

# ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY OFFICE OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR

**To:** Councilmembers, Anne Arundel County Council

**From:** Office of the County Auditor

**Date:** July 3, 2025

**Subject:** County Auditor's Review of Legislation for the July 7, 2025 Council Meeting

Bill 55-25: The Issuance, Sale and Delivery of Anne Arundel County, Maryland General Obligation Bonds and Bond Anticipation Notes

### **Summary of Legislation**

This bill authorizes the sale and issuance of General Obligation Bonds (GO Bonds), Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs), Maryland Water Quality Loans, and Shore Erosion Control Construction Loans consistent with the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Capital Budget. The bill will allow the issuance of up to \$1.6 billion in GO Bonds and \$800 million in BANs. This financing will support the approved capital program for FY26-FY31.

#### **Review of Fiscal Impact**

Anne Arundel County will receive up to \$1.6 billion in bond proceeds. The FY26 Proposed Operating Budget anticipated the total General Fund debt service to be \$141.6 million and the total Enterprise Fund debt service to be \$104.2 million in the upcoming fiscal year. To the extent that debt issuance, interest rates, or terms of maturity deviate from base assumptions, debt service expenditures would adjust accordingly.

Bill 56-25: Anne Arundel County Consolidated Plan FY 2026 - FY 2030

#### **Summary of Legislation**

This bill approves the five-year Housing and Community Development Plan for FY26-FY30, a requirement for all recipients of federal funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Consolidated Plan identifies the County's strategy for applying for and implementing federal funding and other financial investments for housing and community development needs within Anne Arundel County.

## **Review of Fiscal Impact**

We concur with the Administration's Fiscal Note that this legislation has no direct fiscal impact.

The Administration anticipates a combined \$17,225,700 from HUD federal grant programs in FY26. Arundel Community Development Services, Inc. (ACDS) will subsequently award these funds to other initiatives as follows:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG): \$2,925,400
- HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME): \$1,781,000
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program (HOPWA): \$562,900

Housing Trust Fund (HTF): \$11,956,400

Bill 57-25: Payment in Lieu of Taxes – Arundel Community Development Services, Inc.

#### **Summary of Legislation**

This bill authorizes the County Executive to enter into a Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement for 98 properties owned by Arundel Community Development Services, Inc. (ACDS). Under this agreement, ACDS will pay an annual fee of one dollar per property, of which ACDS is, or will be, the fee simple owner.

#### **Review of Fiscal Impact**

We agree with the Administration's fiscal note that this bill has no fiscal impact.

Under the terms of the proposed agreement, the County revenue associated with property tax will decrease from a total of \$182,618 to \$98. The Administration plans to maximize property taxes under the current property tax revenue cap (see item 6 on page 20 of the <a href="FY26 Proposed Budget">FY26 Proposed Budget</a>). This means that the tax burden would shift to other properties and the total property tax revenue for the County would remain the same.