

OFFICIAL STATEMENT DATED NOVEMBER 19, 2025

NEW ISSUE — BOOK ENTRY ONLY

Moody's Investors Service, Inc.: Aa1
S&P Global Ratings: AA+

In the opinion of McGuireWoods LLP, Bond Counsel, under existing law and subject to the conditions described in "LEGAL MATTERS – Tax Matters" herein, interest on the Bonds (i) is excludable from the gross income of the owners of the Bonds for purposes of federal income taxation, and (ii) is not a specific item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax on individuals. However, such interest is included in the "adjusted financial statement income" (as defined in Section 56A of the Code (as defined herein)) of certain corporations in determining the applicability and amount of the federal corporate alternative minimum tax imposed under Section 55(b) of the Code. Bond Counsel is further of the opinion that under the existing law of the State of Maryland, the principal of and interest on the Bonds, the transfer of the Bonds, and any income derived from the Bonds, including profits made in their sale or transfer, are exempt from State and local taxes in the State of Maryland; however, the law of the State of Maryland does not expressly refer to, and no opinion is expressed concerning, estate or inheritance taxes or any other taxes not levied or assessed directly on the Bonds, the interest thereon, their transfer or the income therefrom. See "LEGAL MATTERS – Tax Matters" herein regarding other tax considerations.

\$49,650,000
Cecil County, Maryland
Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2025

Dated: Date of Initial Delivery

Due: as shown on inside front cover

Security	General obligations of Cecil County, Maryland
Redemption	The Bonds maturing on or before August 1, 2035 are not subject to redemption prior to their stated maturities. The Bonds maturing on or after August 1, 2036, are redeemable in whole or in part on or after August 1, 2035
Purpose	The proceeds are being used to provide funds for the design, planning, acquisition, renovation, construction and equipping of certain public facilities in the County.
Interest Payment Dates	Semi-annually on February 1 and August 1, beginning February 1, 2026
Closing/Settlement	On or about December 3, 2025
Denominations	\$5,000
Book-Entry Only Form	The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York
Bond Registrar/Paying Agent	Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company, Baltimore, Maryland/Buffalo, New York
Bond Counsel	McGuireWoods LLP, Baltimore, Maryland
Financial Advisor	Davenport & Company LLC, Towson, Maryland
Issuer Contact	Cecil County Director of Finance: (410) 996-8052

FOR MATURITY SCHEDULE, INTEREST RATES, YIELDS AND CUSIP NUMBERS, SEE INSIDE FRONT COVER

The Bonds are offered for delivery when, as and if issued, subject to the approving opinion of McGuireWoods LLP, Baltimore, Maryland, Bond Counsel, and other conditions specified in the official Notice of Sale.

The date of this Official Statement is November 19, 2025 and the information contained herein speaks only as of such date.

THIS COVER PAGE CONTAINS CERTAIN INFORMATION FOR QUICK REFERENCE ONLY. IT IS NOT A SUMMARY OF THIS ISSUE. INVESTORS MUST READ THE ENTIRE OFFICIAL STATEMENT TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ESSENTIAL TO THE MAKING OF AN INFORMED INVESTMENT DECISION.

\$49,650,000
Cecil County, Maryland
Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2025

MATURITIES, PRINCIPAL AMOUNTS, INTEREST RATES, YIELDS AND CUSIPS

<u>Maturing August 1</u>	<u>Principal Amount</u>	<u>Interest Rate*</u>	<u>Yield*</u>	<u>CUSIP**</u>	<u>Maturing August 1</u>	<u>Principal Amount</u>	<u>Interest Rate*</u>	<u>Yield*</u>	<u>CUSIP**</u>
2026	\$1,265,000	5.000%	2.570%	14984PFY6	2036	\$2,080,000	5.000%	2.910%†	14984PGJ8
2027	1,330,000	5.000	2.510	14984PFZ3	2037	2,185,000	5.000	3.040†	14984PGK5
2028	1,395,000	5.000	2.510	14984PGA7	2038	2,300,000	5.000	3.150†	14984PGL3
2029	1,465,000	5.000	2.490	14984PGB5	2039	2,420,000	5.000	3.260†	14984PGM1
2030	1,545,000	5.000	2.450	14984PGC3	2040	2,535,000	5.000	3.400†	14984PGN9
2031	1,615,000	5.000	2.490	14984PGD1	2041	2,665,000	5.000	3.550†	14984PGP4
2032	1,695,000	5.000	2.570	14984PGE9	2042	2,790,000	4.000	3.800†	14984PGQ2
2033	1,790,000	5.000	2.640	14984PGF6	2043	2,905,000	4.000	3.900†	14984PGR0
2034	1,885,000	5.000	2.670	14984PGG4	2044	3,020,000	4.000	4.000	14984PGS8
2035	1,985,000	5.000	2.790	14984PGH2	2045	3,135,000	4.000	4.050	14984PGT6

\$1,295,000 4.000%* Term Bond due August 1, 2047 Yield 4.170%* CUSIP 14984PGV1**
\$1,400,000 4.000%* Term Bond due August 1, 2049 Yield 4.240%* CUSIP 14984PGX7**
\$2,325,000 4.000%* Term Bond due August 1, 2052 Yield 4.250%* CUSIP 14984PHA6**
\$2,625,000 4.125%* Term Bond due August 1, 2055 Yield 4.270%* CUSIP 14984PHD0**

† Priced at the stated yield to the first optional redemption date of August 1, 2035.

*The interest rates shown above are the interest rates payable by the County resulting from the successful bid for the Bonds on November 19, 2025 by Mesirow Financial, Inc. The yields shown above were furnished by the successful bidder for the Bonds. All other information concerning the terms of reoffering of the Bonds should be obtained from the successful bidder and not from the County. (See "SALE AT COMPETITIVE BIDDING" herein).

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The County has not agreed to, and there is no duty or obligation to, update this Official Statement to reflect any change or correction in the assigned CUSIP® numbers reflected herein.

Certain Elected Officials

County Executive

Adam Streight

County Council

Al Miller — President, District 3
Bob Meffley — Vice President, District 1
Rebecca Hamilton — District 2
Donna Culberson — District 4
Dawn Branch — District 5

Certain Administration Officials

Dan Schneckenburger — Director of Administration
Raymond Hamm — Director of Finance
Andrew Ondish — Deputy Finance Director and Budget Manager
Keith A. Baynes — County Attorney
Robert Royster — Public Information Officer
W. Scott Flanigan — Director of Public Works
Stephen O'Connor — Director of Land Use and Development Services
Sandra Edwards — Director of Economic Development

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Baltimore, Maryland

FINANCIAL ADVISOR
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Towson, Maryland

AUDITOR
SB & Company, LLC
Hunt Valley, Maryland

BOND REGISTRAR AND PAYING AGENT
Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company
Baltimore, Maryland/Buffalo, New York

Requests for additional copies of this Official Statement or any questions regarding this Official Statement or the Bonds should be directed to Raymond Hamm, Director of Finance, 200 Chesapeake Blvd, Suite 1100, Elkton, Maryland 21921, (410) 996-5385 or to Jennifer Diercksen, Davenport & Company LLC, 8600 LaSalle Road, Suite 618, Towson, Maryland 21286-2011, (410) 296-9426.

No dealer, broker, salesman or other person has been authorized by the County or the successful bidder to give any information or to make any representations with respect to the County or the Bonds other than those contained in this Official Statement, and, if given or made, such other information or representations must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the County or the successful bidder. This Official Statement does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy, nor shall there be any sale of the Bonds by any person in any jurisdiction in which it is unlawful for such person to make such an offer, solicitation or sale.

This Official Statement is not to be construed as a contract or agreement between the County and the purchasers or registered owners of any of the Bonds.

All quotations from and summaries and explanations of provisions of laws and documents herein do not purport to be complete and reference is made to such laws and documents for full and complete statements of their provisions. Any statements made in this Official Statement involving estimates or matters of opinion, whether or not expressly so stated, are intended merely as estimates or opinions and not as representations of fact. The information and expressions of opinion herein are subject to change without notice and neither the delivery of this Official Statement nor any sale of the Bonds shall under any circumstances create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the County since the respective dates as of which information is given herein.

Figures used in this Official Statement relating to tax collections, assessed value of property and the financial position of the County have been taken from official records of the County.

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SUMMARY OF OFFERING

Issuer

Cecil County, Maryland, a body corporate and politic and a political subdivision of the State of Maryland.

Bonds

Cecil County, Maryland Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2025 (the “Bonds”), dated their date of initial delivery, in the aggregate principal amount of \$49,650,000.

Interest Payment Dates

Semiannually on February 1 and August 1, beginning February 1, 2026, until maturity or earlier redemption.

Payment and Transfer

The Bonds will initially be maintained under a book-entry only system. Principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the Bonds will be paid by the Paying Agent as described herein under the caption “THE BONDS — Payment and Transfer.” The Bonds may be registered, transferred, and assigned only on the registration books maintained by the Bond Registrar as described herein under the caption “THE BONDS — Payment and Transfer.”

Redemption

The Bonds maturing on or before August 1, 2035 are not subject to redemption prior to their stated maturities. The Bonds maturing on or after August 1, 2036 are subject to redemption at any time on or after August 1, 2035, as a whole or in part, at the option of the County, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Bonds to be redeemed, plus accrued interest thereon to the redemption date. See “THE BONDS – Redemption”.

Federal and Maryland Income Tax Exemptions

Information as to the tax status of the Bonds may be found in the section of this Official Statement captioned “LEGAL MATTERS — Tax Matters.”

Application of Proceeds

The proceeds of the Bonds are being used to provide funds for the design, planning, acquisition, renovation, construction and equipping of certain public facilities in the County, and to pay certain costs of issuing the Bonds.

Security

All of the Bonds will be general obligations of the County, the payment of which the full faith and credit of the County are pledged.

Payment Record

The County has not defaulted on the payment of the principal of or interest on any of its general obligation bonds or notes.

**THE FOREGOING INFORMATION IS QUALIFIED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY THE DETAILED
INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS OFFICIAL STATEMENT AND POTENTIAL
INVESTORS SHOULD REVIEW THE ENTIRE OFFICIAL STATEMENT.**

Maryland



OFFICIAL STATEMENT

\$49,650,000 Cecil County, Maryland Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2025

INTRODUCTION

General

The purpose of this Official Statement, including the cover page and appendices, is to provide information for prospective purchasers and others regarding the \$49,650,000 Cecil County, Maryland Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2025 (the “Bonds”) to be issued by Cecil County, Maryland (the “County”).

All estimates and assumptions herein have been based upon information believed to be reliable and correct; however, statements made involving estimates and assumptions, whether or not expressly so stated, are intended merely as such and not as representations of facts. Figures herein relating to tax collections, assessed value of property, and the financial position of the County have been taken from official records of the County.

The County

The County was established in 1674 and was the tenth Maryland county. The County is a body corporate and politic and a political subdivision of the State of Maryland which performs all local governmental functions within its geographical boundaries except those performed by the County’s eight incorporated municipalities. The County is governed by a charter form of government.

The County is located in the northeastern corner of Maryland and is bordered on the north by Chester and Lancaster Counties, Pennsylvania, on the east by New Castle County, Delaware, on the west by the Susquehanna River and Harford County, Maryland, on the south by the Sassafras River and Kent County, Maryland, and on the southwest by the Chesapeake Bay. The County contains 352 square miles of land area, 21 square miles of inland waterways, and has 200 miles of tidal shoreline. Two-thirds of the County lies in the Atlantic Coastal Plain, with the northwestern third in the Piedmont Plateau. Elevation ranges from sea level to 500 feet above sea level.

According to U.S. Census data, the County population grew from 71,347 in 1990 to an estimated population of 106,305 in 2024, an increase of 49.0%. The County seat of government is located in Elkton, the largest of the County’s eight incorporated municipalities. According to U.S. Census data, Elkton’s population grew from 9,073 in 1990 to an estimated population of 15,867 in 2024, an increase of 74.9%.

The physical character of the County is largely rural, but its proximity to major East Coast cities has spurred faster-than-average economic growth in recent years. Development efforts have and will continue to be concentrated at interchanges of I-95, which traverses the County in a north-south direction, and along U.S. Route 40, which traverses the County in an east-west direction. Agriculture is still a major segment of the economy, but most economic growth has occurred in the manufacturing, distribution, service and tourism sectors.

The administrative offices of the County are located at 200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton, Maryland 21921. The County’s main telephone number is (410) 996-5200. The County’s internet address is www.ccgov.org.

All references in this Official Statement to the County’s internet home page are provided for convenience only. The information on the County’s internet home page is *not* incorporated herein, by reference or otherwise.

APPLICATION OF PROCEEDS

The proceeds of the Bonds will be used to finance the design, planning, acquisition, renovation, construction and equipping of certain public facilities in the County, including schools, community college facilities, roads and bridges, wastewater treatment facilities, landfill facilities and to pay certain costs of issuance of the Bonds.

THE BONDS

General

The Bonds will initially be maintained under a book-entry only system. Beneficial owners shall have no right to receive physical delivery of certificates representing their interests in the Bonds. The Bonds are dated their date of initial delivery and are being issued in the aggregate principal amount of \$49,650,000. The Bonds will mature on August 1 of the years, in the principal amounts and bear interest at the interest rates set forth on the inside front cover of this Official Statement.

Interest on the Bonds is payable semiannually on each February 1 and August 1, beginning February 1, 2026, until and including the date of maturity or earlier redemption, to the registered owners, as shown on the bond registration books maintained by the Bond Registrar on the fifteenth day of the month immediately preceding each interest payment date. Interest on the Bonds will be calculated based on a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months.

The Bonds will be general obligations of the County to the payment of which the full faith and credit and unlimited taxing power of the County are pledged. See “THE BONDS — Sources of Payment.”

Authorization

The Bonds are issued pursuant to the authority of Section 10-203 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended (the “Bond Act”), Section 19-101 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended (the “Consolidated Bond Act”), the Cecil County Charter, Sections 97-22 through 97-27, inclusive, of the Code of Cecil County (2012 Edition, as amended) (the “County Code”), and Bill No. 2025-08 (the “Bond Bill” and, collectively with the Bond Act, the Consolidated Bond Act, and the County Code, the “Acts”), enacted by the County Council on August 19, 2025 and effective on October 18, 2025, and are authorized to be issued by an Executive Order of the County Executive of the County (the “County Executive”) executed and delivered on October 30, 2025 and awarded by an Executive Order of the County Executive expected to be executed and delivered on November 19, 2025 (collectively, the “Executive Order”).

Redemption

Optional Redemption

The Bonds maturing on or before August 1, 2035 shall not be subject to redemption prior to their maturities. The Bonds maturing on or after August 1, 2036 shall be subject to redemption at any time on or after August 1, 2035, as a whole or in part, at the option of the County, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Bonds to be redeemed, plus accrued interest thereon to the redemption date.

Mandatory Sinking Fund Redemption

The Bonds maturing on August 1, 2047, August 1, 2049, August 1, 2052, and August 1, 2055 are subject to redemption prior to maturity at a redemption price equal to the principal amount thereof plus accrued interest thereon to the date set for redemption from mandatory sinking fund installments on August 1 of the following years and in the following amounts:

\$1,295,000 Term Bonds maturing August 1, 2047

Year	Sinking Fund Installment
2046	\$635,000
2047*	660,000

*Final maturity

\$1,400,000 Term Bonds maturing August 1, 2049

Year	Sinking Fund Installment
2048	\$685,000
2049*	715,000

*Final maturity

\$2,325,000 Term Bonds maturing August 1, 2052

Year	Sinking Fund Installment
2050	\$745,000
2051	775,000
2052*	805,000

*Final maturity

\$2,625,000 Term Bonds maturing August 1, 2055

Year	Sinking Fund Installment
2053	\$840,000
2054	875,000
2055*	910,000

*Final maturity

If such Bonds are redeemed in part prior to the mandatory redemption date, the sinking fund installments for such Bonds shall be reduced on a pro rata basis.

Redemption Procedures

If less than all of the Bonds are called for redemption, the particular maturities of the Bonds to be redeemed shall be selected by the County. If less than all of the Bonds of any one maturity are called for redemption, the particular Bonds of that maturity to be redeemed shall be selected by lot by the Bond Registrar (as defined in the Executive Order), except that so long as The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") or its nominee is the sole registered owner of the Bonds, the particular Bonds or portion to be redeemed shall be selected by DTC, in such manner as DTC shall determine. Each \$5,000 portion of a Bond shall be treated as a separate Bond in the selection by lot of Bonds to be redeemed.

When less than all of a Bond in a denomination in excess of \$5,000 is so redeemed, then, upon the surrender thereof, there shall be issued without charge to the registered owner thereof a Bond or Bonds in any of the authorized denominations as specified by the registered owner. The amount of the Bond or Bonds issued shall be equal to the unredeemed balance of the principal amount of the Bond surrendered, and the Bond or Bonds issued shall bear the same interest rate and shall mature on the same date as the Bond surrendered.

If the County elects to redeem all or a portion of the Bonds outstanding, it shall deliver a redemption notice to DTC by a secure means in accordance with DTC's applicable operational arrangements not less than 30 days prior to the date fixed for redemption (or such fewer number of days as shall be acceptable to DTC). If the book-entry system is discontinued for the Bonds, the County shall give a redemption notice not less than 30 days prior to the date fixed for redemption by letter mailed first class, postage prepaid, to the registered owners of the Bonds to be redeemed at their last addresses appearing on the registration books maintained by the Bond Registrar (the "Bond Register"). The redemption notice shall include the information required by the Executive Order, including any conditions to such redemption. Failure to deliver or mail such notice with respect to a particular Bond to be redeemed or any defect in such notice, or in the delivery or mailing thereof, shall not affect the validity of the redemption proceedings.

From and after the date fixed for redemption, if funds sufficient for the payment of the redemption price and accrued interest are held by the Paying Agent (as defined in the Executive Order) on such date and any other conditions to such redemption have been satisfied, the Bonds designated for redemption shall become due and payable at the redemption price provided for the redemption of

such Bonds on such date, interest on the Bonds shall cease to accrue and the registered owners of such Bonds so called for redemption shall have no rights in respect thereof except to receive payment of the redemption price thereof from such monies held by the Paying Agent. Upon presentation and surrender of a Bond called for redemption in compliance with the redemption notice, the Paying Agent shall pay the appropriate redemption price of such Bond. If Bonds so called for redemption are not paid upon presentation and surrender as described above, such Bonds shall continue to bear interest at the rates stated therein until paid.

Form and Denominations

The Bonds will be issued as fully registered bonds without coupons in denominations of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof. The County and the Paying Agent may deem and treat the person in whose name a Bond is registered as the absolute owner thereof for the purpose of receiving payment of or on account of the principal or redemption price thereof and interest thereon and for all other purposes.

Payment and Transfer

So long as the Bonds are maintained in book-entry form, payment of the principal or redemption price of and interest on the Bonds will be made as described below under "Book-Entry Only System." At any other time, the Bonds will be payable to the registered owners, in any lawful money of the United States of America at the time of payment, as to principal at the designated corporate trust office of the Bond Registrar, and as to interest by check mailed to the registered owners, as shown in the Bond Register on the fifteenth day of the month immediately preceding each interest payment date.

The Bonds will be transferable only upon the Bond Register, by the registered owner thereof in person or by his or her attorney duly authorized in writing, upon surrender thereof together with a written instrument of transfer in the form attached thereto or other such form as is satisfactory to the Bond Registrar and duly executed by the registered owner or his duly authorized attorney.

The Bonds may be transferred or exchanged at the designated corporate trust office of the Bond Registrar. Upon any transfer or exchange, the County shall execute and the Bond Registrar shall authenticate and deliver a new registered Bond or Bonds without coupons of any of the authorized denominations in an aggregate principal amount equal to the principal amount of the Bond exchanged or transferred and maturing on the same date and bearing interest at the same rate. In each case, the Bond Registrar may require payment by any registered owner requesting the exchange or transfer of any tax, fee or other governmental charge, shipping charges and insurance that may be required to be paid with respect thereto, but otherwise no charge shall be made to the registered owner for the exchange or transfer.

The Bond Registrar shall not be required to transfer or exchange any Bond after the mailing of notice calling such Bond or portion thereof for redemption; provided, however, that this limitation shall not apply to that portion of a Bond in excess of \$5,000 which is not being called for redemption.

Sources of Payment

The full faith and credit and unlimited taxing power of the County are irrevocably pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds as and when they become due. The County has covenanted that, in each and every fiscal year that any of the Bonds are outstanding, the County shall levy or cause to be levied ad valorem taxes upon all the legally assessable property within the corporate limits of the County in rate and amount sufficient to provide for the payment, when due, of the principal of and interest on all of the Bonds becoming due in each such fiscal year and, if the proceeds from the taxes so levied in any such fiscal year prove inadequate for such payment, additional taxes shall be levied in the succeeding fiscal year to make up any such deficiency.

Bondholders' Remedies

A claim at law or in equity may be made against the County in the event that it fails to perform its obligations under the Bonds to the registered owners thereof and that any judgments or ruling by a Maryland court of competent jurisdiction resulting from such claim would be enforceable against the County. A Maryland court may have jurisdiction to entertain proceedings and power to grant additional relief, if necessary, to enforce the levy and collection of such taxes and payment of the proceeds thereof to the holders of general obligation bonds, subject to the inherent constitutional limitations referred to below. While remedies would be available to bondholders and while the Bonds are entitled to constitutional protection against the impairment of the obligation of contracts, such constitutional protection and the enforcement of such remedies would not be absolute.

Enforcement of a claim for payment of the principal of or interest on the Bonds could be made subject to the provisions of federal bankruptcy laws or of any statutes that may hereafter be constitutionally enacted by the United States Congress or the Maryland General Assembly extending the time of payment or imposing other constraints upon enforcement.

BOOK-ENTRY ONLY SYSTEM

The Depository Trust Company

The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York (“DTC”), will act as securities depository for the Bonds. The Bonds will be issued as fully-registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co. (DTC’s partnership nominee) or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. One fully-registered Bond certificate will be issued for each maturity of the Bonds, each in the aggregate principal amount of such maturity, and will be deposited with DTC.

DTC, the world’s largest securities depository, is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a “banking organization” within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a “clearing corporation” within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a “clearing agency” registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

DTC holds and provides asset servicing for over 3.5 million issues of U.S. and non-U.S. equity issues, corporate and municipal debt issues, and money market instruments (from over 100 countries) that DTC’s participants (“Direct Participants”) deposit with DTC. DTC also facilitates the post-trade settlement among Direct Participants of sales and other securities transactions in deposited securities, through electronic computerized book-entry transfers and pledges between Direct Participants’ accounts. This eliminates the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. DTC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation (“DTCC”). DTCC is the holding company for DTC, National Securities Clearing Corporation and Fixed Income Clearing Corporation, all of which are registered clearing agencies.

DTCC is owned by the users of its regulated subsidiaries. Access to the DTC system is also available to others such as both U.S. and non-U.S. securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, and clearing corporations that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly (“Indirect Participants”). DTC has a Standard & Poor’s rating of AA+. The DTC Rules applicable to its Participants are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. More information about DTC can be found at www.dtcc.com.

