



DEB'S DISTRICT UPDATE

Deb Jung • District Four

I wish you the best during this holiday season. It will be a difficult one for many as we celebrate this year without our friends and families beside us. I hope we can all find joy in our lives despite the difficult circumstances we find ourselves in and know that 2021 is around the corner with vaccines on the way. Kindness and thoughtfulness will go a long way during the next few weeks so don't forget to spread it generously among those you know and with whom you interact. We can all use a pleasant greeting, smile and a supportive word or two as we bring 2020 to a close, a year that we never forget.

Here's to 2021 and my sincere hope for a year that will bring us all health and happiness!

Deb

Subscribe to my newsletter [here](#).

County Council Updates

The Council's last Legislative Session of 2020 occurred on December 6. No new legislation was introduced due to the December recess.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER LEGISLATION

CR174 Authorizing the sale of the Flier Building in Columbia, sponsored by the County Executive. I sponsored a successful amendment that secured the public easement through the property that is used for pedestrian and bike access to Wilde Lake Middle School. **PASSED AS AMENDED**

CB63 Prohibiting discrimination by County employees based on citizenship or immigration status, sponsored by Councilmember Opel Jones . **PASSED AS AMENDED**

CB61 Amending PlanHoward 2030 to include the Ellicott City Watershed Master Plan, sponsored by the County Executive. **PASSED AS AMENDED**

TAO1-2021 Transfer of \$54,652,000 from contingency to the New Cultural Center. **TABLED**

JANUARY-FEBRUARY LEGISLATION

The following pre-filed bills will be introduced on January 4.

Councilmember's Legislation

CB9 Prohibits installation of multi-used sewerage systems. Introduced by David Yungmann

CR15 Appoints members of the Councilmanic Redistricting Commission. Introduced by the Council Chair

County Executive's Legislation

CR12 Adopts a new Forest Conservation Manual.

CB1 Requires private animal shelters to apply for a license with the County and subjects such facilities to violation fines.

CB4 Changes the deadline for the County Auditor's fiscal analysis of current legislation to match the County Executive's deadline. Presently the County Executive is required to submit a fiscal analysis of his proposed legislation upon bill filing and the County Auditor reviews all filed bills with a corresponding analysis due on or before 5pm on the Thursday before the public hearing.

Zoning Regulation Amendments

CB7 (ZRA 192) Zoning Regulation Amendment for Annapolis Junction Town Center allowing structures within 750 feet of a MARC station to exceed 100 feet in height up to a maximum of 180 feet in a Transit Oriented District.

CB8 (ZRA 193) Zoning Regulation Amendment for Blue Stream allowing all Corridor Activity Center (CAC) properties to reduce the required commercial square footage below 20 square feet per dwelling.

Council Legislation: Click [here](#).

Welcome New Chairs & Appointees

County Council

- Chair Liz Walsh, District 1
- Vice Chair Dr. Opel Jones, District 2

Zoning Board

- Chair Christiana Rigby, District 3
- Vice Chair Deb Jung, District 4

Board of License Commissioner (Liquor Board)

- Chair David Yungmann, District 5
- Vice Chair Deb Jung, District 4

Maryland Association of Counties, Legislative Committee

- Dr. Opel Jones, District 2
- Deb Jung, District 4, alternate

National Association of Counties Liaison

- Dr. Opel Jones, District 2
- Deb Jung, District 4, alternate

MACO: 2021 Legislative Initiatives

Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) Legislative Committee voted to adopt the following priorities for the 2021 Maryland General Assembly session. Many of this year's legislative priorities deal with balancing costs related to the COVID-19 health crisis between the State and the Counties.

Defend County Budget Security— Maintain the State's commitment to school construction and avoid off-setting budget cutbacks by shifting financial responsibility to the Counties.

