



DEB'S DISTRICT UPDATE

Deb Jung • District Four

October-November 2023

Greetings

Fall has arrived and we have been lucky to have such wonderful weather through October. Halloween has just passed. It is always so much fun to host trick or treaters. I'm sure that many of you are looking forward to celebrating Thanksgiving in just a few weeks and then the holiday season is in full swing. This is such a special time of year when we give gifts to loved ones and share our good fortune with others. I've included some resources where you can contribute food and other essentials to those in need during this season of giving.

I hope that you had the opportunity to read my recap on the General Plan; click [here](#) for more. This was a heavy lift and it is just the beginning of a much longer process that will culminate in Comprehensive Rezoning, which is soon to come.

Unfortunately, we are witnessing a great amount of suffering from the tumultuous consequences of war and violence. I'm sure many of us have given to causes that provide support to the innocent lives that have been impacted overseas. These types of conflicts also raise the specter of heated disagreements, hurtful labeling, fear of reprisals, and other situations that undermine people's sense of safety. We are not immune to the othering of each other that leads to a hardening of viewpoints. It is my hope that during this season of giving that we see ourselves in each other and recognize the humanity in our perceived enemies. The County's Office of Human Rights and Equity is hosting a public forum: Hate Has No Place, Reporting Hate Crimes & Hate Biased Incidents on November 8, 6-7.30pm, at The Meeting House. Click [here](#) for more.



Two cool "sheet" ghosts spotted on Halloween.

Deb

Council Updates

September-October

On October 2, the Council voted on my Aging-in-Place Tax Credit bill.

MY LEGISLATION

CB37 Aging-in-Place Tax Credit

I removed the unfair and arbitrary prohibition on seniors from receiving the County's aging-in-place tax credit if they own more than one residence. I heard from many seniors on fixed incomes who own second homes that provide no supplemental income and that are owned jointly with siblings or other relatives. In some cases, these second homes are lived in by elderly parents, children, or extended family. The aging-in-place credit was designed to encourage seniors to stay in their homes and to continue to contribute to their communities. It is not an income-qualified credit and it never should have had an income disqualifier. I am grateful to my colleagues (Councilmembers Walsh and Yungmann) for supporting this assistance for our older residents; *Passed*.

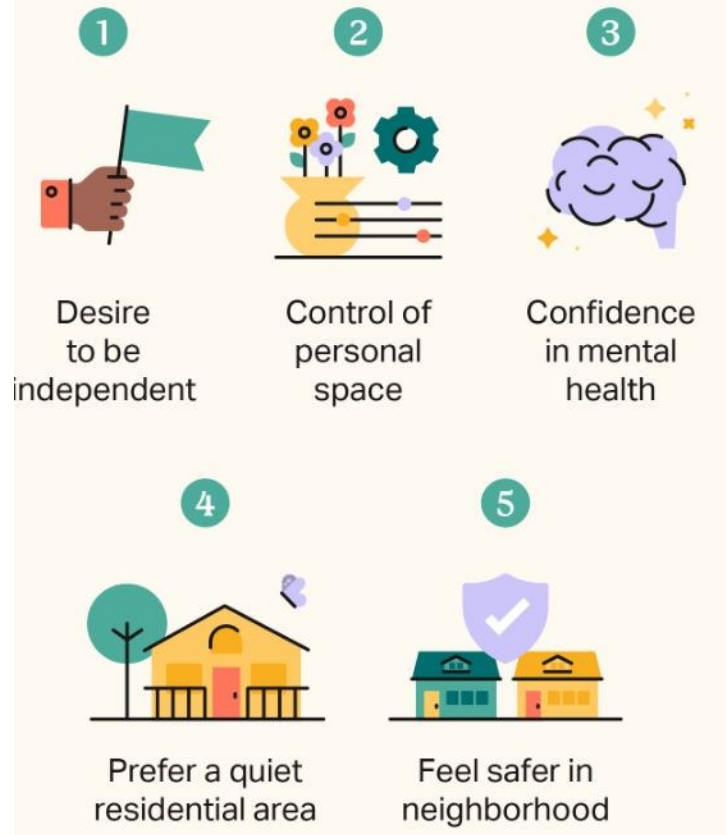
October-November

The following were introduced on October 2 and voted on November 6.

