

City of Rockville
Leadership Planning Team Meeting Notes
February 23, 2026

Meeting Participants:

Mayor Ashton
Councilmember Jackson
Councilmember Van Grack
Jeff Mihelich, City Manager
Doris Stokes, Interim City Clerk/Director of Council Operations
Barack Matite, Deputy City Manager
Dave Gottesman, Assistant City Manager
Linda Moran, Associate City Manager

Agenda Review

February 23, 2026 Meeting Agenda

Comment: Mayor Ashton asked if the Engage Rockville website has been updated with the most current Landlord-Tenant Code-related information

Response: City Manager said staff is working on an update.

March 2, 2026 Meeting Agenda

Comment: City Manager noted the 5:30pm start with Proclamations

Review and Comment on the Six Month Agenda Planning Calendar

Comment: Mayor Ashton agreed with the City Manager that we will need a Public Hearing regarding the Election Code, and stated that we should also map out the steps for the Election Code process after it gets introduced on June 1

Response: City Manager concurs and will work on this with his appointed colleagues.

Legislative Review Team Meeting

February 23 2026

Mayor Ashton
Councilmember Barry Jackson
Councilmember Shaw
Councilmember Van Grack
Jeff Mihelich, City Manager
Robert Dawson, City Attorney
Doris Stokes, Acting City Clerk/Director of Council Operations
Barack Matite, Deputy City Manager
Dave Gottesman, Assistant City Manager
Linda Moran, Associate City Manager

Review of Legislation

HB 774/SB 462 - Landlord and Tenant - Residential Leases and Holdover Tenancies - Local Good Cause Termination (Good Cause Eviction)

Position – Support

Next Steps – Councilmember Shaw expressed interest in testifying on this bill at the 2/26 House hearing. Staff will coordinate with Councilmember Shaw and the State lobbying firm to get her signed up to speak and submit the testimony. Staff will monitor to see if a similar bill is introduced and will update the Mayor and Council if new legislation is proposed.

Bill – HB 1010/SB 236 - Election Law - Certification of Election-Supporting Technology - Regulations, Review, and Evaluation

Position – Support

Next Steps – Rockville’s State lobbying firm will register Councilmember Jackson for virtual testimony on 2/25 at the House hearing, and the testimony will be submitted. Additionally, staff will send a copy of Rockville’s testimony to Senator Kagan’s Office.

Bill – HB 1142 – Task Force to Modernize County and Municipal Revenue Structures

Position – Support

Next Steps – Rockville’s support letter was submitted to the House Committee by the 2/20 deadline for the 2/24 House hearing.

Bill – HB 331 – HB 331/ SB 342 - Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program

Position – Monitor

Next Steps – The City Manager requested that the Mayor and Council review the details in the staff recommendation provided on the bill tracker, which indicates there are pros and cons to the bill, and recommended it should be monitored. He asked the Mayor and Council to let staff know if they need additional information.

Bill – HB 450 - Criminal Procedure - Protection of Identity of Victim of Sexual Assault or Stalking

Position – Monitor.

Next Steps - Staff will monitor the legislation.

SB 31/ HB 337 - School Construction and Housing – School Zones and Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances

Position – Support with Amendment.

Next Steps – Staff and the State lobbying firm will coordinate with Senator Kagan’s Office and MML. Mayor Ashton noted that Senator Kagan spoke with MML. A support letter with amendments will be sent when the MML amendment is available.

HB 950 - Public Utilities - Street Lighting Equipment - Acquisitions and Reporting (County and Municipal Street Lighting Investment Act)

Position – Support

Next Steps – A check the box position of support was registered with the House Committee by the 2/20 deadline for the 2/24 House hearing.

SB 334 / HB 577 - Criminal Law - Firearm Crimes - Machine Gun Convertible Pistols

Position – Support

Next Steps - Staff will send a letter of support to the House and Senate Committees.

SB 20/ HB 83 - Family and Law Enforcement Protection Act

Position – Support

Next Steps – Written comments in support of the legislation will be sent to the House and Senate Committees.

General Comments:

- Staff asked if a member of the Mayor and Council is available to testify in support of the HB 1058 House crossfile on the Youth Delinquency Prevention Fund – Establishment bill that the City supports. Councilmember Valeri will be testifying virtually on 2/26 on Delegate Spiegel's HB 916 -Regional Transportation Priorities bill at 1 pm, which is the same time as the Youth Delinquency Prevention fund is scheduled. The sign-up is due on 2/24.
- Mayor Ashton inquired about immigration bills. Staff indicated there was an update in the State legislative report sent last week, as well as bills included in the bill tracking charts prepared by the State lobbying firm. She requested that they be placed on the bill tracker. The City Manager responded affirmatively.