



**CITY OF COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND  
ACTION ITEM COVER REPORT**

**AGENDA ITEM: 23-O-08**

**Prepared By:** Stephanie P. Anderson,  
City Attorney

**Meeting Date:** 10/24/2023

**Presented By:** Stephanie P. Anderson  
City Attorney

**Proposed Consent:** Yes

**Originating Department:** Finance

**Action Requested:** Adoption of Amended Ordinance 23-O-08, Amending Chapter 175, Taxation, Elderly Property Tax Credit.

**Strategic Plan Objective:** OKR 8 – Foster and sustain an affordable and stable City for individuals and families to live, work, play and retire here.

**Background/Justification**

Mayor and Council discussed most recently Ordinance 23-O-08, implementing an Elderly Property Tax credit (Elderly Credit) for College Park residents, as an Action item at the October 17, 2023, Council meeting. Following discussion by the Mayor and Council, amendments to Ordinance 23-O-08 were adopted by Council.

Previous history included introduction at the September 26 2023, meeting of Ordinance 23-O-08, providing for an Elderly Credit. A Public Hearing was held on October 10, 2023. At that meeting, Council indicated no action would be taken on the Ordinance before providing the public an additional opportunity to comment on the Ordinance before considering any action at the October 17, 2023 meeting.

In summary, this Ordinance establishes an Elderly Credit of \$150 annually paid for 5 years. All property taxes must be paid before receiving the credit. To be eligible the following must be met:

- At least one homeowner must be age 65 and over.
- The same homeowner has resided at the property for which the credit is sought for at least the previous ten (10) fiscal years.
- The maximum assessed value of the property does not exceed \$500,000. (There are provisions for annual inflation).
- The Mayor and Council of the City of College Park shall reassess every year the Elderly Tax Credit Program.

For the fiscal year 2024 Elderly Credit, the City will accept applications (will be similar to PGC application attached) through December 31, 2023. Property owners who filed an application with Prince George's County (PGC), for the county's Elderly Credit, do **not** need to file an application with the City. After this initial year, applications will be due October 1. Applicants are encouraged to apply for the PGC Elderly Credit, through their online portal – a separate City application will not be required.

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**Fiscal Impact:**

The FY2024 budget includes \$150,000 for the implementation of a tax credit for the elderly.

**Equity & Inclusion Impact**

A property tax credit for elderly residents would assist eligible residents to better afford to live in the City.

**Council Options:**

Adoption of Amended Ordinance 23-O-08.

**Staff Recommendation:**

Adoption of Amended Ordinance 23-O-08.

**Recommended Motion:** I move to adopt Amended Ordinance 23-O-08, Amending Chapter 175, "Taxation", By Enacting Article V, "Property Tax Credit For Elderly Individuals", §175-14 "Establishment Of Tax Credit", §175-15, "Eligibility", §175-16, "Amount And Duration Of Credit", §175-17, "Application For The Tax Credit, And §175-18, "Effective Date Of The Tax Credit" To Authorize The Mayor And Council To Approve A Tax Credit For Elderly Individuals And To Provide The Extent, Duration, And Eligibility Requirements For The Credit As Authorized By §9-258 Of The Taxation-Property Article, Annotated Code Of Maryland.

**Attachments:**

1. Amended Ordinance 23-O-08
2. PGC Application for Elderly Tax Credit