



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
Municipal Building

This meeting will be held in-person and virtual.

**25 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770**

OR

**Virtual Participation
Zoom Webinar Attendees:**

**During "Petitions and Requests," please submit your request in writing via email to
questions@greenbeltmd.gov
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87821711676?pwd=BcRfap63tO087eRxRaGwANplv5E7Ra.1>**

**Dial-in: 301 715 8592
Webinar ID: 878 2171 1676
Passcode: 082553**

**Monday, February 24, 2025
7:30 PM**

I. ORGANIZATION - 15 minutes (7:30 - 7:45 p.m.)

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
4. Petitions and Requests
5. Consent Agenda

Suggested Action:

Consent Agenda - Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by Council and staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)

6. Approval of Agenda and Additions

II. COMMUNICATIONS - 15 minutes (7:45 - 8:00 p.m.)

7. Presentations

7a. Reading of the Greenbelt Community Pledge

Suggested Action:

Community Pledge: The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people by sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be respectful, welcoming community that is open accessible, safe and fair.

*8. Minutes

Suggested Action:

* Regular Meeting, February 12, 2024

[RM240212.pdf](#)

9. Administrative Reports

Suggested Action:

Reference: This link will display the weekly report for the City Manager and City Departments

https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/city-administration/city-manager-s-office/weekly-reports/-folder-1586#docan2352_4054_3510

*10. Committee Reports

III. LEGISLATION - 30 minutes (8:00 - 8:30 p.m.)

11. An Ordinance to Repeal and Replace Chapter 2, Article IV Ethics Provisions of the Greenbelt City Code
- 2nd Reading and Adoption.

Suggested Action:

Reference: Ordinance

Included in the Council packet is an ordinance from the Council of the City of

Greenbelt repealing and re-enacting Chapter 2, Article 4, titled “Ethics Provisions” of the City Code. This amendment updates the City’s ethics laws to align with current State law.

Ms. Weaver introduced this ordinance at the February 10th Regular meeting and recommended the ordinance be introduced for second reading and adoption.

[Ethics Ordinance.02.24.25.pdf](#)

12. Charter Amendment Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt to Amend Section 4 "Creation; Qualifications; Compensation" of the City Charter to Raise the Compensation of the Council
- 1st Reading

Suggested Action:

Reference: Resolution

The Council packet contains a resolution for Charter Amendment concerning Council Compensation Adjustments from Fiscal Year 2024.

It is recommended that this resolution be introduced for first reading during the current meeting.

[Salary Charter Amendment Resolution.pdf](#)

IV. OTHER BUSINESS - 30 minutes (8:30 - 9:00 p.m.)

13. Rapid Response Task Force - Addressing Economic Impact & Job Loss from Executive Orders

Suggested Action:

Councilmember Amy Knesel requested this item be added to the agenda for Council's discussion.

The recent disruptions in federal grants, layoffs, and proposed reductions in grants and contractor funding present a significant challenge to Greenbelt’s economic resilience. Additionally, the reassessment of government leases could have long-term effects on both planned and existing office spaces in the city. Given Greenbelt’s reliance on federal employment and associated industries, it is crucial to develop a proactive, community-driven approach to economic resilience and job preservation.

As the Council discusses the creation of the Task Force, key considerations include:

1. The formal structure (e.g., an official task force appointed by the Council, a Council-led Special Committee, or a workgroup under the City Manager’s authority).

2. Whether the Standing Rules should be suspended to expedite formation.

[CORES Email.pdf](#)

14. Review of State/County Legislation

Suggested Action:

On Monday, February 24, staff will include the Carrington and Associates' 2025 Bill Tracking Report and the comprehensive analysis of the 2025 Greenbelt Priority Bill for the City of Greenbelt.

15. Council Activities

16. Council Reports

17. Meetings

Suggested Action:

Reference:

Meetings List

Memorandum, B. Anderson, 02/19/2025

Draft FY 2026 Budget Meeting List

Included in the Council packet is a memorandum detailing proposed changes to the meeting schedule for the calendar year 2025. The suggestions for the 2025 meeting calendar are as follows:

1. **Reschedule Monday, March 10 Regular Meeting to Wednesday, March 12**
(NLC Congressional Cities Conference in DC – March 10-12, 2025)
2. **No Work Session on Monday, April 21** *(Easter Monday)*
3. **Reschedule Monday, May 26 Regular Meeting to Tuesday, May 27**
(Memorial Day)
4. **Reschedule Monday, June 9 Regular Meeting and Monday, June 23**
Regular Meeting to Monday, June 2 and Monday, June 16 *(To adopt the budget before June 10 and MML Annual Conference in Ocean City – June 22-25);*
5. **No Work Session on Monday and Wednesday, June 23 and 25** *(MML Annual Conference in Ocean City – June 22-25)*
6. **No Work Session on Wednesday, November 19** *(NLC City Summit in Salt Lake, UT – November 19-22).*

A motion is required to approve this schedule change.

[meetings.pdf](#)

[2025_Calendar_memo.rev_02.19.25.pdf](#)

*18. Stakeholder List

[Stakeholder Schedule.pdf](#)

*19. Reappointment to Advisory Board/Committee

Suggested Action:

Reference: Reappointment Survey

The following members have expressed their willingness to continue serving on their respective Boards and Committees:

Thomas LeaMond - Arts Advisory Board

Matthew Inzeo - Advisory Planning Board

Approval of this item on the consent agenda will confirm the Council's intent to reappoint Mr. LeaMond and Mr. Inzeo to a new term.

*20. Resignation from Advisory Board/Committee

Suggested Action:

Reference: Email - T. George - 02.14.25

Richard Ransom has submitted his resignation from the Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB).

Approval of this item on the consent agenda will indicate the Council's intent to accept his resignation with regret.

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: February 24, 2025

Submitted by: Bonita Anderson

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: COMMUNICATIONS

Agenda Section: COMMUNICATIONS - 15 minutes (7:45 - 8:00 p.m.)

Subject:

Reading of the Greenbelt Community Pledge

Suggested Action:

Community Pledge: The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people by sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be respectful, welcoming community that is open accessible, safe and fair.

Attachments:

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: February 24, 2025

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: Meeting Minutes

Agenda Section: COMMUNICATIONS - 15 minutes (7:45 - 8:00 p.m.)

Subject:

Minutes

Suggested Action:

* Regular Meeting, February 12, 2024

Attachments:

[RM240212.pdf](#)

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL was held on Monday, February 12, 2024.

Mayor Jordan called the Meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Amy E. Knesel, Danielle P. McKinney, Jenni A. Pompei, Silke I. Pope, Rodney M. Roberts, Kristen L.K. Weaver, and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.

ALSO PRESENT were Josué Salmerón, City Manager; Timothy George, Assistant City Manager; Jason DeLoach, City Solicitor (virtual); Bertha Gaymon, City Treasurer (virtual); Terri Hruby, Planning Director; Dale Worley, Information Technology Director; Jamarie Spencer, Public Information Producer; and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk.

Mayor Jordan asked for a moment of silence in honor of residents Paul Ashton Beavers, Lisa Danielle Jellison, Lee Barron Shields, and former resident Dennis Kevan Dill.

Ms. Pope then led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

PETITIONS AND REQUESTS:

John Campanile, a resident, asked if the wayfinding study could also include recommendations on safety signage for bicyclists/pedestrians.

Bill Orleans, a resident, requested the same information from previous meetings.

CONSENT AGENDA: It was moved by Mayor Jordan to remove item #25, Approval of the Greenbelt ARPA Outreach and Communications, seconded by Ms. Weaver, and that the consent agenda be approved as amended. The motion passed 7-0.

Council thereby took the following actions:

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Interview, August 23, 2023
Interview, October 30, 2023
Interview, February 5, 2024
Interview, February 7, 2024
Approved as presented.

Meetings: The Council approved the meeting list.

Stakeholders: The Council approved the stakeholder list.

Arts Advisory Board Report #24-1 - (Public Art Funds): Council accepted this report.

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Report - Open Forum of October 13, 2023: City Council accepted this report.

Board of Elections Report #2024-01 (Report on November 2023 Election): Council accepted this report.

Acceptance of the FY2023 City Annual Audit: Council accepted the FY2023 City Annual Audit Report.

Approval of Fiber Installation Project Change Order: Council approved the change order for PEI Engineering and Construction additional fiber and termination for \$12,449.28.

Board and Committee Liaison Assignments: Council approved the updated liaison assignments.

Reappointment to Advisory Board/Committee: Council approved the reappointment of Koko Josey to the Youth Advisory Committee and Vijay Parameshwaran to the Arts Advisory Board.

Resignation from Advisory Board/Committee: Council accepted the resignation of Patricia Evans from the Board of Elections and Hailey Boggs from the Youth Advisory Committee.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: It was moved by Mayor Jordan and seconded by Ms. Pope that the agenda be approved. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS:

American Heart Association Month Proclamation: Mayor Jordan recognized February 2024 as American Heart Month. Davion Percy, VP of Community Relations and Public Policy at Luminis Health, was present online and provided Council with an update on health screenings offered by Luminis Health.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Statement for the Record – Closed Session of January 8, 2024: Ms. Weaver moved that in accordance with the General Provisions Article, Section 3--06(C)(2) of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland*, the minutes of tonight's Meeting reflect that Council met in closed session on Thursday, January 8, 2024, at 10:03 pm, in Council Chambers. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(8) of the General Provisions Article of the *Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland*: to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The purpose of this meeting is to receive a briefing related to code enforcement actions at Charlestowne North.

Vote to close the session:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. McKinney	X			
Ms. Pompei	X			
Ms. Pope	X			
Mr. Roberts	X			
Ms. Weaver	X			
Mayor Jordan	X			

The following staff members were in attendance: Josué Salmerón, City Manager (in-person); Jason DeLoach, City Solicitor (virtual); and Terri Hruby, Director of Planning (virtual)

Council took the following actions during this session: None.

Ms. Pope seconded.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Knesel-Yes

Ms. McKinney -Yes

Ms. Pompei-Yes

Ms. Pope - Yes

Mr. Roberts- Yes

Ms. Weaver - Yes

Mayor Jordan-Yes

Statement for the Record – Closed Session of January 17, 2024: Ms. Weaver moved that in accordance with the General Provisions Article, Section 3--06(C)(2) of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland*, the minutes of tonight's Meeting reflect that Council met in closed session on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 9:16 pm, in Council Chambers, 25 Crescent Road. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction.

The purpose of this meeting is to address/discuss confidential and sensitive information acquired during the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion focus group meetings.

Vote to close the session:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. McKinney	X			

Ms. Pompei	X			
Ms. Pope	X			
Mr. Roberts		X		
Ms. Weaver	X			
Mayor Jordan	X			

Staff members in attendance: Josué Salmerón, City Manager, and Dawane Martinez, Human Resources Director.

