



DEB'S DISTRICT UPDATE

Deb Jung • District Four

October-November 2022

Greetings

It's been a beautiful fall. The trees have been particularly brilliant this year and the brief return of warm weather has encouraged us all to enjoy outside activities.

The election is over and the County Council is on recess for two months (November and December). Both the County Council and the County Executive will be sworn in for a four-year term on December 5th at 7pm. Knowing that there would be a two-month hiatus for legislation, I introduced three pieces of legislation for a September vote and my Council colleague Liz Walsh introduced three pieces of legislation at the same time. A full description of the legislation and what happened is on the following pages. I also sent out a full recap of the Aging in Place legislation a few weeks ago, given the high interest that the bill generated.

Now it's time to start savoring the upcoming holidays whether it's through travel or sharing a big meal with family and friends. Many groups are planning celebrations and holiday-themed activities in the next six weeks. Check out this edition of our newsletter for the latest happenings at the Robinson Nature Center, the Harriet Tubman Cultural Center, St. Louis Church, and Slayton House.

I am looking forward to another four years as your Council Member and am thankful to be representing and serving District 4. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Deb

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

November—Legislative Recess

December 5, 7pm — Installation Ceremony and Legislative Session for the new Council

December 7, 1pm — Monthly Meeting

Subscribe to my newsletter [here](#).

Council Updates

SEPTEMBER LEGISLATION

September legislation was introduced on September 6 and was voted on October 3.

MY LEGISLATION

CB52: Aging-in-Place Tax Credit Extension

My bill sought to adjust one of the key failures of the County's Aging in Place tax credit by removing the five-year expiration. My bill also increased the assessed value for calculating the discount in order to reflect escalating home values in Howard County. The final and amended version of the bill resulted in retention of the cap with a slight extension to eight years and an expansion of eligible recipients by lowering the residency requirement to 30 years in one home. While I support expanding the credit to more residents, I do not understand the benefit of providing more people a credit only to take it away when they are older, frailer and more likely to be living on a decreased income. *Passed as Amended*

CB53 Board or Commission Members Residency Requirement My bill required members of appointed citizen bodies to be Howard County residents unless specifically stated otherwise in current law. *Failed*

CB55 Subpoena Power to the Zoning Board

In the Erickson case, the Zoning Board requested two additional appearances from the

Director of Planning & Zoning to provide critical input on the petitioner's proposed traffic enhancements. However in two separate letters to the Zoning Board, the County Executive and his Administration denied the requests. I proposed this bill to give the Zoning Board the authority to compel cooperation in determining if enhancement standards set forth in the Community Enhancement Floating zone regulations have been met. *Failed*

COUNCILMEMBER'S LEGISLATION

CB51 Public Information Request Reviews

This bill requires Office of Law to review documents that have been withheld from public information requests. An amendment exempted the Police Department from this requirement. *David Yungmann. Passed as Amended*

CB57 Traffic Fatalities Notifications: This bill requires the Police to inform the Department of Public Works (DPW) of traffic fatalities and requires an infrastructure review by DPW within six months. An amendment added "serious injury" to the notification requirement. *Christiana Rigby. Passed as Amended*

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S LEGISLATION

CB62 Elimination of College Education Requirement for Police

In 2000, Howard County added a 60-hour college credit requirement for all new Police officers. This bill eliminated

Click [here](#) for current legislation.

Council Updates

this requirement in an effort to increase the number of applicants. *Passed*

OCTOBER LEGISLATION

The Council held a wrap-up session on October 31 to vote on legislation prior to the required recess preceding a general election.

COUNCILMEMBER'S LEGISLATION

CB54 Forest Conservation Waiver Prohibitions in the Tiber This bill added Forest Conservation to the list of regulations that are prohibited from being waived in the Tiber Branch Watershed and requires 100% on-site compliance of forest conservation obligations in the Tiber. An amendment by Christiana Rigby limited the scope to residential developments. *Liz Walsh. Passed as Amended*

CB56 Zoning Regulation Amendments (ZRAs) Affidavits This bill is a correction to CB24-2021, which required ZRAs to include disclosures of campaign contributions made by all applicants, as defined by the State's Public Ethics law, including title owner, contract purchaser, trustee, 5% interest in the land, 3% interest holder and directors of corporations holding title. Implementation of such a broad definition of applicant proved unfeasible, and this bill limited the scope to ZRAs impacting 12 parcels or fewer. An amendment by the bill sponsor reduced the number of impacted parcels to eight. An amendment by David Yungmann further altered the scope and pro-

cess to a list of affected properties and ownership information in the Technical Staff Report. *Liz Walsh. Passed as Amended.*

