

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY

COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING

501 Court Lane, Room 110

Cambridge, Maryland 21613

(410) 228-1700

GEORGE L. PFEFFER, JR., PRESIDENT

MIKE DETMER, VICE PRESIDENT

ROB KRAMER, JR.

WILLIAM V. NICHOLS

RICKY C. TRAVERS



JERRY JONES
COUNTY MANAGER

MACLEOD LAW GROUP LLC
COUNTY ATTORNEY

OPEN AGENDA Legislative Day No. 2 March 17, 2026

Call to Order

Open Session

5:00 p.m.

Closed Session

5:01 p.m.

Reconvene into Open Session

6:00 p.m.

1. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance

2. Calls for Additions/Deletions to Agenda

3. Financial Report – General Fund – Operating Cash on Hand (Allocated & Unallocated): \$

4. Closed Session Summary §3-305(b): (1), (13) & (7)

5. Consent Agenda

6:01 p.m.

A. County Council Open Session Minutes – March 3, 2026

B. Accounts Payable Disbursement Report – Week Ending March 13, 2026

C. Letter of Support Request – Senate Bill 764 – Constituent

- Request of a constituent to provide a letter of support for Senate Bill 764 (cross-filed House Bill 1205) entitled, Education – Minimum Wage for Education Support Professionals for the purpose of establishing a certain minimum wage rate to be paid by county boards of education to certain education support professionals beginning on or before a certain date; and generally relating to a minimum wage for education support professionals

D. Letter of Support Request – House Bill 473 – Constituent

- Request of a constituent to provide a letter of support for House Bill 473 entitled, Education - Collective Bargaining - Certificated Employees - Class Size, for the purpose of repealing the prohibition on a public school employer negotiating the maximum number of students assigned to a class; and generally relating to collective bargaining for public school employees

E. Grant Amendment Request– 2024 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) – Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – Finance

- Request of Finance, on behalf of Emergency Management, to amend the 2024 SHSP grant, through FEMA, to increase the award amount from \$102,877.02 to \$107,335.02 (\$4,458 increase) and update the recommended list of projects to be completed, with no match requirement and a grant period of September 1, 2024 through May 31, 2027

F. Grant Amendment Request– Energy Efficiency Equity Program (EEEP) – Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) – Finance – Public Works

- Request of Finance and Public Works to amend the EEEP grant application, through the MEA, to apply \$70,671 towards the replacement of lighting at the County Pool and County Office Building, with no match requirement and a grant period of August 6, 2025 through September 1, 2027

6. Commendation(s)

A. National Outdoor Show Pageant Winners

7. Proclamation(s)

A. Endometriosis Awareness Month - March

8. Presentation(s)

A. Burial Sites Preservation Board

9. Legislative Session

- A. Public Hearing – Bill No. 2026-1 – County Infractions 6:05 p.m.
• To amend Chapters 65 (Building Code), 82 (Electrical Standards), 102 (Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration), 110 (Minimum Livability Code), 119 (Plumbing), and 134 (Stormwater Management) of the Dorchester County Code by providing that violations of each such chapter shall be a County infraction and subject to a fine not to exceed \$5,000;
- B. Public Hearing – Bill No. 2026-2 – Property Maintenance 6:06 p.m.
• To repeal and reenact Chapter 121 (Property Maintenance) of the Dorchester County Code for the purpose of adopting the current edition of the international property maintenance code, with amendments, as the property maintenance code for Dorchester County, Maryland;
- C. Public Hearing – Bill No. 2026-3 – Wharves 6:07 p.m.
• To amend Chapter 150 (Wharves, Docks, Marinas, Piers And Harbor Facilities, Public) of the Dorchester County Code by providing that the County may take appropriate action to remove obstructions by manner of an authorized private towing contractor;
- D. Public Hearing – Bill No. 2026-4 – Zoning 6:08 p.m.
• To amend Chapter 155 (Zoning) of the Dorchester County code by providing that violations thereof shall be a County infraction and subject to a fine not to exceed \$5,000;
- E. Introduction – FY2026 Budget Amendment
• To amend the FY2026 budget and appropriation ordinance of Dorchester County

