

County Councilman David Marks Fifth District Newsletter

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MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMAN MARKS: **PREPARING FOR WEATHER EMERGENCIES**

In recent years, communities around the world have borne the brunt of rapidly changing weather patterns. Baltimore County is no exception. This past July was the wettest in Maryland history, and flooding inundated communities from Towson to Kingsville.

In many cases, Baltimore County must correct some of the engineering mistakes from the past, and we are doing that. I supported funding to improve [the Jennifer Run in Carney](#) and [the White Marsh Run](#) along Perry Hall Boulevard, both impacted by development, as well as areas in Seven Courts. These projects replace concrete structures with features that more naturally absorb the impact of rainwater.

Towson is one of our oldest areas. Baltimore County purchased several homes in the Overbrook community to absorb the impact of flooding from the Herring Run, but I believe we need a more comprehensive solution. We will be working with neighborhood leaders to secure funding to stabilize this waterway that stretches east of Towson High School. We also need to improve drainage in West Towson.



It's important to invest in these long-term projects, but also to prepare for immediate emergencies. We are entering hurricane season, and then the winter. Please bookmark the following link on your computers: <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/publicworks/StormFighter/index.html>. You can also follow my Facebook and Twitter feeds.

Our office will continue to remain in contact with the Department of Public Works and BGE before, during, and after weather-related emergencies.

GROUNDBREAKING SET FOR RADEBAUGH PARK

Baltimore County will break ground on Radebaugh Neighborhood Park on Tuesday, August 28th at 11 a.m. The new park, located along Maryland Avenue near Towson High School, [will be located at the site of the former greenhouses for the Radebaugh florist shop](#). Councilman Marks worked for nearly two years to have the county purchase this site, which will be eastern Towson's first new public park in two decades. The late County Executive Kevin Kamenetz and Towson's state legislators, along with the Green Towson Alliance and numerous neighborhood groups, were very supportive of the project.

NEW SCHOOL PROJECTS ADVANCE

Councilman Marks has worked over the past eight years to reduce school overcrowding across the Fifth District. Three new schools—with 2,960 seats—are budgeted for construction in northeastern Baltimore County between now and 2021.

This fall, Perry Hall's first new school in a quarter-century will open—Honeygo Elementary, built near the intersection of Joppa and Chapel Roads. A second elementary school will open in 2020 near Rossville Boulevard and Gum Spring Road. Plans for this school can be found here:

http://www.bcps.org/construction/Northeast_2/Northeast_Elementary_II_Preliminary_Design_Presentation.pdf. A new middle school is budgeted for an opening in 2021, near the King Avenue entrance to the Community College of Baltimore County.

Baltimore County Public Schools is completing an analysis that looks at high school overcrowding. The county has allocated \$30 million to plan for new high schools. Additionally, with the opening of school this September, every Fifth District will now be air conditioned.



STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION EVALUATES SAFETY AT KLAUSMIER ROAD

Earlier this spring, Councilman Marks put together a task force of local residents to evaluate ways to

improve mobility along Klausmier Road in Perry Hall. One persistent problem has been an inability by motorists to make lefthand turns at Belair Road. After months of study by professional engineers, the Maryland State Highway Administration is now recommending a traffic signal at Belair and Klausmier Roads. The signal is not yet funded.

TRASH COLLECTION RESTORED ALONG LIMIT AVENUE

In July, Councilman Marks and his legislative aide Ryan Hensler helped clear the vegetation and trash that impeded sanitation vehicles from serving the alley behind Limit Avenue in Idlewyld. The community sponsored a clean-up the following week. Organized by Diane Christopher, volunteers spent hours making the alley cleaner and more passable. Thanks to their efforts, trash and recycling collection has been restored in the alley behind 1304 to 1358 Limit Avenue.



LEFT-TURN SIGNALS INSTALLED AT TOWSON INTERSECTION

Motorists traveling east or west on Regester Avenue now have left-turn signals when they turn onto York Road. The signals should improve mobility and safety at a key intersection in the Anneslie/Rodgers Forge area. The left-turn arrows from eastbound and westbound Regester run at the same time.