



County Councilman David Marks Fifth District Newsletter

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Serving Towson, Loch Raven Village, Carney, the Oak Crest Community, Fullerton, Perry Hall, and Kingsville

MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMAN MARKS: NEW TOOLS NEEDED TO FIGHT CRIME

The most fundamental responsibility of local government is to protect its citizens. Baltimore County has a long and distinguished history of excellent law enforcement, and I am proud to have continually supported providing them with the resources to fight crime.

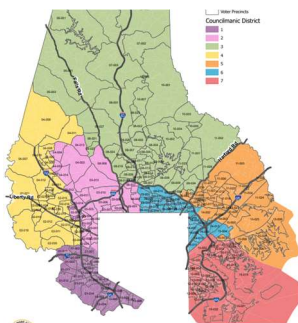
Unfortunately, [Baltimore County has experienced an unprecedented crime wave over the past several years.](#)

In 2019, the county more than doubled its homicide rate from 2018, and the violence has continued through last year.

The closure of Starbucks in the Loch Raven Boulevard corridor symbolizes the consequences of not addressing crime. Starbucks closed last October. For three months, I worked with community leaders to persuade Starbucks to reopen, but the company informed me in February that persistent crime convinced them to permanently shutter this location—a devastating blow to our efforts to revitalize this intersection.



We need more police and tougher strategies to reduce crime—but in this and other situations, we need the ability for police to work with surrounding businesses to reduce chronic public safety issues. [The proposed changes to Baltimore County's "padlock law" will require businesses with two public nuisance violations in two years to develop a public safety plan or face closure.](#) I support changes to make this apply to only the worst instances, but make no mistake—the Starbucks closure was completely avoidable and directly linked to the problems at nearby businesses with repeated crimes.



COUNCIL APPROVES REDISTRICTING

On March 24, following approval of a redistricting map by a federal judge, the Baltimore County Council approved new districts that will be in place from this year's election through 2034. Unlike Maryland's federal and state redistricting that are the subject of lawsuits, the districts were approved by a bipartisan vote and are compact and reflect traditional neighborhood boundaries. See the new map [here](#).

STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION TO REPAIR BELAIR ROAD

The Maryland State Highway Administration's contractor is working on two projects to repair sections of Belair Road:

- Along Belair Road from Chapel Road to Honeygo Boulevard, the state's contractor will be implementing pavement patching work with temporary lane closures on weekdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. This \$203,000 project will be complete in late April.
- Along Belair Road from Open Bible Way to north of the Little Gunpowder Falls at the Baltimore/Harford County line, the state's contractor will be milling pavement, and repairing and resurfacing the route. There will be temporary lane closures on weekdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. This \$1.1 million project will also be complete late April.

COUNCIL APPROVES LEGISLATION TO ALLOW PAPPAS SEAFOOD SHIPPING IN PERRY HALL

The Baltimore County Council approved legislation sponsored by Councilman Marks that will allow Pappas Seafood to open a 7,500-square foot distribution hub in Perry Hall, at the former site of ABC Rental.

The new facility at 8801 Belair Road will help the 50-year-old company ship tens of thousands of products around the world. It also rehabilitates a long-derelict property in the Perry Hall commercial revitalization district.

CHANGES MADE TO YARD MATERIALS COLLECTION

Beginning April 1, yard materials will be collected separately for recycling from Baltimore County residents with "Y" days on their schedule. These separate yard material collections will occur from April through as late as December 14. If a resident's schedule has no "Y" days, their yard materials will continue to be collected with trash year round.

Residents may view their schedule on the [Bureau of Solid Waste Management's website](#). Schedules can also be obtained through the County's BaltCoGo mobile app or by calling 410-887-2000.

New this year, revised County regulations require that yard materials set out for separate "Y" day collection **must be placed in heavy-duty paper lawn and leaf bags or bundled with non-plastic string**. For these set-outs, plastic bags will not be accepted. To assist with the transition to this new set-out rule, the County is providing a limited amount of paper yard material bags to residents at no cost. Paper bags are available for pick-up at all [County trash and recycling drop-off centers](#), all [Baltimore County Public Library branches](#) and all [county senior centers](#). The bags are limited to five per person and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Yard materials acceptable for recycling collection include grass, leaves, vines, twigs, shrubbery trimmings, branches and limbs. Branches and limbs will be collected only if they are no larger than 3 inches in diameter and no longer than 3 feet.

The yard materials collected on "Y" days will be composted into an earthy organic material to be used by Baltimore County agencies and residents.

FREE! PAPER LAWN BAGS FOR COUNTY RESIDENTS

Beginning April 1, 2022, the County will require all separate yard material collection to be placed in paper bags and will **no longer accept** plastic bags for yard waste.

The County will provide residents with paper yard material bags at no cost. Bags are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Limit to 5 bags per person.

AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT ALL COUNTY:

