



FY 2025 Budget Forum Guide

Agenda:

- Purpose of the Forum
- Understanding the Operating Budget
- Building the Operating Budget
- Fiscal Outlook
- Presentation from County Executive Marc Elrich
- **Q&A with County Executive**
 - Limited time to ask questions, make sure to get in line or put in the chat ASAP!

- **Silver Spring Community Conversation.** Monday, Nov. 13. 7:30-9 p.m. Silver Spring Civic Center Building, 1 Veterans Place, Spring Room.
- **East County Community Conversation.** Wednesday, Nov. 15. 7-8:30 p.m. White Oak Community Recreation Center, 1700 April Lane, Social Hall. [Click here to view online.](#)
- View Chinese Language and Older Adults sessions [here.](#)

Tips for the Q&A:

- Quickly introduce yourself with your name, where you live, and how you are connected to the community.
 - For example: “My name is ___, and I am a parent, renter, and teacher from Silver Spring.”
- Use **personal experiences** to frame your question during the Q&A portion to show why an issue matters/affects you specifically. Quick anecdotes are good!
- Write out your question in advance to make sure you are getting to the heart of the issue. Make it difficult for the response to dodge your question.

Example Questions:

Feel free to use these questions or edit and make them your own.

Permanent Supportive Housing:

- Permanent supportive housing is a highly effective tool in decreasing homelessness, as ensuring residents are adequately supported contributes to their stability and safety. **Will the county bring more resources to providing PSH units as well as ensuring that the support being provided is of the highest quality?**

Food Access

- Many SNAP users cannot use their benefits because they don't have access to a kitchen or cooking equipment. Maryland's Restaurant Meal Program is underutilized and could be a great program to increase access to food, especially for older people and people experiencing homelessness. **Will you commit to funding solutions to help restaurants access this program and accept SNAP?**

Mental Health Crisis Response

- Mobile Crisis Units are a tool with a lot of potential, but there have been issues with their response times, forcing people to wait up to 6 hours during a crisis. **How will you work to increase the workforce and improve the capacity of teams, for example, by raising wages for employees?**

Eviction Prevention

- So far this year, over 880 families have been evicted in Montgomery County. It is extremely important to me that everyone in rent court has access to counsel and rental assistance funds so that evictions are prevented as much as possible. **Will the county be making it a priority to provide adequate rental assistance and lawyers for eviction court?**

Rent Stabilization:

- With the new passage of rent stabilization, it is very important to me that this policy is given the funding to be implemented well. **Will the county be prioritizing staffing and funding DHCA using non-federal dollars?**