Purchases of the Bonds under the DTC system must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for the Bonds on DTC’s records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Bond (the “Beneficial Owner”) is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants’ records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from DTC of their purchase. Beneficial Owners are, however, expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Bonds are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in the Bonds, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Bonds is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Bonds deposited by Direct Participants with DTC are registered in the name of DTC’s partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. The deposit of the Bonds with DTC and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other DTC nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. DTC has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Bonds; DTC’s records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Bonds are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by DTC to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to take certain steps to augment the transmission to them of notices of significant events with respect to the Bonds, such as redemptions, prepayments, defaults, and proposed amendments to the Bond documents. For example, Beneficial Owners of Bonds may wish to ascertain that the nominee holding the Bonds for their benefit has agreed to obtain and transmit notices to Beneficial Owners.

Redemption notices shall be sent to DTC. If less than all of the Bonds of a within an issue are being redeemed, DTC’s practice is to determine by lot the amount of the interest of each Direct Participant in such maturity to be redeemed. Neither DTC nor Cede & Co. (nor any other DTC nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the Bonds unless authorized by a Direct Participant in accordance with DTC’s MMI Procedures. Under its usual procedures, DTC mails an Omnibus Proxy to the County as soon as possible after the record date. The Omnibus Proxy assigns Cede & Co.’s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the Bonds are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the Omnibus Proxy).

Principal and interest payments on the Bonds will be made to Cede & Co. or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC. DTC's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts upon DTC's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the County or the Paying Agent, on the payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on DTC's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in "street name," and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of DTC, its nominee, the Paying Agent or the County, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of principal and interest to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of DTC) is the responsibility of the County or the Paying Agent, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of DTC, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

DTC may discontinue providing its services as depository with respect to the Bonds at any time by giving reasonable notice to the County or the Paying Agent. Under such circumstances, in the event that a successor depository is not obtained, Bond certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

The County may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry-only transfers through DTC (or a successor securities depository). In that event, Bond certificates will be printed and delivered to DTC.

The information in this section concerning DTC and DTC's book-entry system has been obtained by the County from DTC. The County takes no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness thereof. None of the County, the Bond Registrar nor the Paying Agent will have any responsibility or obligations to the Direct or Indirect Participants or the persons for whom they act as nominees with respect to the payments to or in the providing of notice to the Direct or Indirect Participants, or Beneficial Owners. The County cannot and does not give any assurance that the Direct or Indirect Participants or others will distribute principal and interest payments paid to DTC or its nominees, as the registered owner, or any notices to the Beneficial Owners, or that they will do so on a timely basis or that they will serve and act in the manner described in this Official Statement.

Termination of Book-Entry Only System

In the event that the Book-Entry Only System is discontinued, the Bonds will be delivered by DTC to the Bond Registrar and such Bonds will be exchanged for certificated Bonds registered in the names of the Direct Participants or the Beneficial Owners identified to the Bond Registrar. In such event, certain provisions of the Bonds pertaining to ownership of the Bonds will be applicable to the registered owners of the Bonds as described herein.

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LEGAL MATTERS

Approval of Legal Proceedings

McGuireWoods LLP of Baltimore, Maryland, is acting as Bond Counsel in connection with the authorization, sale, issuance and delivery of the Bonds. The County has been advised by Bond Counsel in connection with legal statements contained in this Official Statement; however, Bond Counsel has not passed on or assumed responsibility for the accuracy of the financial statements and economic data contained herein. Delivery of the Bonds is conditioned upon delivery by Bond Counsel of unqualified opinions substantially in the forms set forth in Appendix B to this Official Statement. Copies of the approving legal opinions will be delivered, upon request, without charge, to the successful bidders for the Bonds.

Tax Matters

Opinion of Bond Counsel – Federal Income Tax Status of Interest

Bond Counsel's opinion regarding the federal income tax status of the interest on the Bonds will state that, under current law and assuming continuing compliance with the Covenants (as hereinafter defined), interest on the Bonds (i) is excludable from gross income for purposes of federal income taxation under Section 103 of the Code and (ii) is not a specific item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax on individuals. In addition, such interest is included in the "adjusted financial statement income" (as defined in Section 56A of the Code) of certain corporations in determining the applicability and amount of the federal corporate alternative minimum tax imposed under Section 55(b) of the Code. See "FORM OF APPROVING OPINION OF BOND COUNSEL" in Appendix B hereto.

Bond Counsel's opinion speaks as of its date, is based on current legal authority and precedent, covers certain matters not directly addressed by such authority and precedent, and represents Bond Counsel's judgment as to the excludability of interest on the Bonds for federal income tax purposes. Bond Counsel's opinion does not contain or provide any opinion or assurance regarding the future activities of the County or about the effect of future changes in the Code, the applicable regulations, or the interpretation or the enforcement thereof by the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") and the courts.

Although Bond Counsel is of the opinion that interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes, the ownership or disposition of, or the accrual or receipt of interest on, Bonds may otherwise affect the federal tax liability of an owner of the Bonds. The nature and extent of these other federal tax consequences depend on the owner's particular tax status and levels of other income or deductions. Bond Counsel will express no opinion regarding any such other tax consequences and prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their own tax advisors with respect thereto.

Reliance and Assumptions; Effect of Certain Changes

In delivering its opinion regarding the federal income tax treatment of interest on the Bonds, Bond Counsel is relying upon certifications of representatives of the County, the Underwriter, as hereinafter defined, and other persons as to facts material to the opinion, which Bond Counsel has not independently verified.

In addition, Bond Counsel is assuming continuing compliance with the Covenants (as hereinafter defined) by the County. The Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder contain a number of requirements that must be satisfied after the issuance of the Bonds in order for interest on the Bonds to be and remain excludable from gross income for purposes of federal income taxation. These requirements include, by way of example and not limitation, restrictions on the use, expenditure and investment of the proceeds of the Bonds and the use of the property financed or refinanced by the Bonds, limitations on the source of the payment of and the security for the Bonds, and the obligation to rebate certain excess earnings on the gross proceeds of the Bonds to the United States Treasury. The tax compliance agreement for the Bonds contains covenants (the "Covenants") under which the County has agreed to comply with such requirements. Failure by the County to comply with the Covenants could cause interest on the Bonds to become includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactively to their date of issue. If such a failure were to occur, the available enforcement remedies may be limited by applicable provisions of law and, therefore, may not be adequate to prevent interest on the Bonds from becoming includable in gross income for Federal income tax purposes.

Bond Counsel has no responsibility to monitor compliance with the Covenants after the date of issue of the Bonds.

Certain requirements and procedures contained, incorporated or referred to in the tax compliance agreement, including the Covenants, may be changed and certain actions may be taken or omitted subject to the terms and conditions set forth in such agreement. Bond Counsel expresses no opinion concerning any effect on the excludability of interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes of any such subsequent change or action that may be made, taken or omitted upon the advice or approval of counsel other than Bond Counsel.

Original Issue Discount

Bonds purchased in the initial public offering with yields higher than their applicable interest rates, as shown on the inside cover page hereof, have been sold with “original issue discount.” Each such Bond is referred to below as an “OID Bond.” The excess of (i) the stated amount payable at the maturity (excluding qualified stated interest) of any OID Bond over (ii) the issue price of the OID Bond as determined under Section 1273 of the Code (which may differ from the price shown on the inside front cover page of this Official Statement) constitutes the amount of original issue discount, which is treated in the same manner as interest on the Bonds for federal income tax purposes.

The Code provides that the amount of original issue discount accrues in accordance with a constant interest method based on the compounding of interest. In the case of an original owner of an OID Bond, the amount of original issue discount that is treated as having accrued on such OID Bond is added to the owner’s adjusted basis in determining, for federal income tax purposes, gain or loss upon the disposition of the OID Bond (including its sale, redemption or payment at maturity). The amounts received upon such disposition that are attributable to accrued original issue discount will be excludable from the gross income of the owner for federal income tax purposes.

The accrual of original issue discount and its effect on the redemption, sale or other disposition of OID Bonds that are not purchased in the initial public offering may be determined according to rules that differ from those described above.

In addition, original issue discount that accrues in each year to an owner of an OID Bond is included in the calculation of the distribution requirements of certain regulated investment companies and may result in some of the collateral federal income tax consequences discussed in this section. Consequently, the owner of an OID Bonds should be aware that the accrual of original issue discount in each year may result in additional distribution requirements or other collateral federal income tax consequences although such owner has not received cash attributable to such original issue discount in such year.

Prospective purchasers of OID Bonds should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the precise determination for federal income tax purposes of the original issue discount accrued upon sale or redemption of such OID Bonds (including OID Bonds not purchased in the initial public offering) and with respect to the state and local tax consequences of owning OID Bonds.

Original Issue Premium

Bonds purchased in the initial public offering with yields lower than their applicable interest rates, as shown on the inside cover page hereof, have been sold with “bond premium.” Each such Bond is referred to below as an “OIP Bond.” The excess of (i) the owner’s basis in the OIP Bond immediately after acquisition over (ii) the amount payable at maturity (excluding qualified stated interest) as determined under Section 171 of the Code constitutes the amount of the bond premium. Under the Code, the bond premium is amortized based on the owner’s yield over the remaining term of the OIP Bond (or, in the case of certain callable OIP Bonds, to an earlier call date that results in a lowest yield on the OIP Bond). The owner of an OIP Bond must amortize the bond premium by offsetting the qualified stated interest allocable to each interest accrual period against the bond premium allocable to that period. No deduction is allowed for such amortization of bond premium even though the owner is required to decrease the adjusted basis in the owner’s OIP Bond by the amount of the amortizable bond premium, which will result in an increase in the gain (or decrease in the loss) recognized for federal income tax purposes upon a sale or disposition of the OIP Bond prior to its maturity.

Prospective purchasers of any OIP Bonds should consult their own tax advisors regarding the treatment of bond premium for federal income tax purposes, including various special rules relating thereto, and state and local tax consequences, in connection with the acquisition, ownership, sale, exchange, or other disposition of, and amortization of bond premium on, such OIP Bonds.

Certain Collateral Federal Tax Consequences

The following is a brief discussion of certain collateral federal income tax matters with respect to the Bonds. It does not purport to address all aspects of federal taxation that may be relevant to a particular owner thereof. Prospective purchasers of the Bonds, particularly those who may be subject to special rules, are advised to consult their own tax advisors regarding the federal tax consequences of owning or disposing of the Bonds.

Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should be aware that the ownership of tax-exempt obligations may result in collateral federal income tax consequences to certain taxpayers including, without limitation, banks and other financial institutions, certain insurance companies, dealers in tax-exempt obligations, certain corporations (including S corporations and foreign corporations), certain foreign corporations subject to the “branch profits tax,” individual recipients of Social Security or Railroad Retirement benefits, owners of an interest in a financial securitization trust, taxpayers entitled to claim the refundable credit in Section 36B of the Code for coverage under a qualified health plan, taxpayers who may be deemed to have incurred or continued indebtedness to purchase or carry tax-exempt obligations and taxpayers attempting to qualify for the earned income tax credit.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Prospective purchasers should be aware that the interest on the Bonds is subject to information reporting to the IRS in a manner similar to interest paid on taxable obligations. In addition, interest on the Bonds may be subject to backup withholding if the interest is paid to an owner who or which (i) is not an “exempt recipient” and (ii) (A) fails to furnish an accurate U.S. taxpayer identification number in the manner required, (B) has been notified of a failure to report all interest and dividends required to be shown on federal income tax returns or (C) fails to certify under penalty of perjury that the owner is not subject to withholding. Individuals generally are not exempt recipients, although corporations and other entities generally are.

The reporting and backup withholding requirements do not in and of themselves affect the excludability of interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes, and amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules may be refunded or credited against the owner’s federal income tax liability, if any, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

Opinion of Bond Counsel – State Tax Exemption

Bond Counsel’s opinion will also state that, under existing law of the State of Maryland, the principal of and interest on the Bonds, the transfer of the Bonds, and any income derived from the Bonds, including profits made in their sale or transfer, are exempt from State and local taxes in the State of Maryland; however, the terms of the law of the State of Maryland does not expressly refer to, and no opinion is expressed concerning, estate or inheritance taxes or any other taxes not levied or assessed directly on the Bonds, the interest thereon, their transfer or the income therefrom.

Interest on the Bonds may be subject to state or local income taxes in jurisdictions other than the State of Maryland under applicable state or local tax laws. Such holders or prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the tax status of the interest on Bonds in jurisdictions other than the State of Maryland.

Effects of Future Enforcement, Regulatory and Legislative Action

The IRS has established a program to audit tax-exempt obligations to determine whether the interest thereon is includible in gross income for federal income tax purposes. If the IRS does audit the Bonds, the IRS will, under its current procedures, treat the County as the taxpayer. As such, the beneficial owners of the Bonds will have only limited rights, if any, to participate in the audit or any administrative or judicial review or appeal thereof. Any action of the IRS, including but not limited to the selection of the Bonds for audit, or the course or result of such audit, or an audit of other obligations presenting similar tax issues, may affect the marketability or market value of the Bonds.

Legislation affecting tax-exempt obligations is regularly considered by the U.S. Congress and various state legislatures. Such legislation may effect changes in federal or state income tax rates and the application of federal or state income tax laws (including the substitution of another type of tax), or may repeal or reduce the benefit of the excludability of interest on the tax-exempt obligations from gross income for federal or state income tax purposes.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury and the IRS and state regulatory authorities are continuously drafting regulations to interpret and apply the provisions of the Code and state law and court proceedings may be filed the outcome of which could modify the federal or state tax treatment of tax-exempt obligations.

There can be no assurance that legislation proposed or enacted after the date of issue of the Bonds, regulatory interpretation of the Code or state laws or actions by a court involving either the Bonds or other tax-exempt obligations will not have an adverse effect on the Bonds’ federal or state tax status, marketability or market price or on the economic value of the tax-exempt status of the interest on the Bonds.

Prospective purchasers of the Bonds should consult their own tax advisors regarding the potential consequences of any such proposed or pending federal or state tax legislation, regulations or litigation, as to which Bond Counsel expresses no opinion.

FEDERAL POLICY ACTIONS

Federal policies involving taxation, appropriations, borrowing, trade, immigration, education, environmental matters and other topics can shift, sometimes dramatically, from one presidential administration or Congress to another. From time to time, such shifts may be followed by material increases or decreases in the levels of federal funding directly affecting federal agencies and authorities and indirectly affecting state and local recipients of such funding. Recently, the current presidential administration has proposed policy shifts that involve, among other things, proposed delays in grants and appropriations, reductions in the federal workforce, and elimination of certain federal agencies and departments. Federal government employee reductions may impact residents of the County. The County may have some exposure to potential federal funding freezes or cuts, which could reduce operating revenue. However, the County is well positioned to effectively mitigate the effects of any such cuts through budget adjustments.

LITIGATION

The County is a party to numerous legal proceedings, many of which normally occur in governmental operations. The legal proceedings are not, in the opinion of the County Attorney, likely to have a material adverse impact on the County's financial position.

CONTINUING DISCLOSURE UNDERTAKING

In order to enable participating underwriters (as defined in Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission) to comply with the requirements of paragraph (b)(5) of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Rule 15c2-12"), the County will execute and deliver a continuing disclosure agreement (the "Continuing Disclosure Agreement") on or before the date of issuance and delivery of the Bonds, the form of which is attached to this Official Statement as Appendix D. Potential purchasers of the Bonds should note that the definition of Listed Events in Appendix D is intended to completely restate the events specified in Rule 15c2-12. It is noted that certain Listed Events are expected to have no applicability to the Bonds, such as the possibility of unscheduled draws on debt service reserves and matters affecting collateral for the Bonds.

On February 5, 2021, the County inadvertently filed its 2019 annual financial information with EMMA instead of its 2020 annual financial information. The County corrected this filing on April 13, 2021 promptly upon discovery of the error. As a result of the error, the 2020 annual financial information was filed after the March 31, 2021 deadline set forth in the County's continuing disclosure undertakings. Except as described in this paragraph (to the extent the foregoing constitutes a material failure), in the previous five years, the County has not failed to comply in any material respect with any prior continuing disclosure undertaking made pursuant to Rule 15c2-12.

RATINGS

Moody's Investors Service, Inc. and S&P Global Ratings have assigned the ratings indicated on the cover page of this Official Statement. Such ratings reflect only the views of such organizations and any desired explanation of the significance of such ratings should be obtained from the rating agency furnishing the same, at the following addresses: Moody's Investors Service, Inc., 7 World Trade Center, 250 Greenwich Street, New York, New York 10007, and S&P Global Ratings, 55 Water Street, New York, New York 10041. The County furnished to such rating agencies the information contained in a preliminary form of this Official Statement and other publicly available materials and information respecting the Bonds and the County. Generally, a rating agency bases its ratings on materials and information furnished to it, as well as investigations, studies and assumptions of its own. Such ratings may be changed at any time and no assurance can be given that they will not be revised downward or withdrawn entirely by either or both of the rating agencies, if in the judgment of such rating agencies, circumstances so warrant. Any such downward revision or withdrawal of such ratings may have an adverse effect on the market price of the Bonds.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

General

Cecil County, Maryland is governed by a County Executive and County Council pursuant to the Charter of Cecil County, Maryland. The Charter provides, among other things, for the election of the County Executive and the organization, powers, and duties of the executive and administrative branches; the election, organization, powers and duties of the legislative branch, and fiscal and budgetary matters. The Charter supersedes a Commissioner form of government that existed until December 2012 whereupon the five Commissioners (combined executive/legislative) became five Council members (legislative branch).

The County Executive is elected in a general election (in Presidential election years) for a four-year term. The Charter establishes the County Executive as the Chief Executive Officer of the County with the power to appoint (subject to confirmation by the County Council) and remove the non-elected heads of County departments; the responsibility to prepare and present to County Council the annual operating budget and the capital budget and program; the power to veto legislation passed by the County Council; and the power to perform all other executive functions.

The County Council is the legislative body of the County and consists of five members. Each Council member is a resident of one of the five residency districts and is elected at-large. Council members serve four-year terms with members from Districts 1 and 5 elected in a general election in Presidential election years and members from Districts 2, 3, and 4 elected in a general election in Gubernatorial election years. In addition to the legislative power to adopt Bills and Budget Ordinances, the County Council has the specific power to override the County Executive's veto of any legislation and to review, decrease, and approve the operating and capital budgets. The County Council may also conduct investigations and subpoena witnesses, administer oaths, take testimony, and require the production of evidence. The Council elects a President and Vice President by majority vote from amongst its members to preside over Council meetings. Council member positions are part-time.

Management of day-to-day operations of the County government is the responsibility of the Director of Administration who is appointed by the County Executive (and confirmed by the County Council) and serves at the County Executive's pleasure. The Director of Administration supervises all departments, offices, and agencies of the executive branch, advise the County Executive on all administrative matters and performs such other duties as assigned by the County Executive and the Charter.

The County Attorney is the chief legal officer of the County who is appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by County Council. The County Attorney conducts all of the law business of the County, is a legal advisor to the County Council, and is the legal advisor to the County Executive, all departments, and other instrumentalities of the County Government.

The Director of Finance who is appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council is the chief financial officer of the County. The responsibilities include, but are not limited to, maintaining the County's system of accounts, preparing monthly and annual financial statements, preparing the operating and capital budgets, billing and collection of county taxes and revenues, payments to vendors, and preparing for bond sales and advising on debt management.

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Elected Officials and County Government Employees

ADAM STREIGHT, County Executive, was elected on December 2, 2024. County Executive Streight is a dedicated public servant and proven leader with over 25 years of experience in public safety, community engagement, and regional development. He has been at the forefront of initiatives aimed at fostering economic growth, enhancing public safety, and strengthening local government functions. County Executive Streight's extensive career in law enforcement, beginning as a Deputy Sheriff in Harford County (1997–1999) and continuing in Cecil County (1999–2024), has provided him with a deep understanding of the needs of his community. His work has earned him widespread respect for his commitment to justice, integrity, and collaboration. He is an active member of several boards and councils that contribute to the development of Cecil County and the surrounding region: Wilmington Area Planning Council (Member, 2024–present), Bainbridge Development Advisory Board (Member, 2024–present), Bainbridge Development Corporation (Board of Directors, 2024–present), Regional Advanced Manufacturing Partnership of Maryland (Executive Board Member, 2024–present), Port of Deposit State Historical Park Stakeholder Advisory Committee (Member, 2024–present), Upper Shore Regional Council (Member, 2024–present). Prior to his election as County Executive, he served in leadership roles that showcased his dedication to public service and community improvement. County Executive Streight was President of Lodge No. 2, Cecil County Fraternal Order of Police (2008–2012), where he advocated for law enforcement professionals and was recognized as "Member of the Year" by the Maryland Fraternal Order of Police in 2010. His earlier service as an emergency medical technician and firefighter with the Aberdeen Volunteer Fire Company (1992–1997) further highlights his lifelong commitment to public safety. County Executive Streight is a lifelong learner who earned his A.A. in Criminal Justice with honors from Eastern Gateway Community College in 2020 and a B.S. in Criminal Justice Administration with honors from Franklin University in 2023. These accomplishments reflect his dedication to professional growth and his passion for serving his community. He resides in Cecil County with his spouse and three children.

AL MILLER, President, was elected in 2018 to his first term and was re-elected to serve a second term in 2022 as the Council Member for the Third District, which includes Rising Sun, Cherry Hill, Calvert, and Fair Hill. Councilman Miller graduated from the University of Delaware and has been in the agriculture profession for many years, currently working at Ag Industrial, Inc. selling New Holland agriculture and construction equipment in Rising Sun. Councilman Miller is a member of the Human Service Agency Local Management Board. He is an Ex-Officio Member of the Economic Development Commission, Farm Bureau, Firemen's Association, Watershed Implementation Plan Advisory Committee and the Weed Control Committee. Mr. Miller resides in Rising Sun, Maryland.

BOB MEFFLEY, Council Vice-President, was elected in 2016 to his first term as the Council Member for the First District, which includes Chesapeake City, Cecilton, Earleville, Warwick and Fredericktown. After, election in 2022, Mr. Meffley was selected to serve as Council Vice-President. Mr. Meffley is a Cecil County business owner who has owned and operated H&B Plumbing and Heating for 36 years. He serves as Ex-Official member of Clean Chesapeake Coalition, Economic Development Commission as an alternate. He also serves as a voting member of the Cecil County Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council, Upper Shore Regional Council Executive Board, Social Services Board and Maryland Rural Development Corporation. He is also a member of the Tobacco Task Force and Cecil County Trade Foundation. As a lifelong resident of Cecil County, Mr. Meffley resides in Chesapeake City.

REBECCA HAMILTON, Council Member, was elected in 2022 to her first term as the Council Member for the Second District, which includes Elkton, Elk Mills and Childs. Ms. Hamilton is a graduate of Goldey-Beacom College and holds an MBA from the University of Delaware. She has spent her career in the building materials industry in Sales Operations and brings the same determination and resolve that she demonstrates each day to her role as Councilwoman. Ms. Hamilton was appointed to the following: Maryland Association of Counties Legislative Committee MACo; Maryland Rural Counties Coalition Board; Parks and Recreation Board; Planning Commission; and Upper Shore Regional Council.

DONNA CULBERSON, Council Member, was elected in 2022 to her first term as Council Member for the Fourth District which includes Perryville, Port Deposit, Charlestown, Colora, Bainbridge and Conowingo. Ms. Culbertson attended Cecil College focusing on accounting and finance. She has been employed for the past 38 years in long-term care healthcare. She is currently employed by a healthcare accounting firm that serves hospitals and nursing homes throughout the State of Maryland. Ms. Culbertson's role is Business Office Operations Consultant for their nursing home clients. Ms. Culbertson has been a resident of Cecil County for the past 27 years, relocating from Pennsylvania. She currently resides in Conowingo with her husband Chris. Councilwoman Culbertson serves on the following boards and commissions: Core Service Agency Advisory Board; Child Advocacy Center Advisory Board and Bridge; Domestic Crisis Center; Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway; Cecil County Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council; Commission on Aging; and Social Services Board.

DAWN BRANCH, Council Member, was elected in 2024 to her first term as Council Member for the Fifth District which includes North East and Elk Neck. She earned a Master of Science in Education in 2021 and holds a Bachelor of Science in Business. Ms. Branch completed the Cecil Leadership Institute in 2014. Currently, she is employed as a Grant Assistant for Cecil County Public Schools, where she supports initiatives for Early Childhood Education and the Judy Center. Prior to working with Cecil County Public Schools, Ms. Branch was a small business owner, operating a travel agency from 2007 to 2021. Dawn Branch served two terms as an elected member of the Cecil County School Board, including five years as President. In this role, she led efforts to improve the local education system and advocated for the needs of students, families, and staff. Having lived in Cecil County since 2004, she is deeply committed to her community. Outside of her professional career, Dawn is a proud mother and grandmother. In her role as Council Member, Ms. Branch is committed to restoring a county government with a structure of checks and balances, addressing the budget to prioritize crucial services, and developing long-term strategic plans to enhance the quality of life in Cecil County.

DAN SCHNECKENBERGER was appointed Director of Administration on December 2, 2024. Daniel E. Schneckenburger is a seasoned workforce development and project management professional with over 15 years of experience in business development, governmental affairs, and community leadership. Daniel has a strong background in managing complex programs and projects, building cross-functional partnerships, and driving economic and workforce development initiatives across Maryland and beyond. His diverse expertise spans from contracting and economic development to public service and non-profit leadership. Mr. Schneckenburger's experience as an elected official on the Cecil County Council, where he served as Vice President, has provided him with deep insights into legislative processes, community engagement, and local government functions. He has played a significant role in advancing workforce development, first responder support, and economic development policies, gaining respect for his leadership in both government and business sectors. Currently, Mr. Schneckenburger serves as the Executive Director of the Upper Shore Workforce Investment Board, where he oversees workforce development activities across five counties in Maryland's Upper Shore region. In this role, he manages federal and state workforce training funds, works closely with the Maryland Department of Labor and Department of Commerce, and is a key liaison with local county governments to enhance employment opportunities and regional economic growth. His previous positions include serving as Director of Administration for Cecil County Government, where he was responsible for overseeing all county functions, managing budgets, and serving as the administrative liaison for the County Council and state and federal elected officials. His prior role as Director of Business Services for CareerSource Tampa Bay also demonstrated his ability to drive business engagement and support workforce needs, especially within high-demand sectors like veterans' employment and economic development. Mr. Schneckenburger holds a B.S. in Agriculture from the University of Delaware, class of 1982, which laid the foundation for his work in agriculture-related economic development, workforce training, and project management.

RAYMOND W. HAMM, JR. was appointed Director of Finance on March 4, 2025. He joined Cecil County Government following retirement from a 47-year commercial banking career. Mr. Hamm previously served as President, CEO and Director of Mercantile County Bank, a \$1 billion community bank headquartered in Cecil County. Following the acquisition of this bank by PNC Bank, N.A., he became PNC's Commercial Bank Market Leader for Greater Maryland, managing banking relationships for 500 business clients in Maryland and parts of Delaware and Virginia. Mr. Hamm has served on numerous boards, agencies and commissions supporting the education, health care, and economic development needs of the community. He is currently Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Cecil College and is also a Director and Treasurer of the Bainbridge Development Corporation. He is a past member of the Maryland State Economic Development Commission and prior chair of the Cecil County Economic Development Commission. He was the Board Chair for Union Hospital in Cecil County. He also served as a board member for the Christiana Care Health System where he continues as a member of the Finance Committee. Mr. Hamm received a B.A. degree, *cum laude*, in Business Administration from Loyola College of Maryland in 1982. He received a Master of Business Administration degree with a Finance Concentration from Loyola College in 1983.

ANDREW ONDISH currently serves as the Deputy Director of Finance and Budget Manager for Cecil County, a role he has held since December 2024. Prior to this appointment, he partnered with the Cecil County Council as a budget consultant beginning in 2018, contributing to the County's financial planning and strategy. Before joining the public sector, Mr. Ondish was the Chief Financial Officer of Watts Innovations Inc., a start-up drone technology company that experienced multiple acquisitions during its three-year trajectory. Andrew holds a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Towson University. He has actively contributed to various nonprofit and professional organizations, serving on the boards of Maryland Future Business Leaders of America, the Maryland FBLA Foundation (as Treasurer), and the Albert P. Close Foundation (as Treasurer). He is also a member of the Maryland Association of Counties and the Government Finance Officers Association.

KEITH A. BAYNES was appointed County Attorney for Cecil County in December 2024. Mr. Baynes brings an extensive and distinguished legal career to his new role as County Attorney. With decades of service in various capacities within Maryland's judicial system, he exemplifies dedication and leadership in the pursuit of justice and community service. Judicial and Legal Experience: Chair, Conference of Circuit Judges (2021–2022): Provided leadership to the judiciary, previously serving as Vice-Chair (2019–2020), Circuit Administrative Judge, 2nd Judicial Circuit (Caroline, Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, and Talbot Counties) (2017–2024), County Administrative Judge, Cecil County Circuit Court (2014–2024): Served as an Associate Judge (2011–2014) before assuming administrative responsibilities. Presiding Judge, Adult Drug Court (2011–2024): Led efforts to address substance abuse issues through

the judicial system. Member of various committees within the Maryland Judicial Conference, including; Problem-Solving Courts Committee (2012–2014) Court Technology Committee (2015–2018) Specialty Courts and Dockets Committee (2015–2020). Judicial Council Member (2019–2024), representing the 2nd Judicial Circuit (2017–2019). Previous Legal Roles Assistant Public Defender, District 3, Cecil County (1980–1986). Assistant State's Attorney, Cecil County (1986–2011). Law Clerk to Judge H. Kenneth Mackey, Cecil County Circuit Court (1976–1979). Sole Practitioner (1982–2011) and Associate at Eugene F. Herman, Esq. (1980–1982), Education and Credentials St. Vincent College, B.S. in Political Science (1976). University of Baltimore School of Law, J.D. (1979). Admitted to the Maryland Bar (1979). Community Involvement Pro bono attorney with the Cecil County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (1986–2011). Born in Buffalo, New York, in 1954, Mr. Baynes has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to serving the public and upholding the principles of justice. His leadership and experience will be invaluable in his capacity as County Attorney.

ROBERT ROYSTER was appointed the Public Information Officer in December 2024. He is a Public Information Officer with a strong background in strategic communications, crisis response, and media relations. He currently serves as the Public Information Officer for Cecil County Government under County Executive Adam Streight's administration, where he leads efforts to ensure transparent, timely, and accurate communication between government leadership and the public. Previously, Mr. Royster worked with the Harford County Sheriff's Office, where he collaborated closely with media outlets to manage information dissemination during critical incidents, craft press releases, and deliver key updates to the community. His experience in law enforcement communications has equipped him with the skills to navigate high-pressure environments and convey complex information with clarity and professionalism. Mr. Royster is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Strategic Communication & Digital Strategy at the University of Oklahoma, expected in May 2026. He also earned his Bachelor's degree in Communication from Coastal Carolina University. Passionate about fostering trust through open communication, Robert specializes in public relations, external communications, and digital strategy, helping government agencies strengthen their connection with the communities they serve.

W. SCOTT FLANIGAN, P.E. was appointed the Director of Public Works in October 2005. Mr. Flanigan received a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Clarkson University in Potsdam, NY in May 1984 and a M.S. in Civil Engineering from The University of Texas at Austin in December 1993. He is a licensed professional engineer in Maryland and Virginia. Prior to starting work as the Cecil County Director of Public Works, he served on active duty in the US Army for over 21 years, retiring in the rank of lieutenant colonel.

STEPHEN O'CONNOR was appointed Director of Land Use and Development Services in May 2021. Mr. O'Connor has been an employee of Cecil County Government since 2007 serving as Planner I, Plans Reviewer II, Zoning Administrator, and Chief of Planning & Zoning during his tenure. Mr. O'Connor serves on the Maryland Chapter Executive Committee of the American Planning Association and is Vice-Chair of the WILMAPCO Council. He holds professional certification from the American Institute of Certified Planners and is a graduate of the State University of New York, College at Buffalo with a Degree in Urban & Regional Planning.

SANDRA EDWARDS was appointed Director of Economic Development for Cecil County in December 2024. A native of Cecil County, MS. Edwards began her professional career as a land use planner for Cecil County Government before transitioning to the nonprofit sector as a land protection specialist with the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy. In 2013, she returned to public service as the Town Manager of Chesapeake City, and in 2018, rejoined Cecil County Government as Economic Development Manager. She currently serves on the board of the Elkton Alliance and is a member of the North East Economic Development Commission.

Retirement and Pension Programs

Prior to January 1, 1980, all County employees were required to be members of the Employees' Retirement System of the State of Maryland (the "Retirement System"). During the 1979 legislative session, the Maryland General Assembly created, effective January 1, 1980, the Pension System for Employees of the State of Maryland (the "Pension System"). All County employees who were members of the Retirement System could remain in that system or elect to join the Pension System. All employees hired after December 31, 1979 must join the Pension System which originally was a non-contributory plan. In 1998, the State initiated an enhanced Contributory Pension System and in 1999, the County elected to participate in the new system. Effective July 1, 2006, the Alternate Contributory Pension Selection ("ACPS") was adopted for Participating Governmental Units ("PGU") employees.

Members of the Pension System are eligible to retire after 30 years of service regardless of age, at age 65 or older with two years of service, at age 64 with three years of service, at age 63 with four years of service, or at age 62 with at least five years of service. Benefits payable under the Pension System are less than those payable under the Retirement System inasmuch as Pension System benefits take into account a member's Social Security benefits and the cost-of-living adjustment is limited to an annual increase of 3%. The benefit payable to a member of the Contributory Pension System who retires after 30 years of service or reaching age 62 will be computed as 1.2% times average final compensation times years of credit prior to June 30 1998, and 1.8% of average final compensation times years of credit after June 30, 1998. Under the Retirement System, the computation is based on 1.8% of average final salary for each year of creditable service.

The Retirement System requires contributions from both employer and employee. Under Selection A of the Retirement System, an employee contributes 7% of his total gross salary. The benefits payable under this system which is not funded by employee contributions are funded by the County. The County’s pension contribution rate (expressed as a percentage of payroll) averages approximately 10-13%.

All benefits of the Retirement and Pension Systems are required by law to be funded on a full actuarial reserve basis in accordance with the accrued benefit actuarial cost method.

In 2002, County established a new pension plan for Cecil County Public Safety Employees entitled the “Cecil County Pension Plan for Public Safety Employees” (“CCPSPP” or the “Plan”), effective July 1, 2002. Employees eligible to participate in the CCPSPP are employees paid by the County as full-time public safety employees in accordance with the County’s Public Safety Pay Plan, which includes employees working for the Cecil County Sheriff (Law Enforcement and Detention), and employees of Department of Emergency Services. Employees were given the opportunity to elect to transfer their contributions from the State Retirement System to the Plan. All employees hired after June 30, 2002, in the respective departments, are automatically be enrolled in the Plan. Highlights of the Plan include retirement with 25 years of eligibility service at age 55, with early retirement regardless of age and reduced payout with 20 years of service. Employees contribute 8% of gross pay towards the cost of the Plan, and the County contributes approximately 21% of gross pay to the cost of the Plan. Participants are not required to make further contributions to the Plan on or after the date on which such participant is credited with twenty-five years of service.

The following table sets forth the County’s contributions for the Retirement System, the Pension System and the CCPSPP for the five most recent fiscal years ended June 30 for which audited results are available:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Retirement System</u>	<u>Pension System</u>	<u>Public Safety Pension</u>
2024	\$34,392	\$2,814,465	\$1,738,642
2023	31,695	2,485,624	1,983,869
2022	30,446	2,166,186	1,900,798
2021	29,774	2,048,038	1,787,079
2020	27,192	1,795,297	1,615,251

Source: Cecil County audited financial statements for fiscal years 2020-2024.

The amount by which the actuarially computed GASB Total Pension Liability exceeded the Plan Fiduciary Net Position of the Public Safety Pension Fund was \$6,569,343 as of July 1, 2024. The funded ratio was 92.36% as of July 1, 2024, compared to 86.44% as of July 1, 2023.

As a supplement to the Retirement System and the Pension System, the County offers a Deferred Compensation Plan to full-time, permanent County employees who have completed their probationary period. The plan is contributory on the part of the employee. As of June 30, 2024 there were 395 active participants in the Deferred Compensation Plan. Effective with fiscal year 2019, the County elected to make matching contributions for all eligible participants for a maximum amount of \$500 per participant.

The County has established a Length of Service Award Program (“LOSAP”) for the County’s Department of Fire and Rescue Service volunteers who meet certain age and service criteria. This program is a deferred compensation plan. The County has historically funded the LOSAP plan on a pay-go-basis. Effective August 16, 2019, the Cecil County, Maryland Volunteer Length of Service Award Program Trust Fund was established as a grantor trust. The trustees of the trust fund are authorized to invest and manage the assets of the trust fund. The County’s total net pension liability as of July 1, 2024 was \$10,171,447.

All employees of the County, including general, elected and appointed, participate in the Federal Insurance Compensation Act (“FICA”).

Other Post – Employment Benefits

The County and the Board of Education of Cecil County provide their employees with Other Post-Employment Benefits (“OPEB”). The County and the Board of Education of Cecil County have historically funded these programs on a pay-go basis, but were required to account for OPEB on an actuarial basis beginning in fiscal year 2009. The Maryland General Assembly passed legislation to authorize the County and other local governments to invest OPEB trust funds in the same manner as pension trust funds. The County created its OPEB trust in August 2008 and prefunded the trust fund with an initial deposit of \$1,003,488.

As of July 1, 2024, the Net OPEB Asset was \$5,027,205 which resulted in a funded ratio of 224.19%, compared to 212.86% as of July 1, 2023.

The Board of Education of Cecil County’s actuary has determined, as of July 1, 2022, that the Board of Education’s OPEB unfunded actuarial accrued liability related to active and retired Board of Education employees is \$23,030,311 which resulted in a funded ratio of 73.81%. The Board of Education is participating in a group trust with several other public school systems to account for its OPEB liabilities.

Labor Relations

As of July 1, 2024, the County employed 671 full-time permanent employees (classified and non-classified). The County has collective bargaining agreements with the International Association of Fire Fighters (“IAFF”) for Paramedics, EMTs, and Medics; Fraternal Order of Police (“FOP”); and the Cecil County Corrections Association (Local 84 of the International Union of Police Associations). These agreements are currently ratified and in-force; each on a four-year term. The FOP and Corrections agreements expire on June 30, 2028, while the IAFF agreement expires June 30, 2026. While some members of the County workforce are members of the Maryland Classified Employees Association, their membership is not mandatory, and such membership would not bind the County to any collective bargaining agreement. In addition, the County has not experienced a work stoppage due to labor problems and considers its relationships with employees to be satisfactory.

Leases and Other Contracts

The County has a Financed Purchases Agreement with Banc of America Capital Corp. The agreement allows the County to purchase equipment at an adjustable market rate of interest. The County has a Lease-Purchase Agreement with Caterpillar Financial Services Corporation for a landfill compactor. As of June 30, 2024, future minimum payments under financed purchases were as follows:

Years Ending <u>June 30</u>	Primary Government		Business Type	
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2025	\$ 797,597	\$ 10,615	\$ 221,791	\$ 6,745
2026	407,226	2,346	-	-
Total Financed Purchases	<u>\$ 1,204,823</u>	<u>\$ 12,961</u>	<u>\$ 221,791</u>	<u>\$ 6,745</u>

Source: Cecil County audited fiscal year 2024 financial statements.

Subscription-based information technology arrangements (“SBITAs”) are contracts that convey control of the right to use another party’s information technology (“IT”) software for a specified period of time. They are presented as lease liabilities and right-to-use assets – subscriptions in the financial statements. The following schedule is for future subscription payments for lease liabilities as of June 30, 2024:

Years Ending <u>June 30</u>	Primary Government		Component Units	
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2025	\$ 344,710	\$ 20,303	\$ 535,905	\$ 63,119
2026	337,440	11,417	439,243	36,107
2027	82,890	2,910	206,952	18,226
2028	-	-	174,160	6,202
	<u>\$ 765,040</u>	<u>\$ 34,630</u>	<u>\$ 1,356,260</u>	<u>\$ 123,654</u>

Source: Cecil County audited fiscal year 2024 financial statements.

Cecil County incurred leases which are obligations for right-to-use vehicles, equipment, and buildings. They are presented as lease liabilities and right-to-use assets – leases in the financial statements. The leases expire at various dates through 2036. The following schedule is for future rental payments for lease liabilities as of June 30, 2024:

Years Ending <u>June 30</u>	Primary Government		Component Units	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2025	\$ 1,635,111	\$ 160,840	\$ 619,885	\$ 70,380
2026	1,676,412	119,540	295,089	48,256
2027	1,659,315	76,991	202,619	29,027
2028	1,532,362	34,417	107,703	11,011
2029	551,069	4,951	12,128	1,011
2030-2034	89,456	544	-	-
2035-2036	26,990	32	-	-
	<u>\$ 7,170,715</u>	<u>\$ 397,315</u>	<u>\$ 1,237,424</u>	<u>\$ 159,685</u>

Source: Cecil County audited fiscal year 2024 financial statements.

BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING

The formulation of the County’s budget is the responsibility of the County Executive, County Administrator, the Director of Finance and the Deputy Director of Finance/Budget Manager.

The County Budget is comprised of the Current Revenue and Expense Budgets and the Capital Budget. The approved budget consists of the following funds: General, Housing, Community Services, Emergency Shelter, Transit Services, Agricultural Land Preservation, Revolving Loan, Other Special Revenue, Debt Service, General Capital Projects, Cecil College Construction, Board of Education Construction, Library Construction, Landfill Services, Wastewater Services, Property Management, Health Insurance, Information Technology, and Motor Vehicle.

Current Operating Budget

The Current Operating Budget is prepared and submitted for approval to the County Council by the County Executive on or before April 1st of each year. The Budget shall present a complete financial plan for the government reflecting anticipated revenues from all sources, expenditures, and any surplus or deficit in the general or special funds.

Capital Budget

The Capital Budget of the County is its plan to receive and expend funds for capital projects during the ensuing fiscal year. The proposed Capital Budget is arranged so as to set forth clearly the plan of proposed capital projects to be undertaken in the ensuing fiscal year, and also the proposed means of financing them. The Capital Budget must include a statement of the receipts anticipated during the ensuing fiscal year from all borrowing and from other sources for capital projects. The County annually updates its five-year capital improvement plan.

Basis of Accounting

The County’s Governmental and Fiduciary Fund types utilize the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when they become susceptible to accrual, that is, when they are both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the fiscal period. Revenues considered susceptible to accrual include property taxes, income taxes, interest and rent, grants and certain miscellaneous revenues.

Expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which fund liabilities are incurred, if measurable, with the exception of expenditures for debt service and prepaid expenses.

The Proprietary and Internal Service Funds utilize the accrual basis of accounting in which revenues are recognized when they are earned and expenses are recognized when they are incurred.

Certificate of Achievement

The County's Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports ("ACFR") for fiscal years 1986 through 2023 were awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada ("GFOA"). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition for excellence in state and local government financial reporting.

In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government unit must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized ACFR, the contents of which conform to program standards. The ACFR must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year only. The County believes its ACFR continues to conform to the Certificate of Achievement program requirements and has received the Certificate of Achievement for the fiscal year 2024 ACFR.

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COUNTY SERVICES

Public Education

The Board of Education of Cecil County is made up of one voting member elected from each of the five council districts for a four-year term. The Board of Education is responsible for the overall operation and all policy decisions related to the public school system. A projected 14,853 students in grades Pre-School-12 attended the County's 29 public elementary and secondary schools in 2024-2025. In June 2025, the school system graduated 1,076 students.

With a total budget of over \$260 million in 2024-2025, per pupil expenditures was approximately \$17,531. The County's fiscal year 2025 appropriation to the Board is \$ 97,550,830. The budgeted allocation for fiscal year 2026 increased by \$7,835,286 or 8%, totaling \$ 105,386,116. Programs available in the County public schools include complete academic preparation, vocational training, business education, instruction for gifted/talented students, special education, basic skills instruction and a wide range of extracurricular and athletic activities.

Emergency Services

The Sheriff's Office serves as the primary police force in the County. With 85 full-time sworn positions, the Sheriff's Department has the resources to provide the County with 24-hour service. Cecilton, Charlestown and Port Deposit receive police protection through contracted services with the Sheriff's Office. The entire Sheriff's Office budget is \$28,550,957 for fiscal year 2026.

The Detention Center, opened in 1983, underwent a \$36 million dollar renovation that was completed in November 2012 to increase the bed capacity from 222 to 357 while also maximizing the operations and flow within the facility. The Detention Center has since transitioned into a more robust Pre-Trial program which has reduced the housed inmate population significantly. Presently, the Detention Center has 141 occupied beds; prior to the Pre-trial Services the average population was 191. Also, there are 165 participants in the pre-trial program.

Cecil County Department of Emergency Services ("DES") operates two transport units and responds to medical emergencies in coordination with the County's nine Volunteer Fire Companies. DES is staffed by full-time and on-call Emergency Medical Technicians ("EMTs") and Paramedics who provide advanced life support across the County.

EMTs and Paramedics are stationed at three DES facilities and deliver 24/7 emergency medical care to residents. Services are expanding with the construction of a fourth station to improve coverage and reduce response times in underserved areas. In addition to EMS, DES operates an on-call Hazardous Materials Team.

The nine Volunteer Fire Companies operate independently of DES. These companies maintain approximately 115 pieces of apparatus and have a combined membership of around 1,100 personnel. DES and the volunteer companies work collaboratively during fire, rescue, and medical incidents to serve the public.

DES provides logistical support for EMS supplies across both volunteer and career EMS units to ensure consistency and readiness in field operations. DES also manages several community-based health initiatives, including a Prevention and Overdose Response Program and a Mobile Integrated Health Program aimed at reducing repeat 911 calls and improving long-term patient outcomes.

The department's Electronic Services Division oversees the installation and maintenance of all public safety communications systems. This includes management of the county's radio infrastructure, the KNOX secure entry program, and related electronic support systems vital to first responder access and coordination.

DES delivers administrative and training support for both career and volunteer personnel. The EMS office also manages a medical quality assurance program, directed by a County-employed medical director.

All emergency services are coordinated and dispatched through the DES Communications Division, which handles 911 communications for law enforcement and volunteer fire departments countywide. The County's fully enhanced next-generation 911 system ensures fast and reliable emergency call processing.

DES is also responsible for preparing and coordinating emergency and disaster response plans. During major incidents, the Emergency Operations Center ("EOC") serves as the central hub for coordination and situational awareness. The EOC maintains real-time operational readiness and keeps the County Executive informed during critical events.

The County's Emergency Information System houses Tier 2 data on hazardous materials sites and maintains essential resource inventories. Public alerts and emergency updates are communicated through official mass notification systems and DES-managed social media platforms to keep residents informed during emergencies.

Community College

Cecil College, governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Governor, is a comprehensive two-year college committed to offering programs of study with a focus on the arts and sciences, careers and applied arts, logistics and continuing education. The College's total operating revenue for fiscal year 2024 of \$41,052,484 was generated from the following sources: student tuition and fees 19%; State 23%; County 30%; and Other 28% (Other includes grants, contracts, and auxiliary enterprises). The total unrestricted operating budget for fiscal year 2026 is \$33,130,139 and for fiscal year 2025 was \$30,407,600.

Library

The Cecil County Public Library ("CCPL") consists of six branches located in Cecilton, Chesapeake City, Elkton, North East, Perryville, and Rising Sun and two bookmobiles. The administrative headquarters is co-located with the North East branch. The total materials collection is approximately 229,183 physical items, including adult, young adult, and children's books, audio-visual items, and learning kits. In addition, CCPL provides access to a wide range of electronic formats, databases, and online platforms, as well as educational programs, technology and other lifelong learning opportunities. With an operating budget for fiscal year 2026 of approximately \$7.8 million, CCPL employs 69 full-time and 42 part-time staff. CCPL is operated under the governance of a seven-member Board of Library Trustees appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council.

Health

The County provides various health services to its citizens through the Health Department. The Department, individually or in conjunction with the Maryland Department of Health, is responsible for the enforcement of all State and local public health laws. The Health Department also provides services in the areas of infectious disease, maternal and child health, developmental disabilities, chronic disease prevention and education, wellness promotion, prevention, health insurance enrollment, vital records, geriatrics, mental health, and substance use disorder. Pursuant to matching grants, the State reimburses a portion of the operating expenditures of the Department. The County's contribution to the fiscal year 2024 operating budget was \$4,326,550 and \$4,420,850 in fiscal year 2025. The County's approved fiscal year 2026 contribution is \$4,544,616.

Cyber

The constantly evolving threat of cyber-attacks on local governments has motivated Cecil County Government to review and continually improve the security of its computer network and the information contained within those systems. The County hired its first cyber security analyst in April of 2019, modifying the position in fiscal year 2022 to the title of Information Security Administrator. The County then converted the position in November 2023 to "Chief Information Security Officer ("CISO")", then again in January 2024 added the title of "Department of Information Technology, Deputy Director" to the position. New position title as of January 2024 to "Department of Information Technology ("IT"), Deputy Director, CISO". This position holder is tasked with ensuring cyber security concerns are at the forefront of every aspect of the Department of Information Technology's projects, actions, and staff.

In 2021, Cecil County Government entered a five-year contract with Checkpoint Security Solutions, a world leader in Cyber Security Solutions for replacement and installation of new firewalls, Endpoint Security and 24/7 Security Monitoring. The companies' products will enhance the cybersecurity posture of the County from the endpoint computer to the networks that they connect to. The County networks were improved by replacing and installing firewalls at every major and outlying county site. Most of the outlying sites were not protected to this extent prior to this contract. Beginning July 2025 (fiscal year 2026), Cecil County IT has begun work with an additional cybersecurity vendor and purchased additional perimeter security appliances for our six main networks that will automatically ingest intelligence source data from major agencies to block identified / known malicious IP address, URL sites, Indicators of Compromise, and Indicators of Exposure, which greatly reduces the risk to our networks. Cecil County IT utilizes an endpoint security patching, software deployment, and endpoint hardware and software asset inventory application, active directory ("AD") and Identity Analytics for AD forest database and Group Policy immutable backup and restore functionality, Identity Access Management and Vulnerability Management software suites to identify, track and remediate network vulnerabilities, dark web monitoring software, and Privilege Management to manage required elevated privileged access for certain functions and software installations (lessening the need for AD elevated accounts).

Cecil County Government continues its email security through the use of the email security filters provided by three different vendors. The three levels of defenses are designed to work together to ensure that spam and phishing emails are stopped prior to spreading across the County Government Users' email accounts thereby reducing the entry of malicious attacks from outside entities.

County employees are currently required to complete online security awareness training in many rotating topics developed in house by the Information Security Administrator, not only saving the County money, but also educating the County's first line of defense, the county users. The County is insured for attacks against the County's computer network through the Maryland Local Government Insurance Trust. A Cybersecurity Strategy document has been developed to help guide the County in following the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Center for Internet Security and the Criminal Justice Information Services guidelines.

Land Use & Development Services

The Department of Land Use & Development Services ("LUDS") was created on May 1, 2017, with the combination of the former Departments of Planning & Zoning; Permits & Inspections; and the plan review functions of the former Development Services Division with the Department of Public Works. The Division of Water and Sewer Planning was created on August 15, 2023, for the administration and enforcement of certain state environmental laws regarding well, septic and subdivision requirements that were administered by the Cecil County Health Department.

The Department's mission is to implement the County's land use goals through planning, zoning, permitting, design oversight, geographic analysis, technical studies & reports, licensing, inspections, and enforcement. The department strives to provide better services to taxpayers, the general public, and County Government by expediently carrying out specific objectives in a professional and courteous manner at all times and in all circumstances.

The Department is comprised of four divisions with 36 staff members and provides support to seven active Boards and Commissions. The Director of the department serves as the principal advisor to the County Executive in matters relating to land use and development policy as designated through the county's Comprehensive Plan. Additionally, the Director oversees the implementation through the work completed by each of the divisions and execution of the Boards and Commissions.

LUDS Divisions

Division of Permits and Inspections

The Division of Permits & Inspections ("P&I") protects the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Cecil County through the implementation and enforcement of permitting, inspection and code compliance of the building trades. The division assists all applicants and the citizens of the County in acquiring any and all permits and licenses required for the codes which the division enforces. Additionally, P&I collects manufactured home park and coin operated machine taxes. The primary objective is to provide the highest possible customer service in an effective and efficient manner while assuring compliance with the codes that have been adopted by Cecil County related to construction, housing, and licensing.

Division of Water and Sewer Planning

The Division of Water & Sewer Planning is to effectuate the goals and objectives of the Cecil County Comprehensive Plan and achieve the recommendations of the Plan's water resources and land use elements through the development and implementation of water supply and sewerage disposal plans, permits, and policies. The division accomplishes this mission through review, permitting and inspection of sewage disposal for homes and other establishments where a public sewage system is not available; verification of water supply and sewage systems during the subdivision of land; review, permitting and inspection of well construction where public water is not available; and implementation of Bay Restoration Fund grants for improvement to septic systems or connection to public sewer, as applicable.

Division of Development Plans Review

The Division of Development Plans Review is charged with the design oversight for all County owned public streets and associated storm drainage systems. The Road Code and Standard Specifications provide design and construction guidance; establish design and construction criteria for the planning, designing, construction, improvement, reconstruction, and repair of sewer mains and their appurtenances; review and approval of Stormwater Management Code to maintain and enhance public health, safety, and general welfare by establishing minimum plan requirements and procedures to control adverse impacts of stormwater runoff; approval and issuance of the grading and driveway permits. The division also monitors the wastewater capacity while granting sanitary sewer allocations, billing for sewerage major facility fees, and issuance of the wastewater permits.

Division of Planning & Zoning

The Division of Planning & Zoning is responsible for the administration and enforcement of the County's Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Regulations, Forest Conservation Regulations, Floodplain Ordinance, Critical Area regulations, agricultural and historic preservation, transportation planning and development of the Master Water & Sewer Plan. The division provides objective responses to inquiries; fair, timely, and objective recommendations to boards and commissions; and the promotion of high standards of professionalism among staff.

Boards and Commissions supported by LUDS

Planning Commission

The Cecil County Planning Commission consists of six regular members and an alternate member with staggered three-year terms appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council. The Planning Commission has the following powers and duties:

- Review, evaluate and approve / disapprove plans for subdivisions in accordance with the Cecil County Zoning Ordinance, and Subdivision Regulations.
- Review and make recommendations to the County Council regarding:
 - Proposed changes or amendments to the County Comprehensive Plan.
 - Proposed amendments to the County Zoning Ordinance, Subdivision Regulations, and Critical Area Program.
 - Proposed acquisition and development of lands for open space or recreation purposes.
 - Proposed designation of historic sites or districts.
 - Proposed changes or amendments to the County Road Code.
 - Proposed changes or amendments to the County Master Sewer and Water Plan.
 - Proposed changes in land use or development arising from State or Federal programs or policies.
 - Proposed amendments to the Cecil County Forest Conservation Regulations.
 - Annual review of the Capital Improvement Program.
- Recommendations to the Board of Appeals regarding applications for special exception.

Board of Appeals

The Board of Appeals consists of five regular members and one alternate member appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council to three-year terms. The Board of Appeals has the following powers and duties:

- To hear and decide appeals where it is alleged that there is an error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination made by the Zoning Administrator or any other administrative official in the enforcement of the Zoning Ordinance.
- To hear and decide special exceptions.
- To authorize upon appeal a variance from the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance.

Technical Advisory Committee

Comprised of professional staff from County departments, agencies, and other entities involved in the development process. Purpose is to aid the developer with projects to be presented to the Planning Commission. No decisions are made by the Technical Advisory Committee.

Electrical Board

Seven-member board comprised of electricians, fire safety officials, and County Executive appointments. This Board hears appeals regarding electrical permitting and licensing issues; completes annual review of Electrical Inspection Agency applications and provides recommendations to the County Executive; and provides recommendations “functions considered helpful in the control and conduct of electrical business and installations within Cecil County.”

Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board

This is a five-member board of which three members must be full-time farmers. This Board completes the annual review of agricultural land preservation applications to go to Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (“MALPF”); reviews applications for County Agricultural Preservation Districts and Purchase of Development Rights program; reviews applications for “value-added agricultural” uses occurring on existing preserved lands; and makes recommendations to County Executive regarding agricultural preservation policy.

Plumbing Board

Three-member board comprised of representatives of the Master Plumbers Association of the County, the County Health Officer, an architect, engineer, or builder and/or any combination thereof. This Board hears appeals regarding plumbing permitting and licensing issues. Plumbing Board shall act as an advisor to the County with respect to the administration and enforcement of the provisions of the plumbing chapter of the code.

Historic District Commission

Seven-member board made up of persons with demonstrated interest and professional facets in historic preservation. This board makes recommendations to the County Council for properties to receive County designation for historic district and recommendations for tax credits for repairs done for the historic designated properties. Additionally, this Board issues Certificates of Appropriateness for any building permits on structures that have historic designation.

Parks and Recreation

The Cecil County Board of Parks and Recreation is made up of six volunteer members from the community appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council. Additionally, one board member is appointed by the Board of Education, and one County Council member serves as an ex-officio member. The board meets monthly to discuss department operations, projects, grants, and budgets.

The Cecil County Department of Parks and Recreation encompasses 17 full-time employees and up to 60 part-time staff. The department’s primary duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to: land acquisition, park development, strategic planning, park and facility maintenance, programming and after school enrichment, sports tourism, grant management and marketing. Department personnel work in partnership with local businesses, youth groups and the Cecil County Board of Education to provide life enhancing opportunities for Cecil County residents.

The department manages over 700 acres of park land and open space, two indoor facilities and three boat launches. A few of these assets include: Calvert Regional Park, Brantwood, Cecil Community Center, Cecil Sports Complex, Cecil Arena, Conowingo Park, Elk River Park and Stemmers Run Boat Launch. Starting in fiscal year 2018, Parks and Recreation initiated an effort to coordinate with Cecil County Public Schools to build artificial turf athletic fields at all five high schools within the County. All five fields have been completed and were funded entirely through grant dollars (no county/bond money was used). Through a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) agreement with the schools, the County can regionalize their program efforts by using the fields when they are not in use by the schools. This gives citizens better access to the programs provided by Parks and Recreation. Department personnel work in partnership with local businesses, youth groups and the Cecil County Board of Education to provide life enhancing opportunities for Cecil County residents.

Cecil County Sanitary District

The County is empowered to operate and construct water, sewerage and drainage facilities within the Cecil County Sanitary District and to issue its general obligation bonds to finance such construction under the authority of State law, codified as Chapter 97 of the County Code. Upon its creation, the Cecil County Sanitary District assumed all duties, contracts, debts, assets, and real and personal property of the Cecil County Metropolitan Commission. The Cecil County Sanitary District comprises the entire County except the incorporated municipalities within the County.

Five of the eight incorporated municipalities in the County (Elkton, Rising Sun, Perryville, Chesapeake City and Cecilton) own and operate (either in-house or through contract operators) their own water and sewer systems. In the Town of North East, the Town owns and operates the water system while the County owns and operates the sewer system. In Port Deposit, the water system is owned and operated by Artesian Water Maryland, Inc., a private regulated utility, while the County owns and operates the sewer system. In the Town of Charlestown, the Town owns and operates the water system, and the Town owns the sewer collection system, but the County operates that sewer collection system on behalf of the Town under the terms of an agreement between the Town and County. In the Town of Chesapeake City, the Town owns and operates the water system, and the Town owns the sewer collection system and wastewater treatment plant, but the County operates the sewer collection system and wastewater treatment plant on behalf of the Town under terms of an agreement between the Town and County.

The Cecil County Department of Public Works was created by an act of the General Assembly in 1972. Under this act, the Director of Public Works is charged with the responsibility of supervising all matters concerned or connected with any and every public improvement in the County. The Cecil County Director of Public Works also serves as the chief administrative officer of the Cecil County Sanitary District under the title of Director of Sanitary Facilities.

The Cecil County Sanitary District currently owns and operates five separate sewer systems. The largest system serves the North East River area, which includes the municipalities of North East and Charlestown. The North East sewer system consists of a 2.0 Million Gallons per Day (“MGD”) Enhanced Nutrient Removal (“ENR”) Membrane Bio-Reactor (“MBR”) wastewater treatment facility, and the associated sewer collection system includes 20 pumping stations and serves a population of approximately 7,500 residents.

The second largest sewer system is the Meadowview sewer system. This system consists of a 0.700 MGD Biological Nutrient Removal (“BNR”) wastewater treatment plant. The associated sewer collection system serves a population of approximately 5,000 residents and five industrial plants.

The Cherry Hill sewer system is comprised of a 0.250 MGD wastewater treatment facility and associated sewer collection system with two pumping stations. The system presently serves approximately 300 homes, two schools, and one industrial plant.

The fourth sewer system owned and operated by the County is the Harbor View sewer system. It currently serves approximately 110 homes and consists of a 0.065 MGD wastewater treatment plant and associated sewer collection system. The sewer system has the capacity to ultimately serve the entire subdivision of 230 lots. The plant was reconstructed and upgraded to ENR level of treatment in 2021. The upgraded plant uses state of the art technology to reduce nutrient release into the Chesapeake Bay and helps the County meet its TMDL (“Total Maximum Daily Load”) for the Elk River watershed.

The fifth sewer system serves the Town of Port Deposit and the surrounding area. It consists of a 0.150 MGD ENR-level wastewater treatment plant, two sewer pumping stations, and the associated sewer collection system. The ENR-level plant was placed into service in 2021 and replaced a plant which was 40 plus-years old, and which had reached the end of its useful life. Unlike the previous plant, the new plant is located outside of the 100-year flood plain. It can be expanded to 0.550 MGD to accommodate increased flows as needed.

The location and design of the County’s sewer systems are regulated and guided by its Master Water and Sewer Plan which is prepared by the County’s Department of Land Use and Development Services in cooperation with the Department of Public Works and various State agencies.

The County periodically revises its utility rate structure for sewer service with the most recent revision being effective August 1, 2021. The County’s sewer user rates and Major Facilities Fees are uniform across all County sewer systems and are shown in the table below.

Sewer User Rates	
Under 100,000 gallons	\$13.65/1,000 Gal
Over 100,000 gallons	\$14.86/1,000 Gal
Major Facilities Fees:	
New/Existing Home/Commercial/Industrial	\$12,000/Equivalent Living Unit

Chapter 97 of the County Code also provides that at no time shall the total amount of bonds outstanding for sewerage purposes exceed 15% of the total value of property assessed for County taxation purposes. On June 30, 2024, the total assessed valuation of property within the County was \$12,229,001,558, and as of June 30, 2025 the County had \$61,848,969 of wastewater bonds outstanding.

For the last several years, the County has been expanding its sanitary sewer collection system in the Elkton West Sanitary Sewer Service Area to help facilitate economic development within that portion of the County's designated growth area as defined by the County's Comprehensive Plan. The County is currently implementing Phase 3C of the Elkton West plan which will connect Triumph Industrial Park to the County sewer system. Triumph Industrial Park is currently being served by an outdated, privately-owned wastewater treatment plant that needs significant upgrades to be compliant with Maryland Department of the Environment requirements. The County and Triumph Industrial Park have entered into an agreement to connect the park to County sewer.

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COUNTY REVENUES

General

The County’s principal source of revenue is taxes. For fiscal year 2024, 50.2% of the County’s operating revenues were derived from ad valorem property taxes and 37.1% from income taxes. The next largest sources of revenue are charges for services and investment earnings.

The following table shows the various sources of revenue for the five most recent fiscal years ended June 30 for which audited results are available:

General Fund Summary of Revenues

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Taxes — local property	\$116,579,527	\$133,571,564	\$129,683,992	\$126,449,424	\$121,515,271
local income	86,288,431	86,917,881	82,987,898	81,290,908	67,934,905
Licenses and permits	1,901,395	1,998,736	2,705,006	2,250,615	1,862,139
Intergovernmental revenue	4,402,098	3,459,378	3,316,313	3,148,596	3,021,247
Charges for services.....	12,748,464	13,358,230	23,254,214	15,019,391	13,157,236
Investment Earnings	9,990,010	6,055,226	287,357	128,715	1,138,480
Other	396,923	935,563	328,069	81,294	60,661
Total revenues.....	<u>\$232,306,848</u>	<u>\$246,296,578</u>	<u>\$242,562,849</u>	<u>\$228,368,943</u>	<u>\$208,689,939</u>

Source: Cecil County audited financial statements for fiscal years 2020-2024.

Property Taxes and Assessments

The assessment of all real and tangible personal property for purposes of property taxation by the County is the sole responsibility of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation, an independent State agency.

For State and County real property tax purposes, real property is valued at market value (full cash value). All property is physically inspected once every three years and any increase in value arising from such inspection is phased in over the ensuing three taxable years in equal annual installments, although a decline in valuation becomes fully effective in the first year.

Non-computer tangible personal property is assessed at cost less depreciation for each year held to a minimum of 25% of cost with no inflation allowance and is determined from annual reports filed with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation. Computer equipment is depreciated under the accelerated depreciation method.

Property Tax Credit Programs

Section 9-105 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland provides for a homestead property tax credit against real property taxes imposed by local subdivisions on certain owner-occupied residential real property. In Cecil County, the tax credit is computed by multiplying the prior year’s taxable assessment by 104%, subtracting that amount from the current year’s assessment, and multiplying the difference, if it is positive, by the applicable tax rate. The purpose of this tax credit is to provide tax relief to those homeowners whose property tax assessments increase by more than 4%.

The Senior Tax Credit provides a 20% tax credit on County property taxes for individuals who are over 65 years of age, have adjusted gross income of less than \$150,000 (140% of the Homeowners’ Property Tax Credit (“HOTC”) income limit), have a dwelling with an assessed value of \$500,000 or less, and who own and have lived in the dwelling for at least 10 years.

The Veterans Tax Credit provides a 20% tax credit on County property taxes for individuals who are over 65 years of age, have adjusted gross income of less than \$150,000 (140% of the HOTC income limit), have a dwelling with an assessed value of 500,000 or less, who live in the dwelling and are either active, retired, honorably, discharged, disabled or a surviving spouse.

The Sworn Officer Tax Credit is being offered to sworn officers of Cecil County who have a property that is their principal residency with an assessed value of \$500,000 or less, whose annual household income is less than \$150,000.

Assessed Values and Tax Rates

The following table sets forth the assessed value of all taxable property in the County for each of its five most recent fiscal years and the County tax rates applicable in each of those years. The assessed value of tax-exempt properties owned by Federal, State and County governments, churches, schools, fraternal organizations, cemeteries, disabled veterans and the blind is not included in the table. Under applicable law, there are no limits on the rates of property taxes that may be levied.

	2025*	2024**	2023	2022	2021
Assessed Value					
Real Property	\$ 13,463,155,000	\$ 12,816,833,000	\$ 11,777,682,980	\$ 11,207,399,000	\$ 11,107,315,000
Less Tax Exempt Property	\$ (1,303,298,143)	\$ (1,204,931,442)	\$ (1,159,152,687)	\$ (1,113,849,381)	\$ (1,105,298,481)
Net Real Property	\$ 12,159,856,857	\$ 11,611,901,558	\$ 10,618,530,293	\$ 10,093,549,619	\$ 10,002,016,519
Real and Personal Property - Subject to					
Half Year Real Levy	18,472,000	15,000,000	50,813,000	38,507,000	47,304,000
Railroad Property	10,578,000	8,417,000	8,375,000	8,211,000	8,010,000
Public Utilities	298,900,000	288,083,000	285,341,000	234,661,000	267,119,000
Other Business Property	320,000,000	305,600,000	284,592,000	360,000,000	233,750,000
Total Net Assessable Base	\$ 12,807,806,857	\$ 12,229,001,558	\$ 11,247,651,293	\$ 10,734,928,619	\$ 10,558,199,519
County Real Property Tax Rate	\$0.9824	\$0.9824	\$1.0143	\$1.0279	\$1.0414

*Estimated.

**The 2024 Total Net Assessable Base in the table above does differs from the figure that was published in the Fiscal Year 2024 ACFR. The number reported above is correct and the Total Net Assessable Base for 2024 will be updated in the Fiscal Year 2025 ACFR.

Source: State Department of Assessment and Taxation, Cecil County Department of Finance.

For fiscal year 2026, the County adopted a property tax rate of \$0.9824 per hundred dollars and a personal property (business) tax rate of \$2.4560 per hundred dollars.

Tax Levies and Collections

County taxes are due and payable as of July 1 of each fiscal year and the County records property tax revenues as the taxes are billed. Taxes remaining unpaid at October 1 are delinquent and interest (at the rate of 1% per month) is charged for each month or fraction thereof that taxes remain unpaid. On March 1, a 3% penalty is added to the outstanding balance of all unpaid property taxes for that levy year. Delinquent taxes are satisfied, after prior notice of delinquency, at a tax sale conducted by the Director of Finance in June of the year of delinquency.

Under current law, residents of owner-occupied residential real estate pay real property taxes semiannually on September 30 and December 31, without interest. The first installment is due July 1 and is in arrears on October 1. The second installment is due December 1 and is in arrears on January 1.

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to the County's tax levies and tax collections for each of five most recent fiscal years ended June 30 for which audited results are available and estimates for fiscal year 2025:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Total Tax Levy for Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Amount Collected for Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Pct. of Levy</u>	<u>Collection in Subsequent Year</u>	<u>Total Collections to Date</u>	<u>Pct. of Levy</u>
2025*.....	\$129,556,982	\$126,505,275	97.6%	\$550,168	\$127,055,443	98.1%
2024**.....	111,924,009	109,802,242	98.1	318,498	110,120,740	98.4
2023.....	128,836,668	128,206,546	99.5	-	128,206,546	99.5
2022.....	124,459,576	123,727,635	99.4	441,685	124,169,421	99.8
2021.....	122,195,143	121,653,870	99.6	351,879	122,005,749	99.8
2020.....	116,935,573	116,367,725	99.5	499,429	116,867,154	99.9

*Estimated. The Total Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2025 includes a tax credit to residents of owner-occupied residential real estate totaling approximately \$10 million.

** The Total Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2024 declined from Fiscal Year 2023 due to a tax credit to residents of owner-occupied residential real estate totaling approximately \$20 million.

Source: Cecil County Department of Finance.

County's Largest Taxpayers

The following table sets forth a list of the County's 10 largest taxpayers of ad valorem property taxes for fiscal year 2024.

Cecil County's 10 Largest Taxpayers (Real and Personal Property Assessment) June 30, 2024

<u>Taxpayer</u>	<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>% of Total Assessed</u>
DELMARVA POWER & LIGHT CO	UTILITY	\$ 165,530,270	1.35%
W L GORE & ASSOCIATES INC	MANUFACTURING	113,110,332	0.92%
REALTY INCOME TRUST 2	DISTRIBUTION	111,753,667	0.91%
CLPF PRINCIPIO LLC	PROP.MANAGEMENT	95,082,800	0.78%
BLC LOT B LLC	REAL ESTATE COMPANY	76,760,300	0.63%
MRE PROPCO LP	PROPERTY MANAGEMENT	76,403,500	0.62%
IKEA PROPERTY INC	RETAIL	75,956,700	0.62%
COLE ID NORTH EAST MD LLC	DISTRIBUTION	73,937,500	0.60%
LIDL US OPERATIONS LLC	WHA	72,341,800	0.59%
CPUSNE GATEWAY LP	TECHNOLOGY	70,180,200	0.57%
Totals		<u>\$ 931,057,069</u>	<u>7.61%</u>

Source: Cecil County Department of Finance.

Income Tax

The State imposes an income tax based on the adjusted income of individuals for Federal income tax purposes, subject to certain adjustments. For tax year 2025, Maryland's personal tax rates begin at 2% on the first \$1,000 of taxable income and increase up to a maximum of 6.5% on incomes exceeding \$1,000,000 (or \$1,200,000 for taxpayers filing jointly, heads of household, or qualifying widow(ers)). Nonresidents are subject to a special tax rate of 2.25%, in addition to the state income tax rate.

The rate of local income taxation is set by the County, but collections are administered by the State. The County must levy a local income tax at a rate equal to at least 1.00%, but not in excess of 3.30%. For calendar year 2024, the County set the local income tax rate at 2.75% and for calendar years 2025 and 2026 the income tax rate declined slightly to 2.74%. A distribution to the County of local income tax collections is made by the State in ten periodic payments. State law does not permit the County to levy a local income tax on corporations.

State and Federal Assistance

During fiscal year 2024, the County received State and Federal grant assistance for General Fund operating purposes in the amount of \$4,402,098 which includes \$2,940,543 of state shared revenue, as well as \$742,292 for State Aid for Police Protection. The County also received \$3,238,731 of local impact grant revenue from the State of Maryland and \$519,649 of capital projects grants.

SUMMARY OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

The following table indicates the General Fund revenues and expenditures for the five most recent fiscal years ended June 30 for which audited results are available

General Fund Summary of Revenues, Expenditures and Transfers ⁽¹⁾

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Taxes — Local Property	\$116,579,527	\$133,571,564	\$129,683,992	\$126,449,424	\$121,515,271
Taxes — Local Income	86,288,431	86,917,881	82,987,898	81,290,908	67,934,905
Licenses and Permits	1,901,395	1,998,736	2,705,006	2,250,615	1,862,139
Intergovernmental Revenue	4,402,098	3,459,378	3,316,313	3,148,596	3,021,247
Charges for Services	12,748,464	13,358,230	23,254,214	15,019,391	13,157,236
Investment Earnings	9,990,010	6,055,226	287,357	128,715	1,138,480
Other	396,923	935,563	328,069	81,294	60,661
Total Revenues	<u>\$232,306,848</u>	<u>\$246,296,578</u>	<u>\$242,562,849</u>	<u>\$228,368,943</u>	<u>\$208,689,939</u>
Transfers In	1,647,191	490,482	1,035,000	440,000	715,225
Total	<u>\$233,954,039</u>	<u>\$246,787,060</u>	<u>\$243,592,849</u>	<u>\$228,808,943</u>	<u>\$209,405,164</u>
Expenditures					
General Government	\$14,995,438	\$13,822,320	\$11,248,539	\$10,497,762	\$10,517,483
Public Safety	59,125,182	50,480,606	48,411,654	47,689,376	47,203,584
Public Works Engineering & Admin	16,202,225	15,432,442	14,505,482	11,836,812	14,316,624
Health and Welfare	4,931,665	4,531,569	4,321,698	4,416,245	4,402,462
Education	102,848,122	101,350,020	101,273,513	99,361,023	98,581,668
Recreation and Culture	2,661,210	2,491,139	1,979,296	1,697,202	1,634,471
Libraries	6,816,333	6,624,333	6,230,417	6,406,619	6,010,417
Other	3,469,087	3,156,886	3,045,783	2,849,507	2,478,141
Total Expenditures	<u>\$211,049,262</u>	<u>\$197,889,315</u>	<u>\$190,926,382</u>	<u>\$184,754,546</u>	<u>\$185,144,850</u>
Transfers Out	24,018,987	22,880,676	20,626,973	22,610,317	20,949,004
Total	<u>\$235,068,249</u>	<u>\$220,769,991</u>	<u>\$211,553,355</u>	<u>\$207,364,863</u>	<u>\$206,093,854</u>

(1) Actual revenues do not reflect fund balance designated to fund current year appropriations.

Source: Audited financial statements for fiscal years 2020-2024.

FISCAL YEAR 2025 AND FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGETS

The following table shows the County’s audited actual revenues and expenditures for fiscal year 2024, the original fiscal year 2025 budget, the revised fiscal year 2025 budget, and the original fiscal year 2026 budget. The changes between the fiscal year 2025 original and revised budgets were introduced by the County Executive and approved by County Council to allow for necessary additional expenditures for street repaving and to use the savings from ARPA funding to build the training center for the Sheriff’s Office. The County anticipates ending fiscal year 2025 with an operating surplus due to conservative budgeting of both revenues and expenditures.

The fiscal year 2026 budget was prepared with significant effort to categorize revenues and expenses with a straightforward approach, reducing complexity, eliminating camouflage, and providing a clear basis for monitoring variances throughout the fiscal year. The budget for fiscal year 2026 reflects a reassessment of property taxes over a three-year phase-in period. Of the County’s General Fund taxable revenue, property tax, business property tax and income tax are 56%, 8% and 36%, respectively. The fiscal year 2026 budget includes a step and 2% cost of living allowance (“COLA”) for all full-time non-union County government employees. General Fund revenue shows a projected increase of 9% while the expenditures in all funds show a projected increase of 5.6%. The difference reflects the reduced use of General Fund reserves to balance the budget.

	Actual Audited 2024	Original Budget 2025	Revised Budget 2025	Original Budget 2026
Taxes — Local Property .	\$ 116,579,527	\$ 130,364,228	\$ 130,364,228	\$ 153,838,101
Taxes — Local Other	86,288,431	80,766,624	80,766,624	84,712,522
Licenses and Permits	1,901,395	2,025,688	2,025,688	2,040,650
Intergovernmental Revenue	4,402,098	4,204,673	4,204,673	4,380,782
Charges for Services	12,748,464	13,143,499	13,148,198	13,610,734
Investment Earnings	9,990,010	3,140,657	3,140,657	6,788,369
Other	396,923	112,000	247,349	178,000
Total Revenues	\$ 232,306,848	\$ 233,757,369	\$ 233,897,417	\$ 265,549,158
Other Financing Sources	1,647,191	15,500,000	32,007,921	15,271,198
Total	\$ 233,954,039	\$ 249,257,369	\$ 265,905,338	\$ 280,820,356
Expenditures				
General Government	\$ 14,995,438	\$ 16,711,882	\$ 16,790,968	\$ 28,665,868
Public Safety	59,125,182	62,921,562	63,618,476	70,735,376
Public Works	16,202,225	14,059,872	17,568,772	14,538,635
Health and Welfare	4,931,665	5,212,141	5,208,489	5,384,828
Education	102,848,122	110,785,258	112,673,585	121,126,220
Recreation and Culture	2,661,210	2,691,591	2,868,792	2,677,074
Libraries	6,816,333	7,345,418	7,345,418	7,836,599
Other	3,469,087	3,760,275	3,960,275	3,961,101
Total Expenditures	\$ 211,049,262	\$ 223,487,999	\$ 230,034,775	\$ 254,925,701
Transfers Out	24,018,987	25,769,370	35,870,563	25,894,655
Total	\$ 235,068,249	\$ 249,257,369	\$ 265,905,338	\$ 280,820,356
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ (1,114,210)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Source: Cecil County Department of Finance.

CERTAIN DEBT INFORMATION

Authorization of Bonded Indebtedness

The County may authorize the issuance of general obligation bonds and revenue bonds by the adoption of a local law in accordance with the Charter. Additionally, the County is authorized by State law and the County Code to issue its general obligation bonds for sewer purposes in an amount not to exceed 15% of the total assessed valuation of property assessed within the County for County taxation purposes, and the County is also authorized by State law to issue its general obligation bonds in any principal amount for refuse and garbage disposal facilities. (See “COUNTY SERVICES — Cecil County Sanitary District”.)

Any local law authorizing the borrowing of money or issuance of bonds must be submitted to registered voters of the County for approval or rejection, if a referendum petition signed by at least ten percent of the registered voters of the County is filed with the Board of Supervisors of Elections for the County within fifty-nine days following the date such law is enacted.

After the issuance of the Bonds, the County will have \$6,350,000 of general obligation bonding authority available under its most recent bond authorization ordinance, Bill No. 2025-08. The County has general obligation bonding authority available under certain other bond authorization ordinances, but the County does not intend to use bond authority authorized before the adoption of Bill No. 2025-08.

Legal Debt Limitations

Except as otherwise provided by State law, the aggregate amount of general obligation bonds outstanding at any one time shall not exceed a total of 6% of the assessable basis of real property in the County and 15% of the County’s assessable basis of personal property and operating real property described in Section 8-109(c) of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Tax anticipation notes or other evidences of indebtedness having a maturity not in excess of 12 months; bonds or other evidences of indebtedness issued or guaranteed by the County payable primarily or exclusively from taxes levied in or on, or other revenues of, special taxing areas or districts heretofore or hereafter established by law; and bonds or other evidences of indebtedness issued for self-liquidating and other projects payable primarily or exclusively from the proceeds of assessments or charges from special benefits or services are not included as indebtedness in applying the foregoing limitations.

The County is authorized to issue emergency notes to fund emergency appropriations as provided in the Charter; provided that such notes must not be paid later than the last day of the next fiscal year succeeding that in which the emergency appropriation was made. Currently, the County has no outstanding short-term debt.

Certain Debt Information

The following table sets forth the County’s long-term debt per capita and ratios of debt to assessed value for the five most recent fiscal years ended June 30 for which audited results are available:

Fiscal Year (1)	County Debt**	Estimated Population	Assessed Value*	Net Debt Per Capita	Net Debt to Assessed Value*
2024	\$ 316,082,574	105,672	\$ 12,229,001,558	\$ 2,991	2.58%
2023	278,261,402	104,942	11,247,651,293	2,652	2.47%
2022	294,563,387	103,905	10,734,928,619	2,835	2.74%
2021	265,520,294	103,419	10,558,199,519	2,567	2.51%
2020	287,040,056	102,855	10,054,580,234	2,791	2.85%

Sources: United States Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

(1) Audited financial statements for fiscal years 2020-2024.

*The County’s assessed value and net debt to assessed value are comparable to the County’s market value and net debt to market value.

**Combined governmental and business-type activity general obligation debt.

The following table sets forth the County’s debt service expenditures, exclusive of debt service in respect to the Cecil County Sanitary District, as a percentage of General Fund expenditures for each of its five most recent fiscal years ended June 30 for which audited results are available:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Debt Service Expenditures</u>	<u>General Fund Expenditures</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
2024.....	\$17,992,544	\$235,068,249	7.65%
2023.....	17,358,373	220,769,991	7.86
2022.....	16,863,943	211,553,355	7.97
2021.....	21,294,630	207,364,863	10.27
2020.....	18,723,563	206,093,854	9.08

Source: Audited financial statements for fiscal years 2020-2024.

The County has an above average rate of debt retirement as seen in the following table:

Rapidity of Debt Amortization*

<u>Number of Years</u>	<u>Principal Retired</u>	<u>Percent of Debt Retired</u>
5	\$83,525,768	29.99%
10	158,453,612	56.90%
15	217,982,897	78.28%
20	253,161,164	90.91%
30	268,435,590	96.39%
35	277,350,344	99.59%
40	278,481,148	100.00%

* Does not include the Bonds offered herein.
Source: Cecil County Department of Finance.

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Schedule of Debt Service Requirements

The following table sets forth the schedule of debt service requirements for County debt outstanding as of June 30, 2025.

Year Ending <u>June 30</u>	General Obligation Bonds						Special Assessment Bonds			Total		
	Governmental Activities			Business-Type Activities			Governmental Activities					
	Principal	Interest	Total P&I	Principal	Interest	Total P&I	Principal	Interest	Total P&I	Principal	Interest	Total P&I
2026	\$ 13,465,513	\$ 6,277,808	\$ 19,743,321	\$ 4,338,397	\$ 2,408,201	\$ 6,746,598	\$ 6,099	\$ -	\$ 6,099	\$ 17,810,009	\$ 8,686,009	\$ 26,496,018
2027	13,919,358	5,751,492	19,670,850	4,443,917	2,275,077	6,718,994	6,099	-	6,099	18,369,374	8,026,569	26,395,943
2028	12,423,176	5,262,831	17,686,006	4,549,028	2,142,680	6,691,708	6,099	-	6,099	16,978,303	7,405,510	24,383,814
2029	10,902,995	4,809,964	15,712,959	4,646,413	2,003,948	6,650,361	6,099	-	6,099	15,555,506	6,813,912	22,369,419
2030	10,130,003	4,364,897	14,494,900	4,706,967	1,859,468	6,566,435	6,099	-	6,099	14,843,069	6,224,364	21,067,434
2031	10,480,727	3,970,592	14,451,319	4,831,498	1,719,547	6,551,045	6,099	-	6,099	15,318,324	5,690,139	21,008,462
2032	10,154,893	3,608,653	13,763,547	4,130,180	1,600,154	5,730,334	6,099	-	6,099	14,291,172	5,208,807	19,499,980
2033	10,462,440	3,246,868	13,709,308	4,236,525	1,488,996	5,725,521	-	-	-	14,698,966	4,735,864	19,434,829
2034	10,748,588	2,915,366	13,663,954	4,354,707	1,375,108	5,729,814	-	-	-	15,103,295	4,290,474	19,393,769
2035	11,052,013	2,609,082	13,661,095	4,476,271	1,257,046	5,733,317	-	-	-	15,528,285	3,866,127	19,394,412
2036	10,959,807	2,292,420	13,252,228	3,425,853	1,133,729	4,559,582	-	-	-	14,385,660	3,426,150	17,811,810
2037	9,042,339	1,967,393	11,009,733	2,926,080	1,029,252	3,955,332	-	-	-	11,968,419	2,996,645	14,965,064
2038	9,329,052	1,690,586	11,019,638	3,020,904	938,063	3,958,966	-	-	-	12,349,955	2,628,649	14,978,604
2039	7,460,420	1,443,203	8,903,623	2,806,291	848,982	3,655,273	-	-	-	10,266,712	2,292,185	12,558,896
2040	7,663,432	1,222,094	8,885,527	2,895,107	762,832	3,657,939	-	-	-	10,558,539	1,984,927	12,543,466
2041	4,889,780	1,037,343	5,927,123	2,981,140	673,389	3,654,529	-	-	-	7,870,920	1,710,732	9,581,652
2042	5,046,745	887,375	5,934,120	3,071,647	579,634	3,651,281	-	-	-	8,118,392	1,467,009	9,585,401
2043	5,196,809	729,579	5,926,388	3,169,313	480,865	3,650,178	-	-	-	8,366,123	1,210,443	9,576,566
2044	4,572,154	575,222	5,147,376	3,178,452	379,063	3,557,515	-	-	-	7,750,606	954,286	8,704,891
2045	1,716,457	477,848	2,194,305	1,355,769	312,009	1,667,778	-	-	-	3,072,227	789,856	3,862,083
2046	1,766,729	429,556	2,196,285	1,375,783	269,962	1,645,745	-	-	-	3,142,512	699,517	3,842,029
2047	1,816,016	378,883	2,194,899	1,179,156	233,779	1,412,935	-	-	-	2,995,172	612,662	3,607,834
2048	1,866,288	326,916	2,193,205	1,211,480	199,922	1,411,402	-	-	-	3,077,768	526,839	3,604,607
2049	1,926,841	272,341	2,199,182	1,058,763	167,101	1,225,864	-	-	-	2,985,603	439,442	3,425,046
2050	1,984,294	215,024	2,199,318	1,089,082	135,628	1,224,710	-	-	-	3,073,376	350,652	3,424,028
2051	2,040,763	155,833	2,196,596	910,424	105,934	1,016,358	-	-	-	2,951,187	261,767	3,212,954
2052	2,097,233	94,744	2,191,977	936,733	78,126	1,014,859	-	-	-	3,033,966	172,870	3,206,836
2053	691,010	48,177	739,187	635,915	52,884	688,798	-	-	-	1,326,925	101,061	1,427,986
2054	725,096	16,315	741,410	659,758	30,405	690,163	-	-	-	1,384,854	46,719	1,431,573
2055	-	-	-	217,823	17,425	235,248	-	-	-	217,823	17,425	235,248
2056	-	-	-	220,795	14,453	235,248	-	-	-	220,795	14,453	235,248
2057	-	-	-	223,885	11,363	235,248	-	-	-	223,885	11,363	235,248
2058	-	-	-	226,980	8,268	235,248	-	-	-	226,980	8,268	235,248
2059	-	-	-	230,117	5,131	235,248	-	-	-	230,117	5,131	235,248
2060	-	-	-	229,027	1,955	230,982	-	-	-	229,027	1,955	230,982
Total	<u>\$ 194,530,974</u>	<u>\$ 57,078,405</u>	<u>\$ 251,609,379</u>	<u>\$ 83,950,180</u>	<u>\$ 26,600,377</u>	<u>\$110,550,556</u>	<u>\$ 42,692</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 42,692</u>	<u>\$ 278,523,846</u>	<u>\$ 83,678,782</u>	<u>\$ 362,202,628</u>

Source: Cecil County Department of Finance.

Summary of Debt Service as Adjusted to Reflect Issuance of the Bonds

Fiscal Year as of June 30	Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2025			Adjusted Total Debt Service (2)
	Total Debt Service (2)	Principal	Interest (1)	
2026	\$26,496,018	\$0	\$369,078	\$26,865,097
2027	26,395,943	1,265,000	2,259,206	29,920,149
2028	24,383,814	1,330,000	2,194,331	27,908,145
2029	22,369,419	1,395,000	2,126,206	25,890,625
2030	21,067,434	1,465,000	2,054,706	24,587,140
2031	21,008,462	1,545,000	1,979,456	24,532,919
2032	19,499,980	1,615,000	1,900,456	23,015,436
2033	19,434,829	1,695,000	1,817,706	22,947,535
2034	19,393,769	1,790,000	1,730,581	22,914,350
2035	19,394,412	1,885,000	1,638,706	22,918,118
2036	17,811,810	1,985,000	1,541,956	21,338,766
2037	14,965,064	2,080,000	1,440,331	18,485,396
2038	14,978,604	2,185,000	1,333,706	18,497,311
2039	12,558,896	2,300,000	1,221,581	16,080,478
2040	12,543,466	2,420,000	1,103,581	16,067,047
2041	9,581,652	2,535,000	979,706	13,096,358
2042	9,585,401	2,665,000	849,706	13,100,107
2043	9,576,566	2,790,000	727,281	13,093,847
2044	8,704,891	2,905,000	613,381	12,223,273
2045	3,862,083	3,020,000	494,881	7,376,965
2046	3,842,029	3,135,000	371,781	7,348,811
2047	3,607,834	635,000	296,381	4,539,215
2048	3,604,607	660,000	270,481	4,535,088
2049	3,425,046	685,000	243,581	4,353,627
2050	3,424,028	715,000	215,581	4,354,609
2051	3,212,954	745,000	186,381	4,144,336
2052	3,206,836	775,000	155,981	4,137,818
2053	1,427,986	805,000	124,381	2,357,367
2054	1,431,573	840,000	90,956	2,362,529
2055	235,248	875,000	55,584	1,165,832
2056	235,248	910,000	18,769	1,164,017
2057	235,248	0	0	235,248
2058	235,248	0	0	235,248
2059	235,248	0	0	235,248
2060	230,982	0	0	230,982
Total	<u>\$362,202,628</u>	<u>\$49,650,000</u>	<u>\$30,406,407</u>	<u>\$442,259,034</u>

(1) Interest rates range between 4.000% and 5.000%.

(2) Totals may not add due to rounding.

Capital Improvement Program

The following table sets forth the different classes of capital projects and the amounts included in the fiscal year 2026 budget and the amounts that have been approved in the Capital Improvement Program for the five fiscal years indicated.

FY2026 - FY2030 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

(\$ in thousands)	5 Year Capital Program					5-Year Total '26-30	PRIOR APPROP thru FY25	Project Total thru FY30
	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030			
CAPITAL COSTS								
Governmental Projects								
Cecil County Public Schools	\$ 33,072	\$ 40,467	\$ 14,156	\$ 12,595	\$ 16,095	\$ 116,385	\$ 100,196	\$ 216,581
Cecil College	1,395	827	868	5,877	958	9,925	18,792	28,717
Library	2,422	6,213	2,048	-	-	10,683	250	10,933
Emergency Services	-	2,500	5,300	-	-	7,800	11,050	18,850
Emergency Services Radio	-	2,374	2,374	2,374	2,374	9,496	-	9,496
Sheriff	2,920	1,000	-	-	-	3,920	10,930	14,850
Roads & Bridges	9,050	14,770	6,675	6,500	4,400	41,395	61,244	102,639
Circuit Court	1,000	875	2,450	7,950	4,100	16,375	132	16,507
Facilities	-	4,400	-	-	-	4,400	-	4,400
Parks & Rec	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Community Services	-	2,600	2,500	2,600	-	7,700	3,743	11,443
Total Government	49,859	76,026	36,371	37,896	27,927	228,079	206,337	434,416
Enterprise Fund Projects								
Solid Waste	2,050	1,550	4,800	2,700	500	11,600	15,618	27,218
Waste Water	9,400	22,800	5,175	850	24,700	62,925	42,039	104,964
Total Other Funds	11,450	24,350	9,975	3,550	25,200	74,525	57,657	132,182
Total All Projects	\$ 61,309	\$ 100,376	\$ 46,346	\$ 41,446	\$ 53,127	\$ 302,604	\$ 263,994	\$ 566,598
FINANCING SOURCES								
Governmental Projects								
Paygo (County, WW, SW)	5,834	5,124	2,624	2,624	2,374	18,580	24,511	43,091
Bonds (County, WW, SW)	34,677	51,080	40,472	26,448	43,753	196,430	103,775	300,205
County ARPA	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,090	9,090
Other	250	12,500	-	-	-	12,750	3,422	16,172
Total County Funding	40,761	68,704	43,096	29,072	46,127	227,760	140,798	368,558
Federal	600	6,500	2,000	2,100	-	11,200	42,330	53,530
State	8,342	7,250	1,250	10,274	7,000	34,116	79,446	113,562
Other Government	11,606	17,922	-	-	-	29,528	1,420	30,948
Total Government Funding	20,548	31,672	3,250	12,374	7,000	74,844	123,196	198,040
Total Funding	\$ 61,309	\$ 100,376	\$ 46,346	\$ 41,446	\$ 53,127	\$ 302,604	\$ 263,994	\$ 566,598

Source: Cecil County Department of Finance.

Underlying Debt

The County's eight incorporated municipalities had outstanding indebtedness at June 30, 2024 of \$1,393,594.

Future Plans to Issue County Debt

The County is operating with an approved Capital Program which will help to determine future size and timing of subsequent bond issues. The County does not anticipate another bond issue in fiscal year 2026.

ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS

Economic Growth and Development

Cecil County is located in the northeastern portion of the State of Maryland, at the top of the Chesapeake Bay. It is a largely rural county, with the estimated July 1, 2025 U.S. Census population of 107,276 residents; however, Interstate 95 and US Route 40 traverse the northern portion, and it is an outstanding business location for manufacturing and distribution companies with markets in the mid-Atlantic region.

The Cecil County Economic Development Commission (“EDC”) is a 29-member, volunteer organization, appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council, that advises the Director of Economic Development and the County Executive on economic policy and program matters. The EDC was created for the purpose of advancing the general economic welfare of the County through the establishment of programs and activities that result in new economic activity, job growth, and expansion of the local tax base. The EDC represents a cross-section of people from the business community.

Some of the new and expanding businesses investing in the County between 2020 and 2025 include:

PROJECT	ESTIMATED INVESTMENT (\$ MILLIONS)	ESTIMATED COMPLETION	ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL JOBS	LOCATION	TYPE (NEW/ EXPANSION)	ESTIMATED BUILDING SIZE (SF)	DESCRIPTION
LIDL USA	\$ 110.0	4/1/2020	200	Principio	New	700,000	Grocery Distribution Facility
KeHE	\$ 22.0	6/15/2020	40	Principio	New	558,604	Wholesale food distributor specializing in natural, organic, specialty, and fresh products
FedEx Corporation	\$ 0.0	11/1/2020	10	North East	New	103,000	Distribution Center
Tim Plastics	\$ 10.0	12/1/2020	20	North East	Expansion	65,000	Plastic Bottle Manufacturing & Storage
SunMed Growers	\$ 18.0	1/1/2021	50	Warwick	Expansion	25,000	Cannabis Growing & Processing Facility
Keller Williams	\$ -	8/12/2021		Elkton	New	-	National Realty Co.
Highline Warren	\$ 55.0	3/1/2021	150	Elkton	New	250,000	Automotive Parts & Accessories Distribution Center
Glene Nanomedicine	\$ 30.0	3/1/2025	25	Elkton	Expansion	75,000	Biopharmaceutical Manufacturing
Terumo Medical Corp	\$ 20.0	12/1/2022	80	Elkton	Expansion	-	Manufacturing Facility for Robotics and Logistics Facility
North East Business Center	\$ 100.0	11/1/2022	100	North East	New	500,000	Distribution & Manufacturing Facility
Freestate Business Park	\$ 50.0	12/15/2023	100	Elkton	New	189,000	Buildings 1 & 2 complete and occupied
Sheetz Inc.	\$ 10.0	9/15/2023	27	Elkton	New	6,000	Sheetz Store - Rt. 40
Elas Realty	\$ 20.0	6/14/2023		Perryville	New	25,000	Apartment Building
Choice Med Waste	\$ 10.0	10/18/2026	20	Elkton	New	30,000	Medical Waste Transport Carrier
Brown Brown & Young	\$ 2.0	6/14/2023	11	North East	New	7,000	Professional Services Firm
Chesapeake Growers (Moon Nursery site)	\$ 55.0	6/30/2027	80	Earleville	New	1,000,000	Indoor Tomato Farm (Phase I)
EMS	\$ 2.0	6/30/2023	17	Elkton	New	50,000	Aluminum Extrusion Company
The McConnell Companies	\$ 25.0	9/13/2023	25	Elkton	New	237,000	New Building Ribbon Cutting
Scannell Properties	\$ 37.5	7/14/2023	50	North East	New	500,000	New Building Ribbon Cutting
Utilitrain Inc.	\$ 5.0	12/22/2023	10	Elkton	New	40,000	Utility Training School
Flouron Inc.	\$ 12.5	1/26/2028	80	Elkton	Expansion	40,000	Expansion of Product line
Estes Express Lines Inc.	\$ 10.0	6/15/2023	17	Elkton	Expansion	150,000	Terminal Expansion
Northrop Grumman SCRAM Bldg & Slot Cutting Machining	\$ 17.0	10/15/2024		Elkton	Expansion	14,040	2 new buildings
Elkton Ace Home & Farm	\$ -	6/5/2025	20	Elkton	New	10,000	Located in former Rite Aid building
Zaxby's	\$ -	5/31/2026	20	Perryville	New		Fast casual restaurant chain
Confidential at this time	\$ 1,000.0	7/25/2027	750	Port Deposit	Expansion	1,739,000	Bainbridge Phase 1 Lot A
Northrop Grumman (Propulsion Innovation Center)	\$ -	7/31/2026	250	Elkton	Expansion	57,000	New Engineering & Administration Building
Restoration Hardware	\$ 47.0	3/15/2025	100	Principio	Expansion	800,000	Expanded into 2 new buildings so now in 3 total buildings
Ross	\$ -	7/19/2025	25	Elkton	New	-	Retail - went in existing 20,000SF in Villages of Elkton
Green Genie	\$ -	3/30/2025	12	Elkton	New	-	Indoor cannabis growing operation
A Duie Pyle	\$ -	11/1/2026		North East	New	47,000	Transportation and logistics provider
Ammo International	\$ 34.0	5/15/2024	45	Elkton	New	766,080	1st spec bldg in Elkton Commerce Center
Was hX	\$ -	1/31/2026		Elkton	New	-	Car Wash
ESTES Express Lines Inc.	\$ -	10/31/2025		Elkton	Expansion	-	Maintenance Shop
Project Ryder	\$ 95.0	12/31/2025	458	Port Deposit	New	1,026,000	Lot 8 Bainbridge Phase 1 - existing building
Total	1,797		2,792			9,009,724	

Source: Office of Economic Development, Cecil County.

Population

During the past 70 years, the population of the County has increased approximately 211% as reflected in the following table:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>
1950	33,356
1960	48,408
1970	53,291
1980	60,430
1990	71,347
2000	85,951
2010	101,108
2020	103,725
2024*	106,305

*Estimated as of July 1, 2024.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.

The following table sets forth the most recently published age and sex distribution estimates for the County.

2023 Population Distribution*

<u>Age</u>	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>%</u>
Under 5.....	2,841	5.4	3,094	5.9	5,935	5.7
5-19	10,187	19.7	9,545	18.1	19,732	18.9
20-44	15,685	30.3	15,850	30.1	31,535	30.2
45-64	14,834	28.7	14,919	28.4	29,753	28.5
65 and over.....	8,221	15.9	9,190	17.5	17,411	16.7
Total.....	51,768	100.0	52,598	100.0	104,366	100.0

*Estimate based on US Census, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and State of Maryland MSA.

Source: U.S. Census, American Community Survey – Table S010-2019-2023 5-year estimates.

Income

During the five-year period shown below, personal income on average grew more quickly in the County than in the State. A comparison of County and State of Maryland personal income is presented in the following table:

<u>Calendar Year</u>	<u>Personal Income (\$000's)*</u>		<u>Change from Previous Year</u>	
	<u>Cecil County</u>	<u>State of Maryland</u>	<u>Cecil County</u>	<u>State of Maryland</u>
2023	\$ 6,274,055	\$ 465,936,759	6.3%	5.6%
2022	5,900,117	439,741,284	1.9	3.1
2021	5,787,014	426,578,341	6.7	6.5
2020	5,421,490	400,576,357	7.2	5.3
2019	5,057,048	380,447,191	4.2	3.4

Source: Regional Economic Information system. U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Tables CAINC4 – for 2019 – 2023.

*Note: Total personal income is in thousands of dollars, not adjusted for inflation.

Retail Sales

Retail sales as measured by retail sales tax collections registered a 36.8% increase from fiscal year 2014 to fiscal year 2023. The most recent ten-year comparison for the County and the State of Maryland is given below:

Tax Receipts on Retail Sales (\$000's)

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Cecil County</u>	<u>% Change</u>	<u>State of Maryland</u>	<u>% Change</u>
2023.....	\$48,354	(4.7)%	\$6,787,619	(3.2)%
2022.....	50,765	46.1	7,013,068	54.2
2021.....	34,747	(12.2)	4,548,755	(8.1)
2020.....	39,577	(2.1)	4,949,434	0.8
2019.....	40,435	(0.6)	4,908,976	3.7
2018.....	40,697	5.2	4,733,831	2.1
2017.....	38,654	0.5	4,637,789	2.0
2016.....	38,454	5.7	4,548,552	2.8
2015.....	36,382	2.9	4,424,991	5.0
2014.....	35,352	1.5	4,215,162	2.1
Change: 2014-2023.....	\$13,002	36.8%	\$2,572,457	61.0%

Source: Maryland Comptroller's Revenue Accounting Division. Summary by Subdivision and Business Activity 2014-2023.

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Education

The following table sets forth the percentage of persons 25 years and older who have completed certain years of school as described in the 2019-2023 American Community Survey. Comparative figures for the County, neighboring counties and the State of Maryland are as follows:

	<u>Cecil</u>	<u>Harford</u>	<u>Kent</u>	<u>State</u>
Elementary (grades K-8)	2.4%	1.6%	2.3%	4.0%
High School				
1–3 years	6.1	4.2	5.9	5.0
4 years	35.8	26.2	32.7	23.7
College				
No Degree	20.8	16.6	14.9	17.7
Associate’s Degree	8.1	10.0	6.3	6.9
Bachelor’s Degree	16.0	23.2	19.9	22.5
Graduate/Professional Degree	10.9	18.1	18.0	20.3

Source: Table S1501 – American Community Survey. U.S. Census Bureau, 2019-2023 5-year estimates.

Survey results of the number of high school students in Cecil County, surrounding counties and the State of Maryland as a whole who graduated, as a percentage of their ninth grade enrollment, four grades earlier, are presented below:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Cecil	89.4%	89.6%
Harford	88.7	91.5
Kent	92.7	92.6
State of MD	86.3	87.5

Source: Maryland Report Card – 2023/2024 “4-Year Adjusted Cohort,” Performance Report State and School Systems - Maryland Department of Education.

Housing

The number of construction permits issued on a fiscal year basis by the County since 2015 are listed below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>New Commercial Permits</u>	<u>New Residential Permits</u>	<u>Additions/Garages, etc.</u>	<u>Misc.</u>	<u>Average Value of Permits (000’s)</u>
2024	1,433	75	256	619	483	\$338,322
2023	1,781	99	256	930	496	347,407
2022	1,749	54	306	617	772	154,533
2021	1,642	35	364	572	671	448,662
2020	1,393	6	212	628	547	106,374
2019	1,633	2	312	883	436	163,392
2018	1,692	29	164	1002	497	117,117
2017	1,681	3	143	983	552	76,309
2016	1,492	2	109	897	484	132,663
2015	1,343	15	122	739	467	157,084

Source: Cecil County Department of Permits and Inspections.

The age of owner-occupied housing units in the County as determined by the American Community Survey: U.S. Census Bureau is relatively low. A comparison of the County, its neighboring Maryland counties and the State of Maryland are set forth below:

<u>Year Structure Built</u>	<u>Cecil County</u>	<u>Harford County</u>	<u>Kent County</u>	<u>State</u>
2020 or later	0.7%	0.8%	0.2%	0.8%
2010 to 2019	9.0	7.8	5.7	8.0
2000 to 2009	19.7	15.4	15.1	11.5
1980 to 1999	31.9	37.0	26.0	28.9
1960 to 1979	20.0	26.6	20.6	25.0
1940 to 1959	9.1	7.8	12.4	15.9
1939 or earlier	9.6	4.6	20.0	9.8

Source: Table: S2504 Physical Housing Characteristics for Occupied Housing Units (American Community Survey, US Census Bureau) 2019-2023 5-year estimates.

Employment

Listed below are employment figures for the 10 largest employers in the County.

10 Largest Employers in Cecil County

<u>Taxpayer</u>	<u>#Employees</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Product/ Service</u>
W.L. Gore & Associates	2,405	1	Medical Products/R&D
Cecil County Board of Education	2,031	2	Education
Perry Point VA Medical Center	1,500	3	Medical Services
Christiana Care/Union Hospital	1,235	4	Medical Services
Terumo Corp.	1,030	5	Medical Products/R&D
Amazon MDT2	810	6	Fulfillment
Cecil County Government	691	7	Government
IKEA Perryville	625	8	Furniture Distribution
Cecil College	565	9	Government
Northrop Grumman	550	10	Manufacturing

Source: Cecil County Department of Economic Development.

Business and Industrial Composition

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Number of Reporting Units</u>	<u>Percent of Total(1)</u>	<u>Annual Average Employment</u>	<u>Percent of Total(1)</u>
	Natural Resources and Mining	46	2.3%	ND*
Construction	196	10.0	ND*	ND*
Manufacturing	86	4.4	4,609	12.6
Trade/Transportation/Utilities	423	21.5	8,844	24.1
Information.....	25	1.3	105	0.3
Financial Activities.....	156	7.9	592	1.6
Professional and Business Services	305	15.5	1,973	5.45
Education and Health Services	236	12.0	3,987	10.9
Leisure and Hospitality.....	233	11.9	5,567	15.2
Other Services	177	9.0	973	2.7
Total – Private Sector	1,883	4.9	28,961	79.0
Local Government.....	43	2.2	3,742	10.2
State Government.....	10	0.5	557	1.5
Federal Government.....	28	1.4	3,382	9.2
Total.....	<u>1,964</u>	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>36,642</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

*ND-Not Disclosable-data does not meet BLS or Maryland Department of Labor disclosure standards.

(1) Totals may not add due to rounding.

Source: Maryland Department Business and Economic Development, "Cecil County: Brief Economic Facts," Annual Average 2024.

Agriculture

Agriculture has long shaped the landscape and economy of Cecil County. Today, approximately 70% of the County remains rural, and agriculture continues to thrive as both a traditional foundation and a growing industry. Farmers supply products to local, regional, national, and even international markets.

Cecil County encompasses 222,824 acres, with approximately 36% identified as farmland. Much of this land supports cash crops, grain, and dairy operations. Principal crops include corn, soybeans, and wheat, while hay, barley, tree fruits, vegetables, and berries add further diversity. The County is also well-suited for raising horses, with several large Standardbred and Thoroughbred operations alongside many smaller farms producing horses for racing and recreation. The Races at Fair Hill returned in 2025 after a five-year hiatus, complementing the internationally recognized Maryland 5 Star at Fair Hill, now in its fifth year. According to the 2022 Agricultural Census, Cecil County ranked first in Maryland for horses by value.

The County also boasts a robust and growing wine industry, with four vineyards and wineries—Dove Valley, Bohemia Manor Farm, Broken Spoke, and Blue Elk. Its rural landscape supports a wide range of value-added agricultural enterprises, from home-delivered farm products and pasture-raised poultry and beef to organic and conventional produce operations, on-farm dining experiences, and even an alpaca farm and fiber mill.

Conservation plays an equally important role in shaping the County’s character. Currently, 26% of Cecil County’s land is under permanent protection. Of this, 31,210 acres (14%) are preserved for agricultural purposes, while another 28,385 acres (12%) are safeguarded for environmental, natural resource, or recreational uses.

Agriculture in Cecil County is big business. Warwick Mushroom Farm, the second-largest single-site mushroom farm in North America operates in southern Cecil County using state-of-the-art growing technology. Also located in the southern part of the County, SunMed Growers, the largest cannabis cultivation facility in Maryland, has expanded its operations to include the production of gummies, chocolates, and beverages. Thanks to a favorable climate, the County further supports several large wholesale nurseries specializing in ornamental plants and trees, with products shipped to markets nationwide.

Employment Classification

The 2019-2023 American Community Survey: Bureau of the Census determined the worker classification for employed persons 16 and over. Comparative figures for the County, its neighboring counties and the State of Maryland are presented below:

	<u>Cecil County</u>	<u>Harford County</u>	<u>Kent County</u>	<u>State</u>
Private Wage and Salary	75.5%	73.4%	74.0%	72.1%
Government.....	20.1	22.6	16.7	22.5
Self-Employed	4.2	3.9	9.3	5.2
Unpaid Family	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2

Source: Table DP03. American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau 2019-2023 5-year estimates.

The following table sets forth the County’s annual unemployment rate as compared with its neighboring counties, the State of Maryland and the United States for the years 2020-2024.

Annual Average Unemployment Rate

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Cecil County.....	3.3%	2.4%	3.2%	5.0%	6.0%
Harford County	2.8	2.1	2.8	4.4	5.6
Kent County	3.5	2.6	3.5	5.4	6.8
State of Maryland.....	3.0	2.2	3.0	5.2	6.5
United States ⁽¹⁾	4.0	3.6	3.6	5.3	8.1

Source: Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Office of Labor Market Analysis and Information – Annual County Unemployment.
(1) Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Persons living in the County who were available for work and composed the County labor force numbered 52,281 in August 2025 while the total employment of this force was 49,899 resulting in an unemployment rate of 4.6% for this period. Certain comparative unemployment rates are given below for August 2025.

Cecil County	4.6%
Harford County.	4.0
Kent County	4.3
State of Maryland.....	3.6
United States ¹	4.3

Source: Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Office of Workforce Information and Performance, “Monthly Labor Review – Issued August 2025”.

¹U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

EXPERTS

The financial statements of the County included as Appendix A have been audited by SB & Company, LLC, independent certified public accountants, as stated in their report included therein. Such financial statements are included in reliance upon the report of SB & Company, LLC. The independent accountants were not requested to review or update such financial statements or their report in connection with the issuance of the Bonds and such report speaks only as of its date. The independent accountants have not performed any audit procedures subsequent to the date of their report and have not audited any financial statements of the County as of any date, or for any period, subsequent to June 30, 2024.

FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Davenport & Company LLC, Towson, Maryland (the “Financial Advisor”), is a registered municipal advisor with the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board and serves as financial advisor in connection with the issuance of the Bonds and other matters related to the County’s finances. The Financial Advisor has not been engaged, nor has it undertaken, to audit, authenticate or otherwise verify the information set forth in this Official Statement, or any other related information available to the County, with respect to accuracy and completeness of disclosure of such information. The Financial Advisor makes no guaranty, warranty or other representation respecting the accuracy and completeness of this Official Statement or any other matter related to the Official Statement.

SALE AT COMPETITIVE BIDDING

The Bonds were offered by the County for competitive bid at public sale on November 19, 2025 in accordance with the official Notice of Sale (the form of which is attached hereto as Appendix C). The interest rates shown on the inside cover page of this Official Statement are the interest rates that resulted from the successful bid for the Bonds at the competitive sale. The initial yields shown on the inside cover page of this Official Statement have been furnished by the successful bidder for the Bonds. All other information concerning the nature and terms of any reoffering should be obtained from the successful bidder for the Bonds and not from the County.

AUTHORIZATION OF OFFICIAL STATEMENT

The execution of this Official Statement and its delivery have been duly authorized by the County.

CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: /s/ ADAM STREIGHT
 Adam Streight
 County Executive

BY: /s/ DAN SCHNECKENBURGER
 Dan Schneckeburger
 Director of Administration

BY: /s/ RAYMOND HAMM
 Raymond Hamm
 Director of Finance

ANNUAL COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

The County incorporates by reference in this Official Statement the County's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2024, which has been submitted to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's Electronic Municipal Market Access system and can be viewed at emma.msrb.org by searching CUSIP No. 149843 or on the County's website at:

<https://www.ccgov.org/home/showpublisheddocument/54332/638715171878170000>

FORM OF APPROVING OPINION OF BOND COUNSEL

December 3, 2025

Cecil County, Maryland
Elkton, Maryland

\$49,650,000
Cecil County, Maryland
Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2025

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as bond counsel to Cecil County, Maryland (the “County”) in connection with the issuance by the County of its \$49,650,000 Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2025 (the “Bonds”).

In connection with this opinion, we have examined (i) the Constitution of the State of Maryland (the “State”), (ii) the applicable laws of (A) the State and the County, including, without limitation, the Cecil County Charter (the “Charter”), Section 10-203 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended (the “Bond Act”), Section 19-101 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended (the “Consolidated Bonds Act”), Sections 97-22 through 97-27, inclusive, of the Code of Cecil County (2012 Edition, as amended, and collectively with the Bond Act and the Consolidated Bonds Act, the “Acts”), Bill No. 2025-08 enacted by the County Council of the County on August 19, 2025 and effective on October 18, 2025 (the “Bond Bill”), Executive Order No. 2025-01 of the County Executive of the County executed and delivered on October 30, 2025 and Executive Order No. 2025-02 of the County Executive of the County executed and delivered on November 19, 2025 (together, the “Executive Orders”) and (B) the United States of America, including, without limitation, the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), and (iii) copies of proceedings and other documents relating to the Bonds as we deem necessary to render this opinion.

As to questions of fact material to our opinion, we have relied upon the certified proceedings and other certifications of public officials furnished to us, without undertaking to verify the same by independent investigation.

We have assumed the accuracy and truthfulness of all public records and of all certifications, documents and other proceedings examined by us that have been executed or certified by public officials acting within the scope of their official capacities, and we have not independently verified the accuracy or truthfulness thereof. We have also assumed the genuineness of the signatures appearing upon such public records, certifications, documents and proceedings.

We have also assumed the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the genuineness of all signatures, the conformity to original documents of all documents submitted to us as certified or photostatic copies and the authenticity of the originals of such latter documents.

We are qualified to practice law in the State, and we do not purport to be experts on, or to express any opinion herein concerning, any law other than the law of the State and the federal law of the United States of America.

Based on the foregoing, we are of the opinion that, under current law:

1. The County is a validly existing body corporate and politic and a political subdivision of the State, possessing authority under the laws of the State, the Charter, the Acts, the Bond Bill and the Executive Orders to issue the Bonds.

2. The Bonds have been duly authorized and legally issued in accordance with the Constitution and Public Laws of the State, including the Act, the Charter, the Bond Bill and the Executive Orders.

3. The Bonds are valid and legally binding general obligations of the County to which the County's full faith and credit and unlimited taxing power are pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on, as and when such principal and interest become due and payable.

4. To provide for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds, the County has, by the adoption of the Bond Bill and the delivery of the Executive Orders, covenanted to levy such ad valorem taxes, which the County is empowered to levy on all legally assessable property within the corporate limits of the County, in rate and amount sufficient for that purpose in each fiscal year in which provision must be made for the payment of such principal and interest.

5. Under current law, interest on the Bonds (i) is excludable from the gross income of the owners of the Bonds for purposes of federal income taxation under Section 103 of the Code and (ii) is not a specific item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax on individuals. However, such interest is included in the "adjusted financial statement income" (as defined in Section 56A of the Code) of certain corporations in determining the applicability and amount of the federal corporate alternative minimum tax imposed under Section 55(b) of the Code. We express no opinion regarding other federal tax consequences arising with respect to the Bonds.

In providing the opinions set forth in this paragraph 5, we are assuming continuing compliance with the Covenants (as hereinafter defined) by the County. The Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder contain a number of requirements that must be satisfied after the issuance of the Bonds in order for interest on the Bonds to be and remain excludable from gross income for purposes of federal income taxation. These requirements include, by way of example and not limitation, restrictions on the use, expenditure and investment of the proceeds of the Bonds and the use of the property financed or refinanced by the Bonds, limitations on the source of the payment of and the security for the Bonds, and the obligation to rebate certain excess earnings on the gross proceeds of the Bonds to the United States Treasury. The Tax Certificate of even date herewith executed and delivered by the County (the "Tax Certificate") contains covenants (the "Covenants") under which the County has agreed to comply with such requirements. Failure by the County to comply with the Covenants could cause interest on the Bonds to become includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes retroactively to the date of issue of the Bonds. In the event of noncompliance with the Covenants, the available enforcement remedies may be limited by applicable provisions of law and, therefore, may not be adequate to prevent interest on the Bonds from becoming includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes. We have no responsibility to monitor compliance with the Covenants after the date of issue of the Bonds.

Certain requirements and procedures contained, incorporated or referred to in the Tax Certificate, including the Covenants, may be changed and certain actions may be taken or omitted under the circumstances and subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Tax Certificate. We express no opinion concerning any effect on the excludability of interest on the Bonds from gross income for federal income tax purposes under Section 103 of the Code of any such subsequent change or action that may be made, taken or omitted upon the advice or approval of counsel other than this firm.

6. Under existing law of the State, the principal of and interest on the Bonds are exempt from State and local taxes in the State; however, the law of the State does not expressly refer to, and no opinion is expressed concerning, estate or inheritance taxes, or any other taxes not levied directly on the principal of or interest on the Bonds.

The rights of any owner of the Bonds and the enforceability of the Bonds may be subject to (a) any applicable bankruptcy, insolvency (including, without limitation, laws relating to preferences and fraudulent transfers or conveyances), reorganization, moratorium and other similar laws affecting creditors' rights generally, (b) the effect of general principles of equity (regardless of whether considered in a proceeding in equity or at law), including, without limitation, concepts of materiality, reasonableness, good faith and fair dealing, and (c) the valid exercise of constitutional powers of the United States of America and of the sovereign police and taxing powers of the State or other governmental units having jurisdiction.

Our services as Bond Counsel to the County have been limited to rendering the foregoing opinions based on our review of such legal proceedings and other documents as we deem necessary to approve the validity of the Bonds and tax-exempt status of the interest thereon. We express no opinion as to the accuracy, completeness or sufficiency of any offering material or information, including the Official Statement relating to the Bonds, that may have been relied upon by any owner of the Bonds in making a decision to purchase the Bonds.

This opinion is delivered solely for your benefit in connection with the issuance of the Bonds and may not be relied upon by any other person or for any other purpose without our prior written consent in each instance. This opinion is given as of the date hereof, and we assume no obligation to revise or supplement this opinion to reflect any facts or circumstances that may hereafter come to our attention, or any changes in law that may hereafter occur.

Very truly yours,

NOTICE OF SALE
\$51,365,000*
CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND
CONSOLIDATED PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT BONDS OF 2025
General Obligation Bonds
Dated: Date of Initial Delivery

Electronic bids via **PARITY®** will be received by Cecil County, Maryland (the “County”) in the office of the County Executive, Second Floor, Cecil County Administration Building, 200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton, Maryland 21921, until 10:30 a.m. local time on Wednesday,

November 19, 2025

for the purchase of the above-designated bonds (the “Bonds”) of the County.

Terms of the Bonds

The Bonds are all dated their date of initial delivery, and bear interest payable semiannually on February 1 and August 1, commencing February 1, 2026, until maturity or prior redemption. The Bonds mature, subject to prior redemption as herein stated, on August 1 as follows:

<u>Year of Maturity</u>	<u>Principal Amount*</u>	<u>Year of Maturity</u>	<u>Principal Amount*</u>
2026	\$1,300,000	2041	\$2,755,000
2027	1,375,000	2042	2,865,000
2028	1,445,000	2043	2,985,000
2029	1,520,000	2044	3,110,000
2030	1,590,000	2045	3,245,000
2031	1,675,000	2046	645,000
2032	1,770,000	2047	670,000
2033	1,860,000	2048	700,000
2034	1,950,000	2049	735,000
2035	2,055,000	2050	770,000
2036	2,150,000	2051	805,000
2037	2,270,000	2052	840,000
2038	2,375,000	2053	880,000
2039	2,505,000	2054	920,000
2040	2,635,000	2055	965,000

*Preliminary, subject to adjustment as provided herein.

Adjustments

The aggregate principal amount of the Bonds and the principal amount of each maturity of the Bonds as set forth in this Notice of Sale may be revised both before and after the receipt and opening of electronic bids for their purchase. Any revisions to the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds and the principal amount of each maturity made before the sale will be published on **PARITY®**/www.i-dealprospectus.com or TM3 News Service not later than 9:30 a.m., local time on the date of sale or as soon thereafter as is reasonably practicable and will be used to compare bids and select the winning bidder. Any revisions to the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds and the principal amount of each maturity made after the sale will be communicated to the successful bidder by 5:00 p.m. local time on the date of sale, may be made in the sole discretion of the County, and will not reduce or increase the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds by more than 15%. The dollar amount bid for principal and any amount bid for premium by the successful bidder will be adjusted proportionately to reflect any increase or reduction in the aggregate principal amount of the Bonds, but the interest rates specified by the successful bidder for all maturities will not change. The successful bidder may not withdraw its bid as a result of any changes made within these limits.

Authorization

The Bonds will be issued under the authority of Section 10-203 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended, the Cecil County Charter, Sections 97-22 through 97-27, inclusive, of the Code of Cecil County (2012 Edition, as amended), and Bill No. 2025-08 enacted by the County Council of the County on August 19, 2025 and effective on October 18, 2025, and are authorized to be issued by an Executive Order executed and delivered by the County Executive of the County on October 30, 2025 and to be awarded by an Executive Order expected to be executed and delivered by the County Executive of the County on November 19, 2025 (together, the “Executive Order”), to provide funds for the design, planning, acquisition, renovation, construction and equipping of certain public facilities in the County.

Security for the Bonds

The full faith and credit and unlimited taxing power of the County are irrevocably pledged to the payment of the principal of the Bonds and of the interest to accrue thereon when due.

General Obligations

The full faith and credit and unlimited taxing power of the County are unconditionally pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Bonds when due.

Optional Redemption

The Bonds which mature on or before August 1, 2035 are not subject to redemption prior to their maturities. The Bonds which mature on and after August 1, 2036 are subject to redemption at any time on or after August 1, 2035, as a whole or in part, at the option of the County, at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Bonds to be redeemed, plus accrued interest to the redemption date.

If less than all of the Bonds are to be redeemed, the particular maturities to be redeemed shall be selected by the County. If less than all of the Bonds of any one maturity are called for redemption, the particular Bonds of that maturity to be redeemed shall be selected by the Depository in such manner as the Depository determines. If selection by lot within a maturity is required, Manufacturers and Traders Trust Company (the “Bond Registrar” and “Paying Agent”) shall by random selection of the names of the registered owners of the entire annual maturity select the Bonds to be redeemed until the total amount of Bonds to be redeemed has been reached, except that so long as The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York (“DTC”), or its nominee is the sole registered owner of the Bonds, the particular Bonds or portion to be redeemed shall be selected by lot by DTC, in such manner as DTC shall determine. Each \$5,000 portion of a Bond shall be treated as a separate Bond in the selection by lot of Bonds to be redeemed.

If the County elects to redeem all or a portion of the Bonds outstanding, it shall deliver a redemption notice to DTC prior to the date fixed for redemption by a secure means as prescribed in the Executive Order. If the book-entry system is discontinued for the Bonds, the County shall give a redemption notice not less than 30 days prior to the redemption date by letter mailed first class, postage prepaid, to the registered owners of the Bonds to be redeemed at their last addresses appearing on the registration books maintained by the Bond Registrar. Failure to deliver or mail any such notice with respect to a particular Bond or any defect in such notice, or in the delivery or mailing thereof, shall not affect the validity of the redemption proceedings. From and after the date fixed for redemption, if funds sufficient for the payment of the redemption price and accrued interest are held by the Paying Agent on such date and any other conditions to such redemption have been satisfied, the Bonds designated for redemption shall become due and payable at the redemption price provided for the redemption of such Bonds on such date, and interest on the Bonds shall cease to accrue.

Book-Entry System

The Bonds will be issued in fully registered book-entry form, and DTC will act as securities depository for the Bonds. One Bond representing each maturity of the Bonds will be issued to and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC, as registered owner of the Bonds, and each such Bond shall be immobilized in the custody of DTC or with the Bond Registrar to be held under DTC’s “FAST” system, provided that if DTC requests, certificated Bonds will be issued in denominations of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof. Individual purchases will be made in book-entry form only, in the principal amount of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof. Purchasers will not receive physical delivery of certificates representing their interest in the Bonds purchased. The successful bidder, as a condition to delivery of the Bonds, will be required to deposit the Bond certificates representing each maturity with DTC.

Interest on the Bonds will be payable when due and principal and redemption price of the Bonds will be payable at maturity or upon earlier redemption to DTC or its nominee as registered owner of the Bonds. Transfer of principal and interest payments to beneficial owners of the Bonds by participants of DTC (“Participants”) will be the responsibility of Participants and other nominees of beneficial owners. The County will not be responsible or liable for such transfers of payments or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing the records maintained by Participants or persons acting through Participants.

In the event that DTC determines not to continue to act as securities depository for the Bonds or the County determines to discontinue the book-entry system with DTC, and the County does not replace DTC with another securities depository, the County will execute and the Bond Registrar will authenticate and deliver replacement bonds in certificated form registered in the names of the Participants or, if requested in writing by such Participants, in the names of the beneficial owners of the Bonds. Replacement bonds issued to Participants or to beneficial owners shall be in authorized denominations and be in fully registered form in substantially the form set forth in the Executive Order.

Electronic Bids

Electronic bids via **PARITY®** will be received in the manner described below until 10:30 a.m. local time on November 19, 2025. For purposes of the electronic bidding process, the time as maintained on **PARITY®** constitutes the official time. Bidders may only submit bids electronically via **PARITY®**.

Bids may be submitted electronically via **PARITY®** pursuant to this Notice of Sale until 10:30 a.m. local time, but no bid will be received after the time for receiving bids specified herein. To the extent any instructions or directions set forth in **PARITY®** conflict with this Notice of Sale, the terms of this Notice of Sale shall control. For further information about **PARITY®** potential bidders may contact **PARITY®** at Dalcomp (212) 849-5021.

Designation of Term Bonds

Bidders may designate in their bid two or more consecutive serial maturities beginning no earlier than August 1, 2036 and in any year thereafter as a term bond which matures on the maturity date of the last serial maturity of the sequence. The stated maturity date for any term bond so designated may not be earlier than August 1, 2037. More than one such sequence of serial maturities may be designated as a term bond. Any term bond so designated shall be subject to mandatory redemption in each year on the principal payment date and in the entire amount of each serial maturity designated for inclusion in such term bond.

Bid Parameters

No bid for less than all of the Bonds will be considered by the County. The right is reserved to waive any irregularity or informality in any bid and to reject any or all bids. The County’s judgment shall be final and binding upon all bidders with respect to the form and adequacy of any bid received and as to its conformity to the terms of this Notice of Sale.

Each bidder shall submit one bid on an all-or-none basis for the Bonds. Each bid must specify the amount bid for the Bonds, which shall be not less than 100% of par or more than 115% of par. Each bid must specify in multiples of one-eighth (1/8) or one-twentieth (1/20) of one percent (1%) the rate or rates of interest per annum which the Bonds are to bear but shall not specify (a) more than one interest rate for any Bonds having the same maturity, (b) a zero rate of interest, (c) any interest rate for any Bonds which exceeds the interest rate stated in such bid for any other Bonds by more than 3.00%, or (d) any interest rate that exceeds 5.00%.

Electronic Bidding Procedures

Electronic bids must be submitted for the purchase of the Bonds (all or none) via **PARITY®**. Bids will be communicated electronically to the County at 10:30 a.m. local time, on Wednesday, November 19, 2025. Prior to that time, a prospective bidder may (1) submit the proposed terms of its bid via **PARITY®**, (2) modify the proposed terms of its bid, in which event the proposed terms as last modified will (unless the bid is withdrawn as described herein) constitute its bid for the Bonds or (3) withdraw its proposed bid. Once the bids are communicated electronically via **PARITY®** to the County, each bid will constitute an irrevocable offer to purchase the Bonds on the terms therein provided.

Disclaimer

Each prospective bidder shall be solely responsible to submit its bid via **PARITY®** as described above. Each prospective bidder shall be solely responsible to make necessary arrangements to access **PARITY®** for the purpose of submitting its bid in a timely manner and in compliance with the requirements of this Notice of Sale. Neither the County nor **PARITY®** shall have any

duty or obligation to provide or assure access to **PARITY®** to any prospective bidder, and neither the County nor **PARITY®** shall be responsible for proper operation of, or have any liability for any delays or interruptions of, or any damages caused by **PARITY®**. The County is using **PARITY®** as a communication mechanism, and not as the County's agent, to conduct the electronic bidding for the Bonds. The County is not bound by any advice and determination of **PARITY®** to the effect that any particular bid complies with the terms of this Notice of Sale and in particular the "Bid Parameters" set forth herein. All costs and expenses incurred by prospective bidders in connection with their submission of bids via **PARITY®** are the sole responsibility of the bidders, and the County is not responsible, directly or indirectly, for any of such costs or expenses. If a prospective bidder encounters any difficulty in submitting, modifying or withdrawing a bid for the Bonds, such bidder should telephone **PARITY®** at Dalcomp (212) 849-5021 and notify the County's Financial Advisor, Davenport & Company LLC, by facsimile at (866) 932-6660.

Basis of Award

Bids will be opened promptly after 10:30 a.m. local time (as determined in accordance with the time maintained on **PARITY®**), on Wednesday, November 19, 2025. The award, if made, will be made promptly after the bids are opened to the bidder offering the lowest true interest cost to the County in any legally acceptable bid. The lowest true interest cost shall be determined in accordance with the true interest cost ("TIC") method by doubling the semiannual interest rate (compounded semiannually) necessary to discount the debt service payments from the payment dates to the date of the Bonds, and to the price bid. The TIC shall be as determined by the financial advisor to the County based on the terms of this Notice of Sale and all amendments thereto and on each bid as submitted. If two or more bidders offer to purchase the Bonds at the same lowest true interest cost, then such award will be made to the bidder offering the highest premium. If two or more bidders offer to purchase the Bonds at the same lowest true interest cost, with the same premium, the Bonds will be awarded by lot to one of such bidders.

Good Faith Deposit

A good faith deposit (the "Deposit") is required in connection with the sale and bid for the Bonds. The Deposit in the form of a federal funds wire transfer in the amount of \$513,650 must be submitted to the County by the successful bidder not later than 3:00 p.m. local time (the "Deposit Deadline") on the date of sale. The Deposit of the successful bidder will be retained by the County to be applied in partial payment for the Bonds, and no interest will be allowed or paid upon the amount thereof, but in the event the successful bidder shall fail to comply with the terms of the respective bid, the proceeds thereof will be retained as and for full liquidated damages.

The County shall distribute wiring instructions for the Deposit to the successful bidder upon verification of the bids submitted by the bidders and prior to the Deposit Deadline. If the Deposit is not received by the Deposit Deadline, the award of the sale of the Bonds to the successful bidder may be cancelled by the County in its discretion without any financial liability of the County to the successful bidder or any limitation whatsoever on the County's right to sell the Bonds to a different bidder upon such terms and conditions as the County shall deem appropriate.

Establishment of Issue Price

The successful bidder shall assist the County in establishing the issue price of the Bonds and shall execute and deliver to the County at closing an "issue price" or similar certificate setting forth the reasonably expected initial offering price to the public or the sales price or prices of the Bonds, together with the supporting pricing wires or equivalent communications, substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A-1 or Exhibit A-2, as applicable, with such modifications as may be appropriate or necessary, in the reasonable judgment of the successful bidder, the County and Bond Counsel. All actions to be taken by the County under this Notice of Sale to establish the issue price of the Bonds may be taken on behalf of the County by the County's financial advisor identified herein and any notice or report to be provided to the County may be provided to the County's financial advisor.

The County intends that the provisions of Treasury Regulation Section 1.148-1(f)(3)(i) (defining "competitive sale" for purposes of establishing the issue price of the Bonds) will apply to the initial sale of the Bonds (the "competitive sale requirements") because:

- (1) the County shall disseminate this Notice of Sale to potential underwriters in a manner that is reasonably designed to reach potential underwriters;
- (2) all bidders shall have an equal opportunity to bid;
- (3) the County may receive bids from at least three underwriters of municipal bonds who have established industry reputations for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds; and

(4) the County anticipates awarding the sale of the Bonds to the bidder who submits a firm offer to purchase the Bonds at the highest price (or lowest interest cost), as set forth in this Notice of Sale.

By submitting a bid, each bidder (i) confirms that its bid is a firm offer for the purchase of the Bonds identified in this Notice of Sale, on the terms set forth in its bid and this Notice of Sale, except as permitted by this Notice of Sale and (ii) represents that it has an established industry reputation for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds.

In the event that the competitive sale requirements are not satisfied, the County shall so advise the successful bidder. The County may determine to treat (i) the first price at which 10% of a maturity of the Bonds (the “10% test”) is sold to the public as the issue price of that maturity and/or (ii) the initial offering price to the public as of the sale date of any maturity of the Bonds as the issue price of that maturity (the “hold-the-offering-price rule”), in each case applied on a maturity-by-maturity basis (and if different interest rates apply within a maturity, to each separate CUSIP number within that maturity). The successful bidder shall advise the County if any maturity of the Bonds satisfies the 10% test as of the date and time of the award of the Bonds. The County shall promptly advise the successful bidder, at or before the time of award of the Bonds, which maturities (and if different interest rates apply within a maturity, which separate CUSIP number within that maturity) of the Bonds shall be subject to the 10% test or shall be subject to the hold-the-offering-price rule. Bids will not be subject to cancellation in the event that the County determines to apply the hold-the-offering-price rule to any maturity of the Bonds.

Bidders should prepare their bids on the assumption that some or all of the maturities of the Bonds will be subject to the hold-the-offering-price rule in order to establish the issue price of the Bonds.

By submitting a bid, the successful bidder shall (i) confirm that the underwriters have offered or will offer the Bonds to the public on or before the date of award at the offering price or prices (the “initial offering price”), or at the corresponding yield or yields, set forth in the bid submitted by the successful bidder and (ii) agree, on behalf of the underwriters participating in the purchase of the Bonds, that the underwriters will neither offer nor sell unsold Bonds of any maturity to which the hold-the-offering-price rule shall apply to any person at a price that is higher than the initial offering price to the public during the period starting on the sale date and ending on the earlier of the following:

- (1) the close of the fifth (5th) business day after the sale date; or
- (2) the date on which the underwriters have sold at least 10% of that maturity of the Bonds to the public at a price that is no higher than the initial offering price to the public.

The successful bidder shall promptly advise the County when the underwriters have sold 10% of that maturity of the Bonds to the public at a price that is no higher than the initial offering price to the public, if that occurs prior to the close of the fifth (5th) business day after the sale date.

If the competitive sale requirements are not satisfied, then until the 10% test has been satisfied as to each maturity of the Bonds, the successful bidder agrees to promptly report to the County the prices at which the unsold Bonds of that maturity have been sold to the public. That reporting obligation shall continue, whether or not the closing has occurred, until the 10% test has been satisfied as to the Bonds of that maturity or until all Bonds of that maturity have been sold.

The County acknowledges that, in making the representation set forth above, the successful bidder will rely on (i) the agreement of each underwriter to comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, as set forth in an agreement among underwriters and the related pricing wires, (ii) in the event a selling group has been created in connection with the initial sale of the Bonds to the public, the agreement of each dealer who is a member of the selling group to comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, as set forth in a selling group agreement and the related pricing wires, and (iii) in the event that an underwriter is a party to a retail distribution agreement that was employed in connection with the initial sale of the Bonds to the public, the agreement of each broker-dealer that is a party to such agreement to comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, as set forth in the retail distribution agreement and the related pricing wires. The County further acknowledges that each underwriter shall be solely liable for its failure to comply with its agreement regarding the hold-the-offering-price rule and that no underwriter shall be liable for the failure of any other underwriter, or of any dealer who is a member of a selling group, or of any broker-dealer that is a party to a retail distribution agreement to comply with its corresponding agreement regarding the hold-the-offering-price rule as applicable to the Bonds.

By submitting a bid, each bidder confirms that: (i) any agreement among underwriters, any selling group agreement and each retail distribution agreement (to which the bidder is a party) relating to the initial sale of the Bonds to the public, together with the related pricing wires, contains or will contain language obligating each underwriter, each dealer who is a member of the selling group, and each broker-dealer that is a party to such retail distribution agreement, as applicable, to (A) report the prices at which it sells to the public the unsold Bonds of each maturity allotted to it until it is notified by the successful bidder that either the 10% test has been satisfied as to the Bonds of that maturity or all Bonds of that maturity have been sold to the public and (B) comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, if applicable, in each case if and for so long as directed by the successful bidder and as set forth in the related pricing wires, and (ii) any agreement among underwriters relating to the initial sale of the Bonds to the public, together with the related pricing wires, contains or will contain language obligating each underwriter that is a party to a retail distribution agreement to be employed in connection with the initial sale of the Bonds to the public to require each broker-dealer that is a party to such retail distribution agreement to (A) report the prices at which it sells to the public the unsold Bonds of each maturity allotted to it until it is notified by the successful bidder or such underwriter that either the 10% test has been satisfied as to the Bonds of that maturity or all Bonds of that maturity have been sold to the public and (B) comply with the hold-the-offering-price rule, if applicable, in each case if and for so long as directed by the successful bidder or such underwriter and as set forth in the related pricing wires.

