

City of Hyattsville

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



ummar Regular Meeting

Regular Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

7:00 PM

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_owKmEqkPRkaAOnJ4DFlftg

City Council

Robert S. Croslin, Mayor
Joseph Solomon, Council President, Ward 5
Joanne Waszczak, Council Vice President, Ward 1
Sam Denes, Ward 1
Danny Schaible, Ward 2
Emily Strab, Ward 2
Kareem Redmond, Ward 3
Edouard Haba, Ward 4
Michelle Lee, Ward 4
Rommel Sandino, 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 hyattsville-md.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?camera_id=2

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 Tuesday, February 18, 2025 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.

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_owKmEqkPRkaAOnJ4DFIftg

1. **Call to Order and Council Roll Call** **Call to Order at 7:03 PM.**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
3. **Approval of Agenda** **Approved, Unanimous**
4. **Public Comment (7:10 p.m. – 7:20 p.m.) Complete Speaker Card, Limit 2 minutes per speaker**
5. **City Administrator Update (7:20 p.m - 7:40 p.m.)**
6. **Presentations (7:40 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.)**
 - 6.a. **Project Update: Hyattsville Public Safety Building** [HCC-240-FY25](#)
Presentation Only
Sponsors: City Administrator
Department: Public Works
Attachments: [250207 - 3505 Progress Update - Presentation to Council.pdf](#)

6.b. Artificial Intelligence (AI) + Hyattsville [HCC-244-FY25](#)

For Presentation.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Administrator

Attachments: [AI and HVL_FINAL.pdf](#)

7. Appointments Approved, Unanimous**7.a. Appointment to the Code Compliance Advisory Committee** [HCC-243-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council approve the reappointment of Ian Fay to the Code Compliance Advisory Committee for a term of two (2) years ending on February 18, 2027.

Sponsors: Redmond

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: [Ian Fay W1 Feb 2025 redac](#)

7.b. Appointment to the Hyattsville Environment Committee [HCC-245-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council approve the reappointment of Rayya Newman to the Hyattsville Environment Committee for a term of two (2) years ending on February 18, 2027.

Sponsors: Haba and Schaible

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: [Rayya Newman Feb 25 redac](#)

7.c. Appointment to the Health, Wellness, and Recreation Advisory Committee [HCC-246-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council approve the reappointment of Britteny Miller to the Health, Wellness and Recreation Advisory Committee for a term of two (2) years ending on February 18, 2027.

Sponsors: Lee and Denes

Department: City Clerk

Attachments: [Britteny Miller Mar 3 2025 redac](#)

8. Consent Items (8:30 p.m. - 8:35 p.m.) Approved, Unanimous

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.

8.a. Schedule a Budget Work Session for February 26, 2025 [HCC-239-FY25](#)

I move the Mayor and Council schedule an in-person budget work session for February 26, 2025 at 7 pm to be held at the City Municipal Building.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: City Clerk

8.b. Zoning Variance Request V-89-24 - 4100 Hamilton Street, Hyattsville [HCC-242-FY25](#)

I move the City Council authorize the Mayor to send a letter of support to the Board of Zoning Appeals for the subject property at 4100 Hamilton Street, Hyattsville (V-89-24). The purpose of the zoning variance request is to validate existing conditions of lot width at the building line, side street yard depth and waiver of accessory building location requirement to enable the construction of a third-floor addition on an existing 3- story single-family dwelling.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Community & Economic Development

Attachments: [2025-02-07 Memo-V-89-24 .ju](#)
[V-89-24 Binder](#)
[City of Hyattsville Zoning Variance Policy Statement & Variance Process ENGLISH](#)

8.c. Disbursement of FY25 Thrive Grant Awards [HCC-248-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council authorize the expenditure of \$8,993 to support the grant proposals recommended from the Health, Wellness and Recreation Advisory Committee and listed in the attached memo for dissemination of the FY25 Thrive Grants.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Community Services