Other attendees were Reena Doyle and Gail Watts, Tribesys Consultants.

Council took the following actions during this session: None.

Ms. Pompei seconded.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Knesel-Yes

Ms. McKinney -Yes

Ms. Pompei-Yes

Ms. Pope - Yes

Mr. Roberts- Yes

Ms. Weaver - Yes

Mayor Jordan-Yes

Statement for the Record – Closed Session of January 24, 2024: Ms. Weaver moved that in accordance with the General Provisions Article, Section 3--06(C)(2) of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland*, the minutes of tonight's Meeting reflect that Council met in closed session on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at 7:24 pm, in the Library of the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction.

The purpose of the closed session was to discuss candidate qualifications for an appointment to the Council to fill the current vacancy.

Vote to close the session:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. McKinney	X			
Ms. Pompei	X			
Ms. Pope	X			
Mr. Roberts		X		

Ms. Weaver	X			
Mayor Jordan	X			

Staff member in attendance: Jason DeLoach, City Solicitor (via phone 8:28 - 8:34 pm)

Other individuals were in attendance: None.

Council took the following actions during this session: None.

Ms. Pope seconded.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Knesel-Yes

Ms. McKinney -Yes

Ms. Pompei-Yes

Ms. Pope - Yes

Mr. Roberts- Yes

Ms. Weaver - Yes

Mayor Jordan-Yes

Statement for the Record – Closed Session of January 29, 2024: Ms. Weaver moved that in accordance with the General Provisions Article, Section 3--06(C)(2) of the *Annotated Code of Public General Laws of Maryland*, the minutes of tonight's Meeting reflect that Council met in closed session on Monday, January 29, 2024, at 10:34 pm, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Council held this closed meeting in accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1), (3), (7), and (8) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland: 1) to discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; 2) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to it; 3) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter; and 4) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The purpose of this meeting: To discuss personnel decisions related to specific individuals, a potential property acquisition, a discussion of pending litigation, and receiving updates on legal matters.

Vote to close the session:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. Knesel	X			
Ms. Pompei	X			
Ms. Pope	X			
Ms. McKinney	X			
Mr. Roberts		X		

Ms. Weaver	X			
Mayor Jordan	X			

Staff members in attendance: Josué Salmerón, City Manager, and Jason DeLoach, City Solicitor (online).

Other individuals were in attendance: None.

Council took the following actions during this session: None.

Ms. Knesel seconded.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Knesel-Yes

Ms. McKinney -Yes

Ms. Pompei-Yes

Ms. Pope - Yes

Mr. Roberts- Yes

Ms. Weaver - Yes

Mayor Jordan-Yes

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. Salmerón expressed his gratitude to the staff for the successful Business Conference, which was attended by over 100 people. He also announced the launch of the nursing program's in-home visits through the GAIL Program. Additionally, Mr. Salmerón shared information about the recent filing of receivership for Charlestowne North. Mayor Jordan suggested planning a community event to clean the Spellman overpass. There was also a discussion about the possibility of holding work and listening sessions at other community centers in Greenbelt East and West.

LEGISLATION: None.

Contract for Broadband Feasibility Study: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. The Mission Critical Partners, Brian Melcer, Client Services Director; Scott Neal, Sr. Vice President, Wireless and Court Technology Systems and Design Nine, Inc.; Andrew Cohill, President/CEO, presented an overview of the broadband feasibility study and timeline of the project.

Ms. Pope moved that Council approve the feasibility study for a broadband fiber network proposal for \$114,597. Ms. Weaver seconded. The motion passed 5-2. (Ms. Knesel and Mr. Roberts)

Maryland Sustainable Communities Program Renewal Application: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Jaime Fearer, Assistant Planning Director, presented the Maryland Sustainable Communities Program application which is due on Monday, February 19, 2024. She noted the program provides communities with the framework for promoting environmentally,

economically, and socially responsible growth and development. Ms. Fearer also pointed out that the designation of sustainable community is required for a community to be eligible for certain state grant programs such as Community Legacy funding.

Ms. Pompei moved that Council approve the submittal of the renewal application to the State. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Approval of Legislative Support: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

Council discussed Carrington & Associates, who had submitted a proposal for legislative advocacy services, which was recommended by staff to perform services such as advocating, researching, and tracking legislation bills on behalf of the City. Council requested a meeting with the firm, which is outlined in the proposal.

Ms. Pope moved that Council authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with Carrington & Associates for \$24,000 and to re-evaluate their services in six months. Ms. Weaver seconded. The motion passed 6-1. (Mr. Roberts)

Legislative Bill Review: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments.

PG/MC 105-24 Prince George's County – Qualifying Municipal Corporation – Land Use. Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Pope moved that Council support PG/MC 105-24. Mayor Jordan seconded. The motion passed 6-1. (Mr. Roberts)

HB1136 - Human Services - Youth Services Bureaus - Funding (Youth Services Bureau Restoration Act): Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Pompei moved that Council support HB1136. Ms. Pope seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

HB0170/SB0079 - State Finance - Prohibited Appropriations - Magnetic Levitation Transportation System: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Mayor Jordan mentioned that he would attend the hearing on this matter in person on February 22. Ms. Pope moved that Council support HB0170/SB0079. Ms. McKinney seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Presentation of Draft Electric Vehicle Plan: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Mr. George presented a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed draft electric vehicles and fleet electrification plan. No action was taken on this item.

Special Order: Mayor Jordan moved to special order item #25, Approval of the Greenbelt ARPA Outreach and Communications, as the next item of business. Ms. Weaver seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Approval of the Greenbelt ARPA Outreach and Communications: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Ms. Weaver moved to approve the Greenbelt ARPA Outreach and Communications proposal. Council revised the estimate to \$45K to increase awareness and applications for available ARPA grants through targeted outreach in certain neighborhoods. Ms. Knesel seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Special Order: Ms. Weaver moved to special order item #26, Appointment of Council Members to Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Board and Policy Committees. Ms. Pompei seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

Appointment of Council Members to Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Board and Policy Committees: Mayor Jordan read the agenda comments. Council discussed and revised the committee appointment list. Ms. Weaver moved that Council approve the updated committee list. Mayor Jordan seconded. The motion passed 7-0.

COUNCIL ACTIVITIES: Council briefly viewed their list of activities.

Events between 23 January and 12 February 2024

24 January: COG Climate Energy and Environmental Policy Committee meeting (Ms. Pompei)

25 January: Four Cities Meeting (Mayor Jordan, Ms. Knesel, Ms. McKinney, Ms. Pompei, Ms. Pope, and Ms. Weaver)

26 January: Cookies at the Bridge (Ms. Pope and Ms. Weaver)

26 January: Meeting with Franklin Park, Communication Planning (Ms. McKinney)

26 January: Meeting with Ben Friedman, Planning Advisory Board Chair (Ms. McKinney)

27 January: Council Retreat (Mayor Jordan, Ms. Weaver, Ms. Pompei, Ms. Pope, Ms. McKinney, Ms. Knesel, and Mr. Roberts)

29 January: Meet + Greet with Charima Young, Kaiser Permanente (Ms. McKinney)

29 January: Meeting with City Manager (Mayor Jordan)

29 January: NLC Board of Directors Meeting (Mayor Jordan)

31 January: National History Day judging at ERHS (Ms. Pompei)

31 January: Prince George's Chamber of Commerce meeting (Mayor Jordan)

02 February: Greenbelt Station Greenspace Master Plan Next Steps with Greenbelt Recreation Department (Ms. McKinney)

02 February: Walk Around Franklin Park with Coach K/Meeting with Management (Ms. McKinney, Ms. Knesel, and Ms. Weaver)

02 February: Youth Engagement Event Planning with School Board Rep (Ms. McKinney)

03 February: Rescheduled MLK Day of Service at Buddy Attick Park (Mayor Jordan, Ms. Weaver, Ms. McKinney, Ms. Pope, and Ms. Pompei)

03 February: 295 Coalition Meeting (Mayor Jordan)

03 February: Charlestowne North tenants meeting (Mayor Jordan)

04 February: Black History Month Art Reception at New Deal Cafe (Mayor Jordan, Ms. Weaver, Ms. McKinney, and Ms. Pompei) and Community Center (Mayor Jordan, Ms. Weaver, Ms. McKinney, Ms. Pompei, Ms. Knesel); Greenbelt Artful Afternoon (Ms. Weaver, Ms. Knesel, and Ms. Pompei); Greenbelt Museum Valentines Open House (Ms. Weaver)

04 February: MNCPPC Black History Month Program (Mayor Jordan)

05 February: "If I Were Mayor" essay contest presentation – Magnolia Elementary School (Mayor Jordan)

07 February: Greenbelt Business Conference (Mayor Jordan, Ms. Knesel, Ms. McKinney, Ms. Pompei, and Ms. Weaver); a tour of the new CCI clinic and training facility (Mayor Jordan, Ms. Knesel, and Ms. Weaver)

08 February: Interfaith Leadership Meet & Greet (Ms. Pompei); CRAB meeting (Ms. Pompei)

09 February: CBPC orientation call (Ms. Pompei)

09 February: COG Food and Agriculture Regional Member Policy Committee Meeting (Ms. McKinney)

09 February: "If I Were Mayor" essay contest presentation – Greenbelt Elementary School (Mayor Jordan)

10 February: Rally for Beltsville Firehouse (Mayor Jordan)

10 February: Free Health Screenings at Beltway Plaza Mall (Mayor Jordan and Ms. Weaver); Collage Art at The SPACE (Mayor Jordan, Ms. Weaver, and Ms. Pompei)

12 February: City Manager Meeting (Mayor Jordan)

COUNCIL REPORTS: None.

Closed Session: Ms. Weaver moved that Council go into a closed session in accordance with Section 3-305(b) (3) and (8) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland; 1) to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to it; and 2) to consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

The purpose of this meeting would be to 1) consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related to it and 2) consult with staff, consultants, or other individuals about pending or potential litigation.

Ms. Pope seconded.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Knesel- Yes

Ms. McKinney- Yes

Ms. Pompi - Yes

Ms. Pope - Yes

Mr. Roberts- No

Ms. Weaver- Yes

Mayor Jordan- Yes

ADJOURNMENT: The Mayor adjourned the Regular Meeting on February 12, 2024, at 11:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonita Anderson
City Clerk

"I hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct report of the Regular Meeting of the City Council of Greenbelt, Maryland, held February 12, 2024.

Emmett V. Jordan
Mayor

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: February 24, 2025

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: LEGISLATION

Agenda Section: LEGISLATION - 30 minutes (8:00 - 8:30 p.m.)

Subject:

An Ordinance to Repeal and Replace Chapter 2, Article IV Ethics Provisions of the Greenbelt City Code

- 2nd Reading and Adoption.

Suggested Action:

Reference: Ordinance

Included in the Council packet is an ordinance from the Council of the City of Greenbelt repealing and re-enacting Chapter 2, Article 4, titled "Ethics Provisions" of the City Code. This amendment updates the City's ethics laws to align with current State law.

Ms. Weaver introduced this ordinance at the February 10th Regular meeting and recommended the ordinance be introduced for second reading and adoption.

Attachments:

[Ethics Ordinance.02.24.25.pdf](#)

Introduced: Ms. Weaver
1st Reading: January 27, 2025
Passed:
Posted:
Effective:

ORDINANCE NUMBER 1399

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENBELT TO REPEAL AND
RE-ENACT CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 4, “ETHICS PROVISIONS” OF THE CITY CODE

WHEREAS, §§ 5-801, *et seq.* of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland requires municipal corporations to enact ethics laws and requires that the State Ethics Commission approve all municipal ethics ordinances; and

WHEREAS, The Council of the City of Greenbelt desires to maintain the highest trust in their public officials and employees; and

WHEREAS, currently the ethics provisions are contained in Chapter 2, Article 4 of the City Code; and

WHEREAS, The Council deem it necessary and in the public interest to update and amend the City’s ethics laws to reflect what is currently contained in State law.

Section 1. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, that Chapter 2, Article 4 of the City Code is hereby repealed in its entirety, amended and re-enacted as follows:

CHAPTER 2, Article 4— ETHICS PROVISIONS

Section 2-106. Short title.

This article may be cited as the City of Greenbelt Public Ethics Ordinance.

Section 2-107. Statement of purpose and policy.

- (a) The City of Greenbelt, recognizing that our system of representative government is dependent in part upon the people maintaining the highest trust in their public officials and employees, finds and declares that the people have a right to be assured that the impartiality and independent judgment of public officials and employees will be maintained.
- (b) It is evident that this confidence and trust is eroded when the conduct of the City's business is subject to improper influence and even the appearance of improper influence.
- (c) For the purpose of guarding against improper influence, the City Council enacts this Public Ethics Ordinance to require City elected officials, certain employees, and

individuals appointed to certain boards and commissions to disclose their financial affairs and to set minimum standards for the conduct of local government business.

- (d) It is the intention of the Council that this article, except its provisions for criminal sanctions, be liberally construed to accomplish this purpose.

Section 2-108. Defined Terms.

- (a) "Business entity" means a corporation, general or limited partnership, sole proprietorship, joint venture, unincorporated association or firm, institution, trust, foundation, or other organization, whether or not operated for profit.
- (b) Business entity does not include a governmental entity.
- (c) "Commission" means the Greenbelt Ethics Commission established under section 2-109(a) of this article.
- (d) "Compensation" means any money or thing of value, regardless of form, received or to be received by any individual by this article from an employer for service rendered.
- (1) For the purposes of section 2-113 of this article, if lobbying is only a portion of a person's employment, "compensation" means a prorated amount based on the time devoted to lobbying compared to the time devoted to other employment duties.
- (e) "Designated second home" means:
- (1) If an individual owns one second home, the individual's second home; or
- (2) If an individual owns more than one second home, any one second home the individual identifies to the Commission as the individual's designated second home.
- (f) "Doing business with" means:
- (1) Having or negotiating a contract that involves the commitment, either in a single or combination of transactions, of \$5,000 or more of City controlled funds;
- (2) Being regulated by or otherwise subject to the authority of the City of Greenbelt; or
- (3) Being registered as a lobbyist under section 2-113 of this article.
- (g) "Elected official" means any individual who holds an elective office of the City of Greenbelt.
- (1) "Elected official" does not include the Sheriff, State's Attorney, Register of Wills, or Clerk of the Court.
- (h) "Employee" means an individual who is employed by the City of Greenbelt.
- (1) "Employee" does not include an elected local official.
- (2) "Employee" does not include an employee of:
- (i) The offices of the Sheriff, State's Attorney, Register of Wills, or Clerk of the Court;
- (ii) The County Health Department; or
- (iii) The County Department of Social Services.
- (i) "Financial interest" means:

- (1) Ownership of any interest as the result of which the owner has received, within the past 3 years, or is presently receiving, or in the future is entitled to receive, more than \$1,000 per year; or
 - (2) Ownership, or the ownership of securities of any kind representing or convertible into ownership, of more than 3 percent of a business entity by a Greenbelt official or employee, or the spouse of an official or employee.
- (j) "Gift" means the transfer of anything of economic value, regardless of the form, without adequate and lawful consideration.
 - (1) "Gift" does not include a contribution as defined in Election Law Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.
- (k) "Home address" means the address of an individual's:
 - (1) Principal home; and
 - (2) Designated second home, if any.
- (l) "Interest" means a legal or equitable economic interest, whether or not subject to an encumbrance or a condition, that is owned or held, in whole or in part, jointly or severally, directly or indirectly.
 - (1) For purposes of section 2-111 of this article, "interest" includes any interest held at any time during the reporting period.
 - (2) "Interest" does not include:
 - (i) An interest held in the capacity of a personal agent, custodian, fiduciary, personal representative, or trustee, unless the holder has an equitable interest in the subject matter;
 - (ii) An interest in a time or demand deposit in a financial institution;
 - (iii) An interest in an insurance policy, endowment policy, or annuity contract under which an insurer promises to pay a fixed amount of money either in a lump sum or periodically for life or a specified period;
 - (iv) A common trust fund or a trust which forms part of a pension or profit sharing plan which has more than 25 participants and which has been determined by the Internal Revenue Service to be a qualified trust under the Internal Revenue Code;
 - (v) A college savings plan under the Internal Revenue Code; or
 - (vi) A mutual fund or exchange-traded fund that is publicly traded on a national scale unless the mutual fund or exchange-traded fund is composed primarily of holdings of stocks and interests in a specific sector or area that is regulated by the individual's governmental unit.
- (m) "Lobbyist" means a person required to register and report expenses related to lobbying under section 2-113 of this article.
- (n) "Lobbying" means:
 - (1) Communicating in the presence of a Greenbelt official or employee with the intent to influence any official action of that official or employee; or

- (2) Engaging in activities with the express purpose of soliciting others to communicate with a Greenbelt official or employee with the intent to influence that official or employee.
- (o) “Official” means an elected official, an employee of the City of Greenbelt, or a person appointed to or employed by the Greenbelt or any Greenbelt agency, board, commission, or similar entity:
 - (1) Whether or not paid in whole or in part with City of Greenbelt funds; and
 - (2) Whether or not compensated.
- (p) “Person” includes an individual or business entity.
- (q) “Principal home” means the sole residential property that an individual occupies as the individual’s primary residence, whether owned or rented by the individual.
- (r) “Qualified relative” means a spouse, parent, child, sibling or domestic partner of a person subject to this article, or one who is related to a person subject to this article by blood, marriage, other legal arrangement (guardian, domestic partner) or adoption and is a member of the person's household.
- (s) “Quasi-governmental entity” means an entity that is created by State statute, that performs a public function, and that is supported in whole or in part by the State but is managed privately.
- (t) “Second home” means a residential property that:
 - (1) An individual occupies for some portion of the filing year; and
 - (2) Is not a rental property or a time share.

Section 2-109. Administration.

- (a) There is a City of Greenbelt Ethics Commission that consists of five members, appointed by the City Council.
 - (1) The commission members shall serve three-year overlapping terms.
 - (2) A commission member may serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.
- (b) The commission shall elect a chair and vice-chair from among its members.
 - (1) The term of the chair and vice-chair is one year.
 - (2) The chair and vice-chair may be reelected.
- (c) The Greenbelt Attorney shall assist the commission in carrying out the commission’s duties.
 - (1) If a conflict of interest under section 2-110 of this article or other conflict prohibits the City of Greenbelt’s Attorney from assisting the Commission in a matter, the City of Greenbelt shall provide sufficient funds for the Commission to hire independent counsel for the duration of the conflict.
- (d) The Commission is the advisory body responsible for interpreting this article and advising persons subject to this article regarding its application.
- (e) The Commission shall hear and decide, with the advice of the City Solicitor or other legal counsel if appropriate, all complaints filed regarding alleged violations of this article by any person.

- (f) The Commission or an office designated by the Commission shall retain as a public record all forms submitted by any person under this article for at least four years after receipt by the Commission.
- (g) The Commission shall conduct a public information and education program regarding the purpose and implementation of this article.
- (h) The Commission shall certify to the State Ethics Commission on or before October 1 of each year that the City is in compliance with the requirements of General Provisions Article, Title 5, Subtitle 8, Annotated Code of Maryland, for elected local officials.
- (i) The Commission shall:
 - (1) Determine if changes to this article are required to be in compliance with the requirements of General Provisions Article, Title 5, Subtitle 8, Annotated Code of Maryland; and
 - (2) Shall forward any recommended changes and amendments to the City Council for enactment.
- (j) Any person subject to this article may request an advisory opinion from the Commission concerning the application of this article.
 - (1) The Commission shall respond promptly to a request for an advisory opinion and shall provide interpretations of this article based on the facts provided or reasonably available to the Commission within 60 days of the request.
 - (2) In accordance with all applicable State and City of Greenbelt laws regarding public records, the commission shall publish or otherwise make available to the public copies of the advisory opinions, with the identities of the subjects deleted.
 - (3) The commission may adopt additional policies and procedures related to the advisory opinion request process.
- (k) Any person may file a complaint with the commission alleging a violation of any of the provisions of this article.
 - (1) A complaint shall be in writing and under oath or affirmation.
 - (2) The commission may refer a complaint to the Greenbelt City Solicitor, or other legal counsel if appropriate, for investigation and review.
 - (3) The Commission may dismiss a complaint if, after receiving an investigative report, the Commission determines that there are insufficient facts upon which to base a determination of a violation.
 - (4) If there is a reasonable basis for believing a violation has occurred, the subject of the complaint shall be given an opportunity for a hearing conducted in accordance with the applicable City of Greenbelt rules of procedure.
 - (5) A final determination of a violation resulting from the hearing shall include findings of fact and conclusions of law.
 - (6) Upon finding of a violation, the Commission may take any enforcement action provided for in section 2-114 of this article.
 - (7) After a complaint is filed and until a final finding of a violation by the Commission, all actions regarding a complaint are confidential.
 - (i) A finding of a violation is public information.