Reconvene into Open Session

10. Resolutions

- A. Public Hearing – Resolution No. 685 – Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) Pooled Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Trust Adoption Agreement – Finance 6:09 p.m.
• Consideration of the Council to adopt Resolution No. 685 to approve an adoption agreement for the MACo Pooled OPEB Trust Fund for the purpose of accumulating and investing assets to fund other post-retirement benefits
- B. Resolution Introduction – Administrative Review – County Charter Amendment
• To amend Article 4, Section 409 of the Charter of Dorchester County to specify that the review of administrative structure be conducted within the first fiscal year of each council term
- C. Resolution Introduction – Budget Preparation & Adoption Dates – County Charter Amendment
• To amend Article 5, Section 504 of the Charter of Dorchester County to change the date by which the Council shall prepare the annual budget to May 15 of each year; and amend Section 507(b) of the Charter of Dorchester County to change the date by which the council shall adopt the annual budget to June 15 each year
- D. Resolution Introduction – County Manager Responsibilities – County Charter Amendment
• To amend Article 4, Section 405 of the charter of Dorchester County to clarify certain responsibilities of the County Manager; establish procedures for certain vacancies
- E. Resolution Introduction – Governmental Transparency – County Charter Amendment
• To amend Article 6 of the Charter of Dorchester County by adding new Section 606 to ensure transparency of governmental functions and information
- F. Proposed Resolution – Removal of Overtime Threshold – Sheriff’s Office
• Request to post the proposed Resolution to amend the Dorchester County Personnel Rules & Regulations to remove law enforcement personnel within the Sheriff’s Office from the hours in excess of 171 in a 28-day work cycle in all County Departments for 10 days, with a Public Hearing scheduled on April 7, 2026 for further consideration and a proposed effective date of April 12, 2026

11. Action Items

7:15 p.m.

- A. Egypt Park Disc Golf Course Recommendation – Recreation & Parks
• Recommendation of Recreation & Parks to not award a bid for the request for proposal entitled, Installation of an 18-Hole Disc Golf Course in Dorchester County, Maryland, due to budget constraints, and instead proceed with installing the course using volunteers and in-house labor as a more cost-effective alternative

- B. Request to Proceed – Strategic Planning Services – Phase 2 – Council’s Office
 - Request of the Council’s Office to proceed with Phase 2 of the Strategic Plan, funded by the Council’s Office FY26 Operating Budget
- C. Highway Priorities Discussion
 - Discussion of proposed highway priorities to submit to the Maryland Department of Transportation by April 1, 2026
- D. Poll Confirmation(s)
 - Consideration of the Council to confirm its decision(s) in the interim of meetings, via poll:
 - 1) Approved the request of the Dorchester Center for the Arts to provide a letter to Maryland Historical Trust, for its Historic Preservation Capital Grant application, providing consent for proposed preservation work to the County owned facility by a 5 to 0 vote;
 - 2) Appointed a member to the Cambridge Waterfront Development, Inc. Board, by a 5 to 0 vote;
 - 3) Approved the request of Cambridge Waterfront Development, Inc. to provide a letter of support for its Technical Assistance Grant Program, through the Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development’s Operating Assistance Program, for funding towards the implementation of activities associated with the Cambridge Harbor redevelopment, not to obligate the County to provide funding or assist with this project, by a 3 to 0 vote;
 - 4) Approved the request of the Town of Galestown to provide a letter of support for its FY27 Congressionally Directed Spending application to provide funding for the Galestown Community Center Playground Safety and Revitalization Project, not to obligate the County to provide funding or assist with this project, by a 3 to 0 vote

12. County Manager Comments	7:35 p.m.
13. Council Comments	7:40 p.m.
14. Public Comments	7:45 p.m.
Adjournment	7:55 p.m.