

**Notice of Introduction of Bill 22-5
Worcester County Commissioners**

Take Notice that Bill 22-5 entitled TO AUTHORIZE AND EMPOWER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF WORCESTER COUNTY, MARYLAND TO BORROW ON ITS FULL FAITH AND CREDIT, AND TO ISSUE AND SELL (1) ITS GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AND ITS BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES THEREFOR, AT ONE TIME OR FROM TIME TO TIME WITHIN FOUR YEARS FROM THE DATE THIS BILL BECOMES EFFECTIVE, IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING \$10,024,184, TO PROVIDE FINANCING FOR A PORTION OF THE COST OF ENGINEERING, DESIGNING, CONSTRUCTING, EQUIPPING, FURNISHING AND UNDERTAKING SITE WORK FOR AN ADDITION TO STEPHEN DECATUR MIDDLE SCHOOL, INCLUDING PAYMENT OF RELATED COSTS AND COSTS OF ISSUANCE OF SUCH BONDS, AND (2) ITS GENERAL OBLIGATION REFUNDING BONDS, AT ONE TIME OR FROM TIME TO TIME, IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING \$13,035,000, TO PROVIDE FINANCING FOR THE COST OF REFUNDING IN WHOLE OR IN PART ANY OF THE BONDS ISSUED PURSUANT TO THIS LOCAL LAW, INCLUDING PAYMENT OF RELATED COSTS AND COSTS OF ISSUANCE was introduced by Commissioners Bertino, Church, Elder, Mitrecic, Nordstrom, and Purnell on February 15th, 2022.

A fair summary of the bill is as follows:

APPENDIX “TT”

BOND AUTHORIZATION FOR FINANCING A PORTION OF THE COST OF
ENGINEERING, DESIGNING, CONSTRUCTING, EQUIPPING, FURNISHING AND
UNDERTAKING SITE WORK FOR AN ADDITION TO
STEPHEN DECATUR MIDDLE SCHOOL, AND
BOND AUTHORIZATION FOR REFUNDING BONDS

§ 1. Financing a portion of the cost of engineering, designing, constructing, equipping, furnishing and undertaking site work for an addition to Stephen Decatur Middle School, and financing the cost of refunding in whole or in part any of the bonds issued for such purpose.

(a) Recitals

- (1) Pursuant to Sections 19-501 to 19-510, inclusive, of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as replaced, supplemented or amended (the “Act”), County Commissioners of Worcester County, Maryland (the “County”) may borrow money for any public purpose and may evidence the borrowing by the issuance and sale of its general obligation bonds.
- (2) By and through Resolution No. 21-26, adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Worcester County (the “Board”) on December 7, 2021, the County has approved and adopted the Worcester County 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan - FY 2023 to FY 2027 which includes engineering, designing, constructing, equipping, furnishing and undertaking site work for an addition to Stephen Decatur Middle School.
- (3) The Board has determined to borrow money up to \$10,024,184 in bonds pursuant to the provisions of the Act, and to apply the proceeds of the Bonds to finance costs of engineering, designing, constructing, equipping, furnishing and undertaking site work for an addition to Stephen Decatur Middle School.
- (4) Pursuant to Section 19-207 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as replaced, supplemented or amended (the “Refunding Act”), the County may borrow money to refund its outstanding bonds. Section 19-207(f)(1) of the Refunding Act provides that the total principal amount of the refunding bonds may exceed the total principal amount of the bonds that are being refunded.

(5) The Board has determined to authorize the County to borrow money in an aggregate principal amount of \$13,035,000 in refunding bonds (the "Refunding Bonds") pursuant to the provisions of the Act and the Refunding Act, and to apply the proceeds of the Refunding Bonds to finance the cost of the then-outstanding Bonds, including payment of related costs and costs of issuance of the Refunding Bonds.

(6) References in this Local Law to "finance" shall be construed to mean "finance, refinance and/or reimburse," as applicable, and references in this Local Law to "financing" shall be construed to mean "financing, refinancing and/or reimbursing," as applicable.

(b) The Board, acting pursuant to the Act and the Refunding Act, hereby determines and declares that:

(1) There is a public need for engineering, designing, constructing, equipping, furnishing and undertaking site work for an addition to Stephen Decatur Middle School.

(2) The estimated cost for engineering, designing, constructing, equipping, furnishing and undertaking site work for an addition to Stephen Decatur Middle School, including activities not funded from proceeds of the Bonds, is approximately \$15,252,239.

