



CITY OF LAUREL OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

8103 Sandy Spring Road, Laurel, MD 20707
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Keith R. Sydnor
Mayor

May 28, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Brencis D. Smith, Council President
Laurel City Councilmembers
FROM: Keith R. Sydnor, Mayor *KRS*
SUBJECT: Line-Item Veto Ordinance No. 2055- General Operating Budget and
Capital Improvement Program
Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027

Pursuant to the authority granted to the Mayor under City of Laurel Charter Article 500. Finance, Section 503 and Article 300. Government, Section 354, I hereby exercise my line-item veto authority regarding specific amendments made by the City Council to Ordinance No. 2055, an Ordinance Adopting the General Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 and to Levy Property Taxes; and to Authorize the Collection of Such Taxes.

First, I would like to thank the City Council, City staff, department directors, and residents who participated in the FY2027 budget process. The budget is one of the most important responsibilities of municipal government, requiring thoughtful deliberation, fiscal discipline, and a clear commitment to meeting the needs of our residents.

After reviewing the amendments adopted by the City Council, I must respectfully veto the following actions:

Line-Item Veto Actions

1. Family Resiliency Program

Revenue Category – Investment Interest
Account 10-4-000-47105 – Interest Investments – General Fund
Amount: \$1,000,000

Department 240 – Economic & Community Development
Account 10-5-240-52806 – Family Resiliency Program
Amount: \$1,000,000

The City Council's action to remove the \$1,000,000 Family Resiliency Program from the Mayor's proposed budget is hereby **vetoed**.

This initiative was created to provide direct support to struggling working families facing housing instability, rising living costs, and financial hardship. The purpose of this investment is to help families build stability, resilience, and a pathway toward greater self-sufficiency.

Affordable housing and family stabilization have been priorities of my administration since taking office. This program represents a strategic investment in prevention, helping families before they fall deeper into crisis, which ultimately places greater pressure on social services, public safety resources, and the community as a whole.

I believe removing this funding sends the wrong message to working families who are doing their best but need temporary support to regain stability. Therefore, I am vetoing the Council's removal of this appropriation and **restoring the funding as originally proposed to \$1,000,000.**

2. Department 270 – Community Promotions

Account: 10-5-270-52061 – Laurel Independent Monthly Insert

Amount: Proposed Increase from \$30,000 to \$45,000

Account: 10-5-270-52621 – Contribution – Voices of Laurel

Amount: Proposed increase from \$4,000 to \$6,000

The City Council's proposal to increase funding for the Laurel Independent Monthly Insert from \$30,000 to \$45,000 is hereby **vetoed**.

While I have no objection to transferring operational responsibility for this communication function to the Department of Communications, I do not support increasing the funding allocation by an additional \$15,000. **Funding is restored to the original allocation of \$30,000.**

If the Council wishes to move this publication to the Department of Communications (Account 10-5-235-52063) for administrative purposes, I support that transfer. However, this should be done as a budget-neutral transfer, not as an increase in spending.

I agree with moving the funding for the Voices of Laurel Advertising to the Department of Communications (Account 10-5-235-52063) and reducing the Community Promotions Budget (Account 10-5-270-52621) in the amount of \$4,000.

Further, I agree to reducing the Mayor's Legal Services (Account 10-5-210-52011) by \$2,000 and adding that amount to the Voices of Laurel Advertising line item in the Department of Communications (Account 10-5-235-52063) making the total line item for Voices of Laurel Advertising \$6,000.

The results of these changes are as follows:

Mayor's Legal Services (Account 10-5-210-52011) \$295,839
Mayor's Office total budget - - \$677,891

Community Promotions Advertising-Public Notice (Account 10-5-270-52061) \$0
Community Promotions Contributions/Nonprofits (Account 10-5-270-52621)
\$157,987
Community Promotions total budget - - \$223,287

Department of Communications Advertising-Neighborhood Publications (Account
10-5-235-52063) \$36,000
Department of Communication total budget - - \$999,623

Fiscal stewardship requires discipline, especially when balancing competing priorities across City government.

As Mayor, I take seriously my responsibility to manage taxpayer dollars wisely while ensuring our budget reflects the values and priorities of the City of Laurel.

These veto actions are intended to preserve investments that directly support residents while maintaining fiscal accountability regarding discretionary spending.



CITY OF LAUREL, MARYLAND

ORDINANCE NO. 2055 (As Amended and Adopted by the Laurel City Council at the May 27, 2026 Meeting)

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL, MARYLAND, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027 AND TO LEVY PROPERTY TAXES; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE COLLECTION OF SUCH TAXES

Sponsored by the Laurel City Council.

WHEREAS, the Mayor presented the City Council with his proposed FY2027 budget, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council held work sessions on the proposed budget on May 4th, 6th, 11th, and 14th in addition to the Introduction and First Public Hearing held on May 11, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council held a Second Public Hearing with Possible Action on Monday, May 28, 2026, at which line-item amendments to the budget were proposed and adopted by the Laurel City Council, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland that the following General Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 is hereby adopted.

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

<u>REVENUES</u>	PROPOSED FY2027	COUNCIL CHANGE	COUNCIL AMENDED
Fund: 10 - GENERAL FUND			
4010 - R/E TAX REVENUE	\$31,886,425		\$31,886,425
4030 - PERSONAL PROP TAX	1,315,000		\$1,315,000
4040 - PERSONAL PROP-INT/PENTALTY	40,000		\$40,000
4050 - LOCAL TAXES	5,500,000		\$5,500,000
4060 - OTHER LOCAL TAXES	2,210,857		\$2,210,857
4110 - LICENSES	662,850		\$662,850
4130 - PERMITS	330,159		\$330,159
4210 - FEDERAL GRANTS	28,000		\$28,000
4230 - STATE GRANTS	778,775		\$778,775
4250 - COUNTY GRANTS	146,362		\$146,362
4260 - OTHER GRANTS	75,000		\$75,000
4310 - GENERAL GOV'T SERVICE CH	135,250		\$135,250
4340 - SANITATION SERVICE CHGS	176,000		\$176,000
4350 - SERVICE CHARGE-HEALTH	10,000		\$10,000
4370 - FACILITY RENTALS	170,790		\$170,790
4411 - SWIMMING POOL FEES	130,510		\$130,510
4413 - RECREATION PROGRAM FEES	99,500		\$99,500
4415 - P&R ACTIVITY FEES	99,000		\$99,000
4417 - P&R CONCESSION FEES	26,500		\$26,500
4430 - SENIOR PROGRAM FEES	18,500		\$18,500
4620 - POLICE FINES	2,896,600		\$2,896,600
4630 - CODE ENFORCEMENT FINES	12,250		\$12,250
4710 - INVESTMENT INTEREST	1,299,500	(1,000,000)	\$299,500

4720 - RENTAL INCOME	18,963	\$18,963
4730 - CONTRIBUTIONS/DONATIONS	600	\$600
4740 - SALE OF PROPERTY	14,500	\$14,500
4750 - MISC REFUNDS AND REBATES	113,256	\$113,256
4761 - POLICE ACCT RECEIPTS	60,000	\$60,000
4790 - OTHER MISC REVENUES	1,113,866	\$1,113,866
4840 - FUND TRANSFER	878,298	\$878,298
TOTAL REVENUES	\$50,247,311	(1,000,000) \$49,247,311