- (8) The Commission may adopt additional policies and procedures related to complaints, complaint hearings, the use of independent investigators and staff, the use of witness and document subpoenas, and cure and settlement agreements.
- (l) The Commission may grant exemptions to or modifications of the conflict of interest and financial disclosure provisions of this article to officials or employees serving as members of Greenbelt boards and commissions, when the Commission finds that the exemption or modification would not be contrary to the purposes of this article, and the application of this article would:
 - (1) Constitute an unreasonable invasion of privacy; and
 - (2) Significantly reduce the availability of qualified persons for public service.
- (m) The Commission shall:
 - (1) Assess a late fee of \$5 per day up to a maximum of \$500 for a failure to timely file a financial disclosure statement required under §2-111 or 2-112 of this article; and
 - (2) Assess a late fee of \$10 per day up to a maximum of \$1,000 for a failure to file a timely lobbyist registration or lobbyist report required under section 2-113 of this article.
 - (3) Fines may be appealed in writing and waived by a simple majority vote of the City Council.

Section 2-110. Prohibited conduct and interests.

- (a) Participation prohibitions.
 - (1) Except as permitted by Commission regulation or written opinion, an official or employee may not participate in:
 - (i) Except in the exercise of an administrative duty that does not affect the disposition or decision of the matter, any matter in which, to the knowledge of the official or employee, the official or employee or a qualified relative of the official or employee has an interest.
 - (ii) Except in the exercise of an administrative duty that does not affect the disposition or decision with respect to the matter, any matter in which any of the following is a party:
 - (A) A business entity in which the official or employee has a direct financial interest of which the official or employee may reasonably be expected to know;
 - (B) A business entity for which the official, employee, or a qualified relative of the official or employee is an officer, director, trustee, partner, or employee;
 - (C) A business entity with which the official or employee or, to the knowledge of the official or employee, a qualified relative is negotiating employment or has any arrangement concerning prospective employment;

- (D) If the contract reasonably could be expected to result in a conflict between the private interests of the official or employee and the official duties of the official or employee, a business entity that is a party to an existing contract with the official or employee, or which, to the knowledge of the official or employee, is a party to a contract with a qualified relative;
 - (E) An entity, doing business with the City of Greenbelt, in which a direct financial interest is owned by another entity in which the official or employee has a direct financial interest, if the official or employee may be reasonably expected to know of both direct financial interests; or
 - (F) A business entity that:
 - 1. The official or employee knows is a creditor or obligee of the official or employee or a qualified relative of the official or employee with respect to a thing of economic value; and
 - 2. As a creditor or obligee, is in a position to directly and substantially affect the interest of the official or employee or a qualified relative of the official or employee.
- (2) A person who is disqualified from participating under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall disclose the nature and circumstances of the conflict and may participate or act if:
- (i) The disqualification leaves a body with less than a quorum capable of acting;
 - (ii) The disqualified official or employee is required by law to act; or
 - (iii) The disqualified official or employee is the only person authorized to act.
- (3) The prohibitions of paragraph 1 of this subsection do not apply if participation is allowed by regulation or written opinion of the Commission.
- (4) A former regulated lobbyist who is or becomes subject to this article as an employee or official, other than an elected official or an appointed official, may not participate in a case, contract, or other specific matter as an employee or official, other than an elected official or appointed official, for one calendar year after the termination of the registration of the former regulated lobbyist if the former regulated lobbyist previously assisted or represented another party for compensation in the matter.
- (b) Employment and financial interest restrictions.
- (1) Except as permitted by regulation of the Commission when the interest is disclosed or when the employment does not create a conflict of interest or appearance of conflict, an official or employee may not:
- (i) Be employed by or have a financial interest in any entity:

- (A) Subject to the authority of the official or employee or the which the official or employee is affiliated; or Greenbelt agency, board, or commission with
 - (B) That is negotiating or has entered a contract with the agency, board, or commission with which the official or employee is affiliated; or
- (ii) Hold any other employment relationship that would impair the impartiality or independence of judgment of the official or employee.
- (2) The prohibitions of paragraph (1) of this subsection do not apply to:
 - (i) An official or employee who is appointed to a regulatory or licensing authority pursuant to a statutory requirement that persons subject to the jurisdiction of the authority be represented in appointments to the authority;
 - (ii) Subject to other provisions of law, a member of a board or commission in regard to a financial interest or employment held at the time of appointment, provided the financial interest or employment is publicly disclosed to the appointing authority and the Commission;
 - (iii) An official or employee whose duties are administrative, if the private employment or financial interest does not create a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest, as permitted and in accordance with regulations adopted by the Commission; or
 - (iv) Employment or financial interests allowed by regulation of the Commission if the employment does not create a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest or the financial interest is disclosed.
- (c) Post-employment limitations and restrictions.
 - (1) A former official or employee may not assist or represent any party other than the City of Greenbelt for compensation in a case, contract, or other specific matter involving the City of Greenbelt if that matter is one in which the former official or employee significantly participated as an official or employee.
 - (2) A former elected official may not assist or represent another party for compensation in a matter that is the subject of legislative action for one calendar year after the elected official leaves office.
- (d) Contingent compensation. Except in a judicial or quasi-judicial proceeding, an official or employee may not assist or represent a party for contingent compensation in any matter before or involving the City of Greenbelt.
- (e) Use of prestige of office.
 - (1) An official or employee may not intentionally use the prestige of office or public position:
 - (A) For the private gain of that official or employee or the private gain of another; or
 - (B) To influence, except as part of the official duties of the official or employee or as a usual and customary constituent service without

additional compensation, the award of a state or local contract to a specific person.

- (i) An official may not directly or indirectly initiate a solicitation for a person to retain the compensated services of a particular regulated lobbyist or lobbying firm.
- (2) This subsection does not prohibit the performance of usual and customary constituent services by an elected official without additional compensation.
- (3) An official, other than an elected official, or employee may not use public resources or the title of the official or employee to solicit a contribution as that term is defined in the Election Law Article.
 - (i) An elected official may not use public resources to solicit a contribution as that term is defined in the Election Law Article.
- (g) Solicitation and acceptance of gifts.
 - (1) An official or employee may not solicit any gift.
 - (2) An official or employee may not directly solicit or facilitate the solicitation of a gift, on behalf of another person, from an individual regulated lobbyist.
 - (3) An official or employee may not knowingly accept a gift, directly or indirectly, from a person that the official or employee knows or has reason to know:
 - (i) Is doing business with or seeking to do business with the City of Greenbelt office, agency, board, or commission with which the official or employee is affiliated;
 - (ii) Has financial interests that may be substantially and materially affected, in a manner distinguishable from the public generally, by the performance or nonperformance of the official duties of the official or employee;
 - (iii) Is engaged in an activity regulated or controlled by the official's or employee's governmental unit;
 - (iv) Is a lobbyist with respect to matters within the jurisdiction of the official or employee; or
 - (v) Is an association, or any entity acting on behalf of an association that is engaged only in representing counties or municipal corporations.
 - (4) This paragraph lists exemptions, but they do not apply to a gift:
 - (A) That would tend to impair the impartiality and the independence of judgment of the official or employee receiving the gift;
 - (B) Of significant value that would give the appearance of impairing the impartiality and independence of judgment of the official or employee; or
 - (C) Of significant value that the recipient official or employee believes or has reason to believe is designed to impair the impartiality and independence of judgment of the official or employee.
 - (ii) Notwithstanding paragraph (3) of this subsection, an official or employee may accept the following:

- (A) Meals and beverages consumed in the presence of the donor or sponsoring entity;
 - (B) Ceremonial gifts or awards that have insignificant monetary value;
 - (C) Unsolicited gifts of nominal value that do not exceed \$20 in cost or trivial items of informational value;
 - (D) Reasonable expenses for food, travel, lodging, and scheduled entertainment of the official or the employee at a meeting which is given in return for the participation of the official or employee in a panel or speaking engagement at the meeting;
 - (E) Gifts of tickets or free admission extended to an elected official to attend a charitable, cultural, or political event, if the purpose of this gift or admission is a courtesy or ceremony extended to the elected official's office;
 - (F) A specific gift or class of gifts that the Commission exempts from the operation of this subsection upon a finding, in writing, that acceptance of the gift or class of gifts would not be detrimental to the impartial conduct of the business of the City and that the gift is purely personal and private in nature;
 - (G) Gifts from a person related to the official or employee by blood or marriage, or any other individual who is a member of the household of the official or employee; or
 - (H) Honoraria for speaking to or participating in a meeting, provided that the offering of the honorarium is in no way related to the official's or employee's official position.
- (h) Disclosure of confidential information. Other than in the discharge of official duties, an official or employee or former official or employee may not disclose or use confidential information, that the official or employee acquired by reason of the individual's public position or former public position and that is not available to the public, for the economic benefit of the official or employee or that of another person.
- (i) Participation in procurement.
- (1) An individual or a person that employs an individual who assists a City of Greenbelt agency or unit in the drafting of specifications, an invitation for bids, or a request for proposals for a procurement may not submit a bid or proposal for that procurement, or assist or represent another person, directly or indirectly, who is submitting a bid or proposal for the procurement.
 - (2) The commission may establish exemptions from the requirements of this section for providing descriptive literature, sole source procurements, and written comments solicited by the procuring agency.
- (j) Nepotism.
- (1) No city official or employee shall cause or advocate a qualified relative to be hired, employed, promoted, transferred or advanced to any full or part-time paid employment of the city.

- (2) This prohibition shall not apply to the process of selecting appointed city officials, nor shall a city official or employee participate in an action relating of the discipline of a qualified relative of the city official or employee.
 - (3) This shall not apply to city employees who marry after they are already city employees. However, in such a situation, neither city employee may directly or indirectly supervise the other city employee; and where possible, they should not work in the same department nor work together.
- (k) Abuse of position.
 - (1) No elected or appointed city official shall use the prestige of their office to advance their own political interests, private interest or the private interest of any other person, or entity whether for profit or non-profit.
 - (2) No elected or appointed city official or city employee may seek monetary or non-monetary favors or contributions from any person or entity who is subject to that person's official duties. Contributions from any person or entity over which such city official or city employee has any responsibility to approve or inspect the work of or in any way approve contracts with, zoning of property in which the person or entity has a direct or indirect interest (including any professional or non-professional fee) permits, or the like. In no case shall any city official or city employee seek monetary or non-monetary gifts or favors or contributions from any person or entity seeking a contract with the city; any person or entity involved directly or indirectly with any zoning or permit request before any city department, board, committee, or the and city council. This does not include city employees discharging their official job duties as laid out in their official city position descriptions.
- (l) An official or employee may not retaliate against an individual for reporting or participating in an investigation of a potential violation of the local ethics law or ordinance.

Section 2-111. Financial disclosure — elected officials, officials, and employees.

