

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND

**Legislative Session 2026, Legislative Day No. 6
Bill No. 2026-5**

Introduced By: Council President George L. Pfeffer, Jr.

Introduced, first read, and posted on Tuesday, April 14, 2026. Published once a week for two successive weeks, the following public hearings were scheduled in Room 110 of the County Office Building, 501 Court Lane, Cambridge, Maryland:

- Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 6:05 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 6:05 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 6:05 p.m.

By Order: George L. Pfeffer, Jr., Council President

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND.

FOR THE PURPOSE of adopting the County Budget, consisting of the Operating Budget, the Capital Budget, and the Grant Budget, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027; and appropriating funds for all expenditures for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Dorchester County, Maryland, in pursuance of the duties imposed and the authorities conferred upon the County Council by the following sections: 10-10, 10-16, and 50-5 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Dorchester County; 8-108, 6-301 and 6-302 of the Tax Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland; 10-313 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland; and, Article 5 of the Charter for Dorchester County, Maryland, and, after sitting as the Board of Estimates, notice having been given as required by law, do hereby levy the following taxes upon all taxable property within Dorchester County of every kind as law requires.

TAX LEVY

It is ordered that a tax be and is hereby levied on each:

- One hundred dollars' worth of all assessable **real property** in Dorchester County, subject to assessment for County purposes, of one dollar and three cents (\$1.03); and,
- One hundred dollars' worth of all assessable **personal property** in Dorchester County, subject to assessment for County purposes, of two dollars and forty-four cents (\$2.44); and,
- One hundred dollars' worth of **public utility property** subject to taxation for State purposes of twenty-eight cents (\$0.280) to pay State taxes, and,
- One hundred dollars' worth of all **other real property** subject to taxation for State purposes of eleven and two tenths' cents (\$0.112).

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND
 ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE
 FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

It is ordered that a **tax setoff** in accordance with Section 6-306 of the Tax Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland is hereby granted within the municipal corporation boundaries of:
 1) **City of Cambridge, Maryland**, in the amount of \$0.0733; imposing a real property tax rate of \$0.9567; and 2) **Town of Hurlock, Maryland**, in the amount of \$0.0821; imposing a real property tax rate of \$0.9479. It is further ordered that a tax be and is hereby levied on each.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the County Council of Dorchester County, Maryland that the Operating Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 is hereby approved and adopted for such year; and funds for all expenditures for the purposes specified in the Operating Budget beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, are hereby appropriated in the amounts hereinafter specified and for the purposes hereinafter indicated as follows:

REVENUE BUDGET

GOVERNMENT FUNDS:	FY27
PROPERTY TAXES:	
REAL PROPERTY TAXES - \$1.03	40,298,500
REAL & PERSONAL PROPERTY -UTILITIES	4,750,000
ADDITIONS AND ABATEMENTS	(38,000)
TAX CREDITS - HOMESTEAD	(75,000)
INTEREST & PENALTIES	60,000
TAX CREDITS -9-C CREDIT	(37,000)
TAX CREDITS - ENTERPRISE ZONE	(32,000)
TAX CREDITS - SHORELINE EROSION	(58,000)
SHORE EROSION BENEFIT CHARGE	(10,000)
PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES (PILOTS)	182,250
TAX CREDIT – FIREFIGHTERS TAX CREDIT	(82,000)
TAX CREDITS - SENIORS	(24,500)
TAX CREDITS - DISABLED VETS	(18,000)
PILOT-CHESAPEAKE & FOREST ACRES	715,000
Subtotal	45,631,250
INCOME TAXES:	
INCOME TAX - 3.3% LOCAL	25,255,820
Subtotal	25,255,820
OTHER TAXES:	
RECORDATION TAX	4,750,000
911 TELEPHONE FEES - \$4.25	2,560,000
MOBILE HOME TAXES	140,000
HOTEL ROOM RENTAL TAX	455,000
ADMISSION & AMUSEMENT	1,000
Subtotal	7,906,000
LICENSES AND PERMITS	
FILING FEES-VEHICLE & BOAT	150

