

City of Hyattsville

Hyattsville Municipal Building
4310 Gallatin Street, 3rd Floor
Hyattsville, MD 20781
(301) 985-5000
www.hyattsville.org



Summary Regular Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SRPFASBiRQymH7EBXB8pDQ

Monday, March 23, 2026
7:00 PM
Virtual

CITY COUNCIL

Robert S. Croslin, Mayor
Joseph Solomon, Council President, Ward 5
Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President, Ward 3
Joanne Waszczak, Ward 1
Greg Barnes, Ward 1
Danny Schaible, Ward 2
Emily Strab, Ward 2
Gopi Dhokai, Ward 3
Edouard Haba, Ward 4
Michelle Lee, Ward 4
Kelson Nisbett, Ward 5

ADMINISTRATION

Tracey E. Douglas, City Administrator
Nate Groenendyk, City Clerk, 301-985-5001, cityclerk@hyattsville.org

Welcome to the City of Hyattsville City Council Meeting!
Your participation at this public meeting is valued and appreciated.

AGENDA/PACKET: The Agenda/Packet is available for review at the Hyattsville Municipal Building and online at www.hyattsville.org prior to the scheduled meeting (generally available no later than the Friday prior to the scheduled Monday meeting). Please note, times given for agenda items are estimates only. Matters other than those indicated on the agenda may also be considered at Council discretion.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT: In compliance with the ADA, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting or other services in conjunction with this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (301) 985-5009. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

AUDIBLE DEVICES: Please ensure all audible devices are turned off or otherwise not audible when the City Council is in session. Thank you.

PUBLIC INPUT: If you wish to address the Council during the Public Comment period, please use the "Raise Hand" feature in the virtual meeting interface. Participants may also submit statements electronically via email to cityclerk@hyattsville.org no later than two (2) hours prior to the start of the meeting. Submitted electronic statements will be sent to Councilmembers prior to the meeting and will not be read aloud. All participants shall remain respectful in their contributions and associated functions of the virtual meeting interface are not intended for public dialogue or discussion.

WAYS TO WATCH THE MEETING LIVE: City Council meetings are broadcast live on cable television channel 71 (Comcast) and channel 12 (Verizon). You may also view meetings live online at <https://hyattsvillemd.portal.civicclerk.com>.

REPLAY SCHEDULE: The meetings will be re-broadcast on cable television, channel 71 (Comcast) and channel 12 (Verizon) daily at 7:00 a.m., 1 p.m., and 8 p.m. Meetings are also able for replay online at www.hyattsville.org/meetings.

CITY INFORMATION: Sign up to receive text and email notifications about Hyattsville events, government, police and programs at www.hyattsville.org/list.aspx

INCLEMENT WEATHER: In the event of inclement weather, please call 301-985-5000 to confirm the status of the Council meeting.

Meeting Notice:

The Hyattsville City Council will hold its meeting on Monday, March 23, 2026 remotely via video conference. The Council meeting will be conducted entirely remotely; there will be no in-person meeting attendance.

The meeting will be broadcast live on cable television channel 71 (Comcast), channel 12 (Verizon), and available via live stream at www.hyattsville.org/meetings.

LANGUAGE TRANSLATION AND CLOSED CAPTIONING: The City of Hyattsville offers translation and closed captioning in over 50 languages for City Council Meetings via the Wordly platform. Follow the directions below to access the service:

-Go to: <https://attend.wordly.ai/join/RAVY-6886>

-Ensure the Session ID RAVY-6886 is displayed.

-Select Your Choice of Language and click on the "Attend" button.

-You can now read the captions on your device and/or listen to the translation of the City Council meeting.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact info@hyattsville.org.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

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Members of the public who wish to comment during the virtual Council meeting must register in advance using the link below.

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_SRPFASBiRQymH7EBXB8pDQ

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** **The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
3. **Approval of Agenda** **Approved, Unanimously.**
4. **Approval of Minutes** **Approved, Unanimously.**
 - 4.a. **2026-195 Approval of Minutes**

I move the Mayor and Council approve the minutes of the following meeting:

- February 18, 2026

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Budget Work Session Minutes_February 18 2026

5. **Public Comment (7:10 PM - 7:20 PM) Limit 2 minutes per speaker**
Public comments submitted electronically can be found at the end of this summary.

6. **City Administrator Update (7:20 PM - 7:40 PM)**

7. **Presentations (7:40 PM - 8:05 PM)**

7.a. 2026-187 Dewberry: Hyattsville Data Analytics Project

For Presentation.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Administration

Attachments: Dewberry Council Presentation

8. **Proclamations Approved, Unanimously.**

8.a. 2026-190 Autism Awareness Day

I move that the Mayor and Council adopt a proclamation celebrating April 2, 2026, as World Autism Awareness Day and April as Autism Acceptance Month in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: CM 0323 National Autism Acceptance Month

8.b. 2026-191 National Public Health Week

I move the Mayor and Council adopt the proclamation designating April 6-12, 2026, as National Public Health Week in the City of Hyattsville.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: CM 0323 Public Health Week 2026

9. Appointments Approved, Unanimously.**9.a. 2026-188 Appointment to the Education Advisory Committee**

I move the Mayor and Council appoint Danielle Sykes (Ward 5) to the Education Advisory Committee for a term of two (2) years ending March 23, 2028.