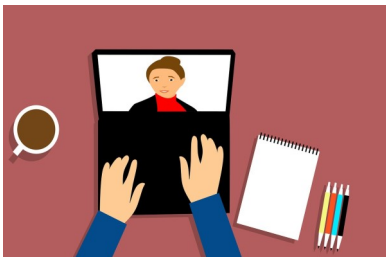
Ensure Funding Fairness & County Role in Elections — Fund State Board of Elections decisions at adequate levels for local Boards of Election to properly execute. The State and the Counties should split financial obligations for voting machines and related systems. The State should bear the responsibility for salary increases for local election employees and there should be adequate input for large procurement contracts requiring local funds.

Build Out Broadband: Broadband Accessibility Act of 2020 — Prioritize funding for broadband access, enhance incentives, orchestrate broadband deployment, and leverage existing resources and infrastructure for broader use.

Put Public Health First — Public health and emergency agencies should receive necessary funds to support staff, services, supplies, and technology beyond the current crisis phase.

Click [here](#) for more.

While the Council meetings continue to be virtual, we are here for you. Please reach out to us at 410-313-2001 or djung@howardcountymd.gov.



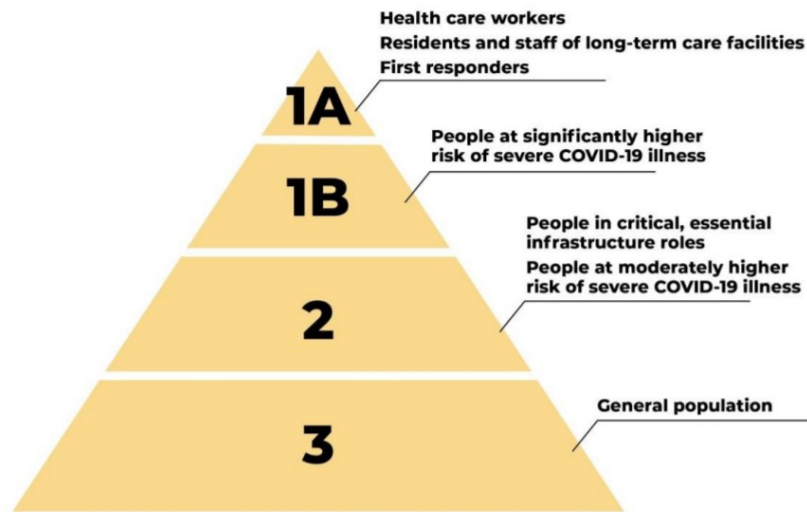
UPCOMING COUNCIL SCHEDULE

December 25—Howard County Government offices closed
January 1—Howard County Government office closed

Howard County COVID Updates

Howard County has been responding to the COVID-19 health crisis for nine months now. Cases continue to rise and November 2020 gathering restrictions remain in place. The Howard County Health Department is preparing for the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine based on developing guidelines from the State. Click [here](#) for more.

MARYLAND PRIORITY GROUPS



COVID-19 Vaccine Planning - Google Chrome
Vaccine prioritization may be subject to change.

CARES Act Funding

A total of \$500,000 in CARES Act funding will go to support Howard County residents in need of energy assistance. Families needing assistance with their energy bills should contact the Community Action Council of Howard County (CAC), which is responsible for fund distribution. Click [here](#) for more.

Masks Required at Alpha Ridge Landfill

Residents and commercial users must wear masks at all times when visiting Alpha Ridge Landfill. If you aren't wearing a mask, you will be denied access to the landfill.



StayCOVIDSafe

wear a mask | keep your distance | wash your hands | get tested

StayCOVIDSafe.howardcountymd.gov

COVID-19 VACCINE



StayCOVIDSafe



Calvin Ball
Howard County Executive

ARE THE COVID-19 VACCINES SAFE?

