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July 1, 2019

The Honorable Angela Alsobrooks
Prince George's County Executive
Wayne K. Curry Administrative Building
1301 McCormick Drive- Suite 400
Largo, MD 20774

Dear County Executive Alsobrooks:

The members of the Prince George's County Local Development Council (LDC) reviewed the County's estimates of the MGM video lottery terminal revenue and its recommendations for the expenditure of those funds for FY 2020-2022. One of our primary concerns continues to be the time constraints that severely limit our ability to hear from the community and to adequately provide recommendations to you regarding the spending plan. We continue to strongly urge that a change in the process is necessary. We believe that a strong effort should be made to repeal CB-88-2015, so that both the County and the LDC will have adequate time to formulate and review the local impact spending plan, while also allowing ample time for community input. We continue to believe that these changes will not adversely impact the County Council's opportunities or ability to review and make recommendations throughout the budget process.

After our review, while also taking into consideration input received from the community that we have been appointed to serve, the LDC has developed the following recommendations and concerns regarding the proposed spending plan for local impact revenue:

- While we agree with the County Council's recommendation to fund the Health and Human Services category, we do not believe it would be prudent to do so at the expense of the Public Safety category. Therefore, we recommend that the Public Safety category for both Police and Fire remain at the current recommended levels. We further recommend that every effort be made to fund and support the Health and Human Services category through the following areas: 1) any remaining FY2018 and



FY2019 Local Impact Grant balances; 2) any unallocated VLT funds from the previous FY2018 and FY2019; and 3) that going forward other funding mechanisms be evaluated to continue to fund the efforts of Health and Human Services.

- In the area of Transportation and Public Safety, we understand that legislatively 40% of the MGM Local Impact Funds are allocated to the MD210 Infrastructure Improvement Project. We thank you and strongly support your efforts to increase and improve the safety measures along the MD210 corridor. We recommend that an adequate portion of these funds be directed to continue to add additional safety enhancements along this corridor, especially during the continuing construction. Secondly as it relates to the MD210 funds allocated through the MGM Local Impact funds, since MD210 is a state road we recommend that consistent with precedent and at an appropriate time, the County should request reimbursement of any impact funds spent on Route 210 improvements and reallocate those reimbursed funds back to the local impact grant funding.
- In our efforts to promote greater transparency and accountability, we recommend that before impact funds are awarded to various programs noted in the MSYP, such as Crossland Career Academy and Employ Prince George's, that the LDC be afforded the opportunity to review the proposed budgets for these proposed funding awards. Additionally, the LDC would like to receive periodic updates, at least biannually, preferably quarterly, on the funds being allocated and/or disbursed to the various expense categories as listed in the spending plan. We request a full accounting of the previous fiscal year's expenditures as related to the corresponding multi-year spending plans, once the closing reconciliations are completed. This review, along with the ongoing periodic updates will provide the LDC with the evaluation tools and performance measures to make more informed recommendations and revisions as deemed appropriate to meet the needs of the community we have been assembled to serve. We continue to invite and welcome leaders from every expense category to share and report their progress during our general meetings. It is our goal to use these opportunities along with the periodic updates and proposed budget previews to provide transparency and accountability to the citizens within the impact zone that all funds are properly allocated and used according to the adopted multi-year spending plan.
- Finally, the LDC seeks your support and guidance as it pertains to the current hold-harmless provision and its effect on the local impact funds. While we understand the initial concept and necessity for the implementation of this provision, we are concerned that this provision is no longer meeting its initial purpose of providing jurisdictional fairness in the distribution of VLT revenues. Therefore, we recommend and request that the necessary parties are engaged to review the current hold-harmless provision, looking toward developing the strategies and steps necessary to revise and/or repeal this provision. It is our hope and goal that this will not only limit but ultimately remove the effect of the hold-harmless provision on the Prince George's County Local Impact Funds. We see this as more than an opportunity to increase local impact funding, but more so as an opportunity to maximize our abilities and our reach to serve, support, and meet the needs and concerns of the citizens



within the designated impact area.

The members of the LDC appreciate the opportunity to serve our County and our community. We are available at your convenience should you wish to further discuss or seek clarification of any of our concerns and recommendations.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey A. Chandler, Chairman
Prince George's County
Local Development Council

cc: County Council Members
Robert Williams, Council Administrator
Stanley Earley, Director, Office of Management and Budget