- (a) This section applies to all elected officials, all candidates to be elected officials, and the following city employees: the city manager, the assistant city manager, the city clerk, all directors and assistant directors of city departments, and police command staff at the rank of captain and above.
- (b) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, an elected official, employee, or candidate to be an elected official shall file the financial disclosure statement required under this subsection:
 - (1) On a form provided by the commission;
 - (2) Under oath or affirmation; and
 - (3) With the commission.
- (c) Deadlines for filing statements.
 - (1) An incumbent official or employee shall file a financial disclosure statement annually no later than April 30 of each year for the preceding calendar year.

- (2) An official or employee who is appointed to fill a vacancy in an office for which a financial disclosure statement is required and who has not already filed a financial disclosure statement shall file a statement for the preceding calendar year within 30 days after appointment.
 - (3) An individual who, other than by reason of death, leaves an office for which a statement is required shall file a statement within 60 days after leaving the office.
 - (i) The statement shall cover:
 - (A) The calendar year immediately preceding the year in which the individual left office, unless a statement covering that year has already been filed by the individual; and
 - (B) The portion of the current calendar year during which the individual held the office.
- (d) Candidates to be elected officials.
- (1) Except for an official or employee who has filed a financial disclosure statement under another provision of this section for the reporting period, a candidate to be an elected official shall file a financial disclosure statement each year beginning with the year in which the certificate of candidacy is filed through the year of the election.
 - (2) A candidate to be an elected official shall file a statement required under this section:
 - (i) In the year the certificate of candidacy is filed, no later than the filing of the certificate of candidacy;
 - (ii) In the year of the election, on or before the earlier of April 30 or the last day for the withdrawal of candidacy; and
 - (iii) In all other years for which a statement is required, on or before April 30.
 - (3) A candidate to be an elected official:
 - (i) Shall file the statement required under section 2-111(d)(2)(i) of this article with the City Clerk with the nomination petition; and
 - (ii) Shall file the statements required under section 2-111(d)(2)(ii) of this article with the City Clerk.
 - (4) If a statement required by a candidate is overdue and not filed within 8 days after written notice of the failure to file is provided by the City Clerk or Board of Elections, the candidate is deemed to have withdrawn the candidacy.
 - (5) The City Clerk or Board of Elections may not accept any certificate of candidacy unless a statement required under this section has been filed in proper form.
 - (6) Within 30 days of the receipt of a statement required under this section, the City clerk shall forward the statement to the commission, or an office designated by the commission.
- (e) Public record.
- (1) The commission or office designated by the commission shall maintain all financial disclosure statements filed under this section.

- (2) The commission or office designated by the commission shall make financial disclosure statements available during normal office hours for examination and copying by the public, subject to reasonable fees and administrative procedures established by the commission.
- (3) If an individual examines or copies a financial disclosure statement, the Commission or the office designated by the Commission shall record:
 - (i) The name and home address of the individual reviewing or copying the statement; and
 - (ii) The name of the person whose financial disclosure statement was examined or copied.
- (4) Upon request by the individual whose financial disclosure statement was examined or copied, the Commission or the office designated by the Commission shall provide the official or employee with a copy of the name and home address of the person who reviewed the official's or employee's financial disclosure statement.
- (5) For statements filed after January 1, 2019, the Commission or the office designated by the Commission may not provide public access to an individual's home address that the individual has designated as the individual's home address.
- (6) The Commission or office designated by the Commission shall not provide public access to information related to consideration received from:
 - (i) The University of Maryland Medical System;
 - (ii) A governmental entity of the State or a local government in the State; or
 - (iii) A quasi-governmental entity of the State or local government in the State.
- (f) Retention requirements. The Commission or the office designated by the Commission shall retain financial disclosure statements for four years from the date of receipt.
- (g) An individual who is required to disclose the name of a business under this section shall disclose any other names that the business is trading as or doing business as.
- (h) Contents of statement.
 - (1) Interests in real property.
 - (i) A statement filed under this section shall include a schedule of all interests in real property wherever located.
 - (ii) For each interest in real property, the schedule shall include:
 - (A) The nature of the property and the location by street address, mailing address, or legal description of the property;
 - (B) The nature and extent of the interest held, including any conditions and encumbrances on the interest;
 - (C) The date when, the manner in which, and the identity of the person from whom the interest was acquired;
 - (D) The nature and amount of the consideration given in exchange for the interest or, if acquired other than by purchase, the fair market value of the interest at the time acquired;

- (E) If any interest was transferred, in whole or in part, at any time during the reporting period, a description of the interest transferred, the nature and amount of the consideration received for the interest, and the identity of the person to whom the interest was transferred; and
 - (F) The identity of any other person with an interest in the property.
- (2) Interests in corporations and partnerships.
 - (i) A statement filed under this section shall include a schedule of all interests in any corporation, partnership, limited liability partnership, or limited liability corporation, regardless of whether the corporation or partnership does business with the City of Greenbelt.
 - (ii) For each interest reported under this paragraph, the schedule shall include:
 - (A) The name and address of the principal office of the corporation, partnership, limited liability partnership, or limited liability corporation;
 - (B) The nature and amount of the interest held, including any conditions and encumbrances on the interest;
 - (C) With respect to any interest transferred, in whole or in part, at any time during the reporting period, a description of the interest transferred, the nature and amount of the consideration received for the interest, and, if known, the identity of the person to whom the interest was transferred; and
 - (D) With respect to any interest acquired during the reporting period:
 - 1. The date when, the manner in which, and the identity of the person from whom the interest was acquired; and
 - 2. The nature and the amount of the consideration given in exchange for the interest or, if acquired other than by purchase, the fair market value of the interest at the time acquired.
 - (iii) An individual may satisfy the requirement to report the amount of the interest held under item 13 (ii) (B) of this paragraph by reporting, instead of a dollar amount:
 - (A) For an equity interest in a corporation, the number of shares held and, unless the corporation's stock is publicly traded, the percentage of equity interest held; or
 - (B) For an equity interest in a partnership, the percentage of equity interest held.
- (3) Interests in business entities doing business with the City of Greenbelt.
 - (i) A statement filed under this section shall include a schedule of all interests in any business entity that does business with the City of Greenbelt other than interests reported under paragraph (2) of this subsection.
 - (ii) For each interest reported under this paragraph, the schedule shall include:

- (A) The name and address of the principal office of the business entity;
- (B) The nature and amount of the interest held, including any conditions to and encumbrances on the interest;
- (C) With respect to any interest transferred, in whole or in part, at any time during the reporting period, a description of interest transferred, the nature and amount of the consideration received in exchange for the interest, and, if known, the identity of the person to whom the interest was transferred; and
- (D) With respect to any interest acquired during the reporting period:
 - 1. The date when, the manner in which, and the identity of the person from whom the interest was acquired; and
 - 2. The nature and the amount of the consideration given in exchange for the interest or, if acquired other than by purchase, the fair market value of the interest at the time acquired.

(4) Gifts.

- (i) A statement filed under this section shall include a schedule of each gift in excess of \$20 in value or a series of gifts totaling \$100 or more received during the reporting period from or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, any one person who does business with the City or from an association, or any entity acting on behalf of an association that is engaged only in representing counties or municipal corporations
 - (ii) For each gift reported, the schedule shall include:
 - (A) A description of the nature and value of the gift; and
 - (B) The identity of the person from whom, or on behalf of whom, directly or indirectly, the gift was received.
 - (iii) Employment with or interests in entities doing business with the City of Greenbelt.
- (5) A statement filed under this section shall include a schedule of all offices, directorships, and salaried employment by the individual or their qualified relative of the individual held at any time during the reporting period with entities doing business with the City of Greenbelt.
- (i) For each position reported under this paragraph, the schedule shall include:
 - (A) The name and address of the principal office of the business entity;
 - (B) The title and nature of the office, directorship, or salaried employment held and the date it commenced; and
 - (C) The name of each City agency with which the entity is involved as indicated by identifying one or more of the three categories of "doing business", as defined in section 3(d) of this article.
- (6) Indebtedness to entities doing business with or regulated by the individual's City unit or department.

- (i) A statement filed under this section shall include a schedule of all liabilities, excluding retail credit accounts, to persons doing business with or regulated by the individual's City unit or department owed at any time during the reporting period:
 - (A) By the individual; or
 - (B) By a qualified relative of the individual if the individual was involved in the transaction giving rise to the liability.
 - (ii) For each liability reported under this paragraph, the schedule shall include:
 - (A) The identity of the person to whom the liability was owed and the date the liability was incurred;
 - (B) The amount of the liability owed as of the end of the reporting period;
 - (C) The terms of payment of the liability and the extent to which the principal amount of the liability was increased or reduced during the year; and
 - (D) The security given, if any, for the liability.
- (7) Employment with the City of Greenbelt. A statement filed under this section shall include a schedule of the qualified relatives of the individual employed by the City in any capacity at any time during the reporting period.
- (8) Sources of earned income.
 - (i) A statement filed under this section shall include a schedule of the name and address of each place of employment and of each business entity of which the individual or a qualified relative was a sole or partial owner and from which the individual or the individual's qualified relative received earned income, at any time during the reporting period.
 - (ii) A minor child's employment or business ownership need not be disclosed if the agency that employs the individual does not regulate, exercise authority over, or contract with the place of employment or business entity of the minor child.
 - (iii) For a statement filed on or after January 1, 2019, if the individual's qualified relative is a lobbyist regulated by the City of Greenbelt, the individual shall disclose the entity that has engaged the qualified relative for lobbying purposes.
- (9) Relationship with University of Maryland Medical System, State or Local Government, or Quasi-Governmental Entity.
 - (i) An individual shall disclose the information specified in General Provisions Article §5-607(j)(1), Annotated Code of Maryland, for any financial or contractual relationship with:
 - (A) The University of Maryland Medical System;
 - (B) A governmental entity of the State or a local government in the State; or (C) A quasi-governmental entity of the State or local government in the State.

- (ii) For each financial or contractual relationship reported, the schedule shall include:
 - (A) A description of the relationship;
 - (B) The subject matter of the relationship; and
 - (C) The consideration.
- (10) A statement filed under this section may also include a schedule of additional interests or information that the individual making the statement wishes to disclose.
 - (i) For the purposes of section 2-111(g)(1), (2), and (3) of this article, the following interests are considered to be the interests of the individual making the statement:
 - (1) An interest held by the individual's qualified relative, if the interest was, at any time during the reporting period, directly or indirectly controlled by the individual.
 - (2) An interest held, at any time during the applicable period, by:
 - (i) A business entity in which the individual held a (10)% or greater interest;
 - (ii) A business entity described in section (i) of this subsection in which the business entity held a 25% or greater interest;
 - (iii) A business entity described in section (ii) of this subsection in which the business entity held a 50% or greater interest; and
 - (iv) A business entity in which the individual directly or indirectly, though an interest in one or a combination of other business entities, holds a 10% or greater interest.
 - (3) An interest held by a trust or an estate in which, at any time during the reporting period:
 - (i) The individual held a reversionary interest or was a beneficiary; or
 - (ii) If a revocable trust, the individual was a settlor.
 - (j) The Commission shall review the financial disclosure statements submitted under this section for compliance with the provisions of this section and shall notify an individual submitting the statement of any omissions or deficiencies.
 - (1) The City Ethics Commission may take appropriate enforcement action to ensure compliance with this section.

