



# DEB'S DISTRICT UPDATE

Deb Jung • District Four

January-February 2023

## *Greetings*

February is Black History Month when we have the opportunity in this Country and in this County to learn more about African Americans' historical contributions and continued struggles for full integration.

High school students will soon have the option for the first time to take an AP course about Black History. This college-level course starts with the origins of the African diaspora with a focus on the ethnic groups and histories of the African continent and then covers the Transatlantic slave trade. Subsequent chapters deal with the struggle for freedom and equality in the United States. The course is a powerful immersion into the historical and cultural factors resulting from the forced relocation of people from Africa to the North and South American continents.

It is long overdue that the stories of the African diaspora should take their rightful place beside the stories of the European diaspora. I am optimistic that the new AP course will disrupt our repetitive cycle of exclusion and will give us the tools to reckon with and resolve our past propaganda. Education is vital for ensuring our commitment to create a better place and a more perfect union of these United States.

*Deb*

# Council Updates

## JANUARY LEGISLATION

January legislation was introduced on January 3 and was voted on February 6.

## COUNCILMEMBER'S LEGISLATION

### CB4 Transportation Services Network Fund

This bill would add a \$0.25 tax on trips for rideshare services, such as Uber and Lyft. Revenues will be put into a transit services improvement fund. *Christiana Rigby; tabled*

### CB5 All Electric Buildings - Building Code Recommendation

This bill would require the Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits to recommend changes to the building code to enact all-electric building standards for new construction, major renovations, and additions. *Christiana Rigby; tabled*

### CB6 (ZRA 203) Age-Restricted Housing to Office Transition Zoning District

Demeril Plaza on Old Frederick Road submitted a Zoning Regulation Amendment petition to add age-restricted housing as a matter of right in the low-density commercial zone of Office Transition (OT). There is currently only one OT-district but it is a floating zone that can be applied to other properties. Age-restricted housing is currently allowed by right in the following districts: Business Local (B-1) and Planned Office Research (POR). It is a conditional use in Rural Residential, Rural Conservation, and

Planned Gold Course Community. The petitioner has contributed \$1500 to the Calvin Ball Team, per the legally required campaign contributions disclosure. I voted against this bill for the reasons stated above; *Passed*

## COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S LEGISLATION

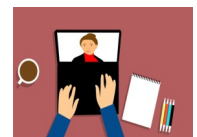
### CB1 Agricultural Land Tax Credit Automatic Renewal

This bill allows qualifying participants in the State and County's agricultural preservation program to receive the tax credit in perpetuity. *Passed*

### CB3 Expanding Clean Energy Loan Program

Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) provides financing for clean energy construction. The bill updates the modifications made by the General Assembly that increase minimum loan amounts to \$50,000 and add environmental remediation and water efficiency projects. *Passed*

## Upcoming Council Meetings



February 13, 9:30am — Joint Meeting w/BOE  
February 21, 7pm — Public Hearing  
February 27, 9:30am — Work Session  
March 6, 7pm — Legislative Session

Subscribe to my newsletter [here](#).

# Climate Action

## Climate Solutions Now Act 2022

In 2022, the General Assembly passed SB0528, which sets climate action goals of reducing statewide greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency and emissions reductions for buildings and vehicles. The act defined the following schedule:

### 2023

- January 1 – Maryland Department of Labor (MDL) adopts 2018 International Green Construction Code (IGCC); localities have 12 months to follow.
- January 1 – Building Codes Administration (part of MDL) issues an interim report on recommendations for electrifying buildings in the State.
- June 30 – Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) will submit a proposal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 60% from 2006 levels by 2031.
- December 1 – Building Codes Administration will issue a final report.
- December 31 – MDE will issue final plans for reaching 2031 targets and a proposal for net-zero.

### 2030

- December 31 – MDE will issue final plans for net-zero by 2045.
- January 1 – MDE will develop building energy performance standards for a 20% reduction in net direct greenhouse gas emissions compared to 2025 levels.

### 2040

- January 1 – MDE will develop building standards for net-zero greenhouse gas emissions.

**Building Codes Administration Report:** The report was charged with the following:

- initial adoption of all-electric building code for the State with exemptions for life sciences, critical infrastructure, and national security
- cost-efficient methods to decarbonize buildings and other sectors.
- technology needs for all-electric transition
- electrification effect on the workforce
- cost-effective measure for electrification for new and existing buildings.

