

COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND
LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2020-21

RESOLUTION NO. 63 - 2020

Title of Resolution: Supplemental Appropriation – Fund Balance – Pretrial Release Program

Synopsis: A Resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, in order to provide the Community Corrections Division of the Cecil County Sheriff's Office additional General Fund expenditure appropriation authority in the amount of \$126,732. The additional expenditure authority will provide the necessary funding to support the Pretrial Release Program in Cecil County.

Introduced by: Council President on behalf of the County Executive

Introduced and order posted on: October 6, 2020

Consideration scheduled on: October 20, 2020

By: 
Council Manager

Notice of time, title of Resolution having been posted by October 6, 2020 at the County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Blvd., Elkton, and consideration by the Council having been scheduled on October 20, 2020.

By: 
Council Manager

Explanation: CAPITAL LETTERS INDICATE LANGUAGE ADDED TO EXISTING DOCUMENT
~~Strike through~~ indicates language deleted from existing document
Underlining indicates language added to document by amendment.
~~Double Strike through~~ indicates language stricken from document by

Supplemental Appropriation – Fund Balance – Pretrial Release Program

1 **WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 505 of the Cecil County Charter, on April 1, 2020, the
2 County Executive submitted a proposed budget to the County Council for Fiscal Year 2021; and

3 **WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 506 of the Cecil County Charter, the County Council
4 held public hearings on the proposed budget submitted by the County Executive for Fiscal Year 2021;
5 and

6 **WHEREAS**, in accordance with Section 507(b) of the Cecil County Charter, on May 19, 2020,
7 the Budget for Cecil County was adopted for Fiscal Year 2021; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the County Executive is revising the Fiscal Year 2021 revenue estimate for Cecil
9 County to allocate \$126,732 from the budget Stabilization Reserve Fund to allow the following
10 appropriation within the General Fund: The addition of \$126,732 in expenditure authority for
11 Community Corrections to continue to support a Pretrial Release Program in Cecil County. In
12 December 2018, the County established a program with grant funds from the Governor’s Office on
13 Crime Control and Prevention. The State continued supporting the program in FY2020. For FY2021,
14 the State has not awarded the County any funds to continue to support the positions or the
15 monitoring bracelets necessary to run the program; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the Cecil County Sheriff, with support of the judges in Cecil County, has
17 determined the program needs to continue in Cecil County as an option for inmates who qualify, to
18 await trial outside of the Detention Center. Monitoring these inmates outside the Detention Center,
19 saves the County the expenses associated with housing the inmate as well as it reduces overcrowding
20 within the Detention Center; and

21 **WHEREAS**, such appropriation is necessary to provide \$126,732 of fund balance from the
22 Budget Stabilization Reserve Fund for expenditures.

23 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY,**
24 **MARYLAND**, that the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for
25 Fiscal Year 2021 is hereby amended, and a supplemental appropriation to the Current General Fund
26 Budget in the amount of \$126,732 is submitted to provide the Community Corrections Division of the
27 Cecil County Sheriff’s Office the necessary funding to support the Pretrial Release Program in Cecil
28 County.


29 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND,**
30 that this Resolution shall take effect on the date of its passage.

RESOLUTION NO. 63-2020

Supplemental Appropriation – Fund Balance – Pretrial Release Program

INTRODUCED: October 6, 2020

ADOPTED: October 20, 2020



President of the Council

ATTEST:



Council Manager



CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

FISCAL IMPACT NOTE

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION

SPONSOR: Council President at the request of the County Executive

RESOLUTION NO. 63-2020 – BUDGET AMENDMENT – SHERIFF’S OFFICE – COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS – PRETRIAL RELEASE PROGRAM

SYNOPSIS: A resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 in order to provide the Community Corrections Division of the Cecil County Sheriff’s Office additional General Fund expenditure appropriation authority in the amount of \$126,732. The additional expenditure authority will provide the necessary funding to support the Pretrial Release Program in Cecil County

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY: The approval of this resolution will have a negative net fiscal impact of \$126,732. The resolution seeks funding from the budget stabilization fund to provide the necessary funds to support the personnel and supply costs necessary for the County’s Pretrial Release Program. However, the cost of housing an inmate at \$90/day will be saved as more inmates are able to avail themselves of the program and remaining outside of the Detention Center while awaiting trial.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The overall strategy of the Pretrial Release Program is to reduce overcrowding within the Cecil County Correctional Facility. The facility currently targets sentenced inmates who qualify for Community Work Release Program, and/or the Home Monitoring Program to reduce the overall population in the Detention Center. This strategy targets those inmates incarcerated and awaiting trial. In doing so, the facility partners within the Cecil County Circuit Court, the Cecil County District Court, and the Cecil County States Attorney Office, help to identify inmates who qualify to be monitored and supervised in the community while awaiting trial. The monitoring and supervision is completed by the existing staff of the Work Release Program and two part-time contractual positions, thus working toward a reduction of the inmate population in the Detention Center while minimizing impact to staffing levels and existing resources.

In FY2019, the Detention Center was continuing to exceed bed capacity on a regular basis. The State of Maryland was starting to embrace the idea of Pretrial Release Programs at the County level and was supporting the decision with grant funds. Cecil County looked to St. Mary’s County who had a Pretrial Release Program in place for guidance to create a successful program. The County decided to apply for grant funds to support establishing a program based on the program in St. Mary’s County. The County was awarded in the

2nd quarter of 2019 the grant funds to support to cost of two part time employees and monitoring bracelets in order to launch the program in Cecil County.

In FY2020 the State continued supporting the program with funding for the part time staff and bracelets. By this point the program was becoming a tool for judges in conjunction with the Community Corrections staff as a way to keep some folks out of the jail.

In FY2021, it is our belief that the COVID pandemic has diverted funds at the State level to fund County Pretrial Release programs. The State is not going to award the County the funds to support the operational costs of this program. The current Administration of the Cecil County Sheriff's Office believes the program has been successful at keeping inmates out of jail and saved the County the housing cost for that inmate while awaiting trial.

The following budget has been determined to support the program in FY2021:

Cecil County, Maryland	
Budget for Pre-Trial Program	
For the year ending June 30, 2021	
	Budget
Salary - Pre-Trial Services Program Manager - January - June 2021	25,116.00
Fringe - Pre-Trial Services Program Manager - January - June 2021	15,662.50
Salary - Pre-Trial Services Program Caseworker - January - June 2021	18,741.00
Fringe - Pre-Trial Services Program Caseworker - January - June 2021	14,562.50
January - June 2021 Pretrial Bracelets	<u>52,650.00</u>
Total Program Budget	\$ 126,732.00