

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE BUDGET

BILL NUMBER: 24-26

INTRO. DATE: March 19, 2026

FISCAL NOTE

BILL: Zoning – Baltimore City Sewer Service Area – Moratorium

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION

This emergency bill declares a moratorium on sewer allocations for projects with proposed sewage flows into the Baltimore City Sewer Service Area (SSA) via the Patapsco Sewage Pumping Station. Allocations may continue to be approved for infill lots with failing septic systems, and certain tenant fit-out permits. The moratorium continues until the Department of Public Works completes a Wastewater Strategic plan to evaluate diverting flows to other facilities and that diversion becomes operational, or increased capacity limitations are approved by Baltimore City and Baltimore County.

FISCAL IMPACT


Operating Budget – Personal Services: No new effect. The bill's requirements largely duplicate the actions taken administratively under DPW Notice #DPW-26-02.

Operating Budget – Other Operating Costs: No new effect. The bill's requirements largely duplicate the actions taken administratively under DPW Notice #DPW-26-02.

Capital Budget: Any proposed capital projects to resolve the underlying capacity issues will be determined through the capital planning and budgeting process, using existing capital appropriations and potentially new capital projects.

Revenues: No new effect. The bill could affect future impact fee revenues.

Indirect and future fiscal effects: The current moratorium's fiscal impact is uncertain. The Administration is pursuing various solutions to the capacity limitations in the area, some of which may have minimal fiscal impact (such as negotiating with Baltimore County and City to revise how sewage capacity is calculated), while others may have significant capital or operating expense impacts (such as diversion strategies requiring construction of diversion facilities to divert sewage flows to Cox Creek WRF or the Patuxent WRF). These effects stem from the underlying capacity issues, and will occur whether or not this bill is enacted.



Chris Trumbauer
Budget Officer

3/30/2026

Date

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