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BEER, WINE & LIQUOR LICENSES	125,000
TRADERS, PINBALL, BINGO	18,500
SEAFOOD BUYERS PERMIT	150
MARRIAGE LICENSES	1,780
DOG LICENSES	100
ZONING PERMIT FEES	250,000
BUILDING PERMIT FEES	250,000
HVACR PERMIT FEES	20,000
ELECTRICAL LICENSING FEES	16,000
PLUMBING LICENSING FEES	20,000
ELECTRICAL PERMIT FEES	15,500
PLUMBING PERMIT FEES	20,000

Subtotal	737,180
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FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL AID:

BLACKWATER WILDLIFE REFUGE PILOT	55,000
OTHER STATE AID	18,000
JUROR REIMBURSEMENT	40,000
SOIL CONSERVATION	47,000
STATE AID POLICE PROTECTION	160,000
DISPARITY GRANT	4,824,000
508 FIRE, RESCUE & AMBULANCE FUND	335,000
HIGHWAY USER REVENUES	1,662,335
FEDERAL GRANT - GENERAL FUND	10,844,455
FEDERAL GRANT - ENTERPRISE FUND	3,290,123
STATE GRANT	9,116,889

Subtotal	30,392,802
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SERVICE CHARGES:

TAX SALE COSTS REIMBURSEMENT	20,000
PLANNING AND ZONING FEES	25,000
ELECTION FEES	500
MOTOR VEHICLE FEE - LOCAL	2,100
SHERIFF'S FEES	27,615
DRUG TASK FORCE	105,000
SPECIAL EVENTS - 911	8,850
SPECIAL EVENTS - EMS	20,030
REIMB. - HOME DETENTION	21,500
REIMB.-MUNICIPAL DISPATCH	177,220
EMS BILLING - NET	2,450,000
ROAD OPENING PERMITS	4,850
STORMWATER MGMT. PERMITS	18,580
FOREST HARVESTING PERMITS	1,000
GRADING PERMITS	2,500

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PIPE SALES	56,740
OTHER SALES	10,450
SWIMMING POOL FEES	25,000
RECREATION PROGRAM FEES	65,000
SWIMMING POOL CONCESSIONS	19,500
THENDARA	2,500
MOSQUITO CONTROL - FEES	66,000
TYLERS COVE SLIP RENT	4,200
RAGGED POINT SLIP RENT	14,300
ELLIOTTS ISLAND SLIP RENT	13,575
TRENTON STREET SLIP RENT	23,400
BACK CREEK SLIP RENT	7,150
TAYLORS ISLAND SLIP RENT	725
Subtotal	3,193,285
ALL OTHER REVENUES:	
COURT FINES & FORFEITURES	6,000
PRIN/INT - ECONOMIC DEV. LOANS	75,890
INVESTMENT REVENUE	1,311,400
RENT - TOWER	40,395
RENT - OTHER PROPERTIES	97,850
ESPP EMS SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT PROGRAM	749,090
ENTERPRISE FUND ADMIN CHARGE	475,000
Subtotal	2,755,625
TRANSFER:	
PRIOR YEAR GENERAL FUND SURPLUS	2,149,335
TRANSFER GRANT MATCH - GENERAL FUND	1,078,032
TRANSFER GRANT MATCH - ENTERPRISE FUND	822,531
Subtotal	4,049,898
Total	119,921,860
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS:	
TRANSFER TAX FUND	1,947,430
ESIC FUND	82,010
EXCISE TAX	250,000
Subtotal	2,279,440
ENTERPRISE FUNDS:	
AIRPORT ENTERPRISE FUND	500,765
LANDFILL ENTERPRISE FUND	10,544,026
WATER & WASTEWATER SERVICES	1,677,490
Subtotal	12,722,281
Grand Total	134,923,581

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND
ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE
FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

EXPENDITURES BUDGET

FUND	GOVERNMENTAL FUND	OPERATING PERSONNEL	OPERATING EXPENSES	CAPITAL	SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS	TOTAL
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:				(Fund - 08)	(Fund - 07)	
01-0010	COUNTY COUNCIL	695,572	126,200	-	-	821,772
01-0060	LEGAL	-	250,000	-	-	250,000
01-0021	CIRCUIT COURT	247,507	95,684	-	-	343,191
01-0026	COURT REPORTER	-	15,000	-	-	15,000
07-0020	FAMILY SERVICES*	145,902	-	-	330,504	476,406
07-0024	TRUANCY REDUCTION*	456,217	-	-	103,006	559,223
01-0040	ELECTIONS	161,372	1,104,270	-	-	1,265,642
01-0050	FINANCE	1,103,026	222,300	-	-	1,325,326
01-0077	HUMAN RESOURCES	392,135	41,820	-	-	433,955
01-0088	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	471,507	122,000	89,700	-	683,207
01-0022	ORPHAN'S COURT	26,100	4,475	-	-	30,575
01-1010	OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT	-	1,206,697	-	-	1,206,697
01-0080	PLANNING & ZONING*	815,543	174,718	7,000	6,951,054	7,948,315
01-0023	STATE'S ATTORNEY*	1,265,271	73,180	-	-	1,338,451
01-2200	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	139,461	155,396	-	-	294,857
01-2230	OTHER ECONOMIC DEV.	-	133,000	-	-	133,000
01-2202	TOURISM*	176,305	417,471	-	-	593,776
Subtotal		6,095,918	4,142,211	96,700	7,384,564	17,719,393
SUPPLEMENTED BY GENERAL FUND:						
10-1270	AIRPORT	237,397	-	-	-	237,397
12-2200	EASTERN SHORE INNOV CENTER	71,969	-	-	-	71,969
12-2400	ESIC DEBT	-	25,000	-	-	25,000
Subtotal		309,366	25,000	-	-	334,366
PUBLIC SAFETY:				(Fund - 08)	(Fund - 07)	
01-1130	DETENTION CENTER	5,495,387	2,448,338	413,704	-	8,357,429

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COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND
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01-1151	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT*	107,026	28,976	-	210,110	346,112
01-1121	EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES*	6,176,022	689,767	562,494	201,300	7,629,583
01-1111	SHERIFF'S OFFICE*	6,510,964	1,298,743	1,574,700	516,781	9,901,188
01-1112	DRUG TASK FORCE	-	105,000	-		105,000
01-1155	ANIMAL CONTROL	234,589	269,085	-		503,674
01-1156	911 COMMUNICATIONS	2,060,049	768,584	1,473,250		4,301,883
01-1158	COMMUNICATION TOWERS	-	11,000	-		11,000
01-1120	VOLUNTEER FIRE & ALS*	-	1,372,350	-	26,368	1,398,718
	Subtotal	20,584,037	6,991,843	4,024,148	954,559	32,554,587
	PUBLIC WORKS:			(Fund - 08)	(Fund - 07)	
01-1600	HIGHWAY DIVISION	1,710,813	-	867,000		2,577,813
01-1641	BRIDGES	-	72,500	-		72,500
01-1590	ENGINEERING*	98,521	12,750	-	8,706,906	8,818,177
01-1639	MOWING & BUSHING	-	128,500	-		128,500
01-1675	PW ADMINISTRATION	303,701	421,700	-		725,401
01-1633	RESURFACING	-	2,285,000	-		2,285,000
01-1632	ROADWAYS	-	280,000	-		280,000
01-1642	SHOP	330,831	360,000	-		690,831
01-1681	SIGNS & STRIPING	-	40,000	-		40,000
01-1661	SNOW & ICE	-	165,000	-		165,000
01-1619	STATE AID PROJECTS	-	1,454,000	-		1,454,000
01-1631	SHOULDER WORK	-	6,000	-		6,000
01-1662	STORM DAMAGE	-	15,000	-		15,000
01-0093	COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING	-	206,248	44,300		250,548
01-0090	CUSTODIANS - COUNTY BUILDING	382,634	16,761	-		399,395
01-0092	HEALTH DEPT. BUILDING	-	36,101	-		36,101
01-1668	MARINE FACILITIES	-	66,350	-		66,350
01-1005	COUNTY PROPERTY MAINT.	-	16,000	15,000		31,000
	Subtotal	2,826,500	5,581,910	926,300	8,706,906	18,041,616