## Fossil Fuels are Dirty and Dangerous

Homes with gas stoves have nitrogen dioxide concentrations up to...

**400%**

higher than homes with electric stoves!



Gas stoves release the same pollution as an idling car!

Living in a home with a gas stove increases a child's risk of having asthma by

**42%**

# Climate Action

## Building Codes Administration Report

The 2023 Building Codes Administration interim report recommends requiring all-electric new construction of single family homes only and to incentivize, not mandate, all-electric construction of non-residential, industrial, and commercial buildings. More than half of all existing homes in Maryland use gas or oil heat, and because the State is mostly built out existing homes account for nearly 100% of buildings in the State.

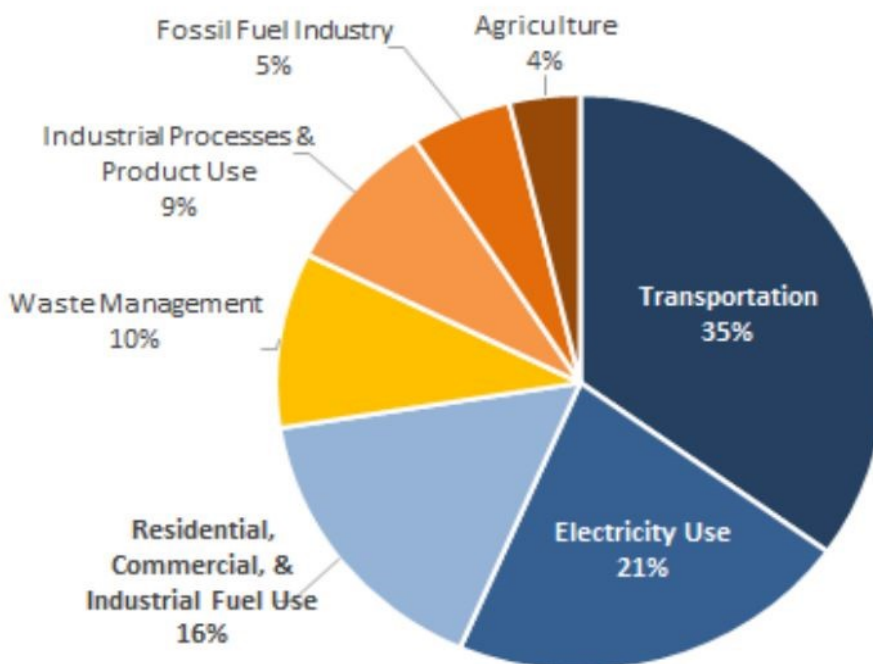
The report recommends using the New Buildings Institute “Building Decarbonization Code” as an overlay to the 2021 international building code and allow exceptions for non-electric back-up generators and hybrid heat pumps. Backup generators of any fuel type should also be allowed in case of power outages or reduced supplies.

Click [here](#) for more.

### More to Know

- Climate Solutions Now; click [here](#)
- MDE’s progress towards reducing greenhouses gases; click [here](#)
- Maryland Commission on Climate Change’s Roadmap to Decarbonization; click [here](#)

The Maryland Department of the Environment  
**Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Maryland: A Progress Report**



Maryland's 2020 GHG emissions sector contributions

# General Assembly



## Howard County Delegation Local Bills & Bond Initiatives

The Howard County Delegation has filed its 2023 Local Bills. Click [here](#) for more.

## Noteworthy General Assembly Bills

I have been busy with either in-person or written testimony supporting the following:

### Penalties for Drag Racing

Senate Bill 147 & House Bill 208; Click [here](#) for more. These two bills will curtail exhibition driving (drag racing and other types of reckless driving) by giving police the ability to impound on site and by assigning fines and other penalties. Exhibition driving may not occur on a highway or private property.

The bill defines exhibition driving as:

- Excessive/abrupt acceleration/deceleration
- Skidding, squealing, burning of tires
- Wheelies, swerving or swaying
- Unreasonably loud/disturbing motor noise
- Grinding gears or backfiring motors
- Passengers riding outside of the vehicle

## Maryland Aviation Commission Membership & Scope-BWI Noise Legislation

Senate Bill 0162 & House Bill 0204; Click [here](#) for more. These bills require the Maryland Aviation Commission to establish policies to mitigate negative impacts of the aviation and airport industries on local communities and to consider advice from communities that have been impacted by airport infrastructure. The bill also requires that four of the Commission members will be proposed by the DC Metroplex BWI Community Roundtable for final selection by the Governor.