Attachments: [Letter to Council 2024-2025 THRIVE Grants](#)
[2024-2025 THRIVE Grant Council Spreadsheet](#)
[FY25 Thrive Grants Program Application \(Responses\)](#)

9. Action Items (8:35 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.)

9.a. Roadway Transfer: MD 208 (Hamilton Street) Approved, Unanimous [HCC-241-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and City Council authorize the City Administrator to execute the roadway transfer agreement of MD 208 (Hamilton Street) between the City of Hyattsville and Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Public Works

Attachments: [Memo - MD 208 Roadway Transfer - Action Memo](#)
[MD 208 Road Transfer Agreement - 1st Draft Taylor Robey](#)
[HCC-107-FY22 MD208](#)
[HCC-171-FY22 MD208](#)

9.b. Resolution 2025-02: Dedication of Parcel V, a Recreational Facility of Landy Property, to the City of Hyattsville for Public Use. Approved, Unanimous [HCC-247-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and City Council adopt Resolution 2025-02, formally dedicating Parcel V, a 2.0447 ac. parcel, of which includes a recreational facility and a 0.86 ac. woodland conservation area, to be used and maintained as a public recreational park.

Sponsors: City Administrator

Department: Community & Economic Development

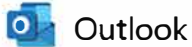
Attachments: [2025-02-07 Memo-V-89-24 .ju](#)
[2024-11-20 Draft RESOLUTION](#)
[Plat Nine, Landy Property](#)
[DSP-18003 Gateway West signed inspection Report 04.23.2024](#)
[DRD Recreation Facilities Certification Form - SIGNED CPSI](#)
[Exhibit 1 Special Warranty Deed.pdf](#)

10. Council Dialogue (9:15 p.m. - 9:25 p.m.)**11. Motion to Adjourn Approved, Unanimous
The meeting adjourned at 9:41 PM.**

Attest: February 20, 2025



Nate Groenendyk, City Clerk



Critical Issues with "Artificial Intelligence (AI) + Hyattsville" HCC-244-FY25

From Chuck Perry [REDACTED]

Date Mon 2/17/2025 11:17 AM

To [REDACTED]

Cc [REDACTED]

6 attachments (2 MB)

chuck-ai-ethics.pdf; Agenda 18 FEB 2025.pdf; chuck-chatgpt.pdf; AI and HVL_FINAL.pdf; RFP_ADM0125_FINAL.pdf; fc3731b7-6f9c-4916-b7f0-c6d5b2c031be.png;

Dear Hyattsville City Council and Concerned Residents,

I am reaching out to highlight significant inaccuracies, misleading statements, and critical omissions in the City's AI policy document (see attached documents). As AI technology continues to evolve, it is essential that decisions about its adoption and implementation be based on facts, fiscal responsibility, and ethical considerations—not political deregulation trends or incomplete narratives.

This document, unfortunately, appears to be influenced by the rescission of Executive Order 14110, which previously provided clear AI governance structures, ethical safeguards, and equity-focused policies. The Trump administration's removal of these protections has opened the door to unchecked AI deployments with fewer oversight mechanisms, and the City's AI document appears to mirror this federal shift toward deregulation without addressing the serious risks involved.

1. My Background in AI and Enterprise Systems

Before addressing the problems in the AI plan, I want to establish that my concerns come from my technical background:

- **Master's Degrees in Electrical Engineering and Applied Mathematics:** My background is deeply rooted in coding, embedded machine design, government cryptography (NSA), and mathematical modeling, which are the foundational elements of AI and automation systems.
- **AI Ethics and Responsible AI Deployment Certifications:** I have formal training in AI governance, bias mitigation, and regulatory compliance, which are critical for ensuring AI does not reinforce discrimination or violate ethical norms.
- **Experience in AI Systems for Enterprise Use:** I have hands-on experience in AI-driven business solutions, including data analytics, automation, and AI integrations into real time business operations.