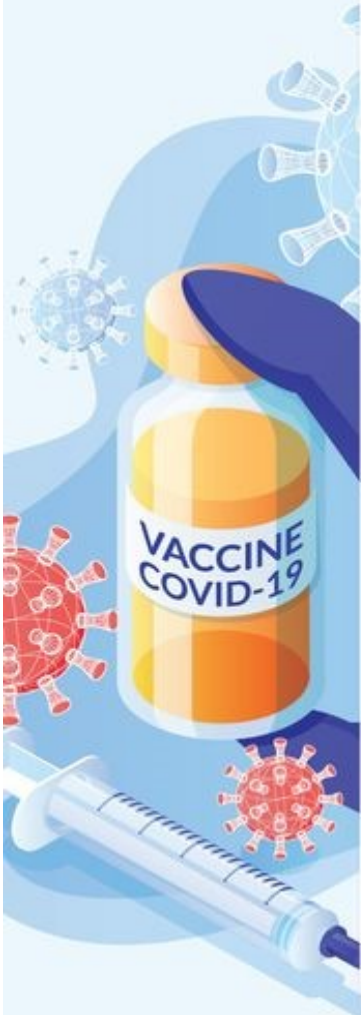
Yes. COVID-19 vaccines are being held to the same rigorous safety and effectiveness standards as all other types of vaccines in the United States.

DO I HAVE TO WEAR A MASK AFTER GETTING VACCINE?

Yes. Early clinical trials only tracked how many vaccinated people became ill with COVID-19. That leaves open the possibility that some vaccinated people get infected without developing symptoms and could then silently transmit the virus to others.

WHERE CAN I GET A VACCINE?

The initial distribution of vaccine will be limited until manufacturing ramps up. During the first phase of limited supply, the Federal government will ship vaccine directly to hospitals, contracted pharmacies and State Health Departments. State governments will prioritize groups who should receive the initial doses.



STAY VIGILANT



Wear a mask



Wash hands frequently

6^{ft} Practice physical distancing



Avoid travel and large gatherings

For more information, please visit <https://bit.ly/2KtPeDk>

County News

PLANNING BOARD

Zoning Regulation Amendments appearing before the Planning Board include:

- ZRA-195 Kimberly Kepnes (Sec. 128.K): To be scheduled; amend Section 128.K of the Zoning Regulations to 1) Extend eligibility of sending parcels to all parcels which might contain an historic structure; 2) extend increased sending density rates for these properties; and 3) allow sending density to be received as bonus density.

CALLING ALL STUDENTS: APPLY FOR LEADERSHIP U

Deadline January 27

Rising Howard County high school juniors may apply for Leadership U, a mentorship that introduces students to government, business, and civic affairs; builds teamwork skills; and fosters engaged citizens. Click [here](#) more.

COMMISSIONS FOR VETERANS & MILITARY FAMILIES

Deadline January 4

Two vacancies on the Commission on Veterans and Military Families currently open to an applicant who is a family member of a veteran or active duty service member and a veteran who is a member of a veteran organization.

BLOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

The American Red Cross now faces a severe blood shortage due to an unprecedented number of blood drive cancellations in response to the coronavirus outbreak. Healthy individuals are needed now to donate to help patients counting on lifesaving blood. Click [here](#) for more.

INPUT NEEDED: STATE RAIL PLAN

The Maryland Department of Transportation has launched an update of the Maryland State Rail Plan, which sets priorities and goals for efficient, safe and sustainable freight and passenger rail service across the state. MARC and Amtrak rail passengers, the general public, and other freight and passenger rail stakeholders are invited to provide input online. Click [here](#) for more.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Kathleen Koch has been recognized with the 2020 Howard County Emergency Management Volunteer of the Year Award. Koch served nearly 850 volunteer hours since March of 2020 as the chair of the Howard County COAD, which provided a cohesive governmental and non-profit response to the COVID-19 health crisis. Leila Mahlin was also recognized with a Certificate of Recognition for collecting and distributing face shields and over 12,600 homemade masks to Howard County residents. Mahlin worked over 1,300 volunteer hours towards this effort.

HoCo By Design: General Plan

The Department of Planning and Zoning invites residents to share their visions for Howard County through the following input opportunities.

Initial recommendations and observations from the process have been assembled into seven Physical Assessment reports. Click [here](#) for more.