At the Council's February session, I introduced a resolution (CR37-2023) to support these bills. Councilmember Dr. Opel Jones who represents affected communities in Elkrigde and east Columbia was the only "no" vote.

### Bird Safe Buildings

Senate Bill 92 & House Bill 6; Click [here](#) for more. These bills would require adoption of building standards by the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED credit dealing with reducing bird collisions and bird-friendly designs. Shielding and limiting interior and exterior lighting requirements are included in the bill as well. Qualifying buildings include:

- State buildings
- New or renovated State buildings
- Buildings acquired for State agencies and departments
- Buildings funded with 50% of State funds

# BWI Noise Updates

## Noise Reports

The latest BWI Monthly Aviation Operations & Noise Exposure Report details monthly commercial aviation noise in Anne Arundel and Howard Counties. The report also covers daytime versus nighttime flights, commercial versus cargo flights, air carriers, aircraft types and runway use.

- November 2022: [Executive Summary & Report](#)
- Next BWI Roundtable Meeting: March 7, 7pm

## Noise Stats

BWI received 123,133 noise complaints from 230 individuals during the second quarter of 2022. The airport received a total of 620,276 noise complaints in 2021.

In Europe, the World Health Organization recommends aircraft noise levels below 45 decibels (dB) during the day and 40 dB at night. Higher levels of noise are associated with adverse health effects. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has adopted 65 decibels A (dBA) day-night average sound level (DNL) as the threshold of significant noise exposure below which residential land uses are compatible. BWI Airport noise zone is above 65 dBA DNL. There is significant controversy over the accuracy of the FAA's use of the DNL averaging technique.

## MAA Reports

The Maryland Aviation Authority (MAA) is required to provide the General Assembly with



an Aircraft Noise Mitigation Report. Highlights from the September 2021 reports include the following:

- There are 20 noise monitors in Anne Arundel County and four in Howard County.
- Complaints and monitoring can be done through MAA's webtrak system; click [here](#).
- Voluntary Residential Sound Insulation Program provides homeowners with free noise reducing home improvements. In exchange, the homeowners grant an aviation easement that allows the passage of aircraft over the property and release any rights to receive remuneration or compensation under any abatement programs.
- BWI Roundtable is still awaiting review from the FAA of the Roundtable's flight pattern and procedures recommendations. According to the report, the FAA is expected to initiate their formal review in 2021 with an environmental review, public meetings, and potential implementation in 2023.

# County Updates

## HoCo By Design

The draft recommendations for the General Plan, HoCo By Design is now complete and will be submitted to the County Council in the spring of 2023. Click [here](#) for more.

The recommendations in the Infrastructure Chapter of HoCo by Design for schools are to examine:

- alternatives to APFO waiting periods where a development proposal offsets the potential impact to zoned schools through an additional voluntary mitigation payment
- applicability of the code provisions governing reservations of land for public facilities to determine appropriate changes that would increase utilization.
- public-private partnerships
- co-locations of schools with other public amenities
- trust fund for school site acquisition
- purchase properties with leaseback options to hold land for future schools
- use commercial real estate for schools
- lease space for Pre-K programs
- use smaller school-owned properties for regional programs
- alternative school designs
- right-of-first refusal for properties in priority areas
- private-public partnership to amass small parcels into school sites



**DPZ Digest:** Stay in touch with DPZ's current and upcoming news and initiatives.

- Click [here](#) to sign up for the newsletter.
- Click [here](#) for the latest newsletter.

**Zoning Regulation Amendments (ZRA):** ZRA petitions are submitted to DPZ, reviewed by the Planning Board, and then filed as Council bills. Click [here](#) for a list of current ZRAs.

**DPZ Notify:** Access pre-submission meetings, capital budget hearings, and other planning-related initiatives. Click [here](#).



# County Updates

## Upcoming Developments

**Cedar Overlook**, an age-restricted development planned for District 4, was reviewed by the Design Advisory Panel on January 26.

Meeting materials will be available [here](#) once posted. The development is seeking a Conditional Use petition for Age Restricted Adult Housing (ARAH).

**Patuxent Commons** submitted a request to DPZ for a waiver from regulations protecting specimen trees, forest conservation, steep slopes, and wetlands. The project is asking for DPZ to permit the following:

- removal of nine trees with 30-inches in diameter or larger
- less than 75% of the required forest conservation obligations with the remainder to be provided off site
- grading, paving, and building on steep slopes
- grading, paving, and building within 25 feet of a wetland

## Climate Action & Resiliency Plan

Howard County has released its draft climate action plan. Public input is being collected through January 12. Click [here](#) for more.