Given this background, I can say with certainty that the AI document presents an incomplete and misleading picture of AI's implementation, costs, and risks.

2. Misrepresentation of AI Costs – Where is the Public Funding Coming From?

The document **drastically underestimates the cost of deploying AI in government operations**. It suggests a **\$500,000 investment** as a **significant** expenditure, but in reality, **enterprise-grade AI systems require significantly more funding** (think about the current police building construction as an example).

Consider the **true cost structure of AI in public operations**:

AI Expense Category	Typical Cost Range	Why This Matters
Initial AI Model Development	\$500K – \$2M	Even basic AI models for city services require extensive data collection, processing power, and skilled personnel.
Ongoing Model Training & Updates	\$100K – \$500K annually	AI systems degrade over time without updates and must be retrained continuously to remain accurate and unbiased.
Compliance & Regulatory Audits	\$250K – \$1M annually	If AI is used in public decision-making (permitting, policing, hiring) , it must undergo external audits for fairness and accuracy.
Infrastructure & Cloud Costs	\$50K – \$300K annually	AI models run on powerful GPU-based cloud services , which incur ongoing expenses for storage, computing, and security .
Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Protections	\$200K+ annually	AI increases data vulnerabilities , requiring constant monitoring, encryption, and legal compliance with privacy laws .

A one-time \$500K investment is simply insufficient to build and maintain a serious AI system for a government operation. So the **real question is: Where does Hyattsville plan to get the rest of the funding?**

- **Will the City raise taxes?**
- **Will there be federal or state funding?** (Unlikely, since Trump’s rescission of Executive Order 14110 means fewer federal AI grants.)
- **Will this be done through vendor contracts that could create dependency on private corporations with no public oversight?**

The **financial reality of AI is being obscured**, and **Hyattsville residents deserve to know how their tax dollars will be spent before approving this initiative**.

3. The Document Falsely Claims “Maryland Does Not Have Any AI Regulations”

One of the **most misleading statements** in the AI document is that “Maryland does not have any AI regulation.” This is **factually incorrect**.

Maryland’s Existing AI Oversight Policies:

1. [Maryland AI Governance Act \(2024\)](#) – Requires **algorithmic impact assessments (AIA) for government AI deployments** to ensure transparency, fairness, and accountability.
2. [Maryland AI Subcabinet](#) – Established in **2024 to oversee AI use in state and local governments**, ensuring AI does not lead to discrimination in **hiring, law enforcement, and public services**.
3. [Attorney General Anthony Brown’s Lawsuits Against Federal AI Deregulation](#) – Maryland has **actively fought** the Trump administration’s efforts to eliminate AI safeguards, reinforcing its commitment to AI fairness.

The fact that the AI document **ignores these regulations suggests either a lack of research or an intentional omission**. Hyattsville **cannot afford to adopt AI policies based on outdated or incorrect assumptions about regulatory oversight**.

4. The Document Fails to Address AI's Risks to Public Safety and DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion)

By aligning with **Trump's rescinded AI policy**, this document **fails to acknowledge the real dangers AI poses when deployed without oversight**.

A. Public Safety Risks

- **Predictive AI in Policing** – AI models used for **crime forecasting** have been widely criticized for reinforcing racial biases, leading to **over-policing of minority communities**.
- **Facial Recognition Risks** – Many AI-powered facial recognition systems **wrongfully identify people of color at higher rates**, leading to **unjust arrests**.
- **Lack of Transparency** – AI models often operate as **"black boxes"**, meaning **public officials may not even understand how decisions are being made**. Further, if closed source AI models are used, the potential vendor can legally claim they are "proprietary" and simply refuse to disclose any information to the public (i.e. DOGE and Elon Musk are currently doing this now with federal data)

B. DEI Implications

- **Bias in AI Hiring & Housing Decisions** – AI models used in **government hiring or housing applications** have been documented to **discriminate against marginalized groups**.
- **Elimination of Federal AI Fairness Mandates** – With Trump's rescission of Executive Order 14110, federal funding for **AI fairness research and DEI initiatives has been cut**, meaning **local governments must implement their own bias audits—yet this document does not mention any such plans**.