- **[Register](#)**: Provide your input and be added to the email list.
- **[Community Ideas Exchange Workshop](#)**: A virtual 3-D interactive workshop with 8 different activities.
- **[On The Table](#)**: Host a small group conversation focused on how we can make our community stronger.
- **[Better Communities Online Game](#)**: A map-based activity where you choose where and



HOLIDAY TREES RECYCLING

December 26—January 16

Residents can recycle holiday trees through the County's Merry Mulch program. Since 1993, the Merry Mulch program has kept thousands of trees out of the landfill, helping to save money and the environment. All collected trees are delivered to the Composting Facility at Alpha Ridge Landfill and recycled into compost and mulch. Residents are reminded that mask wearing at Alpha Ridge Landfill is always mandatory on the premises. Click [here](#) for more.



School News

MEAL SERVICE

The following school meal sites have been suspended until January 4 due to insufficient staffing. During HCPSS winter break, there will be no meal service but families may pick up additional meals in advance of the break.

- Mayfield Woods Middle School
- Gorman Crossing Elementary School
- Wilde Lake Middle School

NOMINATIONS FOR PRINCIPAL & TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Deadline January 8

Does your school have a teacher or principal who goes above and beyond for the students? Recognize their dedication with a nomination for the annual Howard County Public School System Principal of the Year and Teacher of the Year awards.

Click [here](#) for more.

Track our winter weather response at
hocosnowplowtracker.org



Howard County
MARYLAND



Calvin Ball
Howard County Executive

Community News

HOWARD COUNTY HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR

The Howard County Historical Society has designed an interactive online tour of the County's prominent sites in an effort to maintain their annual House Tour tradition during the pandemic. Viewers can explore interior, exterior and aerial views of the Patapsco Female Institute, Christ Church, and Mt. Pleasant. Historians will share vignettes about Ellicott City's Historic Main Street, the Circuit Courthouse, Mt. Ida, and Castle Angelo. Click [here](#) for more.

DONATIONS NEEDED: MITTEN TREE

As the weather turns colder, children in our community need your help. Donate new child-sized mittens or gloves, hats, and scarves to any of the six Howard County Library system branches throughout December. Place your donations in the Mitten Tree collection box in the lobby. Donations will be given to the Community Action Council of Howard County for Head Start children and families.

COLUMBIA COMMUNITY CARE MOVES INDOORS

Faulkner Ridge Neighborhood Center is currently being used by Columbia Community Care as an indoor food and supplies distribution site through the end of March 2021. Click [here](#) for ways to give or receive help.

WILDE LAKE HIGH SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB SURVEY

Help Wilde Lake's Environmental Club by completing a survey collecting data about replacing plastic utensils with a biodegradable or reusable option in Howard County public schools. Click [here](#) for more.

COLOR BURST ICE RINK AT MERRIWEATHER DISTRICT

Merriweather District is hosting an outdoor ice rink until January 31. Click [here](#) for more.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21

HALF OFF FOR HOCO — Howard County Government employees, first responders, and their immediate family members skate for only \$7! Employee ID required and must be presented when entering the rink. Tickets include skate rental.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

CHEAP SKATE TUESDAY — Everyone skates for just \$10! Tickets include skate rental.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 12-10PM

CURED/DTC PARTNERSHIP FOOD & BEVERAGE POP-UP — Cured/18th & 21st will be onsite with hot chocolate and hot cider (both spiked and regular available), lite bites, holiday treats and additional beverages available for purchase.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 12-8PM

CURED/DTC PARTNERSHIP FOOD & BEVERAGE POP-UP — Cured/18th & 21st will be onsite with hot chocolate and hot cider (both spiked and regular available), lite bites, holiday treats and additional beverages available for purchase.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 8:30PM

PERFORMANCE BY COLUMBIA FIGURE SKATING CLUB — The Columbia Figure Skating Club will be putting on a special holiday choreographed performance!



Holiday Info

Howard County
MARYLAND



Calvin Ball
Howard County Executive

CHRISTMAS DAY

2020 Holiday Slide Schedule

Friday, December 25th

there will be no curbside pickup of:



TRASH



RECYCLING



FOOD SCRAPS



YARD TRIM

Christmas Day, curbside pickup will slide one day.



Saturday
DEC 26th

www.howardcountymd.gov/holidayschedule

