



GOCA

Legislative Update (2.0)

Senator **Zucker**, Delegates **Kaiser**, **Luedtke** and **Queen**
Sen. **Zucker** & Sen. **Kramer** presenting

Tuesday, July 14th, 2020
7:30 pm

Agenda

- Overview of Montgomery County Senate & House Delegation
- Unemployment Insurance
- 2020 Legislative Update
- ICC Related Issues
- Elections Update
- Questions

Montgomery County Delegation

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The Montgomery County **Senate** and **House** Delegations are the largest in the State. The Senate and the House Delegations are extremely **influential, diverse and well positioned**.

The Senate Delegation consists of 8 members.

- **Majority** of Montgomery County Senators serve in Senate leadership. **1** of 4 Committee **Chairs**; **3** of the 4 Vice Chairs of Committees; the Senate **Majority Leader**; the Senate **Majority Whip**; and the Senate Democratic **Caucus Chairman**.

The 24 members of the House Delegation is very diverse and powerful.

- Leadership positions include: **2** of 6 Committee Chairs (Kaiser); House **Majority Leader** (Luedtke); House **Parliamentarian**; **11** Subcommittee **Chairs** (Crutchfield, Cullison, Luedtke & Queen).

Unemployment Insurance (UI) Update

The federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act expands unemployment insurance benefits for Marylanders.

- Maryland has received **624,000** in UI claims and paid out **\$3.6 billion**.
- Processed over **96%** of the claims with a backlog of about **3.8%**.
- Of the claims processed **78% of claims paid, 17% were denied**.

Hoping for additional funding from Federal Government:

- State has used \$600 million of UI trust fund with \$615 million balance.
- At current rate of usage:
 - Best case - MD will need to borrow from Dept. of Labor, \$1.2 Billion by 4th week in August;
 - Worst case, will need to borrow from Dept. of Labor \$1.8 billion by 3rd week of July.

For further UI Information, Visit www.MDunemployment.com

2020 Legislative Update

- Changes to the FY 2021 Budget- COVID-19
- Bringing Money Back to the County
- Vetoes by the Governor
- Word about George Floyd
- Future Legislation & Updates

Highlights of FY 2021 Budget

- A record **\$7+ billion** in total K-12 public education funding plus over **\$300M** for school construction.
- Higher education: **\$350 million** in community college funding and nearly **\$6.6 billion** in higher education funding; and a cap on in-state college tuition increases.
- More than **\$11.8 billion** for the state's Medicaid program.
- **\$9.5 billion** sent to local jurisdictions for aid to local governments.
- **\$160 million** to fight the COVID-19 virus.
- A **4% increase** for behavioral /mental health providers and for those serving the developmentally disabled.
- **\$1.9 billion** for public safety in our communities.
- **\$2.4 billion** spent on transportation projects across Maryland.

COVID-19 Reduces Budgets in 3 Ways

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- Increased state spending on direct response to virus, including: public health response, small business assistance, pay increases for essential workers and overtime.
- Uptick in entitlement caseloads, such as Temporary Cash Assistance and Medicaid. State spent **\$40 million** more than expected.
- Decline in state revenues. For FY20-21 decreased revenues will cause a **\$5 billion** shortfall. Casino closures has cost the Education Trust Fund over **\$155 million** this past fiscal year. **For FY 2021** it could be between **\$176 - 279 million**.

Board of Public Works (BPW) Actions

- Governor Hogan outlined **\$1.45 billion** in proposed budget cuts.
- At the recent July 1st BPW meeting, the Governor planned to proceed with **\$672 million** in those cuts.
- At that meeting, which also includes the Comptroller and State Treasurer, **\$413 million** was cut, the largest affecting universities and community colleges.
- The Governor initially recommended an additional **\$205 million in cuts** that Comptroller Franchot and State Treasurer Kopp rejected.
- The rejected controversial proposals would have skipped pension payments for **teachers**, furloughed **state workers** and eliminated a promised cost of living adjustment. Other protected programs included reducing subsidies for **child care**, cutting housing **rental assistance**, and limiting cash available to clean up mold in schools.

Bringing Dollars Home to the County

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A Wider Circle Community Service Center	700,000
Arts on the Block Studio Expansion	100,000
Black Rock Center for the Arts	250,000
Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School	600,000
Charles E. Smith Life Communities	100,000
Easter Seals Inter-Generational Center & Regional Headquarters	150,000
Fairland Recreation Park	100,000
Hero Dogs, Inc.	30,000
Homecrest House	175,000
Imagination Stage	300,000
Ivy Mount School, Inc.	150,000
Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, Inc.	150,000
Kensington Multipurpose Recreation Center	100,000
Long Branch-Garland Neighborhood Park	350,000
Montgomery County Homeless Youth Drop-In Center	217,500
OASIS Farm	44,000
Olney Family Neighborhood Park	200,000
Olney Theatre Center	2,000,000
Rockville Welcome Center	200,000
Round House Theatre	1,500,000
Sandy Spring Meadow Basketball Court	7,000
Sandy Spring Museum	34,500
VisArts	150,000
Warrior Canine Connection	500,000
Willett Branch Greenway	400,000
YMCA Bethesda-Chevy Chase	325,000
TOTAL:	\$8,833,000

