

Resolution No.: 20-1104
Introduced: April 14, 2026
Adopted: May 5, 2026

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: County Council

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Agreement between the County and the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire-Rescue Association (MCVFRA) – Fiscal Year 2027

Background

1. County Code Section 21-6 establishes a process for Local Fire and Rescue Departments (LFRDs) to select an authorized representative to represent their interests, and requires the Fire Chief to negotiate in good faith with the authorized representative on certain issues affecting LFRDs and their volunteers.
2. The LFRDs selected the Montgomery County Volunteer Fire-Rescue Association (MCVFRA) to be their authorized representative.
3. The current Memorandum of Agreement (“MOA”) between the Montgomery County Government and MCVFRA has the effective dates of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029.
4. County Code Section 21-6(p) requires the Executive to submit to the Council any element of an agreement with the LFRD authorized representative that requires an appropriation of funds, may have a future fiscal impact, is inconsistent with any County law or regulation, or requires the enactment or adoption of any County law or regulation.
5. On April 1, 2026, the Executive submitted to the Council for its considerations provisions of the MOA that will have new fiscal impacts in Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27). The total anticipated fiscal impact of the MOA for FY27 is \$355,121.
6. The Executive advised the Council that implementation of certain provisions of the MOA will require the submission of proposed legislation. The Executive submitted the proposed legislation to the Council on April 23, 2026, and the Council introduced it on May 5, 2026.

Action

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

- A. For FY27, the County Council intends to approve the appropriation of funds to implement the following provisions of the MOA:
1. *Association Funding.* The MOA requires the County to increase its payment to MCVFRA, for MCVFRA's fulfillment of its functions as the LFRD's authorized representative, by 2.5 percent (above FY2026 funding). The increase is effective July 1, 2026. The total funding level for FY27 is \$356,896. The fiscal impact of the increase for FY27 is \$8,705.
 2. *Nominal Fee.* Article 12 of the MOA requires the County to pay:
 - (a) a nominal fee to each eligible volunteer of \$650 in FY27; or
 - (b) if the active volunteer meets certain criteria, a nominal fee to the volunteer of \$1,500 for FY27. The criteria include that the volunteer: (i) is on the Integrated Emergency Command Structure (IECS) certified list; (ii) received the maximum allowable LOSAP points for department or station responses as specified in Section 21-21(k)(6) of the Montgomery County Code in the previous calendar year; and (iii) received the maximum allowable LOSAP points for sleep-in or stand-by as specified in Section 21-21(k)(3) of the Montgomery County Code in the previous calendar year. The anticipated fiscal effect of nominal fee increases in FY27 is \$74,925.
 3. *Training.* The MOA (Article 16) requires a new public safety training academy course in 2026. The anticipated fiscal impact for FY27 is \$50,936.
 4. *Physical Exams.* The MOA (Article 17) provides that "MCFRS shall reimburse active volunteers up to three-hundred-and-fifty-dollars (\$350) once every 36 months for ultrasound testing that includes, but is not limited to, echocardiogram, carotid doppler, abdominal aortic aneurysm, thyroid abdominal bladder, testicular, or pelvic screenings." The anticipated fiscal impact of this requirement for FY27 is \$175,755.
 5. *Cancer Screenings.* Under a Side Letter incorporated into the MOA, active volunteers are eligible for a reimbursement by the County of up to \$800 once every 10 years for certain multi-cancer early detection blood testing. The anticipated fiscal impact for FY27 is \$44,800.
- B. *Length of Service Awards (LOSAP).* The MOA (Article 25) contemplates adjustments to the LOSAP program, subject to the submission and enactment of

legislation. The Executive submitted the proposed legislation to the Council on April 23, 2026. The Council introduced the legislation, Bill 20-26, on May 5, 2026 and will consider the proposed legislation promptly.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sara", written over a horizontal line.

Sara R. Tenenbaum
Clerk of the Council