



CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

FISCAL NOTE

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION

SPONSOR: Council President Meffley at the request of the County Executive

RESOLUTION NO. 37-2019 – Supplemental Appropriation – Volunteer Fire Service – Vehicle Replacement Program

SYNOPSIS: A resolution to amend the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Cecil County, Maryland for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 in order to provide the Volunteer Fire Service Department's budget within the General Fund expenditure appropriation authority to authorize \$225,000 to be expended for the County's match portion towards the Vehicle Replacement Program.

FISCAL IMPACT SUMMARY: The approval of this bill will have a net fiscal impact on the Cecil County of \$225,000, by expending the FY2019 assigned fund balance designated by the County Executive to provide additional funding for the Volunteer Fire Company Vehicle Replacement Program.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

In the FY2019 budget, the VFC Vehicle Replacement Program provided funding for the match for Chesapeake City Fire Company to purchase an engine. The fire company placed the order for the engine, but will not take ownership of the vehicle until after June 30, 2019.

The County Executive has stated going forward he would do what was fiscally reasonable for the County to do to help the Volunteer Fire Service vehicle replacements. The first of which is to hold the VCF's harmless and assign the funding that they were budgeted and did not use in any given fiscal year, and make it available for their use in the following year. In other words, once funding is budgeted to replace fire equipment, the funding will remain committed to the Volunteer Fire Service until expended.

Although the County Executive has the power to assign fund balance, the Council, per Charter, must approve changes to the approved budget.

Please note the County's match to a fire engine is currently \$325,000. FY2018's assignments included \$100,000 to go towards FY2019 vehicle purchases, thus a portion of the match needed for the Chesapeake City engine is already committed.