CB40 Stream Restoration Exemptions

Removes an exemption for stream restoration projects from Forest Conservation's plan requirements; *Liz Walsh; Tabled*.

Top 5 Reasons Older Adults Want To Age In Place



CB39 Solar Canopy ZRA

Allows ground-mounted canopies for solar collection as a parking use in parking areas and facilities. A previous bill allowed solar collectors on rooftops of parking structures but omitted canopies; *Christiana Rigby. Passed as amended*.

CR169 Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan

Articulates mitigation strategies for areas affected by natural hazards in an effort to reduce significant property damage and loss of life; *County Executive Ball; Passed*.

Council Updates

CR171 FY25 School Capital Budget

Requests funding approval for the Fiscal Year 2025 capital projects and 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Program for submission to the State's Interagency Commission on School Construction; *County Executive Ball*.

FY 2025 Capital Budget

September 7, 2023

(In Thousands)

Project	County Project	Occupancy	Approved Appropriations	FY25 Local Bonds	Codes	Total FY25 Request	Req'd Project Totals Through FY25
Oakland Mills MS Replacement	E1036	Sept 2027	\$ 6,189	\$ 12,257	(P,C)	\$ 12,257	\$ 18,446
Faulkner Ridge Center	E1060	Sept 2027	22,000	1,056	(E)	1,056	23,056
Applications and Research Lab Renovation	E1062	Sept 2027	13,000	1,000	(E)	1,000	14,000
Systemic Renovations/Modernizations	E1058		45,130	49,665	(P,C,E)	49,665	94,795
Roofing Projects	E1059		1,000	4,000	(P,C,E)	4,000	5,000
Playground Equipment	E0990		3,955	600	(E)	600	4,555
Relocatable Classrooms	E1045		11,500	1,500	(P,C,E)	1,500	13,000
	E1047		1,000	-	(P,C)	-	1,000
Technology	E1048		18,500	6,620	(C,E)	6,620	25,120
School Parking Lot Expansions	E1012		6,000	600	(P,C,E)	600	6,600
Planning and Design	E1038		1,850	300	(P)	300	2,150
Barrier Free	E0989		6,553	200	(P,C,E)	200	6,753
TOTALS			\$ 143,155	\$ 77,798		\$ 77,798	\$ 220,953

CB28 HoCo By Design General Plan Adopts the policy recommendations for future growth for the County. *Passed as amended*. Click [here](#) for an overview of the final adopted plan.

Upcoming Meetings

November 13, 9:30am — Monthly Meeting

November 20, 7pm — Public Hearing

November 27, 9:30am — Work Session

December 4, 7pm — Legislative Session

December 11, 9:30am — BOE Joint Meeting Click [here](#) for more.

Legislation: click [here](#).

Council Updates

November-December Legislation

The Council introduced the following on November 6. This is the last introduction session before the Council's December recess. Legislative highlights include:

CR183 & CR184 Payment in Lieu of Taxes for Waverly Woods

Property tax breaks to finance the construction of the third property in the Enterprise portfolio to be redeveloped into a mixed-income, high-rise apartment complex; *County Executive Ball*

CB41 HoCo By Design's Housing Unit Allocations

Updates the Code to reflect changes to the Housing Unit Allocations categories adopted by HoCo By Design General Plan; *County Executive Ball*

CR179 Housing Unit Allocations Chart Changes the 10-year chart to the approved version

adopted in HoCo By Design. Changes include a new category called "Activity Centers" with 600 units per year and "Affordable Housing" with 340 units per year; *County Executive Ball*


CR180 School Capacity Chart

A companion bill to CR179 that reintroduces the 2023 adopted capacity chart to be in compliance with the code requirement that the School Capacity Chart and the Housing Allocations; *County Executive Ball*

CB44 Rent Increase Cap Sets a 10% annual increase on rent for some apartments; *County Executive Ball*

CB44 Right of First Refusal Adds non-profits and private entities as having first opportunity to make an offer on for-sale apartments; *County Executive Ball*

THE HOWARD COUNTY VETERANS DAY PARADE & CELEBRATION

 Sunday, November 12

 Downtown Columbia

 Parade: 9:30 a.m.

