

**County Executive
of
Howard County, Maryland**

**Executive Order: 2019-09
Dated: September 21, 2019
Subject: Harriet Tubman School
Operations and Use Advisory Council**

WHEREAS, the Harriet Tubman School opened in 1949 as the Howard County's only all-black high school until it was closed through desegregation in 1965; and

WHEREAS, the Harriet Tubman School was used by the Howard County Public School System for more than 50 years as its central office and then for the departments of maintenance and school construction, and it also housed the Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center and Head Start classes; and

WHEREAS, on October 16, 2015, a Memorandum of Understanding was executed with the Howard County Public School System to transfer ownership of the Harriet Tubman School building and surrounding property (the "Harriet Tubman School site") to Howard County to be preserved as a historic, educational and cultural center; and

WHEREAS, on September 5, 2017, the County Council passed Council Resolution No. 110-2017 that established a School Surplus Use Committee to advance the transfer of the Harriet Tubman School site to County ownership; and

WHEREAS, on December 5, 2017, the County Council was informed that the Harriet Tubman School site would be retained for County Government use, recognizing its importance to the community; and

WHEREAS, the ownership of the Harriet Tubman School site was transferred from the Howard County Public School System to Howard County on April 4, 2018; and

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2018, Executive Order No. 2018-12 was issued that established the Harriet Tubman School Advisory Council; and

WHEREAS, the Harriet Tubman School Advisory Council was tasked with various duties related to identifying priorities and opportunities regarding the renovation and use of the Harriet Tubman School site; and

WHEREAS, the Harriet Tubman School Advisory Council established by Executive Order No. 2018-12 has now ceased to exist, but I wish to build upon the Council's work with a special focus on the use of the Harriet Tubman School site; and

WHEREAS, as County Executive, I am committed to using the Harriet Tubman School site as a place where Howard County residents can reflect on our history, where the community can come together to promote the inclusion of all people, and where we can look optimistically towards a brighter future; and

WHEREAS, I wish to continue to receive community guidance to achieve the vision of using the Harriet Tubman School site as a center to share an important piece of African-American and Howard County history.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED that the Harriet Tubman School Operations and Use Advisory Council is established. The duties and responsibilities of the Advisory Council are as follows:

1. Identify priorities for how to best use the historic Harriet Tubman School site as an educational and cultural center.
2. Recommend opportunities to educate the community about the rich history of the students who attended the Harriet Tubman School.
3. Advise the County Executive on an organizational structure that will serve to permanently coordinate and sustain the vision for the Harriet Tubman School as an educational and cultural center. This shall include developing operations for a multi-use facility including, but not limited to, sponsorships, management required personnel, security, revenue sources and audio-visual needs.
4. Explore funding to allow for the advancement of recommendations made by the Advisory Council.
5. Serve as a liaison to the community and share information with community groups and networks.
6. Share other findings and/or recommendations that the Advisory Council deems appropriate.
7. Explore a Business Plan Development which shall include:
 - a. The development of both Vision and Mission statements, operational overview, proposed management structure, priority of usage, and Program/Service opportunities; and
 - b. The possible development of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Harriet Tubman Foundation, the development of marketing and logos, and the determination of the names of rooms.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that the Harriet Tubman School Advisory Council shall consist of the following members:

Bessie Bordenave
Herman Charity
Fred Dorsey
Shawn Gladden
Caleb Gould
Melvin Kelly
James LeMon
Howard Lyles
Kristina McKirahan
Rev Doug Sands
Frank Turner

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that Bessie Bordenave shall serve as the chair of the Harriet Tubman School Operations and Use Advisory Council, and that the following staff members will serve as advisors to the Council:

Michael Kaminetz, Department of Public Works
Raul Delorme, Department of Recreation & Parks
Matt Madera, Department of Recreation & Parks

Nicola Morgal, Department of Recreation & Parks
Kori Jones, Department of Recreation & Parks
Jennifer Jones, Office of the County Executive
Lauren Myatt, Consultant

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, the Harriet Tubman School Operations and Use Advisory Council shall present its findings and recommendations to the County Executive on or before October 1, 2020.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that the Harriet Tubman School Operations and Use Advisory Council shall cease to exist on February 1, 2021 and the terms of the Council members shall expire on February 1, 2021.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Calvin Ball, as County Executive of Howard County, Maryland have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Howard County to be affixed this 21st day of September, 2019.



Calvin Ball
County Executive