(3) The funds proposed to be borrowed for engineering, designing, constructing, equipping, furnishing and undertaking site work for an addition to Stephen Decatur Middle School can be provided at the lowest annual interest cost and costs of issuance by the issuance of general obligation bonds by the County.

(4) Use of the proceeds of the Bonds by the County to finance a portion of the cost of engineering, designing, constructing, equipping, furnishing and undertaking site work for an addition to Stephen Decatur Middle School is a proper public purpose which may be financed by the issuance of the Bonds pursuant to the Act.

(5) Between the date of issuance of the first series of the Bonds and the date of final maturity of any series of the Bonds, the County may have an opportunity or a need to refund in whole or in part the then-outstanding Bonds and to thereby achieve one or more purposes of the Refunding Act. The funds authorized to be borrowed for the purpose of refunding in whole or in part the then-outstanding Bonds can be provided at the lowest annual interest cost and costs of issuance by the issuance of general obligation refunding bonds by the County.

(6) Use of the proceeds of the Refunding Bonds by the County to finance the cost of refunding in whole or in part the then-outstanding Bonds is a proper public purpose that may be financed by the issuance of the Refunding Bonds pursuant to the Act and the Refunding Act.

(c) Authorizes the County to borrow up to \$13,035,000 by issuance of bonds.

(d) The proceeds from the sale of the Bonds shall be applied for the public purpose of financing a portion of the cost of engineering, designing, constructing, equipping, furnishing and undertaking site work for an addition to Stephen Decatur Middle School as identified in the Worcester County 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan - FY 2023 to FY 2027 by and through Resolution No. 21-26, adopted by the Board on December 7, 2021.

(e) As permitted by Sections 19-211 to 19-223, inclusive, of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as replaced, supplemented or amended, the provisions set forth in this Local Law for the issuance and sale of the Bonds are intended and shall be deemed to include provisions for the issuance and sale of bond anticipation notes in one or more series from time to time in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$10,024,184 without the adoption of any other local law or other action by the legislative body of the County.

(f) Pursuant to the Act and the Refunding Act, the County is hereby authorized to borrow up to \$13,035,000 in Bonds and by issuing, selling and delivering its Refunding Bonds, at any time or from time to time and in one or more series, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$13,035,000.

- (g) The proceeds from the sale of any Refunding Bonds shall be applied for the public purpose of financing the cost of refunding in whole or in part the then-outstanding Bonds, including payment of related costs and costs of issuance of the Refunding Bonds.
- (h) Provides that the County shall levy annual property taxes sufficient to pay the principal and interest on the bonds due each year.
- (i) Provides that prior to the issuance and sale of any of the Bonds, the County shall adopt one or more resolutions in accordance with Section 19-504 of the Act.
- (j) Provides that the bonds shall constitute a pledge of the full faith and credit of the county.
- (k) Provides the bonds may be sold in one or more series and either at private sale or at public sale as determined by the County Commissioners.
- (l) Provides the bonds and shall be exempt from certain provisions of Sections 19-205 and 19-206 of the Local Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.
- (m) Provides the County may enter into agreements to enhance the marketability of the bonds.
- (n) Provides the signature of any officer whose signature appears on any Bond is still valid even if that officer ceases to be such officer before delivery.
- (o) Provides that upon deliver of the bonds to the purchaser, payment shall be made to the Finance Officer of the County
- (p) Authorizes the issuance of interim certificates or temporary bonds
- (q) Provides that the authorities set forth in this law are supplemental to existing authorities.
- (r) The County shall seek funds for engineering, designing, constructing, equipping, furnishing and undertaking site work for an addition to Stephen Decatur Middle School or repayment of the Bonds through such grant sources as the Board may, from time to time, deem desirable and appropriate.
- (s) Provides severability provisions.

**A Public Hearing
will be held on Bill 22-5
Tuesday, April 5, 2022
at 10:40 A.M.**

in the
County Commissioners Meeting Room
Room 1101 - Government Center
One West Market Street
Snow Hill, Maryland 21863

This is only a fair summary of the bill. A full copy of the bill is posted on the Legislative Bulletin Board in the main hall of the Worcester County Government Center outside Room 1103, is available for public inspection in Room 1103 of the Worcester County Government Center. A full copy of the bill is also available on the County Website at www.co.worcester.md.us

THE WORCESTER COUNTY COMMISSIONERS