

Resolution No.:	<u>20-825</u>
Introduced:	<u>May 22, 2025</u>
Adopted:	<u>May 22, 2025</u>

**COUNTY COUNCIL  
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

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Lead Sponsor: County Council

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**SUBJECT:** Approval of the FY 2026 Aggregate Operating Budget

**Background**

1. Section 305 of the County Charter requires the affirmative vote of 8 Councilmembers to approve the aggregate operating budget if that budget exceeds the adopted spending affordability guidelines then in effect. Section 305 excludes from the aggregate operating budget:
  - Specific grants;
  - Enterprise Funds;
  - Tuition and tuition-related charges at Montgomery College;
  - Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.
2. Section 20-60 of the County Code requires the County Council to set spending affordability guidelines by resolution no later than the second Tuesday in February. The guidelines must specify a ceiling on the aggregate operating budget for FY 2026.
3. Section 305 of the Charter requires that at least 7 Councilmembers must approve the aggregate operating budget if that budget exceeds the aggregate operating budget for the preceding year by more than the rate of inflation, as measured by the annual average increase in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers in the Washington-Baltimore Metropolitan area for the 12-month period preceding December 1, which was 3.25% for the 12-month period preceding December 1, 2024.
4. On May 23, 2024, in Council Resolution No. 20-531, the Council approved the FY 2025 aggregate operating budget in the amount of \$6,387,230,458. If that aggregate operating budget increased at the 3.25% rate of inflation for the 12-month period preceding December 1, 2024, it would be \$6,594,655,611.

5. In Council Resolution No. 20-719, adopted February 11, 2025, the Council adopted the following spending affordability guideline for the Fiscal Year 2026 aggregate operating budget:

- FY 2026 ceiling on the aggregate operating budget      \$6,594,655,611

**Action**

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

The Council, by at least 8 affirmative votes, approves the FY 2026 aggregate operating budget in the amount of \$6,655,327,132 as calculated on the attached page.

This is a correct copy of Council action.



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Sara R. Tenenbaum  
Clerk of the Council

The FY 2026 aggregate operating budget excludes enterprise funds, specific grants, and tuition and tuition-related charges at the College and is calculated as follows:

<b>Fund or District</b>	<b>Appropriation (\$)</b>
General Fund	1,752,160,128
Fire District	310,083,473
Economic Development Fund	4,180,782
Mass Transit	205,787,901
Recreation District	62,850,320
Urban District	13,198,424
Montgomery County Public Schools	3,354,638,789
Montgomery College	295,686,244
Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission:	
Administration Fund	45,512,242
Park Fund	139,842,834
Debt Service on County Bonds and Leases	438,576,665
Debt Service on Park Bonds	7,936,057
Current Revenue for the Capital Budget	64,266,000
Current Revenue for PAYGO	29,200,000
Total Appropriations	6,723,919,859
Less College Tuition and Tuition-Related Charges	(68,592,727)
<b>FY 2026 AGGREGATE OPERATING BUDGET</b>	<b>6,655,327,132</b>
SUMMARY:	
Montgomery County Public Schools	3,354,638,789
Montgomery College	295,686,244
County Government	2,290,290,700
Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission	182,551,098
Retiree Health Insurance Pre-Funding	60,774,306
Debt Service on County Bonds and Park Bonds	446,512,722
Current Revenue and PAYGO for Capital Budget	93,466,000
Total Appropriations	6,723,919,589
Less College Tuition and Tuition-Related Charges	(68,592,727)
<b>FY 2026 AGGREGATE OPERATING BUDGET</b>	<b>6,655,327,132</b>
Aggregate Operating Budget for FY 2025	6,387,230,458
\$ increase	268,096,674
% change	4.20%