<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	PROPOSED	COUNCIL	COUNCIL
Fund: 10 - GENERAL FUND	FY2027	CHANGE	AMENDED
201 - CITY COUNCIL	\$128,300		\$128,300
205 - CLERK TO THE COUNCIL	255,046		\$255,046
210 - MAYOR	679,891	(17,000)	\$662,891
215 - CITY ADMINISTRATOR	686,941		\$686,941
220 - ELECTIONS	25,000		\$25,000
225 - BUDGET & PERSONNEL SVCS	1,473,250		\$1,473,250
235 - COMMUNICATIONS	963,623	51,000	\$1,014,623
240 - ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEV	1,854,027	(1,000,000)	\$854,027
244 - SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS	87,538		\$87,538
250 - INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	3,599,384		\$3,599,384
270 - COMMUNITY PROMOTION	257,287	(34,000)	\$223,287
280 - GROUNDS MAINTENANCE	892,114		\$892,114
281 - JOSEPH R. ROBISON - LAUREL MUNICIPAL CENTER	204,250		\$204,250
284 - PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY	156,034		\$156,034
285 - ROBERT J. DIPIETRO COMMUNITY CENTER	170,069		\$170,069
286 - ARMORY COMMUNITY CENTER	124,950		\$124,950
287 - LAUREL MUSEUM	17,245		\$17,245
288 - GUDE LAKEHOUSE	38,250		\$38,250
289 - MAIN ST. POOL MAINTENANC	90,720		\$90,720
290 - LPD FACILITY	343,772		\$343,772
291 - GREENVIEW DR REC COMPLEX	54,155		\$54,155
292 - P&R MAINTENANCE FACILITY	53,520		\$53,520
293 - GUDE HOUSE	72,703		\$72,703
294 - CRAIG A. MOE LAUREL MULITSERVICE CENTER- MAINTENANCE	264,259		\$264,259
295 - 114 LAFAYETTE AVE	47,100		\$47,100
296 - 122 LAFAYETTE AVE	131,796		\$131,796
301 - POLICE	15,367,098		\$15,367,098
320 - FIRE MARSHAL & PERMIT SV	1,013,321		\$1,013,321
325 - EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	700,924		\$700,924
326 - HUMAN SERVICES-CRAIG A. MOE LAUREL MULTISERVICE CENTER-PRGMS	602,135		\$602,135
401 - PUBLIC WORKS ADMIN	755,420		\$755,420
410 - AUTOMOTIVE MAINTENANCE	1,242,367		\$1,242,367
415 - WASTE COLLECTION	1,515,777		\$1,515,777
420 - RECYCLING	663,443		\$663,443
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435 - STREET LIGHTING	292,950		\$292,950
440 - ENGINEERING&TECH SERVICES	276,336		\$276,336
445 - TRAFFIC ENGINEERING	96,275		\$96,275
450 - TREE MANAGEMENT	133,477		\$133,477
501 - PARKS & RECREATION ADMIN	1,054,440		\$1,054,440
505 - RECREATION	550,902		\$550,902
510 - MAIN ST POOL PROGRAMS	310,944		\$310,944
515 - ROBERT J. DIPIETRO COMMUNITY CENTER	313,354		\$313,354
520 - GREENVIEW DR PROGRAMS	103,890		\$103,890

525 - ARMORY COMMUNITY CTR PROG	203,215	\$203,215
530 - HUMAN SERVICES-LAUREL HELPING HANDS	251,875	\$251,875
535 - GUDE LAKEHOUSE PROGRAMS	28,916	\$28,916
550 - SENIOR SERVICES	281,702	\$281,702
650 - PRINCIPAL	681,027	\$681,027
651 - INTEREST	400,920	\$400,920
652 - RETIREMENT	2,327,123	\$2,327,123
654 - PROPERTY INSURANCE	731,189	\$731,189
655 - BONDING INSURANCE	30,200	\$30,200
656 - EMPLOYEE INSURANCE	4,718,176	\$4,718,176
657 - MISC FINANCIAL USES	1,043,009	\$1,043,009
658 - SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT	365,000	\$365,000
659 - AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN PROG	0	\$0
810 - EMPLOYEE TRAINING	199,979	\$199,979
820 - EMPLOYEE TUITION	32,337	\$32,337
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$50,247,311	(1,000,000) \$49,247,311

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

REAUTHORIZATION OF FUNDS

PROPOSED FY2027

ANIMAL SERVICES INFRASTRUCTURE	\$217,697
BASE MAP UPDATE	27,579
CITY-WIDE RADIO SYSTEM	64,634
EMER. OPER. AND COMMUNICATIONS UPGRADE	16,230
EMERGENCY RESCUE VEHICLE (LPD)	236,660
ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS	224,461
FACILITY SURVEYS	7,560
FLEET EQUIPMENT	3,102,764
HAZARD MITIGATION	3,790,186
A - LAUREL TV STUDIO	7,690
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	1,580,628