Sales of any Bonds to any person that is a related party to an underwriter shall not constitute sales to the public for purposes of this Notice of Sale. Further, for purposes of this Notice of Sale:

(i) “public” means any person other than an underwriter or a related party,

(ii) “underwriter” means (A) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the County (or with the lead underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public and (B) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (A) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a retail distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the public),

(iii) a purchaser of any of the Bonds is a “related party” to an underwriter if the underwriter and the purchaser are subject, directly or indirectly, to (i) at least 50% common ownership of the voting power or the total value of their stock, if both entities are corporations (including direct ownership by one corporation of another), (ii) more than 50% common ownership of their capital interests or profits interests, if both entities are partnerships (including direct ownership by one partnership of another), or (iii) more than 50% common ownership of the value of the outstanding stock of the corporation or the capital interests or profit interests of the partnership, as applicable, if one entity is a corporation and the other entity is a partnership (including direct ownership of the applicable stock or interests by one entity of the other), and

(iv) “sale date” means the date that the Bonds are awarded by the County to the successful bidder.

Postponement of Sale; Change in Bid Parameters

The County reserves the right to postpone, from time to time, the date established for the receipt of bids or to change the bid parameters for the Bonds. Any such postponement or change will be announced by **PARITY**®/www.i-dealprospectus.com or TM3 News Service by notice given not later than 4:00 p.m. local time, on the last business day prior to any announced date for receipt of bids. If any date fixed for the receipt of bids and the sale of the Bonds is postponed, any alternative sale date will be announced via **PARITY**®/www.i-dealprospectus.com or TM3 News Service at least 48 hours prior to such alternative sale date. In addition, the County reserves the right, on the date established for the receipt of bids, to reject all bids and establish a subsequent alternative sale date. On any such alternative sale date, any bidder may submit an electronic bid via **PARITY**® for the purchase of the Bonds in conformity in all respects with the provisions of this Notice of Sale, except for the date of sale and except for any changes announced by **PARITY**®/www.i-dealprospectus.com or TM3 News Service at the time the sale date and time are announced.

Approving Legal Opinion; Closing Papers

The Bonds will be issued and sold subject to approval as to legality by McGuireWoods LLP of Baltimore, Maryland, Bond Counsel, and copies of their approving legal opinion will be delivered, upon request, without charge to the successful bidder for the Bonds. There will also be furnished upon delivery of the Bonds the usual closing papers and, in addition, a certificate signed by appropriate officers of the County certifying that there is no litigation pending or, to the knowledge of the signers of such certificate, threatened affecting the validity of the Bonds and that on the date of the Official Statement mentioned below and at the time of delivery of the Bonds, the statements and information contained in such Official Statement which are made and provided by the County are and will be true, correct and complete in all material respects and the Official Statement does not and

will not omit any statement or information which is necessary to make the statements and information therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading in any material respect.

Preliminary Official Statement; Continuing Disclosure

Within seven (7) business days after the award of the Bonds, the County will authorize an Official Statement, which is expected to be substantially in the form of the Preliminary Official Statement referred to below. The Preliminary Official Statement has been deemed final by the County as of its date for the purposes of Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Rule 15c2-12”), subject to revision, amendment and completion in the final Official Statement. The County will also issue any supplement or amendment to the Official Statement that may be necessary between the date of the Official Statement and the date of delivery of the Bonds. If requested and furnished to the County in writing by the successful bidder at or before the close of business on the day of sale, the County will include in the Official Statement such pricing and other information relating to the reoffering of the Bonds, if any, as may be so furnished. If no such information is furnished by the successful bidder, the Official Statement will include the interest rates on the Bonds resulting from the bid of the successful bidder and the other statements with respect to reoffering contained in the Preliminary Official Statement. Whether or not any such information is included in the Official Statement, the successful bidder shall be responsible to the County and its officials in all respects for the accuracy, fairness and completeness of such information, and for all decisions made with respect to the use or omission of such information in any reoffering of the Bonds, including the presentation or exclusion of any such information in any documents, including the Official Statement. Within seven (7) business days after the award of the Bonds, the successful bidder will also be furnished, without cost, with an electronic copy and a reasonable number of hard copies (not to exceed 50) of the Official Statement (and any amendment or supplement thereto).

The County has made certain covenants for the benefit of the holders from time to time of the Bonds to provide certain continuing disclosure, in order to assist bidders for the Bonds in complying with Rule 15c2-12. Such covenants are described in the Preliminary Official Statement for the Bonds.

Delivery

The Bonds will be delivered on December 3, 2025, or as soon as practicable thereafter, upon due notice and at the expense of the County, for the account of the successful bidder, through the facilities of DTC in New York, New York, upon payment of the amount of the successful bid (including any premium), less the Deposit theretofore made. Such payment shall be made in Federal funds.

Miscellaneous

CUSIP numbers for the Bonds will be applied for by the Financial Advisor, but the County will assume no obligation for the assignment or printing of such numbers on the Bonds or for the correctness of such numbers, and neither the failure to print such numbers on any of the Bonds nor any error with respect thereto shall constitute cause for a failure or refusal by the successful bidder to accept delivery of and make payment for the Bonds.

The Preliminary Official Statement, together with this official Notice of Sale, will be supplied to prospective bidders upon request made in writing to the financial advisor for the issuance of the Bonds, Davenport & Company LLC, 8600 LaSalle Road, The Oxford Building, Suite 618, Towson, Maryland 21286, or by telephone 410-296-9426.

By order of

CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Adam Streight, County Executive

\$ _____
Cecil County, Maryland
Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2025

ISSUE PRICE CERTIFICATE
(Qualified Competitive Bid)

The undersigned, on behalf of [NAME OF PURCHASER] (the “Purchaser”), hereby certifies as set forth below with respect to the sale of the above-captioned obligations (the “Bonds”).

1. ***Reasonably Expected Initial Offering Price.***

(a) As of the Sale Date, the reasonably expected initial offering prices of the Bonds to the Public by the Purchaser are the prices listed in Schedule A (the “Expected Offering Prices”). The Expected Offering Prices are the prices for the Bonds used by the Purchaser in formulating its bid to purchase the Bonds. Attached as Schedule B is a true and correct copy of the bid provided by the Purchaser to purchase the Bonds.

(b) The Purchaser was not given the opportunity to review other bids prior to submitting its bid.

(c) The bid submitted by the Purchaser constituted a firm offer to purchase the Bonds.

2. ***Defined Terms.***

(a) *Issuer* means Cecil County, Maryland.

(b) *Maturity* means Bonds with the same credit and payment terms. Bonds with different maturity dates, or Bonds with the same maturity date but different stated interest rates, are treated as separate maturities.

(c) *Public* means any person (including an individual, trust, estate, partnership, association, company, or corporation) other than an Underwriter or a related party to an Underwriter. The term “related party” for purposes of this Certificate generally means any two or more persons who have greater than 50 percent common ownership, directly or indirectly.

(d) *Sale Date* means the first day on which there is a binding contract in writing for the sale of a Maturity of the Bonds. The Sale Date of the Bonds is November 19, 2025.

(e) *Underwriter* means (i) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the Issuer (or with the lead underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public, and (ii) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (i) of this paragraph to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a retail distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public).

The undersigned understands that the foregoing information will be relied upon by the Issuer with respect to certain of the representations set forth in the Non-Arbitrage Certificate and Tax Covenants and with respect to compliance with the federal income tax rules affecting the Bonds, and by McGuireWoods LLP, as bond counsel to the Issuer, in connection with rendering its opinion that the interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes, the preparation of the Internal Revenue Service Form 8038-G, and other federal income tax advice that it may give to the Issuer from time to time relating to the Bonds.

[NAME OF PURCHASER], as Purchaser

By: _____

Title: _____

Dated: _____, 2025

SCHEDULE A
Expected Offering Prices of the Bonds

SCHEDULE B
Copy of Bid

§ _____
Cecil County, Maryland
Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2025

ISSUE PRICE CERTIFICATE
(Nonqualified Competitive Bid)

The undersigned, on behalf of [NAME OF PURCHASER] (the “Purchaser”), hereby certifies as set forth below with respect to the sale and issuance of the above-captioned obligations (the “Bonds”).

1. ***Sale of the 10% Maturities.*** As of the date of this Certificate, for each Maturity of the 10% Maturities Bonds, the first price at which a Substantial Amount of such Maturity of the Bonds was sold to the Public is the respective price listed in Schedule A.

2. ***Initial Offering Price of the Undersold Maturities.***

(a) Each Underwriter offered the Undersold Maturities to the Public for purchase at the respective initial offering prices listed in Schedule B (the “Initial Offering Prices”) on or before the Sale Date. A copy of the pricing wire or equivalent communication for the Bonds is attached to this Certificate as Schedule C.

(b) As set forth in the Notice of Sale and bid award, each Underwriter has agreed in writing that, (i) for each Maturity of the Undersold Maturities, it would neither offer nor sell any of the Bonds of such Maturity to any person at a price that is higher than the Initial Offering Price for such Maturity during the Offering Period for such Maturity, nor would it permit a related party to do so (the “hold-the-price rule”) and (ii) any selling group agreement shall contain the agreement of each dealer who is a member of the selling group, and any retail distribution agreement shall contain the agreement of each broker-dealer who is a party to the retail distribution agreement, to comply with the hold-the-price rule. Pursuant to such agreement, no Underwriter has offered or sold any Maturity of the Undersold Maturities at a price that is higher than the respective Initial Offering Price for that Maturity of the Bonds during the Offering Period.

3. ***Defined Terms.***

(a) ***10% Maturities*** means those Maturities of the Bonds shown in Schedule A hereto as the “10% Maturities.”

(b) ***Issuer*** means Cecil County, Maryland.

(c) ***Maturity*** means Bonds with the same credit and payment terms. Bonds with different maturity dates, or Bonds with the same maturity date but different stated interest rates, are treated as separate maturities.

(d) ***Offering Period*** means, with respect to an Undersold Maturity, the period starting on the Sale Date and ending on the earlier of (i) the close of the fifth business day after the Sale Date (November 26, 2025), or (ii) the date on which the Purchaser has sold a Substantial Amount of such Undersold Maturity to the Public at a price that is no higher than the Initial Offering Price for such Undersold Maturity.

(e) ***Public*** means any person (including an individual, trust, estate, partnership, association, company, or corporation) other than an Underwriter or a related party to an Underwriter. The term “related party” for purposes of this Certificate generally means any two or more persons who have greater than 50 percent common ownership, directly or indirectly.

(f) *Sale Date* means the first day on which there is a binding contract in writing for the sale of a Maturity of the Bonds. The Sale Date of the Bonds is November 19, 2025.

(g) *Substantial Amount* means ten percent (10%).

(h) *Undersold Maturities* means those Maturities of the Bonds shown in Schedule B hereto as the “Undersold Maturities.”

(i) *Underwriter* means (i) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the Issuer (or with the lead underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public, and (ii) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (i) of this paragraph to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a retail distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public).

The undersigned understands that the foregoing information will be relied upon by the Issuer with respect to certain of the representations set forth in the Non-Arbitrage Certificate and Tax Covenants and with respect to compliance with the federal income tax rules affecting the Bonds, and by McGuireWoods LLP, as bond counsel to the Issuer, in connection with rendering its opinion that the interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes, the preparation of Internal Revenue Service Form 8038-G, and other federal income tax advice it may give to the Issuer from time to time relating to the Bonds.

[NAME OF PURCHASER], as Purchaser

By: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____

Dated: _____, 2025

SCHEDULE A
Sale Prices of the 10% Maturities

SCHEDULE B
Initial Offering Prices of the Undersold Maturities

SCHEDULE C
Pricing Wire

CONTINUING DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

This Continuing Disclosure Agreement dated as of December 3, 2025 (the “Disclosure Agreement”) is executed and delivered by CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND (the “County”) in connection with the issuance of the \$49,650,000 Cecil County, Maryland Consolidated Public Improvement Bonds of 2025 (the “Bonds”). The County, intending to be legally bound hereby and for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, does hereby covenant and agree as follows:

SECTION 1. Purpose of the Disclosure Agreement. This Disclosure Agreement is being executed and delivered by the County for the benefit of the owners of the Bonds, including beneficial owners, and in order to assist the Participating Underwriters in complying with Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12(b)(5). The County’s obligations hereunder shall be limited to those required by written undertaking pursuant to the Rule.

SECTION 2. Definitions. In addition to the definitions set forth above, which apply to any capitalized term used in this Disclosure Agreement, the following capitalized terms shall have the following meanings:

“EMMA” means the Electronic Municipal Market Access system of the MSRB as provided at <http://www.emma.msrb.org>, or any similar system that is acceptable to or as may be specified by the Securities and Exchange Commission from time to time.

“Financial Obligation” shall mean a (a) debt obligation; (b) derivative instrument entered into in connection with, or pledged as security or a source of payment for, an existing or planned debt obligation; or (c) guarantee of (a) or (b). The term “Financial Obligation” shall not include municipal securities as to which a final official statement has been provided to the MSRB consistent with the Rule. If the definition of “financial obligation” in the Rule is amended, the same amendment shall be deemed to be made to the definition of Financial Obligation in this Disclosure Agreement, without further action by the County.

“MSRB” shall mean the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, or any successor organization.

“Participating Underwriter” shall mean any of the original underwriters of the Bonds required to comply with the Rule in connection with offering of the Bonds.

“Reportable Event” shall mean any of the events listed in Section 4(a) of this Disclosure Agreement.

“Rule” shall mean Rule 15c2-12(b)(5) adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as the same may be amended from time to time, any successor provisions of similar import promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission in the future, and any applicable no-action letters and other authoritative interpretations of Rule 15c2-12 released by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SECTION 3. Provision of Annual Financial Information, Operating Data and Audited Information.

(a) The County shall provide to the MSRB in an electronic format as prescribed by the MSRB, directly or through an intermediary, the following annual financial information and operating data, such information and data to be updated as of the end of the preceding fiscal year and made available within 275 days after the end of the fiscal year, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026:

- (1) General Fund Summary of Revenues
- (2) General Fund Summary of Revenues, Expenditures and Transfers
- (3) Assessed Values and Tax Rates
- (4) Tax Levies and Collections

(b) The County shall provide to the MSRB in an electronic format as prescribed by the MSRB, directly or through an intermediary, annual audited financial statements for the County prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, such information to be made available within 275 days after the end of the County's fiscal year, commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, unless the audited financial statements are not available on or before such date, in which event said financial statements will be provided promptly when and if available. In the event that audited financial statements are not available within 275 days after the end of the County's fiscal year (commencing with the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026), the County will provide unaudited financial statements within such time period and in the same manner as required for audited financial statements.

(c) (1) Except as otherwise set forth in this paragraph (c), the presentation of the financial information referred to in paragraph (a) and in paragraph (b) shall be made in accordance with the same generally accepted accounting principles as utilized in connection with the presentation of applicable comparable financial information included in the final official statement for the Bonds.

(2) The County may make changes to the presentation of the financial information required in paragraph (a) and in paragraph (b) necessitated by changes in generally accepted accounting principles.

(3) The County may otherwise modify the presentation of the financial information required herein, provided that this Disclosure Agreement is amended in accordance with Section 6 hereof.

(d) If the County is unable to provide the annual financial information and operating data within the applicable time periods specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) above, the County shall send in a timely manner a notice of such failure to the MSRB in an electronic format as prescribed by the MSRB.

SECTION 4. Reporting of Significant Events.

(a) This Section 4 shall govern the giving of notices of the occurrence of any of the following Reportable Events with respect to the Bonds:

- (1) Principal and interest payment delinquencies;
- (2) Non-payment related defaults, if material;
- (3) Unscheduled draws on debt service reserves reflecting financial difficulties;
- (4) Unscheduled draws on credit enhancements reflecting financial difficulties;
- (5) Substitution of credit or liquidity providers, or their failure to perform;
- (6) Adverse tax opinions, the issuance by the Internal Revenue Service of proposed or final determinations of taxability, Notices of Proposed Issue (IRS Form 5701 – TEB) or other material notices or determinations with respect to the tax status of the Bonds, or other material events affecting the tax-exempt status of the Bonds;
- (7) Modifications to rights of owners of the Bonds, if material;
- (8) Bond calls, if material, and tender offers;
- (9) Defeasances;
- (10) Release, substitution, or sale of property securing repayment of the Bonds, if material;
- (11) Rating changes;
- (12) Bankruptcy, insolvency, receivership or similar event of the obligated person;
- (13) The consummation of a merger, consolidation, or acquisition involving an obligated person or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the obligated person, other than in the ordinary course of business, the entry into a definitive agreement to undertake such an action or the termination of a definitive agreement relating to any such actions, other than pursuant to its terms, if material;
- (14) Appointment of a successor or additional trustee, or the change of name of a trustee, if material;
- (15) Incurrence of a Financial Obligation of the obligated person, if material, or agreement to covenants, events of default, remedies, priority rights, or other similar terms of a Financial Obligation of the obligated person, any of which affect security holders, if material; and

- (16) Default, event of acceleration, termination event, modification of terms, or other similar events under the terms of a Financial Obligation of the obligated person, any of which reflect financial difficulties.

(b) Whenever the County obtains knowledge of the occurrence of a Reportable Event, the County shall file in a timely manner, not in excess of ten (10) business days after the occurrence of such event, directly or through an intermediary, a notice of such occurrence with the MSRB in an electronic format as prescribed by the MSRB.

(c) For the purposes of the event identified in subparagraph (12) above, the event is considered to occur when any of the following occur: the appointment of a receiver, fiscal agent or similar officer for the County in a proceeding under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code or in any other proceeding under state or federal law in which a court or governmental authority has assumed jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the County, or if such jurisdiction has been assumed by leaving the existing governing body and officials or officers in possession but subject to the supervision and orders of a court or governmental authority, or the entry of an order confirming a plan or reorganization, arrangement or liquidation by a court or governmental authority having supervision or jurisdiction over substantially all of the assets or business of the County.

SECTION 5. Termination of Reporting Obligations; EMMA.

(a) The County's obligations under this Disclosure Agreement shall terminate upon the payment in full of all of the Bonds either at their maturity or upon their earlier redemption. In addition, the County may terminate its obligations under this Disclosure Agreement if and when the County no longer remains an obligated person with respect to the Bonds within the meaning of the Rule.

(b) All documents provided to the MSRB pursuant to this Disclosure Agreement shall be submitted to EMMA and shall be accompanied by identifying information as prescribed by the MSRB.

SECTION 6. Amendments.

(a) The County may provide further or additional assurances that will become part of the County's obligations under this Disclosure Agreement. In addition, this Disclosure Agreement may be amended by the County in its discretion, provided that:

(1) (A) the amendment is being made in connection with a change of circumstances that arises from a change in legal requirements, change in law, change in the identity, nature or status of the County as the obligated person with respect to the Bonds, or type of business conducted by the County, (B) this Disclosure Agreement, as amended, would, in the opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel, have complied with the requirements of the Rule at the time of the issuance of the Bonds, after taking into account any amendments or interpretations of the Rule, as well as any change in circumstances; and (C) the amendment does not materially impair the interests of owners of the Bonds, including beneficial owners, as determined by such bond counsel or by an approving vote of the holders of at least 25% of the outstanding principal amount of the Bonds; or

(2) the County receives an opinion of nationally recognized bond counsel to the effect that such amendment is permitted or required by the Rule.

(b) The reasons for the County agreeing to provide any further or additional assurances or for any amendment and the impact of the change in the type of financial information or operating data being provided will be explained in information provided with the annual financial information containing the additional or amended financial information or operating data.

SECTION 7. Additional Information. Nothing in this Disclosure Agreement shall be deemed to prevent the County from disseminating any other information, using the means of dissemination set forth in this Disclosure Agreement or any other means of communication, or including disclaimers or any other information in any disclosure made pursuant to Section 3(a) or 3(b) hereof or notice of occurrence of a Reportable Event, in addition to that which is required by this Disclosure Agreement. If the County chooses to include any information in any disclosure made pursuant to Section 3(a) or 3(b) hereof or notice of occurrence of a Reportable Event in addition to

that which is specifically required by this Disclosure Agreement, the County shall have no obligation under this Disclosure Agreement to update such information or include it in any future disclosure made pursuant to Section 3(a) or 3(b) hereof or notice of occurrence of a Reportable Event.

SECTION 8. Limitation on Remedies and Forum.

(a) The County shall be given written notice at the address set forth below of any claimed failure by the County to perform its obligations under this Disclosure Agreement, and the County shall be given 45 days to remedy any such claimed failure. Any suit or other proceeding seeking further redress with regard to any such claimed failure by the County shall be limited to specific performance as the adequate and exclusive remedy available in connection with such action. Written notice to the County shall be given to the Director of Finance, Cecil County Government, 200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton, Maryland 21921, or at such alternate address as shall be specified by the County in disclosures made pursuant to Section 3(a) or 3(b) hereof or a notice of occurrence of a Reportable Event.

(b) Any suit or proceeding seeking redress with regard to any claimed failure by the County to perform its obligations under this Disclosure Agreement must be filed in the Circuit Court for Cecil County, Maryland.

SECTION 9. Beneficiaries. This Disclosure Agreement shall inure solely to the benefit of the owners from time to time of the Bonds, including beneficial owners, and shall create no rights in any other person or entity.

SECTION 10. Relationship to Bonds. This Disclosure Agreement constitutes an undertaking by the County that is independent of the County's obligations with respect to the Bonds. Any breach or default by the County under this Disclosure Agreement shall not constitute or give rise to a breach or default under the Bonds.

SECTION 11. Severability. In case any section or provision of this Disclosure Agreement or any covenant, stipulation, obligation, agreement, or action, or any part thereof, made, assumed, entered into or taken under this Disclosure Agreement, or any application thereof, is for any reason held to be illegal or invalid or is at any time inoperable, such illegality, invalidity or inoperability shall not affect the remainder thereof or any other section or provision of this Disclosure Agreement, or any other covenant, stipulation, obligation, agreement, act or action, or part thereof, made, assumed, entered into or taken under this Disclosure Agreement, which shall at the time be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid or inoperable portion were not contained therein.

SECTION 12. Entire Agreement. This Disclosure Agreement contains the entire agreement of the County with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior arrangements and understandings with respect thereto; provided, however, that this Disclosure Agreement shall be interpreted and construed with reference to and in pari materia with the Rule.

SECTION 13. Captions. The captions or headings herein shall be solely for convenience of reference and shall in no way define, limit or describe the scope or intent of any provisions or sections hereof.

SECTION 14. Governing Law. This Disclosure Agreement and any claim made with respect to the performance by the County of its obligations hereunder shall be governed by, subject to and construed in accordance with the federal securities laws, where applicable, and the laws of the State of Maryland, without reference to the choice of law principles thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the County has caused this Disclosure Agreement to be duly executed as of the day and year first above written.

CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: _____
County Executive