



Legislation Review

Review of the Fiscal Year 2025 Proposed Capital Budget and Program Watershed Protection & Restor. (B Class)

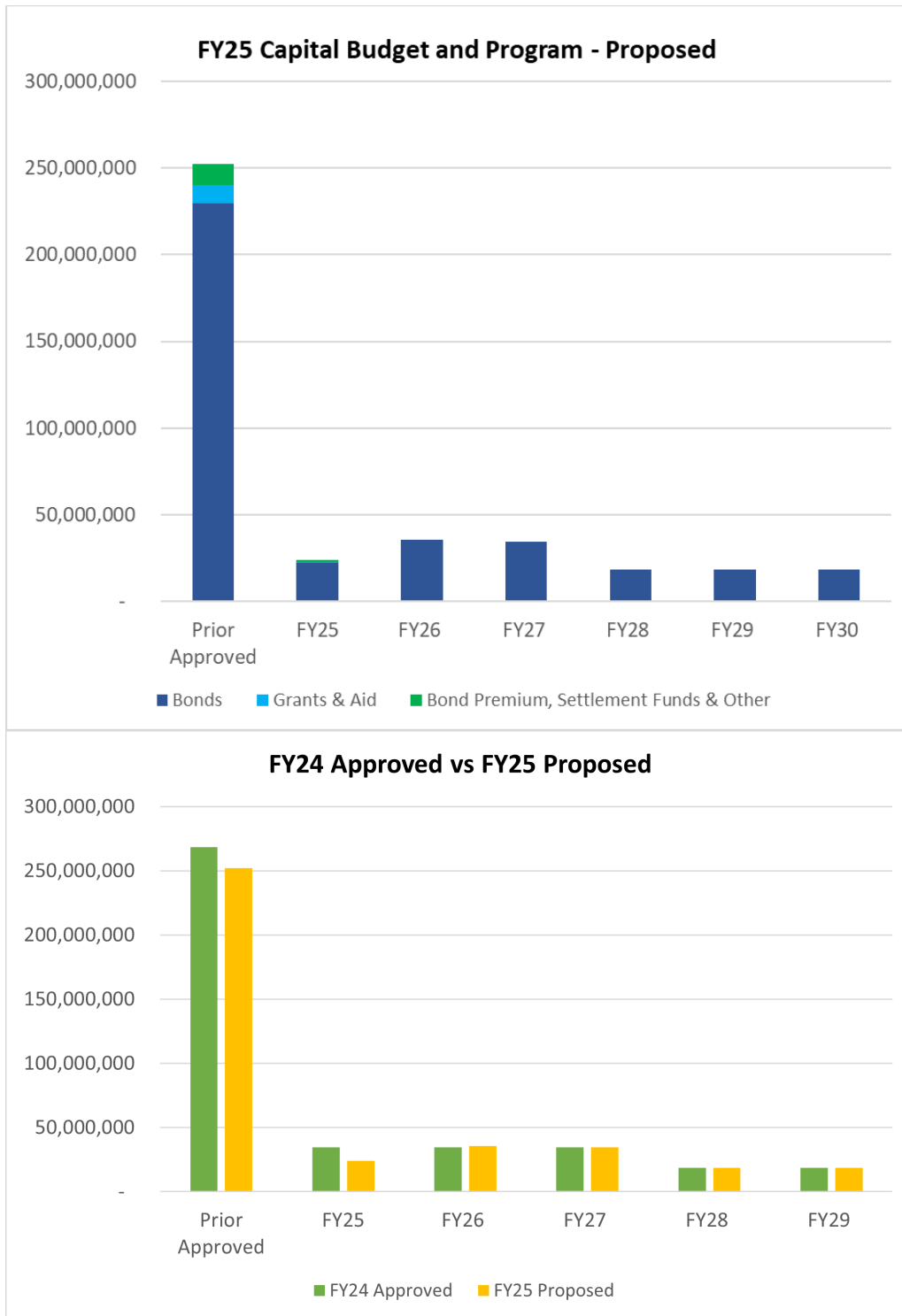
Report Date: May 15, 2024
Hearing date: May 16, 2024

Questions Sent to Agency:	April 25, 2024
Responses Received from Agency:	May 2, 2024

This analysis considers all agency responses.

Watershed Protection & Restor. (B Class)

Capital Budget Summary



Note: Chart data provided in Appendix

- The Proposed Capital Budget and Program includes 71 projects: 62 stand-alone/one-time and 9 multi-year/recurring.
- This program is supported with Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund Bonds, which are supported with revenue from stormwater remediation fee proceeds.
- The five projects receiving the largest FY25 funding amounts in the FY25 Proposed Capital Budget are:
 - \$5,245,000 for Clark Station Rd Resilience Im (Project #B582500, p. 512 of the capital budget book);
 - \$5,167,000 for Culvert and Closed SD Rehab (Project #B551600, p. 486);
 - \$4,489,500 for Magothy Outfalls (Project #B571100, p. 508);
 - \$2,350,000 for Emergency Storm Drain (B) (Project #B551700, p. 487); and
 - \$2,150,000 for SO-ST-04 (Project #B559700, p. 502), which includes restoration and improvement to the Glebe Branch Tributary of the South River.
- Rather than budgeting outyear funding for each project, outyear funding for many projects is included in Permit Cycle 3 Placeholder (Project #B577500, p. 511). The FY25 Proposed Capital Budget and Program includes \$26,000,000 annually in FY26 and FY27, and \$10,000,000 annually in FY28-FY30.

Capital Budget – Key Observations and Recommendation

- 1. Grant Program – WPRP Restoration Grant (Project #B561100, p. 505)** – The FY25 Proposed Capital Budget includes \$1,200,000 in WPRF Bonds for a community watershed restoration project grant program administered by the Chesapeake Bay Trust. The FY24 Capital Budget included \$1,000,000 in WPRF Bonds for seven community restoration grants that ranged from \$30,614 to \$312,089.
- 2. Pub/Priv Perf of Wtr Qlty Imps (Project #B568300, p. 507)** – The FY25 Proposed Capital Budget includes \$2,000,000 in WPRF Bonds to incentivize the implementation of water quality restoration projects by private sector partners that help the County achieve regulatory pollution reduction targets. In FY23, a contract was awarded \$1,999,966 for an outfall project in the Patuxent River watershed. In FY24, a different contract was awarded \$1,837,000 for a stream and wetland restoration project in the Rhode River watershed.
- 3. Historical Spending Reduction – Storm Drainage/SWM Infrastr (B (Project #B551800, p. 488)** – As of March 31, 2024, this project had an available project balance of \$2,731,000. The average annual expenses in this project are \$996,000. There is sufficient available balance for the Administration to perform planned tasks of \$1,000,000 and the remaining project funds would be available for any unplanned expenses. **We recommend deleting \$700,000 in FY25 WPRF Bonds and \$300,000 in FY25 Bond Premium.**

Appendix: Chart Data

FY25 Proposed Capital Budget and Program vs FY24 Approved

Funding Source	Prior Approved	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	Total Proposed
Bonds	229,750,864	22,515,997	35,557,000	34,517,000	18,517,000	18,517,000	18,517,000	148,140,997
Paygo	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impact Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants & Aid	10,253,300	500,000	-	-	-	-	-	500,000
Bond Premium, Settlement Funds & Other	12,201,000	900,000	-	-	-	-	-	900,000
FY25 Proposed	252,205,164	23,915,997	35,557,000	34,517,000	18,517,000	18,517,000	18,517,000	149,540,997
FY24 Approved	268,266,091	34,517,000	34,517,000	34,517,000	18,517,000	18,517,000		140,585,000