

M E M O R A N D U M

September 9, 2020

TO: Transportation and Environment Committee

FROM: Glenn Orlin, Senior Analyst

SUBJECT: Program classification for the FY22 Operating Budget¹

PURPOSE: Worksession

The Recommended FY21 Operating Budget collapsed the number of programs under the General and Vacuum Leaf Collection Funds from 23 down to 7, and it similarly consolidated the 10 programs under the Mass Transit Fund down to 3. As Council staff pointed out this past spring, such program aggregations reduced the budget's transparency, making it difficult for the Council and the general public to track how money is intended to be spent.

For example, the former program entitled "Tree Maintenance" was budgeted for about \$4.5 million in FY20, but the Recommended Budget combined it with functions such as shoulder maintenance, vacuum leaf collection, litter removal, bike trail maintenance, traffic barrier repair, and other functions into a single \$14.3 million program entitled "Non-Roadway Right-of-Way Maintenance." Instead, if the Recommended FY21 Budget had been displayed according to the program definitions in the FY20 Budget, it would have been clear that the Executive was proposing to spend \$4,728,665 on Tree Maintenance in FY21, a \$205,464 (4.5%) increase over the FY20 budget level.

The Council concurred with staff's concern, and it directed that the Approved FY21 Operating Budget book should display the approved budget according to the programs as defined in the FY20 Budget. Council staff's understanding is that the Approved Budget book will display the budget both ways: according to the Executive's proposed FY21 Budget as well as by the programs in the FY20 Budget.

However, there is utility in reviewing how the programs will be described now, as the process for preparing the FY22 Operating Budget is already beginning. In that vein, Council staff has been working with the Department of Transportation and the Office of Management and Budget to develop a revised way to display DOT's budget that, if approved by the Committee, could be used as the basis for crafting the net budget.

DOT's main concern is that, under the Chief Administrative Officer's directive that each program is to have three defined outcome measures to be regularly monitored, retaining 23 General Fund programs and 10 Mass Transit Fund programs would pose an unrealistic workload

¹ Key word: #DOTprogramclassification

burden. *The compromise reached among the staffs is that the Executive's broad FY21 programs would be retained, but that many of the former programs would appear as subprograms in the budget presentation.* Proposed spending for each program (shown below as underlined) and subprogram (shown below as • bulleted) would be displayed. Our recommendations are:

General Fund Programs and Subprograms

Community Transportation and Safety

- Streetlighting
- Traffic and Pedestrian Safety
- Traffic Sign and Marking
- Miscellaneous

Non-Roadway Right of Way Maintenance

- Tree Maintenance
- Vacuum Leaf Collection
- Miscellaneous

Parking Outside the Parking Districts

Transportation Infrastructure Construction & Maintenance

- Bikepath Maintenance
- Bridge Maintenance
- Patching
- Resurfacing
- Sidewalk and Curb Maintenance
- Storm Drain Maintenance
- Miscellaneous

Transportation Management, Operations and Emergency/Storm Response

- Bike Share
- Snow Removal/Wind/Rain Storms
- Traffic Operations (consisting of the former Traffic Management and Operations, Signals, Signs & Marking, and ATMS programs)
- Miscellaneous

Transportation Policy, Planning, and Project Development

- Capital Project Management (consisting of the former Transportation Planning, Transportation Design, Property Acquisition, and Transportation Construction programs)
- Traffic Planning/Development Review
- Miscellaneous

Transportation Services General Administration (consisting of the former Automation, Transportation Community Outreach, Transportation Policy, Transportation Engineering and Management Services, and Administration programs)

Mass Transit Fund Programs and Subprograms

Community Mobility Services

- Commuter Services
- Medicaid and Senior Programs
- Customer Service
- Taxi Regulation

Transit Services

- Ride On
- Transit Operations Planning
- Bus Stop and Park and Ride Maintenance (consisting of the former Passenger Facilities and Transit Parking Facility Maintenance programs)

Transit Services General Administration (consisting of the former Fixed Cost and Administration programs)

Parking Lot District Fund Programs and Subprograms

Administration

- Bethesda
- Silver Spring
- Wheaton

Financial Management

- Bethesda
- Silver Spring
- Wheaton

Engineering and Capital Management

- Bethesda
- Silver Spring
- Wheaton

Parking Operations

- Bethesda
- Silver Spring
- Wheaton

Council staff recommends displaying the FY22 Operating Budget according to these programs and subprograms.