CB58 School Surcharge on Residential Additions This bill lowered the school impact fee on residential additions of any size to \$1.32/square foot. An amendment by the County Executive limited the additions that qualify for the lower rate to less than 2000 square feet. *Liz Walsh. Passed as Amended.*

CR190 Removal of Police Fee Exemption This bill would have removed the exemption under which the Merriweather concert promoter is not required to pay for traffic and crowd control services provided by the Police. This is the only for-profit entity that is exempted. *Liz Walsh. Failed*

COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S LEGISLATION

CR185 PILOT Ranleigh Court: The second property in Enterprise's low-income apartment portfolio requested tax breaks in order to offset redevelopment costs. *Passed*

CR189 Board of Education FY24 Capital Budget This resolution initiates funding request to the State. The BOE modified the Superintendent's FY24 request as follows: reduced funding for Oakland Mills Middle School renovation, delayed the new Turf Valley Elementary School and New Southeast Elementary Schools. *Passed as Amended*

Zoning Board Updates

Hickory Ridge Village Center The Zoning Board met on September 28 and denied the petitioner's request for a reconsideration motion in ZB119M Hickory Ridge Village Center. The petitioner has appealed the Zoning Board's decision to the Howard County Circuit Court.

Rules Rewrite The Zoning Board selected Joyce Nichols and Katherine Taylor, the County's current Hearing Examiners, to review and update the Zoning Board's Rules of Procedure. The public is invited to give comment on the draft recommendations on November 17.

Click [here](#) for more.

BWI Roundtable Updates

Health Effects & Health Care Costs

Due to BWI Noise

Controversial flight paths at Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall (BWI) airport have negative health effects that will cost Marylanders in excess of \$40 million per year over the next 30 years, according to a state-funded study ("Projecting the Health and Economic Burden of Aircraft Noise") by Dr. Zafar Zafari at the University of Maryland's School of Pharmacy.



Read the report [here](#). Read recent press here [WYPR](#) & [WTOP](#).

General Assembly Updates

MACo Legislative Priorities

As preparations begin for the 2023 General Assembly, the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) has issued its annual legislative priorities. MACo advocates the General Assembly for local autonomy. Here are the recent issues that MACo will focus on in addition to monitoring and taking positions on bills that would affect local control:

- centralized resources for body-worn cameras
- revenue sharing and local opt-out authority, adult-use cannabis
- volunteer fire recruitment & retention
- transparency in education spending

Click [here](#) for more.

County Updates

HoCo By Design Completed

HoCo By Design, the draft recommendation process, is now complete and will be submitted to the County Council as the General Plan in late spring/early summer of 2023. Click [here](#) for more.



Zoning Regulation Amendments Website

The website listing all Zoning Regulation Amendments (ZRA) is now available to the public. ZRAs are legislative acts that change the text regulations dealing with zoning. ZRA petitions are initially submitted to the Department of Planning & Zoning, reviewed by the

Planning Board, and are then filed as bills to be voted on by the Council after the Planning Board's final decision. ZRAs differ from Zoning Board cases in that they do not change the County map that assigns Zoning Districts to specific parcels. I sponsored the legislation to require the Department of Planning and Zoning to maintain this website for public information (CB65-2021). Click [here](#) for more.

2022 Human Rights Award Winners

The following Howard County residents were recognized for their service to our community. Click [here](#) for more.

- Dr. Yvette Oquendo, health-care advocate
- Kazandra Anderson, Teen Parenting Childcare and Outreach Programs, HCPSS
- Bridgeway Community Church, Veterans services, food bank, and holiday gifts for children
- Corinne Chau, Howard High School senior and Whirlwind Reading Challenge organizer.

TAKE 3 ACTIONS TO FIGHT THE FLU



#FIGHT FLU

www.cdc.gov/flu



County Updates

Winter Activities

The Department of Recreation & Parks 2023 Winter Activity Guide is now online. Registration starts on November 30 for County residents.



Click [here](#) for more.

Seeking Nominations

Deadline November 18

- **Asian American & Pacific Islander Commission**

Howard County residents are invited to apply to this newly formed commission.

Click [here](#) for more.

- **Board of Health**

The County is seeking a member who has professional or administrative training in a health occupation to serve on the Board of Health.

Click [here](#) for more.

County Employee of the Year

Congratulations to Lloyd Self, Regulation Supervisor in the Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits, who received the 2022 County Employee of the Year award. He was nominated for enhancing the performance of the Electrical Inspections Section and is respected as a public servant, a mentor, and a skilled tradesman.

Parenting Workshops

The Family Institute offers free online workshops on common child-raising topics. Click [here](#) for more. November features classes on:

- Worries, Concerns & Apprehension: November 10, 7pm
- Sibling Rivalry: November 17, 7pm
- Discipline & Communication in the Elementary School Years: November 30, 7pm

Construction Project: Cardinal Forest Stormwater Management Pond

A stormwater management pond adjacent to 8825 Cardinal Forest Circle in Laurel will be repaired and improved beginning November 1. The pond repair will include the replacement of the existing metal principal spillway pipes with a new concrete riser and 42-inch concrete barrel pipe. The project is expected to be completed by late February 2023.

A temporary lane closure along Cardinal Forest Circle may be required during material deliveries. A portion of the sidewalk adjacent to the work site between 8833 and 8825 Cardinal Forest Circle will be closed to pedestrians for the duration of the project. The project is partially funded through the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund.



Environmental Updates

Electrify Your Home

Building electrification switches energy sources for heating and cooking from gas to electricity. Currently, natural gas is used in 42% of residences and electricity is used for 33%. However, natural gas is a source of air pollutants, emitting an estimated 2.49 million tons per year of harmful compounds. Gas stoves are one of the leading appliance polluters and can introduce harmful chemicals inside people's homes.



A [study](#) by Harvard University found that gas appliances can steadily emit a large number of toxins, including the greenhouse gas of methane, lung irritants such as nitrogen dioxide, and cancer causing volatile organic compounds such as benzene. These small gas leaks can contain very small amounts of odorants, which give natural gas its signature smell, causing homeowners to be oblivious to the harmful toxins in their homes.

Some simple and short-term solutions can be to increase ventilation by opening windows or to conduct a natural gas leak detection survey by a licensed plumber HVAC contractor. Regardless, building electrification is the long-term solution that ensures a safer home environment and a cleaner

world. Switching to electric heating and cooking will become a more sustainable option as the generation of renewable energy increases and it is much safer and cleaner to use inside homes and buildings than natural gas. *(Thanks to our D4 intern Jessica Li for researching and writing this section.)*

Leaves, Leaves Everywhere!

Now that fall is here, take steps to manage all those leaves:

- [Grasscycle](#)/Mulch leaves
- Compost in your backyard
- Participate in a Rake and Take Program
- Utilize curbside yard trim collection
- Drop-off at the Alpha Ridge Landfill Wood Waste



Do not dump leaves, grass clippings or other landscaping waste into a storm drain inlet or a stream. This is both bad for water quality and is considered an illicit discharge and a violation of County Code. Discarding landscaping waste into a storm drain inlet can clog pipes and lead to flooding (even in your own yard). The decaying process of yard trim can also lead to depleted oxygen levels in our streams and water bodies.

School Updates

REDISTRICTING UPDATE

The Board of Education (BOE) continues to move forward in the redistricting process to establish an attendance area for High School #13 for the 2023-2024 school year. The BOE has held several worksessions and public hearings on the proposed plan to date. Click [here](#) for more. Written testimony from the public may be submitted [here](#).

Key dates:

- Worksession: November 14, 4 pm
- Final vote: November 17

High School #13 Naming Committee

The BOE reviewed the Charter for Naming of High School #13 on September 22. A committee was formed to propose a name for High School #13 to the Superintendent. The committee will enlist the guidance of historians, geographers, Howard County staff, parents, and community members.

Key dates:

- Superintendent's recommendation to the BOE: November 17
- Public Hearing: December 5
- Final Vote: January 12

FY2024 CAPITAL BUDGET

The BOE voted on the FY24 Capital Budget request on September 29. HCPSS submits the requested priority list to the State for eligible project funding. The FY24 Capital Budget proposed by the BOE includes final construction funding for High School #13, planning money for Oakland Mills Middle School renovation/

addition, and planning money for Dunloggin Middle School renovation/addition. The local share of the FY24 Capital Budget request totals \$67.7 million. The five-year Capital Improvement Program includes New Elementary School #43, Centennial High School renovation/addition and Faulkner Ridge Center as a Regional Early Childhood Center in addition to the projects identified in the FY2024 Capital Budget. The FY2025-2029 Capital Improvement Program totals \$477.8 million.

Click [here](#) for more.

JumpStart Dual Enrollment Courses Receive Free Tuition

HCPSS announced that eligible students who participate in JumpStart dual enrollment courses will no longer be charged the cost of tuition. Howard Community College (HCC) will be issuing refunds to the students currently enrolled for the fall 2022 semester. There are currently 1,106 high school students taking courses on HCC's campus and over 1,000 students participating in dual enrollment courses at their high school this year.

HCPSS
UPDATE



Keeping up with Deb



Howard County Farm Tour



Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) Impact Event

Community Updates

Local Equity Report: Inequity Within

The Library System has recently published a compilation of census and socioeconomic data to interpret the County's degree of integration and equity. "Inequity Within: Issues of Inequity Across Communities" is a local analysis of systems and social determinants of health. Click [here](#) for more.

Howard County compared to the other large Maryland Counties is affluent and successful:

- Homeownership rate (72.7%) is among the highest.
- Poverty rate (5.5%) is among the lowest.

But does this success translate across all demographics and parts of the County? The study found:

- Life expectancy for all residents (82.7 years) is one of the State's highest; but within the County, non-Hispanic Whites have a life expectancy that is 3.1 years more than non-Hispanic African Americans.
- Savage (29.9/12.2%) and Columbia (27.5/9.4%) have the largest non-Hispanic Black/Hispanic populations in the County. Within those subcommunities, Savage's non-White population is 61.5% and Columbia's is 55.5%.

VILLAGE NEWS

Click for more

[Wilde Lake](#)

[Harper's Choice](#)

[Hickory Ridge](#)

[River Hill](#)

[Town Center](#)

- Within the County, home ownership is lowest in Savage (68%) and Columbia (66%).
- The poverty rate is highest in Columbia (7.6%) and Savage (6.6%).
- Hispanic residents (17%) experience some of the County's highest percentage of depression, and 57% reported feeling stressed or worried about money and basic needs.
- Non-Hispanic Black residents are approximately four times as likely to be in poverty and experience homelessness and food insecurity.

**MAKE A
BIG IMPACT
SHOP SMALL**

★
**SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 26, 2022**



Community Updates

Season of Giving

In Howard County, **LindaBen Foundation** runs the Blessings in a Backpack program, which supplies kid-friendly snacks for the weekend to children who need regular meals outside of school hours.

Click [here](#) for more.



Community Action Council (CAC) is the County's leading non-profit, running the County's Food Bank and providing family supports and services. The holidays are the busiest time for CAC. Last year, they served 175,000 meals to over 7,900 individuals and supported over 350 children and families in the early childhood education program.

Click [here](#) for more.



APPRENTICESHIPS FOR INDIVIDUALS

Celebrate National Apprenticeship Week!

Monday, November 14, 2022 – 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm
In-Person Round Table

Learn about apprenticeships and meet **Apprentices** who will share their success stories. After the event, we will offer small group sessions to answer questions in English and Spanish

Be an Apprentice! Earn while you learn, avoid debt, and earn competitive wages

REGISTER HERE: <https://HCAppearnticesInfoSessions.eventbrite.com>

Or MWE Event ID#96518



Upcoming Events

Destination Downtown

Art, music, and community are on the line-up in Downtown Columbia. Click [here](#) for more.

Cranksgiving

November 12, 9am-noon
6100 Merriweather Drive
Click [here](#) for more.

Usher in the season of giving with a family biking event benefiting Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center.



High School Theater Performances

Dates vary from November 17-20
Click [here](#) for more.

D4 Schools

- Wilde Lake: *Almost, Maine*
- Atholton: *Our Town*

Howard County Recreation & Parks

Harriet Tubman Cultural Center hosts ballet, cooking, pre-kindergarten, school's out workshops, to name a few. Click [here](#) for more.

Robinson Nature Center hosts park strolls, kid-friendly birding, home-school classes, play groups, night sky viewing, and school's out workshops. Click [here](#) for more.

Hallelujah: A Holiday Celebration Concert

December 11, 4pm, free
St. Louis Church, Clarksville

Special appearances by the Orchestra of St. Louis, guest artists, soloists, adult and children's choirs will feature a medley of traditional carols, yuletide classics and contemporary favorites for the whole family.

Click [here](#) for more.

THE WILDE LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

WILDE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



Click [here](#) for more.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3
DOORS OPEN AT 8:30AM



Upcoming Events

The Wilde Lake Community Association proudly presents

Rainbow Theater

Lively entertainment for young audiences

Doors open at 9:50am
shows begin promptly at 10am

October 13

Drew Blue
Shoes
Magic and
Comedy



March 23, 2023

Cantare
Latin American
Music



cantare
LATIN AMERICAN MUSIC

November 10

Rocket Reba
Action Packed
Science



December 8

Mr. Jon and Friends
Sing and Dance Along!



Mr. Jon
& FRIENDS

Tickets Required:
\$5.00 per person
(aged 2 and over)

Exact Cash or Credit at the door
Advance Tickets available online at
www.Eventbrite.com search Rainbow Theater

www.WildeLake.org ★ Events@WildeLake.org ★ 410-730-3987

Columbia Orchestra

Click [here](#) for more

Announcing the 2022-2023 Season