Section 2-112. Financial disclosure — appointed members of boards and commissions.

- (a) The City appointed officials listed in paragraph (b) of this section shall file the statement required by section 2-111 of this article.
 - (1) The appointed officials shall be required to disclose the information specified in section 2-111(g) of this article only with respect to those interests, gifts, compensated positions, and liabilities that may create a conflict, as provided in section 2-110 of this article of this article, between the member's personal interests and the member's official local duties.

- (2) An official shall file a statement required under this section annually, not later than April 30 of each calendar year during which the official holds office.
- (b) Appointed officials required to file: Each member of the City of Greenbelt Advisory Planning Board, Board of Appeals, Ethics Commission, and others identified from time to time by the city council.
- (c) The Commission shall maintain all disclosure statements filed under this section as public records available for public inspection and copying as provided in section 2-111(e) of this article.

Section 2-113. Lobbying.

- (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, a person or entity who engages in lobbying as defined in section 2-108(1) shall file a lobbying registration with the commission if the person or entity, during the calendar year:
 - (1) Expends, exclusive of personal travel and subsistence expenses, in excess of \$100.00 in furtherance of this activity; or
 - (2) Is compensated in excess of \$100.00 in connection with this activity.
- (b) The following activities are exempt from regulation under this section:
 - (1) Professional services in drafting bills or in advising and rendering opinions to clients as to the construction and effect of proposed or pending City actions when these services do not otherwise constitute lobbying activities;
 - (2) Appearances before the Greenbelt City Council upon its specific invitation or request if the person or entity engages in no further or other activities in connection with the passage or defeat of city council actions;
 - (3) Appearances before a city agency upon the specific invitation or request of the agency if the person or entity engages in no further or other activities in connection with the passage or defeat of any agency executive action;
 - (4) Appearance as part of the official duties of a duly elected or appointed official or employee of the State or a political subdivision of the State, or of the United States, and not on behalf of any other entity;
 - (5) Actions of a publisher or working member of the press, radio, or television in the ordinary course of the business of disseminating news or making editorial comment to the general public who does not engage in further or other lobbying that would directly and specifically benefit the economic, business, or professional interests of the person or entity or the employer of the person or entity;
 - (6) Appearances by an individual before the Greenbelt City Council at the specific invitation or request of a registered lobbyist if the person performs no other lobbying act and notifies the Council that the person or entity is testifying at the request of the lobbyist;
 - (7) Appearances by an individual before a government agency at the specific invitation or request of a registered lobbyist if the person or entity performs no

- other lobbying act and notifies the agency that the person or entity is testifying at the request of the lobbyist;
- (8) The representation of a bona fide religious organization solely for the purpose of protecting the right of its own members to practice the doctrine of the organization; and
 - (9) Appearance as part of the official duties of an officer, director, member, or employee of an association engaged exclusively in lobbying for counties and municipalities and not on behalf of any other entity.
- (c) Limited exemption — employer of a lobbyist.
- (1) A person or entity who compensates one or more lobbyists and who would otherwise be required to register as a lobbyist is not required to file a registration and submit lobbying reports if the person or entity reasonably believes that all expenses incurred in connection with the lobbying activities will be reported by a properly registered person or entity acting on behalf of the person or entity.
 - (2) A person or entity exempted under this subsection becomes subject to this section immediately upon failure of the lobbyist to report any information required under this section.
- (d) The registration filed under this section shall be filed on or before the later of the beginning of the calendar year in which the person or entity expects to lobby and within five days of first engaging in lobbying activities in the calendar year.
- (1) The registration filed under this section:
 - (i) Shall be dated and on a form developed by the Commission;
 - (ii) Shall include:
 - (A) The lobbyist's full and legal name and permanent address;
 - (B) The name, address, and nature of business of any person or entity on whose behalf the lobbyist acts; and
 - (C) The written authorization of any person or entity on whose behalf the lobbyist acts or an authorized officer or agent, who is not the lobbyist, of the person or entity on whose behalf the lobbyist acts;
 - (iii) A statement of whether the person or entity on whose behalf the lobbyist acts is exempt from registration under subsection (c) of this section;
 - (iv) The identification, by formal designation, if known, of matters on which the lobbyist expects to act;
 - (v) Identification of the period of time within a single calendar year during which the lobbyist is authorized to engage in these activities, unless terminated sooner; and
 - (vi) The full legal signature of the lobbyist and, when appropriate, the person or entity on whose behalf the lobbyist acts or an agent or authorized officer of the person or entity on whose behalf the lobbyist acts.
- (e) A lobbyist shall file a separate registration for each person or entity that has engaged or employed the lobbyist for lobbying purposes.

- (f) A lobbyist may terminate the lobbyist's registration by providing written notice to the Commission and submitting all outstanding reports and registrations.
- (g) A person or entity may not engage in lobbying activities on behalf of another person or entity for compensation that is contingent upon the passage or defeat of any action by the Greenbelt City Council or the outcome of any executive action.
- (h) Activity report.
 - (1) A lobbyist shall file with the Commission or the office designated by the Commission:
 - (i) By July 31, one report concerning the lobbyist's lobbying activities covering the period beginning January 1 through June 30; and
 - (ii) By January 31, one report covering the period beginning July 1 through December 31.
 - (2) A lobbyist shall file a separate activity report for each person or entity on whose behalf the lobbyist acts.
 - (3) If the lobbyist is not an individual, an authorized officer or agent of the entity shall sign the form.
 - (4) The report shall include:
 - (i) A complete and current statement of the information required to be supplied with the lobbyist's registration form.
 - (ii) Total expenditures on lobbying activities in each of the following categories:
 - (A) Total compensation paid to the lobbyist not including expenses reported under items (B)—(I) of this subparagraph;
 - (B) Office expenses of the lobbyist;
 - (C) Professional and technical research and assistance not reported in item (i) of this subparagraph;
 - (D) Publications which expressly encourage persons to communicate with city officials or employees;
 - (E) Names of witnesses, and the fees and expenses paid to each witness;
 - (F) Meals and beverages for city officials and employees;
 - (G) Reasonable expenses for food, lodging, and scheduled entertainment of city officials or employees for a meeting which is given in return for participation in a panel or speaking engagement at the meeting;
 - (H) Other gifts to or for officials or employees or their qualified relatives and
 - (I) Other expenses.
- (i) Special gift report.
 - (1) With the six-month activity report required under subsection (h) of this section, a lobbyist shall report, except for gifts reported in item (h)(4)(ii)(G) of this section, gifts from the lobbyist with a cumulative value of \$75 or more during the

reporting period to an official, employee, or the qualified relative of an official or employee.

- (i) The lobbyist shall report gifts under this paragraph regardless of whether the gift was given in connection with lobbying activities.
- (2) The report shall include the date, beneficiary, amount or value, and nature of the gift.
- (j) Notification to official and confidentiality.
 - (1) If any report filed under this section contains the name of an official or employee or a qualified relative of an official or employee, the Commission shall notify the official or employee within 30 days.
 - (2) The Commission shall keep the report confidential for 60 days following receipt by the Commission.
 - (3) Within 30 days of the notice required under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the official or employee may file a written exception to the inclusion in the report of the name of the official, employee, or qualified relative of the official or employee.
- (k) The Commission may require a lobbyist to submit other reports the Commission determines to be necessary.
- (l) The Commission or office designated by the Commission shall maintain all registrations and reports filed under this section.
- (m) The Commission shall review the registrations and reports filed under this section for compliance with this section and shall notify persons engaging in lobbying activities of any omissions or deficiencies.
 - (1) The Commission may take appropriate enforcement action to ensure compliance with this section.
- (n) Annual report.
 - (1) The Commission shall compute and make available a subtotal under each of the ten required categories in subparagraph (h)(4) (ii) of this section.
 - (2) The Commission shall compute and make available the total amount reported by all lobbyists for their lobbying activities during the reporting period.
- (o) The Commission shall make lobbying registrations and reports available during normal business hours for examination and copying subject to reasonable fees and procedures established by the Commission.

Section 2-114. Enforcement.

- (a) Upon a finding of a violation of any provision of this article, the commission may:
 - (1) Issue an order of compliance directing the respondent to cease and desist from the violation;
 - (2) Issue a reprimand; or
 - (3) Recommend to the appropriate authority other appropriate discipline of the respondent, including censure or removal if that discipline is authorized by law.

- (4) If the Commission finds that a respondent has violated section 2-113 of this article, the commission may:
- (i) Require a respondent who is a registered lobbyist to file any additional reports or information that reasonably related to the information that is required under section 2-113 of this article;
 - (ii) Impose a fine not exceeding \$5,000 for each violation; and
 - (iii) Suspend the registration of an individual registered lobbyist if the Commission finds that the lobbyist has knowingly and willfully violated section 2-113 of this article or has been convicted of a criminal offense arising from lobbying activities.
- (b) Upon request of the commission, the City Attorney may file a petition for injunctive or other relief in the circuit court of Prince George's County, or in any other court having proper venue for the purpose of requiring compliance with the provisions of this article.
- (1) The court may:
- (i) Issue an order to cease and desist from the violation;
 - (ii) Except as provided in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, void an official action taken by an official or employee with a conflict of interest prohibited by this article when the action arises from or concerns the subject matter of the conflict and if the legal action is brought within 90 days of the occurrence of the official action, if the court deems voiding the action to be in the best interest of the public; or
 - (iii) Impose a fine of up to \$5,000 for any violation of the provisions of this article, with each day upon which the violation occurs constituting a separate offense.
 - (iv) A court may not void any official action appropriating public funds, levying taxes, or providing for the issuance of bonds, notes, or other evidences of public obligations.
- (c) Any person who knowingly and willfully violates the provisions of section 2-113 of this article is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction, is subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both.
- (1) If the person is a business entity and not a natural person, each officer and partner of the business entity who knowingly authorized or participated in the violation is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, is subject to the same penalties as the business entity.
- (d) In addition to any other enforcement provisions in this article, a person who the commission or a court finds has violated this article:
- (1) Is subject to termination or other disciplinary action; and
 - (2) May be suspended from receiving payment of salary or other compensation pending full compliance with the terms of an order of the Commission or a court.
- (e) A person who is subject to the provisions of this article shall obtain and preserve all accounts, bills, receipts, books, papers, and documents necessary to complete and

substantiate a report, statement, or record required under this article for three years from the date of filing the report, statement, or record.

