

**From:** [DeRionne Pollard, Montgomery College President](#)  
**Subject:** The College's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget  
**Date:** Thursday, May 18, 2017 5:00:56 PM

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**MONTGOMERY COLLEGE**  
Office of the President

May 18, 2017

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Montgomery College Colleagues  
From: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President  
Subject: The College's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget

The Montgomery County Council took action today to tentatively adopt fiscal year 2018 budgets for the county. Their actions will provide new funds for the College's operating and capital budgets. I am grateful to the County Executive and to the County Council for guarding the value that the College's work brings to the community. I realize that the County has faced financial challenges that require it to balance several competing priorities. The College remains grateful for the County's support of high quality, affordable postsecondary education in modern facilities.

I am pleased to announce that the Council voted to fully fund the College's capital budget request for FY18, including funds for a replacement math and science building at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus—the existing buildings are 38 and 56 years old. These funds, along with the monies recently approved by the state, will enable the College to begin design of this long overdue project in the upcoming fiscal year. Additionally, with state and county capital support now totaling \$40.8 million for FY18, the College can continue to advance key capital projects on the Germantown and Rockville campuses—the Science and Applied Studies and Student Services Center buildings.

With respect to the College's operating budget request, the Council agreed to provide \$3.2 million in addition to the \$2 million recommended by the County Executive in March for a total of \$5.2 million in new resources. The College had requested \$7.4 million in additional county support to pay for benefit cost increases and to provide for pay raises.

While the total county operating support for fiscal year 2018 falls short of our request, it is sufficient to cover benefit cost increases and provide for some salary enhancement, albeit at a lower level than planned.

Support from the state stayed virtually flat given enrollment declines. Additionally, the state asked community colleges to keep tuition increases at two percent or less for next year, which will put further pressure on College resources. The Board of Trustees took action on Monday to set next year's tuition below two percent to comply with the state's request to place a priority on affordable tuition.

The Council will take formal action next week once budget resolutions are drafted to reflect today's action.

The senior leadership team and I will gather to deliberate the impact of today's Council actions. It is likely that we will need to ask all of our collective bargaining units to revisit our agreements.

The Board of Trustees will take final action on the College's operating and capital budgets at its June meeting.

Again, while state and county resources will constrain planned expenditures for the upcoming fiscal year, I am confident that, working together, we can stay focused on spending for student success and still provide for pay raises for our dedicated faculty and staff.

Thank you.