Sponsors: Edouard Haba, Councilmember

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: Sykes Redac Application (1)

10. Consent Items (8:05 p.m. - 8:10 p.m.) Approved, Unanimously.

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine in nature, and are approved in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless the Mayor/Council request specific items be removed from the Consent agenda for separate action.

10.a. 2026-184 Lower Ward 1 Resiliency Projects Support

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize an expenditure to the Low Impact Development Center (LIDC) in an amount not to exceed \$103,100 for continuing coordination and project management for the Lower Ward 1 Resiliency Projects under their existing contract with the City.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Department of Public Works

Attachments: LIDC DPW19-011A Lower Ward 1 Resiliency Proposal 02-19-2026

10.b. 2026-194 FY26 Budget Amendment: Special Revenues Funds Appropriation of National Opioid Settlement Funds

I move that the Mayor and Council amend the FY26 Special Revenues Funds Budget to appropriate \$33,975.64 in National Opioid Settlement Funds. These funds can only be used to serve the purpose of Opioid Remediation as set forth in the National Opioid Settlement Agreement and the State of Maryland Opioid Subdivision agreement with local jurisdictions.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Finance

Attachments:

11. Action Items (8:10 p.m. - 9:10 p.m.)**11.a. 2026-183 2026-2031 City of Hyattsville Strategic Plan: Stepping Forward**

Approved, Unanimously.

I move the Mayor and City Council adopt the 2026-2031 Hyattsville Strategic Plan titled "Stepping Forward" as presented, which establishes the City's priorities, goals, and strategies to guide policy decisions and departmental work plans.

- Sponsors:** City Administrator
- Department:** Community, Business, and Economic Development
- Attachments:** HVL-StrategicPlan-2026

11.b. 2026-192 Creation of Hyattsville Common Ownership Community Advisory Committee

Yes:10/ No:0/Abstain:1 The motion carries.

I move the Mayor and Council approve the creation of Hyattsville Common Ownership Community Advisory Committee in accordance with the associated committee worksheet.

- Sponsors:** Kareem Redmond, Council Vice President, Joseph Solomon, Council President, Greg Barnes, Councilmember, Kelson Nisbett, Councilmember, Danny Schaible, Councilmember, Edouard Haba, Councilmember
- Department:** Legislative
- Attachments:** Hyattsville Common Ownership Community Advisory Committee_Final

11.c. 2026-193 Creation of the CERT Committee **Approved, Unanimously.**

I move the Mayor and Council approve the creation of the Hyattsville Community Emergency Response Team Committee in accordance with the associated committee worksheet.

- Sponsors:** City Administrator
- Department:** Administration
- Attachments:** CERT Committee Worksheet_Draft

12. Discussion Items (9:10 p.m. - 9:45 p.m.)

12.a. 2026-189 FY27 Budget Discussion

For Discussion.

- Sponsors:** City Administrator
- Department:** City Clerk
- Attachments:**

- 13. Council Dialogue (9:45 p.m. - 9:55 p.m.)
- 14. Motion to Adjourn **Approved, Unanimously.**
The meeting adjourned at 9:34 PM.

Attest: March 24, 2026



Nate Groenendyk, City Clerk



Supporting our neighbors

From AK [REDACTED]

Date Mon 3/23/2026 10:48 AM

To [REDACTED]

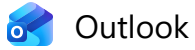
Cc [REDACTED]

Dear Council member Barnes,

I am a resident in Ward 1 and I voted for you for city council. I am writing to ask that you support the motion to allocate 100K, or less than 1/7 of the parking enforcement budget to helping our neighbors. This direct aid will not only likely go largely back into the Hyattsville economy, it is also a meaningful statement about the values of our city. Not only that, it will alleviate the burden on folks working to lessen the impact of the sudden disappearance of people from our community. I am one of the people trying to send materials to families including two children housed temporarily in a church while their mom fights to get bond. Please use the power of the council's budget to make a big impact and make people like me extra proud to call Hyattsville home.

Sincerely,

Allison Kole
[REDACTED]



A note from Ward 5 on the budget motion - public comment

From Amelie von Fluegge [redacted]

Date Mon 3/23/2026 11:52 AM

To [redacted]

Cc [redacted]

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I will be watching the budget vote to see if the Council treats a 0.25% allocation for emergency grants as a priority or a burden. Our neighbors' lives are at stake. We provided \$1M during COVID; we should provide \$100k now for the same reason. I expect your support for this motion.

Thank you for your service and for considering this critical matter for our community.

Sincerely,
Amelie V.

[redacted]



Prove Hyattsville is a place that welcomes and supports neighbors in need - pass the emergency allocation

From Brenden Sloan [REDACTED]

Date Mon 3/23/2026 10:25 AM

To [REDACTED]

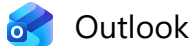
Cc [REDACTED]

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

As you begin drafting the budget, I want to highlight the urgent need for the \$100,000 emergency grant funding. In 2020, this city stepped up with \$1 million for resident support during the pandemic. Today, we are losing neighbors to detention at the same rate we lost people during the deadliest year of COVID, yet we are struggling to provide even 10% of that support in this new cycle. This is an urgent need unique to Hyattsville, and your vote on this will help me figure out how I will vote in the next election.

