryant, Director

Office of Management and Budget

From: Tiffany Ward, Director

Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice

Re: Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA) Supplemental Appropriation (SA) #23-96

FY23 Operating Budget - Board of Elections

- I. **FINDING:** The Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ) finds that Supplemental Appropriations #23-96 to add \$4,244,911 to the Board of Elections FY23 operating budget neither advances nor impedes racial equity and social justice in the County as the increased funds cover previously incurred expenses related to the 2022 Gubernatorial Primary and General elections. The added expenditures were legally mandated and of benefit to all voters in Montgomery County.
- II. **BACKGROUND**: The purpose of SA #23-96 is to cover previously incurred expenditures due to court orders that postponed the 2022 Gubernatorial Primary Election and extended the timeframe for processing Vote by Mail ballots in the 2022 Gubernatorial General Election. These actions caused both the primary and general elections to occur within the same fiscal year, which led to unbudgeted expenditures to accommodate the shift in timing. The increase in vote by mail ballots and the extended period needed to canvass ballots also added expenses. Unbudgeted expenditures related to election costs include: Overtime & FICA Expenditures; Seasonal Temporary Employees; Election Judge Stipends; Moving Services; Sample Ballot Printing; Advertising; Annual State Board of Elections Bill; Printing; Postage for Mail-in Ballots; Building and space rentals for offsite training and ballot canvasing; and Legal/Attorney Services.

cc: Boris Brajkovic, Director, Board of Elections Ken Hartman, Director, Strategic Partnerships, Office of the County Executive