

**S00A00**

Department of Housing and Community Development  
Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget

Response to Department of Legislative Services Analysis

House Appropriations  
Health and Social Services Subcommittee  
Delegate Kirill Reznik, Chair

February 8, 2023

Senate Budget and Taxation  
Health and Human Services Subcommittee  
Senator Cory McCray, Chair

February 10, 2023

## DLS Recommendations and Response

### 1. DLS Recommendation: Water Utility Assistance Program (page 7):

*DHCD should comment on whether the planned process for checking for duplication between programs is occurring or if a new process has been developed.*

#### DHCD Response:

Both DBM and DHCD have played significant roles in the management and distribution of ARPA funding since the bill was first passed in 2021. The two agencies are partnering on this program for efficiency and capacity reasons. DBM will be reviewing and approving applications while DHCD will process payments. DHCD has experience and expertise with processing payments to local entities, as demonstrated by their similar involvement with processing payments for ARPA Local Fiscal Relief Funds to non-entitlement units in 2021 and 2022. DBM has always planned to cross-check this program with the DHS program to avoid duplication; the application has language that makes applicants attest to not "double dipping" with any other program.

### 2. DLS Recommendation: Broadband ( page 27):

*Given the expansion of operating budget funding and the deployment of funds through multiple subsidy and grant programs, the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) recommends adopting narrative requesting that broadband initiatives be budgeted in a separate program code, with subprograms as appropriate*

#### DHCD Response:

DHCD agrees with this recommendation. We will work with the Department of Budget and Management on creating the new program/subprogram structure.