Thank you for your service and for considering this critical matter for our community.

Sincerely,
Brenden Sloan
[REDACTED]



Action needed: FY2026 Emergency Support Fund - Public Comment

From Hilary Tone Forslund [REDACTED]

Date Mon 3/23/2026 10:27 AM

To [REDACTED]

Cc [REDACTED]

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

Federal enforcement is ramping up, and Hyattsville is on the front lines. Our budget must reflect this change. Council Member Haba's emergency funding motion is a direct response to this shift. We spend seven times this amount on parking enforcement; surely we can find 0.25% of the budget to protect our neighbors from the unique legal and financial costs of detention. I look forward to seeing the Council's leadership, and I'll be watching this vote closely.

Thank you for your service and for considering this critical matter for our community.

Sincerely,

Hilary F.
[REDACTED]



Support for the \$100k Emergency Community Fund - Public Comment

From Jennie Reinhardt [REDACTED]

Date Sun 3/22/2026 2:42 PM

To [REDACTED]

Cc [REDACTED]

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I am writing because I want to see a commitment to community stability in the upcoming budget. The proposed \$100,000 fund for neighbors impacted by federal enforcement is a responsible way to address a crisis unique to Hyattsville. Last year's budget shows that \$100k is just one quarter of one percent of our spending. Given that 31% of our city is foreign-born, this safety net is essential. Your position on this motion will be a deciding factor for me in the next election.

Thank you for your service! Please support this critical funding for our community.

Sincerely,
Jennie
[REDACTED]

R.



Action needed: FY2026 Emergency Support Fund - Public Comment

From Lily Murnen [REDACTED]

Date Mon 3/23/2026 12:47 PM

To [REDACTED]

Cc [REDACTED]

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I ask that you support the \$100,000 emergency support fund. Losing a breadwinner overnight shouldn't mean a family ends up on the street. I have watched my neighbors step up and donate thousands of dollars to support hundreds of families who have had a loved one taken by ICE. And it's still not enough. \$100,000 dollars won't be enough either, but the need is so great that we need all the support available. I believe this fund is an excellent use of my tax dollars, and I urge you to vote "yes."

Thank you for your service and for considering this critical matter for our community.

Sincerely,

Lily M
[REDACTED]



Budget priorities for residents on 38th - Public Comment

From Lisa _Elise Walker [REDACTED]

Date Mon 3/23/2026 2:50 AM

To [REDACTED]

Cc [REDACTED]

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

Please include the \$100,000 emergency support grants in the budget. We are losing residents to detention at rates that rival the deadliest year of the pandemic, yet the city is hesitant to provide even a fraction of the \$1M we allocated back then. This fund is a rounding error and it will not negatively impact other city services. I will be looking for your name on the 'Yes' list when the final vote is cast.

I believe one of our Constitutional Rights is to live without fear of being snatched off the streets or having masked strangers force their way into our homes and carried away to detention centers. I want my tax dollars used to protect our citizen's rights.

Thank you for your service and for considering this critical matter for our community.

Sincerely,
Elise W
[REDACTED]

--
Elise G. (Lisa) Walker



Council item - common ownership committee

From Melissa Schweisguth [REDACTED]

Date Mon 3/23/2026 4:55 PM

To [REDACTED]

Dear Mayor and council

Thanks for your service to HVL

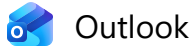
Regarding the common ownership community advisory committee, I support a working group to develop policies for Hyattsville's services and policies for these communities.

However I request consideration of a few changes:

- make this a time limited task force given that the long identified needs relate to policies for providing city services or tax rebates where the city does not provide the service. This is a defined need that can be addressed with informed operational policies. The task force should have a year to identify issues and recommendations for city policies, then sunset.
- limit membership to a reasonable number of residents, rather than one from each COC. A committee with a member from each COC would be a city supported lobbying group and give these communities unfair leverage over other types of residents. Other committees have about ten maximum, more than sufficient for a representative sample. The committee can hold listening sessions, focus groups, surveys etc., to get exhaustive feedback. It would also make for an unwieldy decision making body and could get very costly if each member takes the stipend.
- exclude code compliance from consideration. Code can and does enforce city code on private property if requested. If COCs have additional rules and regulations they should bear the cost of enforcement.

Thanks

Melissa schweisguth
Ward 5



Budget priorities for residents on Buchanan St, - Public Comment

From Robert Duncan [REDACTED]

Date Mon 3/23/2026 10:23 AM

To [REDACTED]

Cc [REDACTED]

Dear Mayor and Council Members,

I'm writing today to urge the Council to include the \$100k emergency fund. We spend significantly more on parking enforcement; surely we can find 0.25% for our neighbors in crisis. Your position on this motion will be a deciding factor for me in the next election.

Thank you for your service and for considering this critical matter for our community.

Sincerely,
Robert D.

[REDACTED]