

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY OFFICE OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR

To: Councilmembers, Anne Arundel County Council

From: Michelle Bohlayer, County Auditor

Date: September 13, 2024

Subject: Auditor's Review of Legislation for the September 16, 2024 Council Meeting

Bill 66-24: Approval of the Amended and Restated Lease Between Anne Arundel County and Wiley Bates School LLC (Hearing Concluded) (Eligible for Vote)

Summary of Legislation

This bill approves an amended and restated lease (proposed lease) for part of County-owned property in Annapolis known and designated as Wiley H. Bates High School to Wiley Bates School LLC. The original lease term was March 18, 2005 through March 17, 2055. Bill 49-23 extended the lease term through March 17, 2097. This bill alters the lease term to 99 years from this bill's effective date, which is through 2123. The proposed lease reflects the rent payment remaining at \$1 per year. In addition, the proposed lease includes various changes, including changes to the tenant, altered intended financing sources, and expected building renovation work. The proposed renovations include improvements to 71 units of affordable senior housing and related site improvements, fixtures, and surrounding grounds.

We commented on this bill in our letter dated August 30, 2024. At the September 3, 2024 Council meeting, this bill was held until the September 16, 2024 Council meeting. We have no further comments on this bill.

Resolution 34-24:
Approving the
Nominations for
Appointment to the
Stakeholder Advisory
Committee for Region
Planning Area No. 5

Summary of Legislation

This resolution approves the nominations for 15 appointments to the Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) for Region Planning Area No. 5.

County Code § 18-2-103(e)(iii) requires that the composition of SACs shall be nominated by the County Executive and shall include:

- between 9 and 15 members;
- at least two-thirds of the SAC nominees are residents of the region planning area;

Resolution 34-24 (continued)

- all of whom are residents of, own property in, or have an interest in land use planning in the region planning area; and
- one resident from each Councilmanic District included in the region planning area who is recommended to the County Executive by the Councilmember from the Councilmanic District.

We verified that all of these requirements were met except we noted that one of the five impacted Councilmanic Districts did not make a recommendation for a candidate in their respective district. We sought advice from the Office of Law on whether provisions in the Code would allow for abstentions for the Councilmanic District requirements.

In addition, we noted that not all Councilmember recommendations are noted as having been made in this resolution. Councilmember Rodvien recommended Nita Settina for District 6. We shared this error with the Office of Law and Council staff and recommended this be corrected via amendment.

We also verified that all of these nominees submitted conflict of interest forms.

Review of Fiscal Impact

This resolution has no fiscal impact.

Resolution 35 -24: Approving the Nominations for Appointment to the Stakeholder Advisory Committee for Region Planning Area No. 6

Summary of Legislation

This resolution approves the nominations for 15 appointments to the SAC for Region Planning Area No. 6.

County Code § 18-2-103(e)(iii) requires that the composition of SACs shall be nominated by the County Executive and shall include:

- between 9 and 15 members;
- at least two-thirds of the SAC nominees are residents of the region planning area;
- all of whom are residents of, own property in, or have an interest in land use planning in the region planning area; and
- one resident from each Councilmanic District included in the region planning area who is recommended to the County Executive by the Councilmember from the Councilmanic District.

We verified that all of these requirements were met except we noted that one of the impacted Councilmanic Districts did not make a recommendation for a candidate in their respective district. This Councilmember made a recommendation for a resident from a different district. We sought advice from the Office of Law on whether provisions

Resolution 35-24 (continued)

in the Code would allow for abstentions or substitutions for the Councilmanic District requirements.

We also verified that all of these nominees submitted conflict of interest forms.

Review of Fiscal Impact

This resolution has no fiscal impact.

Resolution 36-24: Approving the Nominations for Appointment to the Stakeholder Advisory Committee for Region Planning Area No. 8

Summary of Legislation

This resolution approves the nominations for 15 appointments to the SAC for Region Planning Area No. 8.

County Code § 18-2-103(e)(iii) requires that the composition of SACs shall be nominated by the County Executive and shall include:

- between 9 and 15 members;
- at least two-thirds of the SAC nominees are residents of the region planning area;
- all of whom are residents of, own property in, or have an interest in land use planning in the region planning area; and
- one resident from each Councilmanic District included in the region planning area who is recommended to the County Executive by the Councilmember from the Councilmanic District.

We verified that all of these requirements were met. We also verified that all of these nominees submitted conflict of interest forms.

Review of Fiscal Impact

This resolution has no fiscal impact.