 Ceremony: Immediately Following Parade

Fall Farm Tour

Every year, the Howard County Soil Conservation District hosts a tour of Howard County farms for elected officials. I learned so much about the agricultural industry in our County.



Rural Rhythm Farm, owned and by the Bauer family, grows rye grain for Sagamore Distillery in Baltimore. Click [here](#) for more.



Singh Maple Farm has pick-your-own pumpkins, cut flowers, and a veggie stand. Click [here](#) for more.



Clover Luck Stables trains future equestrians. Click [here](#) for more.

State of the County

On October 24, the County Executive announced the following initiatives:

Faith-based Initiatives:

- \$750,000 to protect houses of worship
- Formation of an Interfaith Advisory Council

Health, Safety & the Environment

- Ellicott City Safe & Sound H4 flood mitigation pond groundbreaking, summer 2024
- Building removal on lower Main Street, January 2024
- \$15 million for a 29-bed observation unit at the hospital
- \$100,000 to six of the Volunteer Firefighter Corporations
- A new database for the County's 27 unresolved cases dating back to the 1970s
- Solar power to be increased to supply 55% of the County Government's electricity

Education & Housing

- \$15 million for land acquisition for high school 14 in Elkridge
- \$1 million to Howard Community College for a Workforce Development and Skilled Trades Center
- \$1.6 million award to Patuxent Commons from the Housing Opportunities Trust Fund
- Creation of Housing assistance package

Recreation & Parks

- \$20 million for the North Laurel pool
- \$5 million for an indoor track facility at



- Troy Park in Elkridge
- \$3 million for new community centers at the Columbia Flier building and Elkridge Community Center
- \$1.5 million for a future ice rink
- \$400,000 for a public garden
- Establishment of a Boys & Girls Club to open in 2024

Arts, Culture, & History

- Historic Circuit Court to house the Center for the Arts, Asian American and Pacific Islander Cultural Center, and Roving Radish
- The Divine Nine will occupy the space previously used by the Center for the Arts on High Ridge Road as meeting space for historically black fraternities and sororities
- COVID-19 Memorial at Meadowbrook Park
- County Poet Laureate program creation
- Flag Commission to be established to redesign the County flag
- WiFi expansion to Columbia Association facilities, including six village centers and all 23 pools.

Click [here](#) for more.

County & Community Updates



In Honor of Deputy Sheriff Ryan Demby

In remembrance of Deputy Sheriff Demby and his service to the people of Howard County, the County Executive ordered that the Howard County flag be flown at half-staff at the George Howard Building and the Howard County Circuit Courthouse. Deputy Sheriff Demby was killed off duty on September 29. I send my thoughts and prayers to his family, friends, work colleagues, and all who had the honor of knowing him.

Patuxent Commons

This housing project located at the corner of Freetown Road and Cedar Lane applied to the Maryland Department of Environment for a permit to permanently impact 1,841 square feet of forested nontidal wetland and 8,069 square feet of a 25-foot nontidal wetland buffer. The permit was requested for the construction of a driveway, stormwater outfall, parking spaces, and a new residential building. The permit was approved on June 30.

Patuxent Commons also applied to the Department of Planning and Zoning for a waiver to the County's Complete Streets design manual requirements from frontage improvements and/or material revisions for transportation facilities designs. A decision on the waiver is pending.

Pre-submission Meeting

November 20, 6-8pm Age-restricted housing development on Route 108 and Cedar Lane. Sign code: C11, Sign year: 24. Click [here](#) for more.

Parenting Classes

The County's Office of Children and Families offers the Family Institute Workshops for parents on addressing challenging behaviors, curbing sibling rivalries, getting infants off to a healthy start. Click [here](#) for more.