2026008 FUND 0282

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND
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RECREATION AND PARKS:				(Fund - 08)	(Fund - 07)	
01-1811	RECREATION AND PARKS*	528,570	221,888	60,000	387,000	1,197,458
01-1812	LEONARDS LANE	-	47,000	-		47,000
01-1813	SEASONAL EMPLOYEES	148,896	-	-		148,896
01-1814	SWIMMING POOL	31,834	186,930	-		218,764
01-1830	BALL PARK	-	6,500	-		6,500
NEW	THENDARA	-	21,500	-		21,500
Subtotal		709,300	483,818	60,000	387,000	1,640,118
DEBT SERVICE:						
01-2400	DEBT SERVICE	-	5,256,526	-		5,256,526
01-2405	DEBT SERVICE HIGHWAYS	-	59,666	-		59,666
Subtotal		-	5,316,192	-	-	5,316,192
ENTERPRISE FUNDS:						
10-1270	AIRPORT	114,474	333,791	52,500		500,765
11-1280	SOLID WASTE	1,472,753	3,463,973	5,607,300		10,544,026
13-1240	WATER & WASTEWATER SERVICES*	504,970	1,117,020	55,500	4,112,654	5,790,144
Subtotal		2,092,197	4,914,784	5,715,300	4,112,654	16,834,935
FIDUCIARY FUNDS:						
25-2600	OPEB TRUST FUND	2,000,000	-	-		2,000,000
Subtotal		2,000,000	-	-	-	2,000,000
01-2500	EDUCATION			(Fund - 08)		
	CHESAPEAKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	-	1,435,052	-		1,435,052
	DOR. CO. BOARD OF EDUCATION	-	27,046,477	602,500		27,648,977
	TEACHER PENSION	-	794,625	-		794,625
Subtotal		-	29,276,154	602,500	-	29,878,654
01-2500	INTERGOVERNMENTAL					
	DOR. CO. HEALTH DEPT.	-	929,061	-		929,061
	DOR. CO. PUBLIC LIBRARY	-	618,493	-		618,493
	MOSQUITO CONTROL	-	544,037	-		544,037

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COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND
ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE
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	TAX REBATE TO MUNICIPALITIES	-	6,050	-	6,050
	Subtotal	-	2,097,641	-	2,097,641
	MISCELLANEOUS:				
01-2700	CONTINGENCY	-	750,000	-	750,000
	Subtotal	-	750,000	-	750,000
01-2600	HEALTH INSURANCE				
	RETIREES	920,000	-	-	920,000
	RETIREMENT ADMIN CHARGES	600,000	-	-	600,000
	MEDICAL CLAIMS	1,800,000	-	-	1,800,000
	Subtotal	3,320,000	-	-	3,320,000
	COMMUNITY PARTNERS:			(Fund - 07)	
01-1392	DELMARVA COMMUNITY SERVICES*	-	385,531	-	1,201,489
01-1530	NON-PROFITS	-	64,494	-	-
01-1393	SENIOR CARE	-	32,201	-	-
01-2196	MID-SHORE REGIONAL COUNCIL	-	15,000	-	-
	Subtotal	-	497,226	-	1,201,489
	NATURAL RESOURCES:				
01-2010	COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE	157,632	29,800	-	187,432
01-2020	SOIL CONSERVATION	239,612	2,000	-	241,612
01-2021	FOREST CONSERVATION	-	3,000	-	3,000
01-2090	WEED CONTROL	11,480	14,400	-	25,880
	Subtotal	408,724	49,200	-	457,924
	SPECIAL FUND:				
19-0091	COURTHOUSE MAINTENANCE	183,174	976,441	119,150	1,278,765
19-1104	COURTHOUSE SECURITY	656,665	12,000	-	668,665
17-1100	EXCISE TAX	-	250,000	-	250,000
12-2200	EASTERN SHORE INNOV CENTER	17,310	64,700	-	82,010
		857,149	1,303,141	119,150	-
	Total	39,203,191	61,429,120	11,544,098	22,747,172
					134,923,581

*Portion of Operating and/or Capital Funded by Grants (See Section 5 - Grants Budget)

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COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND
 ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE
 FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the County Council of Dorchester County, Maryland that the following Tax Rates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, are hereby approved and adopted for such year:

TAX RATES

1. Real Property Tax revenue for fiscal year 2026-2027 is based on a rate of \$1.03 per \$100 of assessed valuation of said property, \$0.9567 per \$100 of assessed valuation of said property within the City of Cambridge, Maryland, and \$0.9479 per \$100 of assessed valuation of said property within the Town of Hurlock, Maryland, subject to taxation for County purposes, which rates are hereby enacted. A service charge based on a rate of 0.02% applied to the unpaid balance of Real Property Taxes due in December, on properties with the semi-annual tax payment option, is hereby enacted.
2. Personal Property Tax revenue for fiscal year 2026-2027 is based on a rate of \$2.44 per \$100 of assessed valuation of said property, subject to taxation for County purposes which rate is hereby enacted.
3. Local Income Tax revenue for fiscal year 2026-2027 is based on a rate of 3.30% for Maryland Taxable Income, which rate is hereby enacted.
4. Recordation Tax revenue for fiscal year 2026-2027 is based on a rate of \$5.00 per \$500 of the value of the recorded transaction, which rate is hereby enacted.
5. Transfer Tax revenue for fiscal year 2026-2027 is based on a rate of 0.75% of the actual consideration payable on the conveyance of title, with the first \$30,000 of consideration on residential property intended to be used by the buyer as an owner-occupied residence exempt from this tax, which rate is hereby enacted.
6. Trailer Court Tax revenue for fiscal year 2026-2027 is based on a rate of 15% of the charges for rental, leasing or use of any space, facilities or accommodations in or for the providing of any services provided by trailer courts or camps, which rate is hereby enacted.
7. Hotel Rental Tax revenue for fiscal year 2026-2027 is based on a rate of 5% of the value of the rental of rooms for sleeping accommodations provided to transients, which is hereby enacted.
8. Admissions and Amusement Tax revenue for fiscal year 2026-2027 is based on a rate of 0.5% of the value of the admissions, which is hereby enacted.

SECTION 4. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the Capital Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 is hereby approved and adopted for such fiscal year; and funds for all expenditures for the purposes specified in the Capital Budget during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, and during subsequent fiscal years as specified in the Charter of Dorchester County, Maryland, are hereby appropriated in the amounts hereinafter specified for the purposes hereinafter indicated as follows:

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND
ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE
FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

CAPITAL BUDGET

ACCOUNT	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
08-1156-5999	911 Communications	Radio System Lifecycle Equipment Replacement	1,473,250
Subtotal			1,473,250
10-1270-6000	Airport	Taxiway Repair	45,000
10-1270-5999	Airport	Snowplow	7,500
Subtotal			52,500
08-1005-5999	Public Works - Animal Control	Exterior AC Unit Replacements (2)	15,000
Subtotal			15,000
08-2500-6000	Board of Education	Cambridge South Dorchester HVAC	127,500
08-2500-6000	Board of Education	Maces Lane Middle Roof and HVAC	475,000
Subtotal			602,500
19-0091-5999	Circuit Court	Docket Boards	13,650
19-0091-5999	Circuit Court	Audio/Visual Equipment	15,000
19-0091-6000	Public Works - Circuit Court	Jockey pump and control (fire sprinkler system) Replacement	10,000
19-0091-6000	Public Works - Circuit Court	Chiller Replacement (phase 1 of 3)	75,000
19-0091-6000	Public Works - Circuit Court	Parking Lot Line Striping	5,500
Subtotal			119,150
08-1130-5999	Corrections	Ice Machine	19,800
08-1130-5999	Corrections	Ice Bins	2,904
08-1130-5999	Corrections	Replacement 15-Passenger Van	67,000
08-1130-5999	Corrections	HVAC Unit No. 5-7 (1 of 3)	104,000
08-1130-5999	Corrections	Control Center Boards (F-1 & F2)	220,000
Subtotal			413,704
08-0088-5999	Information Technology - COB	UPS Replacement	9,700
08-0093-6000	Public Works - COB	Parking Lot Line Striping	5,500
08-0093-6000	Public Works - COB	Finance/HR PTAC Units Replacement (2)	5,500
08-0093-6000	Public Works - COB	Boiler replacement (phase 1 of 3)	33,300

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COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND
ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE
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			Subtotal	54,000
08-1121-5999	Emergency Medical Services	Ambulance		435,000
08-1121-5999	Emergency Medical Services	Cardiac Monitor Upgrades (10 of 12)		88,476
08-1121-5999	Emergency Medical Services	Toughbooks (10)		39,018
			Subtotal	562,494
08-0088-5999	Information Technology	Computer Refresh (100)		80,000
			Subtotal	80,000
08-0080-5999	Planning & Zoning	Toughbooks (2)		7,000
			Subtotal	7,000
08-1600-5999	Public Works - Highway	Skid Steer		100,000
08-1600-5999	Public Works - Highway	25-ton Equipment Trailer		55,000
08-1600-5999	Public Works - Highway	1/2-ton pickup trucks (4)		180,000
08-1600-5999	Public Works - Highway	Roadside Tractor Mower		200,000
08-1600-5999	Public Works - Highway	Forestry Mulching Head for Excavator		32,000
08-1600-5999	Public Works - Highway	10 Wheel Dump Truck w/ Attachments		300,000
			Subtotal	867,000
08-1111-5999	Sheriff's Office	Vehicle Leases (New & Existing)		1,574,700
			Subtotal	1,574,700
08-1811-5999	Recreation & Parks	Vehicle Replacement - Maintenance		35,000
08-1811-5999	Recreation & Parks	Reel Mower		25,000
			Subtotal	60,000
11-1280-6000	Solid Waste	Cell 2 Construction		5,600,500
11-1280-6000	Solid Waste	Storage Shed		6,800
			Subtotal	5,607,300
13-1240-5999	Water & Wastewater Services	Sewer Line Inspection camera & locator tool		50,000
13-1240-5999	Water & Wastewater Services	Sewer line smoke testing machine		5,500
			Subtotal	55,500
			Total	11,544,098

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COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND
 ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE
 FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

CAPITAL SOURCE OF FUNDS	
General Funds	5,709,648
Airport	13,125
Landfill	6,800
Landfill Construction Account	5,600,500
Water & Wastewater Services	55,500
Transfer Tax Fund	119,150
State Fund	39,375
Federal Fund	0
Total	11,544,098

SECTION 5. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that the Grants Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027 is hereby approved and adopted for such fiscal year; and funds for all expenditures for the purposes specified in the Grants Budget beginning July 1, 2026, and continuing thereafter in accordance with the terms of the grant are hereby appropriated in the amounts hereinafter specified and for the purposes hereinafter indicated as follows:

GRANT BUDGET

FUNDING AGENCY - NEW/RENEW	COUNTY	STATE	FEDERAL	TOTAL
Maryland Aviation Administration	13,125	39,375		52,500
Maryland Administrative Office of the Courts		1,030,980		1,030,980
Maryland Department of Transportation	385,531		1,175,108	1,560,639
Maryland Department of Aging		26,381		26,381
Federal Emergency Management Agency	200,000		831,348	1,031,348
U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development	25,000		225,000	250,000
Maryland Department of Health		227,668		227,668
Critical Areas Commission		30,000		30,000
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation			1,500,000	1,500,000
Maryland Department of Natural Resources			5,023,877	5,023,877
U.S. Department of Transportation			1,575,000	1,575,000
Federal Highway Administration	86,016		406,787	492,803
Governor's Office of Crime Prevention & Policy	43,706	638,199		681,905
Maryland Department of Tourism		35,000		35,000
Maryland Heritage Areas Authority	175,000	175,000		350,000
Maryland Water Infrastructure Financing Admin.	822,531	-	3,290,123	4,112,654
Total	1,750,909	2,202,603	14,027,243	17,980,755

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND
 ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE
 FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

FUNDING AGENCY - ONGOING	COUNTY	STATE	FEDERAL	TOTAL
Federal Emergency Management Agency			107,335	107,335
Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development		5,426,054		5,426,054
Maryland Energy Administration	56,644	1,076,242		1,132,886
Maryland Department of Natural Resources	43,000	412,000		455,000
Total	99,644	6,914,296	107,335	7,121,275

