



Committee: Directly to Council
Committee Review: N/A
Staff: Gene Smith, Legislative Analyst
Purpose: To introduce agenda item – no vote expected
Keywords: Economic Development

AGENDA ITEM #3H
June 15, 2021
Introduction

SUBJECT

Resolution to endorse a Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority and Fund Loan to conduct a feasibility study for a Pandemic Prevention Center (\$300,000)

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- N/A

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The County must endorse the Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority and Fund (MEDAAF) grant or loan in a formal resolution, as required by the Economic Development Article §5-319(d) of the Maryland Code. Section 5-322(a)(6) of the Economic Development Article of the Maryland Code also requires that a local jurisdiction endorse a grant by resolution if the grant will be used as part of a feasibility study. The subject MEDAAF grant will fund part of the feasibility study that Connected DMV is conducting to launch a global Pandemic Prevention Center.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- The Executive requests that the Council introduce and adopt the subject resolution to endorse the State's funding of Connected DMV's feasibility study (see ©1-3).
- The State is providing a \$300,000 MEDAAF grant to fund part of the study.
- The Council approved a \$500,000 special appropriation in Resolution No. 19-823, sponsored by Councilmember Riemer, to support Connected DMV's efforts to develop a business model for a global Pandemic Prevention Center.

This report contains:

Executive memorandum
Proposed resolution

© #1
© #2

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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
Rockville, Maryland 20850


Marc Elrich
County Executive

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM

June 7, 2021

TO: Tom Hucker, President,
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Marc Elrich, County Executive 

RE: Resolution of Support for Maryland Economic Development Authority Assistance Fund (MEDAAF) for feasibility study of a Pandemic Prevention Center in Montgomery County

I am recommending a Resolution of Support for MEDAAF funding of \$300,000 for a feasibility study of a Pandemic Prevention Center in Montgomery County. On May 4, 2021 the County Council adopted Resolution No. 19-823, a Special Appropriation of \$500,000 to the Operating Budget to the Office of the County Executive for purposes of entering into a contract with Connected DMV. Connected DMV is a regional non-profit organization that has convened a broad group of stakeholders from the academic, public, and private sectors within the D.C. region. An initiative of Connected DMV is the establishment of a global Pandemic Prevention Center that would initially develop and maintain a stockpile of monoclonal antibodies that the U.S. Government could rapidly deploy against future pandemics. MEDAAF funding related to the Pandemic Prevention Center would further its likelihood for success.

I recommend that the County Council approve this Resolution of Support for MEDAAF Funding of \$300,000 to conduct a feasibility study for a Pandemic Prevention Center.

I appreciate your prompt consideration of this action.

ME:pmg

Attachment: Resolution of Support for MEDAAF Feasibility Study – Pandemic Prevention Center

Resolution No.: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

Lead Sponsor: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

SUBJECT: Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority and Fund Grant to conduct a feasibility study for a Pandemic Prevention Center to be established in Montgomery County (\$300,000)

Background

1. The Department of Commerce (the “Department”) is providing a \$300,000 grant to Connected DMV (the “Grant”) to study the feasibility of establishing a global pandemic center in the Montgomery County (the “Study”). The County Executive endorses the Study and the Grant that is being made under the Maryland Economic Development Assistance Authority and Fund (“MEDAAF”), which is codified as Md. Code Ann., Econ. Dev. §§5-301-5-349.
2. On May 4, 2021, the County approved Resolution No. 19-823 – Special Appropriation of \$500,000 from General Fund Reserves to support Connected DMV in its efforts to establish a global Pandemic Prevention Center that would initially develop and maintain a stockpile of monoclonal antibodies that the U.S. Government could rapidly deploy against future pandemics. Through this funding, the County will be provided the opportunity to participate in the foundation of this initiative, including the possibility of locating the global Pandemic Prevention Center within the County.
3. Connected DMV is a regional non-profit organization that has convened a broad group of stakeholders from the academic, public, and private sectors within the D.C. region.
4. The Department will disburse the Grant pursuant to the terms of a grant agreement between the Department and Connected DMV. The County is not a party to this MEDAAF Agreement.
5. In accordance with the §5-319(d) and §5-322(a)(6), of the Economic Development Code of the Maryland Code Annotated, the governing body of the jurisdiction in which a project is located must endorse by resolution the Grant for the Study.
6. The County has determined that granting the MEDAAF grant for the project is in the best interest of the citizens of the County.

7. The County Executive requests that the Council adopt this formal resolution approving the MEDAAF loan for the project.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

The County Council hereby endorses the granting of the State's \$300,000 MEDAAF grant to Connected DMV for its feasibility study of a global Pandemic Prevention Center.

This Resolution is effective upon its adoption in accordance with applicable law.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.
Clerk of the Council