Giving Season: Donation Requests

SAVE THE DATE

GIVING
TUESDAY

November 28, 2023

HopeWorks is low on items that help the organization serve their clients affected by domestic violence and abuse. Click [here](#) for more.

Red Cross is experiencing a critical need for blood donors of all types. Click [here](#) for more.

Leona Dorsey Day Resource Center for homeless residents requests pantry staples for their food bank, as well adult clothing and shoes. Click [here](#) for more.

Community Action Council helps families in economic distress with food donations and financial assistance to prevent homelessness and pay for utility bills. Click [here](#) for more.

Bridges to Housing Stability helps families facing housing insecurity. My office refers a lot of families to Bridges for housing assistance. Consider a monetary donation to support their mission. Click [here](#) for more.

Howard County Arts Council invites community residents to become members of the Council. Financial support through membership funds arts programming and scholarships and other arts advocacy efforts.

Community Ecology Center Institute preserves an important part of Columbia's agricultural heritage, Freetown Farm, and educates the community about the local environment, small-scale food production, and climate action. Click [here](#) for volunteering opportunities and other ways to help.

Bright Minds: Howard County Public Schools Education Foundation raises funds for academic programs, grants, and scholarships for economically disadvantaged students. Click [here](#) for more.



Dr. Martirano received the Tom Cookerly Exceptional School Superintendent Leadership Award from the National Center for Children and Families. This recognition included a monetary award that he donated to Bright Minds to begin a Dr. Martirano Sock Fund to meet the common request from HCPSS homeless students. Here is Dr. M showing off his playful socks.

School Updates

Budget Calendar

HCPSS is beginning the process of developing the FY25 Operating Budget. Click [here](#).

Capital Budget

The Board of Education (BOE) proposed their FY25 Capital Budget. The approval of the HCPSS FY25 Capital is currently before the County Council for approval. The proposed budget can be accessed [here](#).

Homework Help

Howard County Library System connects families to Brainfuse, an online tutoring system. This interactive service helps students from kindergarten through 12th grade by immediately connecting them to a qualified tutor in a



Nominations Open!
HCPSS Principal and Teacher of the Year awards
Click [here](#) for more

Due By:
JANUARY
03
2024

specific subject, such as math, reading, science, social studies, writing and English/language arts. Click [here](#) for more.

Meal Payment Update

HCPSS has updated its Food Services platform for the 2023-2024 school year. Nutrislice will no longer be used for menus or MySchoolBucks for payment. Click [here](#) for more.

Welcome Principal Jackson



Ms. Jackson was recently appointed as the principal for Longfellow Elementary School. Ms. Jackson has been a public school educator for 21 years, with 18 of those years in the Howard County Public School System. She has served as an elementary school teacher, team leader, assistant principal, and now as the proud principal of Longfellow Elementary School.

It was a joy to receive such an inspiring tour of Longfellow Elementary from Ms. Jackson & Dr. Martirano.

Upcoming Events

Columbia Orchestra 2023 Season

Click [here](#) for more.

- Tales from the Woods Orchestra Series: December 2
- A Chill in the Air Winter Concert Orchestra Series: December 16
- Give the Drummer Some Jazz Band Concert: January 26

Historic Oakland Holiday Craft Fair



FREE
**NOV
18**

10am - 3pm

5430 Vantage Point Rd.

Wilde Lake Community Association Presents

Breakfast with Santa

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2
DOORS OPEN AT 8:30AM

Kick off your holidays with us at Slayton
House!

Enjoy a continental breakfast, classic Christmas cartoons, kids only shop, and meet Santa to take a picture on our beautifully decorated stage.



Just Around the Corner

Brought to you by Kimco Realty, proud owner and operator of The Shoppes at Wilde Lake, where we love our community and ~~Wilde Lake~~ always Just Around the Corner!



Registration and \$10 Ticket Required for all guests
www.WildeLake.org Events@WildeLake.org 410-730-3987