## Commercial Property Stormwater Program

The County provides financial assistance to increase the stormwater treatment on non-

residential properties to the requirements of the 2000 Maryland Stormwater design Manual. Through a one-time reimbursement funded by the County's Watershed Protection and Restoration reimbursement. Reimbursed features include rain gardens, conservation landscaping, urban tree canopy, permeable pavers, impervious surface removal, green roof, rain-water harvesting, and dry wells. Click [here](#) for more.

## Litter Collection

The Department of Public Works responded to a TellHoCo request for litter control. On January 10, DPW picked up six bags of trash and a shopping cart from Eliots Oak Road and another four bags and a car bumper from Harpers Farm Road.



## Zoning Board Updates

**Rules Rewrite** On January 11, the Zoning Board adopted the consultants' recommended Rules of Procedure. A public hearing will occur on March 1, 7pm. Click [here](#) for more.

# School Updates

## School Start Times

HCPSS is planning to shift school start times under the School Start Time (SST) program. The following recommendations were made to the BOE for the 2023/24 school year:

- 8am: high schools and six middle schools
- 8:40am: remaining middle schools and 14 elementary schools
- 9:15am: remaining elementary schools

HCPSS is confident that SST can be made without adding buses. The BOE will review the implementation plan. Click [here](#) for more.

For many years, I have advocated for later school start times for high schoolers. Later start times better sync school schedules with teenagers' sleep patterns. Research shows that teenagers who start their school day at 9am or later outperform their peers who have earlier school starts. I want our high schoolers to be the best they can be.

### Key Dates:

February 13, 2023 County Council—BOE Meeting

February 15, 2023 BOE Work Session

## How many hours of Z's are enough?

AGE	HOURS OF SLEEP
4-12 MONTHS	12-16*
1-2 YEARS	11-14*
3-5 YEARS	10-13*
6-12 YEARS	9-12
13-18 YEARS	8-10

\* INCLUDING NAPS

Source: *Recommended Amount of Sleep for Pediatric Populations*, American Academy of Sleep Medicine



# School Updates

## National History Day

*March 4, Long Reach High School*

HCPSS is hosting the annual History Day competition, a national program promoting historical research by students through the use of documentary, performance, exhibit, web page, or historical paper. I will be serving as a judge at the competition this year. I invite you to join me as a judge for this exciting day featuring student work from around the County. Click [here](#) for more.

## Summer Programs

*Deadline February 15*

Summer educational programs are now open for rising kindergartners through 12th graders. Some programs are first come, first served and others are lottery. Click [here](#) for more.

## High School #13 Naming

On January 12, the BOE voted to table the vote to name HS#13 until the February 9 meeting. Staff will return with a diverse list of school names for BOE consideration.

## FY2024 HCPSS Budget

**Capital:** Click [here](#) for more.

**Operating Budget:** Click [here](#) for more.

## County Council — BOE Joint Meeting

*February 13*

The County Council and the BOE will hold a quarterly meeting on school start times, infrastructure, learning loss, Blueprint funding,

portable classrooms, and the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance. Click [here](#) for more.

## New Middle School Fine Arts Courses

Beginning in fall 2023, HCPSS will offer an additional year-long dance elective to middle school students. Click [here](#) for more.

## HCPSS Donations Report

The BOE reviews donations reports listing monetary awards to schools exceeding \$500. Here's a snapshot of donations for District 4 schools approved by the BOE on January 12:

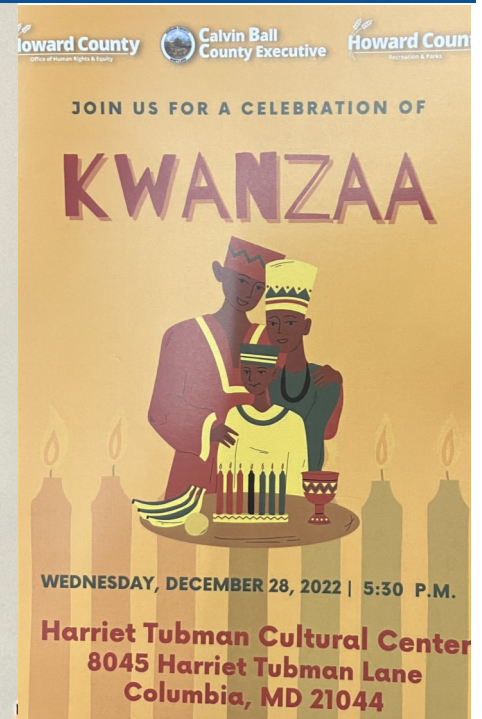
- Lime Kiln MS: Crestron Electronics Inc, office supplies and furniture, \$2500.
- Atholton HS: Cazbar, athletic uniforms, \$500; HomeSlyce, athletic uniforms, \$500; Silicon Valley Community Foundation, wrestling equipment and uniforms, \$5,000.
- Reservoir HS: Rochester Institute of Technology, Project Lead the Way materials and supplies, \$760; RHS Boosters, replacement tires for Gator, \$1335.08.
- River Hill HS: RHHS Boosters, athletic team uniforms, equipment, and tournament fees, \$7462.13; Rochester Institute of Technology, Project Lead the Way materials and supplies, \$940.



# Keeping up with Deb



# Lunar New Year



# Kwanzaa

## Keeping up with Deb



## State's Attorney Rich Gibson's Investiture



## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Celebration

# Community Updates

## Columbia Association's Information Session for Board Candidates

February 16, 5-6:30pm

This annual information session explains senior leadership positions in the organization, roles and responsibilities of Board members, and answers questions. Click [here](#) for more.

## Tax Credits for Greener Homes

The Federal Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 includes tax credits and rebates to help households pay for energy-efficiency upgrades, electric vehicles, electric heating and cooling systems, and certain electric appliances. Click [here](#) for more.

## Be Salt Wise

When temperatures freeze, be careful how you treat your paved surfaces to prevent icing. What we sprinkle on our sidewalks can flow down our drains to our waterways. One teaspoon of salt can permanently pollute five gallons of water.

Here are some salt-wise tips:

- Use a salt alternative like sand.
- Don't use salt when temperatures are below 15 degrees; it isn't effective when it is that cold.
- Use no more than a 12ounce mug of salt for 10 sidewalk squares to reduce your usage.



Howard County 2023  
**GreenFest**  
Save The Date!  
Saturday, April 15 • 10:00am – 3:00pm  
Howard Community College, SET Building  
[HCGreenfest.org](http://HCGreenfest.org)  
.....  
Native Plant Sale • Document Shredding  
Rain Barrel Giveaway  
Compost Bin Giveaway and MORE!

The poster features a green and blue color scheme with various eco-friendly icons such as a leaf, solar panel, globe, car, recycling symbol, and wind turbine.

## VILLAGE NEWS

Click for more

[Wilde Lake](#)

[Harper's Choice](#)

[Hickory Ridge](#)

[River Hill](#)

[Town Center](#)

# Upcoming Events

## U.S. Army Blues Swamp Romp

February 17, 7:30pm

St. Louis Church

Click [here](#) for more.

Mardi Gras-music from the U.S. Army Band is the next performance in St. Louis Church's exceptional concert series. Returning with to lead this year's Mardi Gras celebration, the band combines energetic improvisation, "audience interaction, humor, joy and audacity to create a custom musical gumbo" from Dixieland to Boogaloo to Stevie Wonder. Free admission with advance online reservations, but seating is limited, first-come, first-served

## As We See Ourselves: An Appreciation & Celebration of Black Doll Art

February 11, 10am-6pm

Miller Library

Charm City Dolling Club of Maryland celebrates its 25th anniversary with an exhibit of Black dolls and the people who love them.



THE BERNICE KISH GALLERY AT SLAYTON HOUSE PRESENTS

## GALLERY TALKS

EXHIBIT ARTISTS DISCUSS  
THEIR ART AND INSPIRATION

SELECT WEDNESDAYS @ 10AM:

- March 15: Marcie Wolf-Hubbard
- May 3: MJ Messenger and Group
- June 14: Christopher Fowler
- September 13: Errol McKinson

Free and open to the public but registration recommended  
Register by emailing [events@wildelake.org](mailto:events@wildelake.org)  
10400 Cross Fox Ln, Columbia, MD 21044  
410-730-3987



**COLUMBIA ORCHESTRA**  
Fundraiser

**February 20th, 5:30pm**  
at 18th & 21st

Click [Here](#)

TASTE THE MUSIC OF  
**MARDI GRAS**