



**COUNTY EXECUTIVE
STEUART PITTMAN**



FUNDING
OUR FUTURE

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FY24 PROPOSED BUDGET



“This budget reflects the perspective of a County Executive looking ahead not to the next election, but far beyond to the county that our children will inherit. In this budget, we are simply Funding Our Future.”



Investing In Our Children’s Future

EDUCATION

- Fully funds the compensation package for AACPS employees to help retain and recruit staff:
 - 8% pay increase for all units
 - \$5/day raise for substitutes
 - 10% COLA for contract bus drivers
 - \$2,000 bonus for special educators
- Establishes a Board of Education component to our retiree healthcare trust, securing the future for our educators.
- Funds 208 essential new positions:
 - 45 pre-k staff
 - 14 English language development positions
 - 15 social/emotional health positions
 - 23 alternative transportation program drivers
 - 13 positions to prepare for the new Old Mill High School



Our county is in a better fiscal position than ever in its history, and that allows us to budget for our future.

But the local government institutions that deliver our services face financial pressures, from inflation, from a decline in real estate transfer revenues, and from the pressing need to staff agencies in a very competitive labor market.

This budget proposal continues the fiscal discipline that earned us recent upgrades in our bond ratings while delivering the essential investments called for so passionately by residents at our eight Budget Town Halls.

The priorities are investments in children, in the families that support them, in our environment, and in the institutions that serve and protect us.

This summary is just a sampling. Please get more detail at aacounty.org/FY24Budget.

Steuart Pittman
County Executive



The full proposed FY24 budget is available online at
aacounty.org/proposedbudget

Improving Quality Of Life

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

- Increases support for the Eviction Prevention Program.
- Funds a rapid rehousing program to prevent homelessness.
- Creates a dedicated revenue stream for the Housing Trust Fund by increasing the transfer tax from 1% to 1.5% for property transfers greater than \$1 million.
- Increases funding for Mental Health Agency's Crisis Response Teams by \$1.6 million.
- Makes the Brooklyn Park Healthy Food Pantry permanent.
- Extends both the Healthy Communities Program and the Community Health Ambassadors Program to advance health equity.
- Expands the Opioid Intervention Team and other outreach activities and establishes a \$500,000 grant program for opioid related outreach with the county's Opioid Restitution Funding.
- Funds a 2% supplemental compensation increase for school health staff in addition to the 5% cost-of-living increase.
- Provides \$1 million to the Anne Arundel County Food Bank, hires a new food coordinator position for the county, and includes \$500,000 of additional support for food programs.



The Best Place For All

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, & INCLUSION

- Creates the Office for Hispanic/Latino and Multicultural Support.
- Extends legal and wraparound services for immigrant children.
- Creates the Office for Equity and Human Rights.
- Adds staff to expand the Office of Health Equity and Racial Justice.
- Adds a position to manage the Veterans Services Coordination Center.

Protecting Our Environment

ENVIRONMENT

- \$1 million of capital budget funding for reforestation.
- Increases funding to protect and expand greenways and open space.
- Provides \$7.1 million for shoreline erosion control projects.
- Expands the county's electric vehicle charging network.
- Replenishes the Advanced Land Acquisition Fund for future land purchases.



Improving Our Communities



NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTMENTS

- Funds planning and construction of the Brooklyn Park Community Center and the Odenton Library Park.
- Includes park improvements at Fort Smallwood, Lake Waterford, Millersville, Peninsula Park, and renovations at Quiet Waters.
- Funds the next phase of the South Shore Trail and funds the planning and construction of trail spurs and connections throughout the county.
- Adds new facility lighting at Northeast Middle School, Sunset Park, and Riva Area Park, and upgrades equipment throughout the county.
- Completes renovations to the Arnold Senior Center.
- Funds the design and restoration of the Ralph J. Bunche Community Center.



Keeping Our County Safe

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Funds the new 911 Joint Operations Center.
- Adds 12 new sworn police officer positions and funds a Police Special Operations Facility and Real Time Fusion Center.
- Adds 18 new firefighter positions, funds new Cape St. Claire and Jessup Fire Stations, and uses one-time funding for fire apparatus and other equipment needs.
- Creates a reentry coordinator position and reentry hub at the Ordinance Road Correctional Facility.
- Adds a new vet-tech services position and a new behavioral enrichment coordinator position to Animal Care & Control.

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Exceptional

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Exceptionally Strong

Standard & Poor's

A Foundation For Our Future

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

- For the first time in county history Anne Arundel is now a triple triple-A rated county.
- Keeps the Income Tax Rate the same for 98% of filers, only increasing the rate to 3.2% for income above \$400,000 for single filers and \$480,000 for joint filers.
- Increases the Property Tax Rate by 4.7 cents to help fund the Board of Education's request.
- Fully funds the Rainy Day Fund and increases it to 8% of the operating revenue.
- Invests in our workforce with an average of 5% cost-of-living adjustment across all bargaining units to help county employees deal with high inflation and help the county hire and retain staff.