

County Councilman David Marks Fifth District Newsletter



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MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMAN MARKS: CREATING A MORE PERFECT UNION

In July, we celebrate our nation's birthday. This year, we are having a national conversation about what America represents—and how it can better reflect that first, fundamental goal in the preamble of the United States Constitution—creating *a more perfect union*.

This conversation is occurring at all levels of government, and it means different things to different people. The starting point for many is law enforcement since the catalyst for many demonstrations was the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis on May 25th.

We trust our police officers with awesome power, and we expect them to use it responsibly. It is the standard by which I have seen countless law enforcement officers operate in my years of public service. Our police force must be as humane, inclusive, and reflective of our communities as possible—but it cannot be pared back so that we allow violent crime to flourish in our neighborhoods.

Building a more perfect union means, to many,

eliminating the disparities that exist in American society. At the local level, we have an opportunity to empower the most marginalized in the society—through access to jobs, better education, improved transportation, and other initiatives.



We have long strides to make in realizing that goal of building a more perfect union. I will continue to listen and do my best for all I represent.

David Marks

REPORT ILLEGAL FIREWORKS TO 911



In Baltimore County, it is legal to purchase and use some handheld and ground-based sparkler devices, which are non-aerial and non-explosive. [Any device that creates an explosion, detonation, or loud noise—or that launches a projectile or moves along the ground under its own power—is illegal in Baltimore County.](#) Violators who possess or discharge illegal fireworks are subject to a misdemeanor fine of up to \$250. To report suspected illegal use of fireworks, call 911.

COUNCILMAN MARKS ANNOUNCES EARLY ZONING RECOMMENDATIONS

This August, [the Baltimore County Council will vote on a new Comprehensive Zoning Map](#), which determines the type and density of development in Baltimore County. Here are those issues announced by Councilman Marks so far:

Preserving Open Space at Silver Ridge

[In late June, Councilman Marks held a meeting with residents of the Silver Ridge](#) condominiums who voiced concerns about the possible development of an area that begins on Darleigh Road and ends near Cottingham Road. Councilman Marks will recommend that the existing zoning be changed to “Neighborhood Commons,” blocking any development at the site.

Downzoning 147 acres in Northeastern Perry Hall
[Councilman Marks will recommend the downzoning of 147 acres in northeastern Perry Hall](#) near Perry Hall Road to limit development in one of the most rural areas of the community.

Downzoning Land Near Littlewood Road

[Councilman Marks is recommending the downzoning of land near Littlewood Road](#) to limit development in the Cromwood-Coventry neighborhood. Councilman Marks will recommend the 3.3 acres be downzoned to one home per acre.

Downzoning 96 Acres in Eastern Perry Hall

[Councilman Marks is recommending the downzoning 96 acres in eastern Perry Hall](#) to limit development. The 96 acres stretch from the Forge Acres neighborhood east to Interstate-95. It is currently zoned for two homes per acre but would change to one house per acre.

Downzoning 22 Acres Along East Joppa Road

[Councilman Marks will recommend the downzoning of 22 acres along East Joppa Road](#) to limit future development in the area. The zoning change affects an area stretching from Snyder Lane to Kilbride Road that was zoned for 5.5 homes per acre. The new designation will allow one house per acre.

Downzoning 12 Acres in Carney

[Councilman Marks will recommend the downzoning of 12 acres](#) of largely undeveloped land near the intersection of Harford Road and Northwind Road in Carney. The land will be rezoned to one home per acre.

Downzoning 95 acres on Silver Spring Road

[Councilman Marks will recommend the downzoning of more than 95 acres](#) along Silver Spring Road to limit future development.

DESIGN STANDARDS, WATER SHUTOFF AMONG LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Councilman Marks is working on several bills and resolutions for introduction this summer.

- A resolution to examine the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance to better ensure that new development does not overwhelm public schools;
- A bill to require that contractors provide better notice when water is shut off in warmer months—prompted by an incident that occurred in Seven Courts this summer;
- Better design standards for new commercial construction in Perry Hall and along the York Road corridor in southern Towson.

For more information, visit the Council’s Web Site at <https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/countycouncil/index.html>