The **failure to include these concerns** means Hyattsville policymakers **are not being given the full picture of AI's potential consequences**.

5. The "Hallucination" Problem in AI Is Not Properly Addressed

The document **mentions AI "hallucinations" (incorrect or misleading outputs) but does not explain why they occur**. AI models—especially generative AI like ChatGPT—**do not verify information**; they **predict the next word or image based on probability, not truth**. The failure to acknowledge this limitation **creates a false sense of trust in AI-generated information**.

To address this:

- **All AI-generated outputs must be reviewed by human experts.**
- **AI decisions affecting public policy should not be made without transparency and auditability.**

The document's **failure to emphasize these safeguards is misleading and dangerous**.

6. Key Questions for Hyattsville Leadership

1. **Where is the full funding for AI deployment coming from?**
 - \$500K is not enough. Will taxpayers cover ongoing costs?
2. **Why is the document misleading the public about Maryland's AI regulations?**
 - The Maryland AI Governance Act exists—why was it ignored?

3. How will AI systems be monitored for fairness, privacy, and bias?

- Will independent audits be conducted? Who will ensure accountability?

4. Why does the document align with Trump's deregulation instead of responsible AI governance?

- Rescinding Executive Order 14110 has **removed key AI safeguards**—why is Hyattsville following this deregulated approach?

Final Thoughts: AI Policy Must Be Based on Truth, Not Deregulation Trends

AI has **enormous potential**, but it **must be implemented responsibly, transparently, and with proper oversight**. Hyattsville's AI document **fails in these areas** by:

- **Underestimating AI costs and failing to disclose the long-term funding source.**
- **Falsely claiming Maryland has no AI regulation, when in fact, it does.**
- **Ignoring public safety and DEI risks associated with AI-driven policing, hiring, and decision-making.**
- **Aligning with Trump's rescinded AI policies instead of evidence-based, fair, and transparent AI governance.**

I urge **Hyattsville leadership and residents to demand a revised AI policy document** that reflects **accurate information, proper regulatory compliance, and a transparent financial plan.**

Sincerely,

Chuck Ward 3 (your constituent)



Cheryl Aguilar's Hyattsville City Council Testimony
Hope Center for Wellness
Sustained Support for Mental Health Services for Hyattsville Residents
February 18, 2025

Good evening, Councilmembers and Mayor Croslin. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Cheryl Aguilar, and I'm honored to stand before you as the Founding Director of the Hope Center for Wellness, a mental health agency focused on holistic healing, and as a community partner in the City of Hyattsville's mental health program, *In Wellness We Thrive/Con Bienestar Prosperamos*.

In recent months leading *In Wellness We Thrive*, I've conducted intake sessions with children, youth, and parents, hearing firsthand the many stressors affecting their mental health. Seeing their immediate relief upon accessing free, bilingual services—both in person and virtually—after weeks, sometimes months, of searching for support is a testament to the program's impact.

This initiative not only provides critical mental health services to the city's most vulnerable residents facing trauma, anxiety, and depression, but also offers hope, healing, and a profound sense of being heard, seen, and understood.

In our arts-based support groups, young people have explored and processed critical issues of adolescent development, such as identity and self-esteem, nurturing a sense of connection and belonging.

In therapy, our therapists provide vital one-on-one and family support to community members navigating gun violence, family conflict, and the isolation of feeling different—challenges intensified by today's political climate.

Access to mental health care is an urgent need. The demand is growing, and the need is undeniable.

Thank you for already championing mental health services in Hyattsville. As the devastating impact of federal cuts to lifeline programs unfolds, your continued support ensures that children and families in Hyattsville—regardless of income, insurance, or immigration status—receive the care they need and deserve.

We look forward to continuing to build a Hyattsville where wellness thrives. Thank you for your time and consideration.