- (1) These papers and documents shall be available for inspection upon request by the Commission or the Council after reasonable notice.

Section 2-115. Severability

If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Article is held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the ruling shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this article.

Section 2. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any provisions of this Ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid for any reason, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or any other applications of the Ordinance.

INTRODUCED by the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, at its regular meeting of _____, 2025.

EFFECTIVE the _____ day of _____, 2025.

Emmett V. Jordan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: February 24, 2025

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: LEGISLATION

Agenda Section: LEGISLATION - 30 minutes (8:00 - 8:30 p.m.)

Subject:

Charter Amendment Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt to Amend Section 4 "Creation; Qualifications; Compensation" of the City Charter to Raise the Compensation of the Council
- 1st Reading

Suggested Action:

Reference: Resolution

The Council packet contains a resolution for Charter Amendment concerning Council Compensation Adjustments from Fiscal Year 2024.

It is recommended that this resolution be introduced for first reading during the current meeting.

Attachments:

[Salary Charter Amendment Resolution.pdf](#)

Introduced by:
1st Reading:
Passed:
Posted:
Effective:

CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION NUMBER 2025-XX

Charter Amendment Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt to Amend Section 4 "Creation; Qualifications; Compensation" of the City Charter to Raise the Compensation of the Council

A Charter Resolution of the Council of the City of Greenbelt adopted pursuant to the authority of Article XI-E of the Constitution of Maryland and §4-301 *et-seq.*, Local Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland as amended.

WHEREAS, salaries for the Council have not been increased since November 2007; and

WHEREAS, the increase in salaries was approved during the Fiscal Year 2024 budget process, which included public hearings; and

WHEREAS, the Council determined a modest increase after sixteen (16) years is fair, reasonable, and in the best interest of the City and its residents.

Section 1. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Greenbelt that Section 4 "Creation; qualifications; compensation." of the Charter shall be repealed, amended, and reenacted to read as follows:

Section 4. Creation; qualifications; compensation.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this Charter, all powers of the city shall be vested in a council of five (5) members prior to November 9, 2009, and a council of seven (7) members beginning November 9, 2009 nominated and elected from the city at large in the manner hereinafter provided. The term of each member of council shall be for two (2) years and until his or her successor shall have qualified, and shall begin on the first Monday following the regular council election or run-off election.

(b) Effective with the council elected as a result of the November ((6))7, 20((07))23, election, the mayor shall receive a salary of ((twelve)) FOURTEEN thousand dollars (\$14((12)),000.00) per annum and the other members of council each shall receive a salary of ((ten)) TWELVE thousand dollars (\$12((10)),000) per annum, payable in twenty-six (26) biweekly payments. No ((ordinance)) RESOLUTION amending the Charter with respect to fixing or changing the salary of members of council shall become effective during the current term of members of council enacting such ordinance.

Section 2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Greenbelt that this charter amendment resolution was introduced on the _____ day of _____ 2025 and was considered for adoption after a public hearing. It is adopted this ____, day of _____, 202_, after at least 21 days of prior public notice and shall become effective upon the fiftieth (50th) day after its passage by the city unless petition to referendum in accordance with § 4-304 of the Local Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland within forty (40) days following its adoption. A complete and exact copy of

this charter resolution shall be posted in the City offices located at 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770 for forty (40) days following its adoption by the Mayor and Council and a fair summary of the charter resolution shall be published in the newspaper having general circulation in the city not less than four (4) times at weekly intervals, also within the forty (40) day period following its adoption by the City.

Section 3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that within 10 days after the charter resolution hereby enacted becomes effective, either as herein provided or following referendum, the city manager for the City of Greenbelt shall send separately, by mail, bearing a postmark from the United States postal service, to the Department of Legislative Services, one copy of the following information concerning the charter resolution: (i) The complete text of this resolution; (ii) the date of referendum election, if any, held with respect thereto; (iii) the number of votes cast for and against this resolution by the Mayor and Council of the City of Greenbelt or in the referendum; and (iv) the effective date of the charter resolution.

Section 4. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the city manager of the City of Greenbelt be, and hereby is, specifically enjoined and instructed to carry out the provisions of Sections 2 and 3 as evidence of compliance herewith; and said city manager shall cause to be affixed to the minutes of this meeting (i) an appropriate certificate of publication of the newspaper in which the fair summary of the charter resolution shall have been published; and (ii) shall further cause to be completed and executed the municipal charter or annexation resolution registration form.

Section 5. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if any provision of this charter resolution or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or any other application of this charter resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end, all the provisions of this resolution and of the charter are hereby declared to be severable.

INTRODUCED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Greenbelt, at a regular meeting on the ____ day of _____ 2025.

ADOPTED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Greenbelt at a regular meeting on the ____ day of _____ 2025.

EFFECTIVE, the ____ day of _____, 2025.

By:

Emmett V. Jordan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

KEY:

((Parentheses)) indicate matter deleted from existing law.

ALL CAPS indicate matter added to existing law.

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: February 24, 2025

Submitted by: Bonita Anderson

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS - 30 minutes (8:30 - 9:00 p.m.)

Subject:

Rapid Response Task Force - Addressing Economic Impact & Job Loss from Executive Orders

Suggested Action:

Councilmember Amy Knesel requested this item be added to the agenda for Council's discussion.

The recent disruptions in federal grants, layoffs, and proposed reductions in grants and contractor funding present a significant challenge to Greenbelt's economic resilience. Additionally, the reassessment of government leases could have long-term effects on both planned and existing office spaces in the city. Given Greenbelt's reliance on federal employment and associated industries, it is crucial to develop a proactive, community-driven approach to economic resilience and job preservation.

As the Council discusses the creation of the Task Force, key considerations include:

1. The formal structure (e.g., an official task force appointed by the Council, a Council-led Special Committee, or a workgroup under the City Manager's authority).
2. Whether the Standing Rules should be suspended to expedite formation.

Attachments:

[CORES Email.pdf](#)

Josue Salmeron

From: Melissa Ann Ehrenreich <melissaehrenreich@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2025 12:29 PM
To: Council
Cc: Josue Salmeron
Subject: 90 Day Taskforce

Dear Council,

With the recent federal grant disruptions, the federal layoffs, the proposed overhead reductions for research grants, the re-assessment of government leases (that surely will impact operations in our city of both planned and existing office vacancies), Greenbelt's resilience and tax revenue is especially vulnerable in the years ahead.

However, we do have assets. We have community infrastructure, locally owned land and facilities, great local businesses with collective purchasing power and a motivated constituency to care for each other and enhance our resilience overall. We have an incredible community full of strong interfaith networks and expertise across technology, arts, housing, and healthcare.

I would like to petition the City Council to endorse a 90 day taskforce focused on providing recommendations for actions that City Council, nonprofits, and local businesses can take to support resilience across Greenbelt leveraging all of our assets. I plan to speak on this at the next City council meeting and solicit support from local organizations and groups across the City. **I hope to speak to each of you individually on what this could mean for our City in a way that generates hope at a time of epic confusion.**

The Collaborative Opportunities for Resilience and Enduring Solutions (CORES) Taskforce would be focused on what we can DO right here in Greenbelt through a spirit of abundance from every seat. By identifying creative ideas in governance and collaboration that are cost neutral solutions, we can expand services, our tax base, and community care for the core of what we already have in ways that makes us stronger in the years to come.

People want to do something and the time-limited CORES Taskforce would be a way to channel all our creativity into as many ideas as possible filtered through the lens of existing assets, partnerships, costs, and most importantly, civic engagement.

What would the CORES Taskforce Do:

- 1) A 90 day effort to engage folks with a diversity of opinions and strengths across the community on real solutions we could create relevant to Greenbelt.
- 2) A more thorough understanding of our assets currently in place and how we can build community resilience starting with what we have versus what we stand to lose.
- 3) A list of non-binding recommendations for Council, but also, for nonprofits, businesses, and citizens that can be actionable and picked up wherever the energy is greatest.
- 4) A celebration rooted in hope that would share these recommendations with the community over a community dinner at the end of our brainstorming with the full community.

CORES would be focused on gathering ideas on concrete ways to leverage local resources, networks, and infrastructure to put together solutions that don't polarize us, rather they bring us together. It would emphasize our community's agency to create systems, training, skills and programs that care for our community, spark local economic development, and enhance civic engagement.

I stand ready to create this rapid response Task Force and volunteer my time to develop recommendations for action right here in Greenbelt.

Very best,
Melissa Ann Ehrenreich
23D Ridge Rd

Melissa Ann Ehrenreich
email: melissaehrenreich@gmail.com
skype: melissa.ann.ehrenreich
mobile: 202-412-7942

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: February 24, 2025

Submitted by: Bonita Anderson

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS - 30 minutes (8:30 - 9:00 p.m.)

Subject:

Review of State/County Legislation

Suggested Action:

On Monday, February 24, staff will include the Carrington and Associates' 2025 Bill Tracking Report and the comprehensive analysis of the 2025 Greenbelt Priority Bill for the City of Greenbelt.

Attachments:

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: February 24, 2025

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: MEETINGS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS - 30 minutes (8:30 - 9:00 p.m.)

Subject:

Meetings

Suggested Action:

Reference:

Meetings List

Memorandum, B. Anderson, 02/19/2025

Draft FY 2026 Budget Meeting List

Included in the Council packet is a memorandum detailing proposed changes to the meeting schedule for the calendar year 2025. The suggestions for the 2025 meeting calendar are as follows:

1. **Reschedule Monday, March 10 Regular Meeting to Wednesday, March 12** (NLC Congressional Cities Conference in DC – March 10-12, 2025)
2. **No Work Session on Monday, April 21** (Easter Monday)
3. **Reschedule Monday, May 26 Regular Meeting to Tuesday, May 27** (Memorial Day)
4. **Reschedule Monday, June 9 Regular Meeting and Monday, June 23 Regular Meeting to Monday, June 2 and Monday, June 16** (To adopt the budget before June 10 and MML Annual Conference in Ocean City – June 22-25);
5. **No Work Session on Monday and Wednesday, June 23 and 25** (MML Annual Conference in Ocean City – June 22-25)
6. **No Work Session on Wednesday, November 19** (NLC City Summit in Salt Lake, UT – November 19-22).

A motion is required to approve this schedule change.

