



MONTGOMERY COUNTY OFFICE OF RACIAL EQUITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE

REIA #26-20

Parking Wheaton Facility Renovations

Requesting Agency/Department(s)

Dollar Amount

Department of Transportation

\$34,650

Funding Source

State Aid

Finding

The Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ) finds that Supplemental Appropriation #26-20 Parking Wheaton Facility Renovations (No. 509709) has the potential to advance racial equity and social justice in the County. The project would utilize State funding to convert existing non-LED lighting fixtures to LED lighting in the Wheaton Parking Lot District, thereby advancing racial equity by making universal infrastructure improvements in a diverse community with environmental and public safety benefits.

The purpose of SA #26-20 is to convert existing non-LED lighting fixtures to LED lighting in public parking lots and garages, thereby reducing energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. The project leverages a State grant from the Maryland Energy Administration's (MEA) Maryland Smart Energy Communities Program, Clean Energy for Local Governments (CELG),¹ awarded to convert the fixtures. The project provides a universal benefit to residents, patrons, and visitors in the Wheaton Parking Lot District (PLD) by improving infrastructure that serves all parking users. New LED installations and retrofits not only reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions but also enhance safety by increasing lighting and visibility.

Caveats

This REIA has been conducted with the best available information at the time of writing, including department responses to the Racial Equity and Social Justice template and research conducted by ORESJ Policy Team Analysts. While the assessment examines specific racial equity and social justice impacts of the funding request, it cannot fully address all systemic

Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA)

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inequities that affect the communities in question, nor do we seek to examine impacts outside the scope of the funding request. We recommend using this assessment as a starting point for discussions about the program's impact on advancing racial equity and social justice in Montgomery County.

References

¹ The Clean Energy for Local Governments program is designed to support local and county governments as they engage in sustainable, long-term, clean energy policies and projects that lead to reduced energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions, increased cost savings, and robust clean energy deployment. Available at: <https://energy.maryland.gov/govt/Pages/CleanEnergyforLocalGovernments.aspx>.