GRANT APPROPRIATIONS

DEPARTMENT/AGENCY	STATUS	TOTAL
AIRPORT:		
Taxiway Repair	NEW	45,000
Snow Plow	NEW	7,500
		52,500
CIRCUIT COURT:		
Family Services	RENEW	471,747
Truancy Reduction Program	RENEW	559,233
		1,030,980
DELMARVA COMMUNITY SERVICES		
ATP	RENEW	1,560,639
Senior Citizens Activities Center	RENEW	26,381
		1,587,020
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT		
FEMA - FY24 State Homeland Security Program	ONGOING	107,335
FEMA - FY25 State Homeland Security Program	RENEW	102,775
FEMA - FY25 Emergency Management Performance Grant	RENEW	128,573
		338,683
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES		
Rural Health Blood Grant	NEW	201,300
		201,300
MISCELLANEOUS		
Firefighters Cancer Screening Grant	NEW	26,368
		26,368
PLANNING & ZONING:		
Critical Areas Commission	RENEW	30,000
Broadband	ONGOING	5,426,054
Middle Hoopers Island Shoreline Design - North Shore	NEW	1,500,000
		6,956,054
PUBLIC WORKS:		
L-Gem (Energy) Grant	ONGOING	1,132,886
Back Creek Marina Repairs	ONGOING	25,000

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND
 ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE
 FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

IJA - Hoopers Island Bridge over Honga River	NEW	1,000,000
IJA - Maple Dam Bridge over Blackwater	NEW	575,000
Elliott Island Shoreline Protection - Wharf Road	NEW	1,878,877
Elliott Island Shoreline Protection - South of Marina	NEW	3,145,000
Federal Lands Access (FLAP)	NEW	492,803
FEMA- Wingate Marina Bulkhead	NEW	800,000
		9,049,566
REC & PARKS:		
School Street Pole Barn/Restrooms	ONGOING	150,000
Thendara Center Improvements	ONGOING	200,000
Christ Rock Fence & Renovations	ONGOING	80,000
		430,000
SHERIFF:		
State Aid for Police Protection	RENEW	200,000
Community Grant Program Fund	RENEW	50,000
Domestic Violence Unit Program	RENEW	12,000
Gun Violence Reduction Grant	RENEW	15,125
MD Criminal Intel. Net. Overdose Data Action Coord.	RENEW	56,000
Police Recruitment and Retention	RENEW	13,500
School Resource Officer	RENEW	92,000
Sex Offender Compliance Monitoring	RENEW	11,156
Strategic Plan for New Public Safety Bldg.	NEW	250,000
		699,781
STATE'S ATTORNEY:		
Victim Witness Coordinator (VOCA)	NEW	187,124
MCIN Lower Shore Coalition - Attorney Position	NEW	45,000
		232,124
TOURISM:		
OTD Marketing (DMO)	RENEW	35,000
MHAA Heritage Area Management	RENEW	350,000
		385,000
WATER & WASTEWATER SERVICES		
Pump Station Rehab/Replace	NEW	4,112,654
		4,112,654
		25,102,030

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND
 ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE
 FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

SECTION 6. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the FY27 Annual Budget and Appropriation for the Excise Tax Fund is as follows:

EXCISE TAX REVENUE BUDGET

New Home Construction	250,000
TOTAL	250,000

EXCISE TAX APPROPRIATION BUDGET

Schools	62,500
Roads & Transportation	62,500
Public Safety	62,500
Parks & Infrastructure	62,500
TOTAL	250,000

SECTION 7. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that all funds appropriated herein by Dorchester County, Maryland, to any agency receiving or disbursing County funds, shall be subject to compliance with all laws, rules and regulations, and other provisions of the United States of America, State of Maryland, and Dorchester County, Maryland, regarding the receipt, disbursement, and/or accounting of funds prior to the receipt of any funds appropriated by or through the budgetary process of Dorchester County, Maryland.

SECTION 8. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that the County Budget as finally adopted by this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

PASSED this 19 day of May 2026.

[SIGNATURE PAGE TO FOLLOW]

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND
ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE
FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER
COUNTY, MARYLAND


BY: 
Jerry Jones, County Manager


George L. Pfeffer, Jr., President

APPROVED this 19 day of May 2026.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER
COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: 
Jerry Jones, County Manager


George L. Pfeffer, Jr., President

Pfeffer - Aye

Detmer - Aye

Kramer - Aye

Nichols - Aye

Travers - Aye