Advocating for Our County

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- A record **\$802 million** in K-12 public education funding plus over **\$60 million** for school construction.
- Higher education: **\$53.3 million** in community college funding, **\$10 million** that benefits Community College Faculty and **\$3.4 million** for Libraries.
- More than **\$16 million** for public safety in our communities.
- **\$25 million +** spent on transportation projects across Montgomery County.
 - \$8.4 million County Highway User Funds
 - \$6.2 million Municipal Highway User Funds
 - \$379K for Elderly and Developmentally Disabled Transportation
- **Over \$901 million in overall funding for Montgomery County.**

Vetoes by the Governor

- Governor Larry Hogan announced vetoes of approximately **three dozen bills**, which may well be a record in Maryland history.
- These include vetoes of school reform and construction, common sense background check laws for gun purchases, a bill to help reduce prescription drug costs, and a bill to correct the issues related to program duplication that disadvantaged Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
- Due to the way our budget process works, despite the Governor's claims, **none of these vetoes save the state a dime of money** before July of 2021, and in fact they make our budget situation worse.
- We urge the Governor to work productively with legislators on both sides of the aisle, and expect robust **conversation about veto overrides** when the legislature reconvenes.

A Word About George Floyd

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- George Floyd, like far too many black Americans, was killed as a result of unacceptable, and too often, unaccountable use of force by police.
- The District 14 Team believes in strong systems of police accountability to ensure that police treat all citizens with respect. We have and will continue to advocate for stronger laws to reach that goal.
- We also believe in working with our local and state law enforcement communities to help build stronger relationships between police forces and the communities they serve, and we have worked through community events to help make that happen.
- We stand with those protesters who have exercised their first amendment rights to demand justice. It's shameful that in 21st century America, it's still a controversial statement for us as elected officials to say that Black Lives Matter.

Public Safety & Reforms

Led by Committee **Chairman Will Smith**, the Senate will Review the following policy areas:

- Disclosure of Officer Personnel Records
- Use of Force
- Training
- Demilitarization of Police Forces
- Excessive Force Bystander Intervention
- Independent Investigator for Police Violence / Special Prosecutor for Police Violence
- Adjust Liability Caps for Acts of Police Violence
- Law Enforcement Officers Bill of Rights (LEOBR)

House Speaker Adrienne Jones has convened a bi-partisan Work Group on Police Reform and Accountability to develop future policies.

ICC Speeding Issue

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The Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) Police is coordinating high visible and targeted enforcement initiatives and deploying supplemental resources from across the agency at the request of the **District 14 & 19 Legislative Delegation**.

From June 5-7, MDTA conducted a safety initiative using officers assigned to the ICC Detachment and specialized units.

Officers conducted 159 traffic stops, issued a combined 259 traffic citations, warnings and safety equipment repair orders, and made 7 arrests. One arrest was for operating a stolen motorcycle. A smaller initiative was held June 28, and additional initiatives are being planned for the future.

- MDTA is coordinating safety outreach in communities and through traditional, social and digital media. Officers are approaching motorcycle riders in non-enforcement settings to share information and community concerns.
- MDTA is coordinating with our partners in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties and at the Maryland State Police.
- MDTA are attempting to keep members of the community involved and informed. On June 10, leadership from the MDTA and the MDTA Police met with representatives from communities along the ICC, including Brooke Manor Estates. During this almost two-hour meeting, we shared information and discussed collaborative solutions. MDTA Police ICC Detachment Commander Lt. Michelle Mount has maintained contact with community leaders, and another meeting is being planned for the future.
- Since the June 5-7 initiative, the MDTA and MDTA Police have received few complaints about speeding or aggressive driving on the ICC, despite investing in social media outreach urging residents to report these behaviors. Regardless, the MDTA Police will continue enforcement, investigative and outreach efforts.

November 3rd General Election

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- Governor Hogan has ordered for there to be in-person voting for the General Election.
- The Board of Elections (BOE) will send an absentee ballot application by mail to all eligible voters.
- The BOE will expand efforts to promote voting by mail, early voting, and voting during off-peak times.

We should maintain maximum flexibility for the upcoming election. Should the pandemic worsen, or Election staff are unable to be found, we must ensure that no Maryland voter is disenfranchised. It is incumbent upon us all to work together to make this election a success. We will accept nothing less.

Contact Us Anytime

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MD General Assembly Website:

<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebiste>

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