

From: [Charles County Government](#)
To: [Public Record](#)
Subject: *NEW SUBMISSION* FY2025 Budget
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FY2025 Budget

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Public Hearing Comment Form

Questions or More Information 240-776-6709

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Against Topic

Comment

I was a guest at the Commissioners' public forum last October, speaking, as the President of the Chesapeake Choral Arts Society, (CCAS), of the need for a fine arts performance center in the county. All four of the commissioners present responded with support, positive plans for budgeting, and agreed that the county does in fact need to provide for the growing population in our area, to include a place to create and present talent of all sorts, visual, performing and literary arts, to the community. Commissioner President Reuben Collins and Commissioner Amanda Stewart enjoyed attending our concert in April, where they presented a proclamation to honor the 25th + 2 anniversary of the Society. Both expressed enthusiasm for the performance, which included a presentation by the Arts4All Singers. I have experienced firsthand the verbal reassurance of the County Commissioners that the need for

support of the arts is recognized and accepted, and that fine arts plays a vital role in a healthy and growing community. I was, therefore, both amazed and dismayed to learn that the county's proposed FY25 budget not only does not increase funding for the Charles County Charitable Trust, there is actually a decrease. As a primary resource for a number of non-profit organizations, including CCAS, the Charitable Trust is a foundational support for most of the creative efforts in our community, without which the Southern Maryland area will be much the poorer. I encourage the Commissioners to review the proposed budget carefully, and return funding of the Trust to a level adequate for the needs for which the Trust was formed.

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Thank you,
Charles County, MD

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