

# FAIR ELECTION FUND COMMISSION

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Commissioner

March 26, 2025

Mr. Edward P. Burroughs III and County Council Members  
Prince George's County Council  
1301 McCormick Drive  
Largo, MD 20774

Re: FY 2026 Budget Appropriation for Fair Election Fund

Dear Chair Burroughs and Members of the Prince George's County Council:

We write to express our strong support for the \$400,000 appropriation to the Fair Election Fund, as included in the FY 2026 proposed budget by Acting County Executive Jackson. Upon adoption, this funding will bring the total available for the Fair Election Fund to \$800,000, ensuring the successful launch of the County's new campaign fund matching program for the 2026 election cycle.

Even in this difficult budget year, we urge full support for this program. For many Prince Georgians, the only thing more concerning than deepening revenue shortfalls at the County and State levels is the growing threat to democracy posed by undue political influence from individuals and corporations with unprecedented wealth. Now more than ever, it is essential to uphold the democratic values that this program was designed to protect.

The Prince George's County's Fair Election Fund is a public campaign financing program established to promote and encourage broader access to elected office in the County and prevent large donations from unduly influencing government. The program is intended to empower citizens to run for office based on the strength of their ideas, supported by small donations from ordinary people and matching funds from the Fair Election Fund.

A variety of scenarios exist for the number of candidates that \$800,000 could support during the 2026 election cycle, including for example: one at-large

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Fair Election Fund Commission

c/o Office of Finance, Prince George's County Government  
1301 McCormick Drive, Suite 1100, Largo, MD 20774

<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/boards-commissions/fair-election-fund-commission>

candidate (at \$200,000) and eight district council candidates (at \$75,000 each), should they all qualify for the maximum eligible amount.

We welcome the opportunity to provide further information and brief the Council on the Fund and our work, including an overview of the new Summary Guide. Please let us know a convenient date for such a briefing.

Thank you for your leadership and for working with us and the Acting County Executive to ensure that sufficient funds are available to successfully launch this important initiative for the 2026 election cycle.

Sincerely,



Mrs. J.M. Parker, Chair  
Fair Election Fund Commission

CC: Jennifer A. Jenkins, Administrator, County Council