Attachments:

[meetings.pdf](#)

[2025_Calendar_memo.rev_02.19.25.pdf](#)



City Council Meetings & Work Sessions February - March

Regular Meeting	Mon.	02/24	7:30 pm
Work Session – PGCPs Superintendent House & staff	Wed.	02/26	7:30 pm
Four Cities Meeting (City of College Park)	Thurs.	02/27	7:00 pm
School Academic Performance Briefing (Greenbelt Elementary School)	Thurs.	02/27	6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Work Session – Solid Waste Rate Modification Proposal	Mon.	03/03	7:30 pm
Charter Review Taskforce and Advisory Board Interviews (virtual)	Wed.	03/05	7:30 pm
Regular Meeting	Mon.	03/10	7:30 pm
Work Session – TBD	Wed.	03/12	7:30 pm
Work Session – ACE Educator Awards	Mon.	03/17	7:30 pm
Work Session – TBD	Wed.	03/19	7:30 pm
Regular Meeting – FY2026 Budget Presentation	Mon.	03/24	7:30 pm
Budget Work Session – Overview, Revenues & General Government/Other Funds/Non-Departmental & Fund Transfers/Economic Development	Wed.	03/26	7:30 pm

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation, call 301-474-8000. Regular and Special meetings and Work Sessions are open to the public. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 or 301-474-3870 no later than 10 a.m. on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use Video Relay Services (VRS) at 711 or e-mail banderson@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk. Unless otherwise noted, meetings will be held in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building (MB) at 25 Crescent Road and virtually by Zoom. Zoom meeting information for public participation is posted on the City's website at www.greenbeltmd.gov on the meeting calendar.

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

Ready to be scheduled:

Bureau of Engraving and Printing
City Contracting Policy
County Executive Liaison
Economic Development
Greenbelt Road Corridor
Townhall Meeting: Virtual Meetings
 Accessibility for Blind and Visually
 Impaired
Verde Apartments

For later scheduling:

Arts & Entertainment District
Bernard Penney (*Memorial Donation in
honor of Leonie Penney*)
Cemetery Plans
City Manager Updates (Jan, Pre-budget;
July & Sept/Oct)
EV Chargers Five-Year Plan
Fleet Vehicles Ten-Year Plan
GHI/Prince George's County (Stormwater
issues)
MARC Train Service/ MDOT
Meeting with County on Transportation Plan
Museum Plan
Northway Fields Master Plan
Office of Human Rights
Parkway Apartment Owners/GHI (*parking*)
Potential Bond Referendum/Capital
Financing
Zoning Enforcement

10/4/2024 8:23 AM



A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

MEMORANDUM

TO: Josué Salmerón, City Manager
FROM: Bonita Anderson, City Clerk *BA*
DATE: February 19, 2025
SUBJECT: Council Meeting Schedule for 2025

Attached is a proposed Council Meeting Schedule for 2025. It is suggested that the schedule be included on the next agenda of the Regular Council Meeting for action.

Budget Approval: Before June 10

Conferences

- NLC Congressional Cities Conference in DC – March 10-12, 2025
- MML Annual Conference in Ocean City – June 22-25, 2025
- MML Fall Conference in Wisp Resort, McHenry, MD – October 12-14, 2025
- NLC City Summit in Salt Lake, UT – November 19-22, 2025

Jewish Holidays – *When work is not permitted (holding meetings should be avoided)*

1. **Purim** – Begins at Sunset on Thursday, March 13 (7:12 pm) and ends at Nightfall on Sunday, March 14.
2. **Passover** – Begins at Sunset on Saturday, April 12 (7:42 pm) and ends at Nightfall on Sunday, April 20. *Work is not permitted on April 13th and 14th. School is closed on Monday, April 14th.*
3. **Shavuot** – Begins at Sunset on Sunday, June 1 (8:27 pm) and ends at Nightfall on Tuesday, June 3. *School is open.*
4. **The 15th of Av (Tu B'Av)** – Saturday, August 9th (*Work is not permitted due to Shabbat*).
5. **Rosh Hashanah** – Begins at Sunset on Monday, September 22 (7:04 pm) and ends at Nightfall on Wednesday, September 24. *As of 02/19/25, PGCPs has not decided on their 2025-2026 school calendar.*
6. **Yom Kippur** – Begins at Sunset on Wednesday, October 1 (6:49 pm) and ends at Nightfall on Thursday, October 2. *As of 02/19/25, PGCPs has not decided on their 2025-2026 school calendar.*

7. **Sukkot** – Begins at Sunset on Monday, October 6 (6:41 pm) and ends at Nightfall on Monday, October 13. *(Work is not permitted on October 7th and 8th.) As of 02/19/25, PGCPs has not decided on their 2025-2026 school calendar.*
8. **Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah** – Begins at Sunset on Monday, October 13 (6:17 pm) and ends at Nightfall on Wednesday, October 15. *As of 02/19/25, PGCPs has not decided on their 2025-2026 school calendar.*

School Board Holidays – Not covered by City Holidays or Jewish Holidays:

- Good Friday – April 18
- Easter Monday – April 21

Based on the above information, suggested changes to Council’s 2025 meeting scheduled are:

1. **Reschedule Monday, March 10 Regular Meeting to Wednesday, March 12** *(NLC Congressional Cities Conference in DC – March 10-12, 2025)*
2. **No Work Session on Monday, April 21** *(Easter Monday)*
3. **Reschedule Monday, May 26 Regular Meeting to Tuesday, May 27** *(Memorial Day)*
4. **Reschedule Monday, June 9 Regular Meeting and Monday, June 23 Regular Meeting to Monday, June 2 and Monday, June 16** *(To adopt the budget before June 10 and MML Annual Conference in Ocean City – June 22-25);*
5. **No Work Session on Monday and Wednesday, June 23 and 25** *(MML Annual Conference in Ocean City – June 22-25)*
6. **No Work Session on Wednesday, November 19** *(NLC City Summit in Salt Lake, UT – November 19-22).*

FY 2026 Budget Meetings

Date		Time	Place	Meeting
Mon.	March 24	7:30	Hybrid	Regular Meeting – Budget Presentation
Wed.	March 26	7:30	Hybrid	Budget Work Session – Overview, Revenues & General Government/Other Funds/Non-Departmental & Fund Transfers/Economic Development
Mon.	March 31	7:30	Hybrid	Budget Work Session – Misc. – Grants & Contributions/CARES/Greenbelt Cinema
Wed.	April 2	7:30	Hybrid	Budget Work Session - Public Works/Capital Projects
Mon.	April 7	7:30	Hybrid	Work Session - TBD
Wed.	April 9	7:30	Hybrid	Work Session – TBD
Mon.	April 14	7:30	Hybrid	Regular Meeting
Wed.	April 16	7:30	Hybrid	Budget Work Session – Planning & Community Development
Mon.	April 21			Easter Monday
Wed.	April 23	7:30	Hybrid	Budget Work Session – Recreation
Thurs.	April 24	7:00	Hybrid	Four Cities Meeting (Greenbelt)
Mon.	April 28	7:30	Hybrid	Regular Meeting/ 1 st Public Hearing
Wed.	April 30	7:30	Hybrid	Budget Work Session – Public Safety
Mon.	May 5	7:30	Hybrid	Work Session – TBD
Wed.	May 7	7:30	Hybrid	Budget Work Session – Green Ridge House
Mon.	May 12	7:30	Hybrid	Regular Meeting
Wed.	May 14	7:30	Hybrid	Budget Work Session – Recognition Groups (Group 1)
Mon.	May 19	7:00	Hybrid	Budget Work Session – Recognition Groups (Group 2)
Wed.	May 21	7:30	Hybrid	Regular Meeting – 2 nd Public Hearing
Mon.	May 26			City Holiday - Memorial Day
Tues.	May 27	7:30	Hybrid	Budget Work Session – Final Budget Review
Wed.	May 28	7:30	Hybrid	Work Session - TBD
Mon.	June 2	7:30	Hybrid	Regular Meeting – Budget Adoption (Reschedule June 9 Council Meeting to June 2 to adopt budget before June 10)
Wed.	June 4	7:30	Hybrid	Work Session - TBD

As of Friday, February 21, 2025 4:23:06 PM

Overview, Revenues & General Government
Non-Departmental & Fund Transfers
Planning
Social Services
Capital Projects

Public Safety
Museum
Recreation
Recognition Groups

Public Works
Grants & Contributions
Green Ridge House
Miscellaneous

DRAFT

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: February 24, 2025

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS - 30 minutes (8:30 - 9:00 p.m.)

Subject:

Stakeholder List

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[Stakeholder Schedule.pdf](#)

Annual													Follow-Up Letter Sent
Advisory Group Chairs	7/22	7/23	8/24										
Franklin Park at Greenbelt Station Mgmt.	12/21	12/22	2/24										3/21/24
Greenbelt Center HOAs	3/23	5/24											
Greenbelt East HOAs and COAs/Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition	4/22	6/23											
Greenbelt Homes, Inc.	8/22	8/23	9/24										
Greenbelt Station HOA/Verde Apts.	8/22	8/23											
Motiva													
School Board Member	9/21	2/23	8/23	9/24									
State Highway Administration	11/20	11/22	12/23										12/21/23
Biennial													
Beltsville Ag. Research Center	8/18	11/22	11/23										
Beltway Plaza	9/22	9/24											
NASA/GSFC	3/22	4/23											
Greenbelt Business Alliance	10/22												
Greenbelt Park NPS	1/22	3/23											
Greenway Shopping Center	12/20	2/23											
Religious/Spiritual Organizations	6/22	2/24											
Twice a Year													
County Council Person and At Large Members	5/23	3/24											3/19/24
Meetings as Needed													
Apartments	4/21												
Comcast/Verizon	3/21												
Greenbelt Office Parks													
Greenbelt Watershed Groups	10/19												
Hotels	8/23												
PEPCO	2/22	9/23											
WSSC	2/22	6/23	10/23	5/24									
Washington Gas	8/23												
Prince George's Economic Development Corp.	11/21												
Prince George's Planning Board	10/19												
Roosevelt Center Owner	8/20												
University of Maryland	4/15												
WMATA/PGDPW&T (Semi-Annual)	5/22												
Newly Elected/Appointed Officials (Presentation of a Council Regular Meeting)													
County Executive													
School Board CEO	1/24												1/17/24
State's Attorney	1/23												

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: February 24, 2025

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS - 30 minutes (8:30 - 9:00 p.m.)

Subject:

Reappointment to Advisory Board/Committee

Suggested Action:

Reference: Reappointment Survey

The following members have expressed their willingness to continue serving on their respective Boards and Committees:

Thomas LeaMond - Arts Advisory Board

Matthew Inzeo - Advisory Planning Board

Approval of this item on the consent agenda will confirm the Council's intent to reappoint Mr. LeaMond and Mr. Inzeo to a new term.

Attachments:

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: February 24, 2025

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS - 30 minutes (8:30 - 9:00 p.m.)

Subject:

Resignation from Advisory Board/Committee

Suggested Action:

Reference: Email - T. George - 02.14.25

Richard Ransom has submitted his resignation from the Community Relations Advisory Board (CRAB).

Approval of this item on the consent agenda will indicate the Council's intent to accept his resignation with regret.

Attachments: