APFO Committee Meeting #17 Meeting Notes

May 7, 2025 - 6:00 p.m. Start Time

Attendance:

Todd Arterburn, Chair - Present

Jon Browne - Present

Aaron Casagrande - Present

Pascal Crosley - Absent

Jeremy Dommu - Present

Xavian Esson - Absent

Paul Gleichauf - Present

Laura Jones, Vice Chair - Present

Brent Loveless - Present

Dan Lubeley - Present

Jen Mallo - Present

Lisa Markovitz - Present

Vynessa Pantano - Absent

Phil Scherer - Present

Antoine RJ Wright - Present

Staff:

Lynda Eisenberg - Present

Lisa Kenney - Present

Call to Order/Welcome

- The meeting was called to order and the agenda was approved
- The minutes of the past meeting, which were video minutes, were approved.

SUMMARY

The meeting focused on preparing for the May 20th public hearing, discussing school capacity systems, affordable housing definitions, and funding allocations for education amidst ongoing development challenges.

- Lynda's staff created a slide deck to present key recommendations and background information.
- Discussion emphasized clarifying the differences between existing and proposed school capacity systems.
- The committee reviewed the proposed Utilization Premium Payment (UPP) model for new developments.
- Polygon-based school assignments were explained as crucial for understanding student distribution in the system.
- Discussed defining affordable housing per the working group's request for committee acceptance.
- Previous recommendations became moot due to changes in adequacy percentages and UPP decisions.
- Public hearing procedures established, allowing 3 minutes for individuals.
- Emphasized the need to clarify ongoing work and future recommendations during public hearings.
- Affordable housing definition impacts zoning regulations and eligibility for exemptions from school testing criteria.
- Understand the impact of index rates on federal funding and conventional loan limits in Howard County versus Baltimore Region.
- Affordable housing metrics focus on family income, affecting rental pricing and eligibility for units.
- Proposed recommendations aim to adjust allocations based on Howard County's income metrics for affordable housing.
- Discussed challenges in capital funding allocation and the importance of addressing overcrowding in schools effectively.
- Considered the complexities of school impact fees and their allocation amidst ongoing development and redistricting issues.
- Establish a rational nexus for surcharges to align costs with development impacts and maximize funding opportunities.
- Ensure school surcharge rates are set correctly to avoid losing state matching funds for capital projects.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 pm.