MASTER PLAN UPDATE	25,000
RECORD ARCHIVING-DIGITAL PROCESSING	1,139
RIVER MONITORING FLOOD ALERT SYSTEM	4,191
SAFETY ACTION PLAN	561,744
TOTAL SPECIAL PROJECT REAUTH	\$9,868,163

CITY HVAC SYSTEMS	\$2,825,673
ENERGY EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS	117,568
FACILITY SECURITY IMPROVEMENT	25,418
CRAIG A. MOE - LAUREL MULTISERVICE CENTER	2,643,123
SWIMMING POOLS IMPROVEMENTS	9,469
MAJOR FACILITY MAINTENANCE	671,470
PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY	118,494
TOTAL FACILITY PROJECT REAUTH	\$6,411,215

ANDERSON'S CORNER PARK DEVELOPMENT	\$3,122,500
DAM RUINS	1,103,450
MEMORIALS	27,311
C - PARK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	653,689
RIVERFRONT PARK EXTENSION	304,306
TOTAL PARK PROJECT REAUTH	\$5,211,256

ALLEY IMPROVEMENTS	\$91,896
BOWIE ROAD/CSX PEDESTRIAN UNDERPASS	28,841
BRIDGE REPAIRS	1,911
CARRIAGE HILL	237,914

CITY-WIDE SIDEWALK PLACEMENT	37,474
CURB AND GUTTER IMPROVEMENTS	108,445
DORSET ROAD IMPROVEMENTS	135,523
EMERGENCY REPAIRS	71,300
LAFAYETTE AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS	31,622
LAUREL BIKEWAY	248,488
MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS	70,400
NON-DESTRUCTIVE PAVEMENT EVALUATION	54,586
SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT/REPAIR	345,317
STAGGERS ROAD	217,714
STREET LIGHT AND SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS	64,185
TRAFFIC & PARKING ANALYSIS	77,400
TRAFFIC SIGNALIZATION	99,711
VAN DUSEN ROAD IMPROVEMENTS	2,343,419
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT REAUTH	\$4,266,146

TOTAL REAUTHORIZATION OF FUNDS **\$25,756,780**

<u>NEW FUNDING REQUESTS</u>	PROPOSED FY2027
A - COMMUNICATIONS STUDIO REDESIGN	\$250,000
114-122 LAFAYETTE AVE	400,000
7TH STREET (GORMAN TO MAIN)	355,000
SOUTH SHORE	133,490
CHAPEL COVE	180,670
FOURTH STREET (MONTROSE TO ASHFORD)	212,000
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	705,000
EVIDENCE LAB @ LAFAYETTE AVE	80,000
ENVIROMENTAL PROGRAMS	23,512
B - LPD LEASED VEHICLES	1,017,948
	\$3,357,620

TOTAL NEW FUNDS

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland that the taxes are hereby levied, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, at the rate of **\$.71** on each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessable real property at 100% full cash value, within the limits of the City of Laurel.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland that the taxes are hereby levied, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, at the rate of an additional **\$.03** on each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessable real property at 100% full cash value, within the limits of the City of Laurel Special Taxing Districts One, Two, Three, Four and Five, and that a portion of those funds will be distributed to the local public transit provider and the remainder, if any, will be used in accordance with State law for infrastructure improvements within the districts.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland, that the taxes are hereby levied, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, at the rate of **\$1.69** on each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessable personal and mixed property within the limits of the City of Laurel.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland, that the Director of Budget and Personnel Services of the City of Laurel is hereby authorized and directed to collect the taxes herein levied by this Ordinance.

AND, BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED, that this Ordinance shall take effect on the date of its passage.

PASSED this 27th day of May, 2026.

ATTEST:

SARA A. GREEN, CPM, MMC
City Clerk

BRENCIS D. SMITH
President of the City Council

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

KEITH R. SYDNOR
Mayor



CITY OF LAUREL, MARYLAND

ORDINANCE NO. 2055 (Revised May 28, 2026)

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL, MARYLAND, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027 AND TO LEVY PROPERTY TAXES; AND TO AUTHORIZE THE COLLECTION OF SUCH TAXES

Sponsored by the Council President at the request of the Administration.

