

Resolution No.: 20-1035
Introduced: February 10, 2026
Adopted: February 10, 2026

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: County Council

SUBJECT: Amendment to the FY26 Work Program of the Office of Legislative Oversight

Background

1. On July 29, 2025, the Council adopted the FY26 Work Program of the Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO). This Work Program assigned OLO twenty-three projects to be undertaken during the current fiscal year.
2. Since the approval of the FY26 Work Program of the Office of Legislative Oversight, Councilmembers have identified the additional projects described below as appropriate OLO assignments.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the addition of Project #34, 35, 36 and 37 to OLO's FY26 Work Program. These projects will not require or result in any delays to those projects currently assigned in the FY26 OLO Work Program.

This is a correct copy of Council action.



Sara R. Tenenbaum
Clerk of the Council

OLO Work Program Supplement

Project #34

Implementation of OLO RESJ Action Plan

In 2019, the County Council passed the Racial Equity and Social Justice (RESJ) Act requiring each County department to develop and implement a RESJ action plan. In 2022, the Council enacted Executive Regulation 15-21 requiring each County department to develop a RESJ action plan by 2025. With feedback from the Council, OLO developed its RESJ Action Plan to apply a RESJ lens to our policies, practices, and work products (e.g., projects and impact statements) in 2023. OLO defines applying a RESJ lens to our work by paying attention to race, ethnicity, and other social constructs when analyzing problems, looking for solutions, and defining success.

OLO's RESJ Core Team will continue to facilitate opportunities for all staff to make progress on the five priorities of the OLO RESJ Action Plan ([OLO Racial Equity and Social Justice](#)). Further, OLO staff will:

- Submit an annual report to the Council describing activities undertaken to implement the OLO RESJ Action Plan;
- Share information about the action plan and its implementation with other departments; and
- Share effective practices for engaging Black, Indigenous, and other people of color (BIPOC) stakeholders in two-way communications that advance RESJ in governance and decision-making.

OLO Work Program Supplement

Project #35

Evaluation of the Implementation of Early Care and Education Framework

Principal Agencies: HHS, Children's Opportunity Alliance

In 2022, the Council enacted Bill 42-21 to establish an Early Care and Education (ECE) Coordinating Entity charged with: (1) developing recommendations for increasing availability of and access to high quality early care and education programs; (2) serving as a neutral convenor of all major stakeholders to develop a community consensus for the County's early childhood education sector; and (3) securing and administering private-sector funding to support the early care and education system. In 2022, the Council designated the Children's Opportunity Alliance as the ECE Coordinating Entity (ECECE). The enabling legislation states that an organization's designation as the ECECE expires after three years.

In November 2025, the Council adopted Expedited Bill 23-25, Early Care and Education Coordinating Entity, to clarify the duties of the ECECE, clarify the membership of the ECECE's Board, and alter reporting requirements. Among other things, Bill 23-25 clarified roles and responsibilities to avoid duplication of services between the ECECE and early care and education services provided through the County's Department of Health and Human Services.

Following the completion of the Children's Opportunity Alliance's initial three-year designation as the ECECE, the Council's Education & Culture Committee has asked the Office of Legislative Oversight to review the implementation of the ECECE framework and the work of the Children's Opportunity Alliance thus far. In this report, the Office of Legislative Oversight will: (1) conduct an evaluation of the implementation of the mandated duties, use of funds, and reporting requirements; and (2) establish metrics to allow for the periodic assessment of the effectiveness of the appointed designee, especially in advance of the end of each three-year designation period.

OLO Work Program Supplement

Project #36**Review of Up-to-Date Information on the County Government's Response to Opioids**

Principal Agency: Montgomery County Government

Over the past five years, the number of opioid-related overdose deaths in Montgomery County has increased and decreased from year to year, with a decrease most recently from 2024 to 2025. National data show the same trend and show that illegally manufactured fentanyl remains the dominant threat. Data also shows other changes, such as rising use among adults 55 and older. The Council is interested in up-to-date information on the County Government's response to opioids.

Among other things, the Council would like to better understand:

- Through what departments and at what locations in the County does the County Government make Narcan available to the public?
- Where does the County get Narcan that it makes available to the public?
- At what types of public locations are other jurisdictions making Narcan legally available to the public that Montgomery County could consider to expanding public access?
- Would it be legal for the County Government to make Narcan available for distribution to the public by private businesses in the County? If so, what are the legal implications for the County Government and for private businesses/employees?

The Council is also interested in available data, including:

- Trend data on opioid-related overdoses and overdose deaths in Montgomery County;
- Data related to the County Government's Narcan distribution;
- Data on the location of opioid-related overdoses and overdose deaths in Montgomery County, including data on whether any have occurred in public spaces (e.g., parks, restaurants/bars, other businesses, libraries, etc.); and
- Data on calls to the Emergency Communications Center related to opioid use and related dispatches of public safety personnel, including personnel dispatched, dispatched locations, patients served, services rendered, and outcomes, etc.

To the extent that it is available, the Council would like detailed demographic data.

OLO Work Program Supplement

Project #37**Review of Government Data Center Requirements**

Principal Agency: MCG

Maryland state law defines a data center as:

- “a co-located or hosting data center where equipment, space, and bandwidth are available to lease to multiple customers;” or
- “an enterprise data center owned and operated by the company it supports.”¹

The Council would like to better understand the potential impacts of building data centers in the County. This OLO report will review publicly available information and data about the effects seen in other jurisdictions that have authorized the building of data centers. To the extent that data and information are available, the Council would like to know how the building of data centers in the County could impact:

- The local economy and job market;
- Local energy demands;
- Rates and taxes paid by residents;
- Agriculture;
- The climate and environment, including effects on air, water, and woodlands;
- Racial equity and social justice; and
- Quality of life factors in areas adjacent to data centers, including viewscales, open and green spaces, access to transportation, and access to recreation.

The Council would also like OLO to review the laws, regulations, and zoning requirements regarding data centers developed by jurisdictions in the region and nation that permit the building of data centers and whether best practices have emerged regarding the building and operation of data centers. To the extent possible, the Council would like OLO to include recommendations for potential legislation and zoning text amendments related to the building of data centers in Montgomery County.

¹ MD Stat. Ann., Tax-General, § 11-239(a).