

Resolution No: 20-1169
 Introduced: May 21, 2026
 Adopted: June 16, 2026

**COUNTY COUNCIL
 FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

SUBJECT: Supplemental Appropriation #26-81 to the FY26 Operating Budget, Montgomery County Government, Department of Transportation, Snow Removal and Storm Cleanup, \$38,925,247 and Department of General Services, \$5,472,923 (Source of Funds: General Fund Undesignated Reserves)

Background

- Section 307 of the Montgomery County Charter provides that any supplemental appropriation shall be recommended by the County Executive who shall specify the source of funds to finance it. The Council shall hold a public hearing on each proposed supplemental appropriation after at least one week’s notice. A supplemental appropriation that would comply with, avail the County of, or put into effect a grant or a Federal, State or County law or regulation, or one that is approved after January 1 of any fiscal year, requires an affirmative vote of six Councilmembers. A supplemental appropriation for any other purpose that is approved before January 1 of any fiscal year requires an affirmative vote of seven Councilmembers. The Council may, in a single action, approve more than one supplemental appropriation. The Executive may disapprove or reduce a supplemental appropriation, and the Council may reapprove the appropriation, as if it were an item in the annual budget.
- The County Executive has requested the following FY26 Operating Budget appropriation increases for the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Department of General Services (DGS):

	<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
DOT	\$7,066,629	\$31,858,618	\$38,925,247	General Fund Undesignated Reserves
DGS	\$534,615	\$4,938,308	\$5,472,923	General Fund Undesignated Reserves

3. This increase is needed because expenditures for snow removal and storm cleanup exceed the FY26 appropriation of \$3,985,845 in the Department of Transportation and the FY26 appropriation of \$2,884,990 in the Climate Response Non-Departmental Account. As in previous years, due to the unpredictability of snow and storm events, only a minimal amount is budgeted for response operations as a matter of practice. The budget that is developed each year reflects the expectation that additional resources will be required to support snow removal and storm cleanup activities at year-end. The FY26 second quarter analysis estimated additional snow removal and storm cleanup spending beyond the budgeted amount. After review of actual expenses related to staff overtime, contractual services, and materials usage, a supplemental appropriation is needed.

During the winter of 2025-2026, Montgomery County experienced 10 snow/ice events with a total average snow/accumulation of approximately 19.85 inches. While some of the events did not result in plowing, weather forecasts required both County and contractual personnel to report and/or be on standby, including equipment mobilization. One storm accumulated over eleven inches of snow in areas of the County and was followed up by 3 inches of sleet, which in conjunction with multiple days of sub-freezing temperatures, caused widespread “snowcrete”. Prolonged icy conditions resulted in continued cleanup for multiple weeks.

The combined costs incurred to date for snow removal operations and storm cleanup total \$50,244,005 for both DOT and the Department of General Services (DGS). Of that total, snow removal operations incurred \$46,053,580 of expenditures, of which \$6,200,077 was appropriated within DOT’s base budget and the Weather Response Non-Departmental Account. The remaining \$4,190,425 represents storm cleanup costs for both departments, of which \$670,758 was appropriated within DOT’s base budget.

In addition to expenditures incurred to date, this supplemental appropriation provides \$1,025,000 to cover projected storm cleanup costs for DOT and DGS through the remainder of the fiscal year. Damage from wind and rainstorms is unpredictable with the bulk of cleanup activity historically occurring from April through September.

4. The County Executive recommends a supplemental appropriation to the FY26 Operating Budget in the amount of \$44,398,170 for Snow Removal and Storm Cleanup and specifies that the source of funds will be General Fund Undesignated Reserves.
5. Notice of public hearing was given, and a public hearing was held.

Action

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

A supplemental appropriation to the FY26 Operating Budget of the Department of Transportation and Department of General Services is approved as follows.

	<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
DOT	\$7,066,629	\$31,858,618	\$38,925,247	General Fund Undesignated Reserves
DGS	\$534,615	\$4,938,308	\$5,472,923	General Fund Undesignated Reserves

This is a correct copy of Council action.



Sara R. Tenenbaum
Clerk of the Council