WHEREAS, the Mayor has presented the City Council with his proposed budget, and

WHEREAS, the City Council has held work sessions and appropriate public hearings on such proposed budget, and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have agreed upon the FY2027 General Operating Budget and FY2027-FY2032 Capital Improvement Program, including the reauthorization of prior year funds, as summarized below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED AND ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland that the following General Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 is hereby adopted.

GENERAL OPERATING BUDGET

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>PROPOSED FY2027</u>	<u>MAYOR CHANGE</u>	<u>MAYOR AMENDED</u>
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CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

REAUTHORIZATION OF FUNDS

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PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY	118,494
TOTAL FACILITY PROJECT REAUTH	\$6,411,215

ANDERSON'S CORNER PARK DEVELOPMENT	\$3,122,500
DAM RUINS	1,103,450
MEMORIALS	27,311
C - PARK IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	653,689
RIVERFRONT PARK EXTENSION	304,306
TOTAL PARK PROJECT REAUTH	\$5,211,256

ALLEY IMPROVEMENTS	\$91,896
BOWIE ROAD/CSX PEDESTRIAN UNDERPASS	28,841
BRIDGE REPAIRS	1,911
CARRIAGE HILL	237,914
CITY-WIDE SIDEWALK PLACEMENT	37,474
CURB AND GUTTER IMPROVEMENTS	108,445
DORSET ROAD IMPROVEMENTS	135,523

EMERGENCY REPAIRS	71,300
LAFAYETTE AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS	31,622
LAUREL BIKEWAY	248,488
MAIN STREET IMPROVEMENTS	70,400
NON-DESTRUCTIVE PAVEMENT EVALUATION	54,586
SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT/REPAIR	345,317
STAGGERS ROAD	217,714
STREET LIGHT AND SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS	64,185
TRAFFIC & PARKING ANALYSIS	77,400
TRAFFIC SIGNALIZATION	99,711
VAN DUSEN ROAD IMPROVEMENTS	2,343,419
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT REAUTH	\$4,266,146

TOTAL REAUTHORIZATION OF FUNDS **\$25,756,780**

NEW FUNDING REQUESTS

A - COMMUNICATIONS STUDIO REDESIGN

	PROPOSED FY2027
114-122 LAFAYETTE AVE	\$250,000
7TH STREET (GORMAN TO MAIN)	400,000
SOUTH SHORE	355,000
CHAPEL COVE	133,490
FOURTH STREET (MONTROSE TO ASHFORD)	180,670
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	212,000
EVIDENCE LAB @ LAFAYETTE AVE	705,000
ENVIROMENTAL PROGRAMS	80,000
B - LPD LEASED VEHICLES	23,512
	<u>1,017,948</u>
	\$3,357,620

TOTAL NEW FUNDS

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland that the taxes are hereby levied, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, at the rate of **\$.71** on each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessable real property at 100% full cash value, within the limits of the City of Laurel.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland that the taxes are hereby levied, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, at the rate of an additional **\$.03** on each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessable real property at 100% full cash value, within the limits of the City of Laurel Special Taxing Districts One, Two, Three, Four and Five, and that a portion of those funds will be distributed to the local public transit provider and the remainder, if any, will be used in accordance with State law for infrastructure improvements within the districts.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland, that the taxes are hereby levied, for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, at the rate of **\$1.69** on each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessable personal and mixed property within the limits of the City of Laurel.

BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED, by the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland, that the Director of Budget and Personnel Services of the City of Laurel is hereby authorized and directed to collect the taxes herein levied by this Ordinance.

AND, BE IT FURTHER ENACTED AND ORDAINED, that this Ordinance shall take effect on the date of its passage.

PASSED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

SARA A. GREEN, CPM, MMC
City Clerk

BRENCIS D. SMITH
President of the City Council

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

KEITH R. SYDNOR
Mayor