

**County Executive
Of
Howard County, Maryland**

**Executive Order: 2020-17
Date: November 6, 2020
Subject: Spending Affordability
Advisory Committee**

WHEREAS, the County Executive is concerned about maintaining Howard County's excellent fiscal condition despite challenging economic conditions; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive wishes to have guidance from the citizens of Howard County in reviewing revenue, operating, and capital budgets; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive wishes to assure that the county does not overburden itself with debt and desires to maintain its current excellent bond rating; and

WHEREAS, the county expenditures for the operating and capital budgets must be controlled so that the level of county spending is consistent with the revenue growth of the county; and

WHEREAS, the county is faced with long-term educational, safety, environmental, transportation, health and human services and employee benefit obligations; and

WHEREAS, the control of spending shall be exercised through the budgetary process as well as through program review; and

WHEREAS, the budget proposals on spending affect not only the next fiscal year, but future fiscal years; and

WHEREAS, the county is facing continued demands for additional necessary infrastructure and mandated services, putting pressure on the operating budget and the county's debt capacity

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED that a Spending Affordability Advisory Committee is established. The duties and responsibilities of the committee shall be to produce a report as follows:

1. Review in detail the status and projections of revenues and expenditures for the county, not only for fiscal year 2022, but also for fiscal years 2023 through 2027.
2. Evaluate future county revenue levels and consider the impact of economic indicators such as changes in personal income, assessable base growth, and other data which the committee considers applicable.
3. Evaluate expenditure levels with consideration of the long-term obligations facing the county, and the best way to pay for them.

The committee shall present to the County Executive, on or before March 1, 2021, a report including:

- a. Projected General Fund revenues for the upcoming fiscal year
- b. Recommended new county debt (General Obligation bonds) authorization
- c. An analysis of the long-term fiscal outlook including multi-year projections
- d. Other findings and/or recommendations that the committee deems appropriate

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that the Spending Affordability Advisory Committee shall consist of the following citizens and representatives of major organizations:

Voting Members

Todd Arterburn
Richard Clinch, Ph.D.
Piet de Dreu, Howard County Association
of Realtors
Gan Gick
Ellen Flynn Giles
John C. Hendrickson
Daraius Irani, Ph.D.
Barbara K. Lawson
Milton Matthews, Columbia Association
Leonardo McClarty, Howard County
Chamber of Commerce
Howie Feaga, Farm Bureau
Steve Poynot (Committee Vice Chair)
Joshua Tzucker

Non-Voting Members

Tonya Aikens, Howard County Library
System
Lynn Coleman, Howard Community
College
Joan Driessen, Association of Community
Services Howard County
Jahantab Siddiqui, Howard County Public
School System
Dr. Chao Wu, Howard County Board of
Education

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED that:

Holly Sun, Ph.D., Budget Administrator

shall serve as the Committee's Chair, and that the following county staff members will serve as advisors to the Committee:

Craig Glendenning, Howard County Auditor
Rafiu Ighile, Director, Department of Finance
Jennifer Jones, Deputy Chief of Staff
Patrick Pope, Internal Auditor
Lonnie R. Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer
Larry Twele, Howard County Economic Development Authority

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 6th day of November, 2020.



Calvin Ball
County Executive