



City of Bowie

15901 Fred Robinson Way
Bowie, Maryland 20716

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Special Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Monday, April 14, 2025, in Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Adams called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Mayor Adams led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

QUORUM:

In attendance were Mayor Adams, Councilmembers Brady, Estève, Ndebumadu (virtual), Truesdale and Woolfley, City Manager Lott, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Clerk Hernandez and Staff.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS:

Mayor Adams amended the agenda to add a discussion on funding to schools for Anti-Bullying program.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Introduction of Ordinance O-4-25 FY 2026 Budget and Resolution R-18-25 Capital Improvement Program for FY 2026-2031.

Public Hearing:

City Clerk Hernandez stated that one comment was received via email and is part of the record for this meeting. (Comment attached)

1. Bob Rapczynski, Huntington Heritage Society, Inc. – Comment attached.

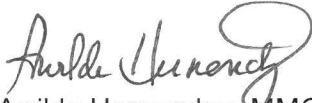
Since there were no other speakers signed up to speak, Mayor Adams declared the public hearing to have been held.

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to introduce Ordinance O-4-25 and Resolution R-18-25. Councilmember Brady seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 (Ndebumadu – no vote).

B. Anti-Bullying Program Funding – Mayor Adams motioned to fund \$1k to each of the 17 schools in the City of Bowie for the anti-bullying program “No Bullying Bear”. Councilmember Esteve seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0 (Ndebumadu – no vote).

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley motioned to adjourn the special City Council meeting and move into Budget Worksession #1. Councilmember Truesdale second the motion. Motion passed 5-0 (Ndebumadu – no vote). The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.


Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Approved by the City Council of the City of Bowie on May 19, 2025.



Huntington Heritage Society, Inc.
Huntington City – The Birthplace of Bowie

April 14, 2025

Bowie City Council, City of Bowie MD

Attn: Honorable Mayor Tim Adams, Mayor Pro Tem Dufour Woolfley, At-Large Councilmember
Dennis Brady, At-Large Councilmember Wanda Rogers, Councilmember Michael Esteve,
Councilmember Clinton Truesdale, Sr., Councilmember Roxy Ndebumadu

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Greetings,

The Huntington Heritage Society has been made aware of a concerning situation with the funding for the Railroad Museum Improvement Project. This project has been in the works for many years and now we hear that funding could be redirected to another project and the Railroad Museum project will be pushed out another 2 years. So why at this point, after much work and expense to update the plans and prepare documents for bidding, would the City and the City Council allow the Railroad Museum Improvement Project not be funded in FY 2026?

We remind you that the City of Bowie initiated a 5-year strategic plan, the Old Town Bowie Revitalization Plan, to revitalize Old Bowie and the Railroad Museum is at the heart of Old Bowie. Not funding this last leg of the Railroad Improvement Project flies in the face of common sense. It does not show the City's support of the Revitalization Plan or the support of Old Town Bowie.

The Huntington Heritage Society strongly urges the City Council to continue plans for Improvements to the Railroad Museum Campus. Bowie's history begins with the railroad. This history plays an important role in the City's legacy. Don't fail Old Town Bowie now!

Sincerely,

Robert Rapczynski, President
Isabel Pocurull, Vice President
Pam Williams, Secretary
Louise Stewart, Treasurer

To: Bowie City Council

From: Multi-modal Access & Public Spaces (MAPS);
subgroup of the Bowie Green Team

Date: April 14, 2025

Subject: FY26 City Proposed Budget Testimony - Railroad Museum Improvements Project Funding



Multi-modal Access & Public Spaces

Honorable Mayor and Esteemed Members of the City Council,

Good evening, my name is Joshua Wooten, and I chair the City of Bowie Green Team's MAPS subgroup. We are submitting this today to advocate for adding back funding for the Railroad Museum Improvement Project in the FY26 budget. As proud members of our community, we want to highlight the significant cultural and educational impact that the Railroad Museum has on our city, and the importance of investing in its future.

For decades, the Railroad Museum has been a valuable asset to our city, preserving and showcasing the rich history of our railroad heritage. It has served as an educational resource, offering a unique experience for students, history enthusiasts, and families. The museum is not just a place of historical artifacts, but a center of storytelling, where we pass down the legacy of those who built our city and country through railroads.

However, despite its importance, the museum is in need of significant upgrades. With the proper improvements, we can ensure that our museum remains a relevant and engaging institution in the years to come. These improvements will allow the museum to better tell the story of our city's pivotal role in the development of the railroad system. They'll offer a chance to inspire the next generation of engineers, historians, and community leaders. And these upgrades will likely result in increased visitation and tourism to the museum and other parts of Bowie due to the museum being on the Bowie Heritage Trail.

These improvements will help foster community pride. The Railroad Museum may be viewed as a symbol of our city's resilience, innovation, and forward-thinking mindset. By investing in it now, we can ensure that it continues to be a source of pride and inspiration for years to come.

MAPS respectfully ask that the City Council consider adding back funds for this crucial project in the upcoming fiscal year. Your support will not only preserve a key part of our heritage but will help enhance our city's reputation as a vibrant and forward-looking community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Joshua Wooten
4020 Wharton Turn