

County Councilman David Marks

Fifth District Newsletter

Volume 155
November 2023

Message from Councilman Marks

Understand the Comprehensive Zoning Map Process

This month, applications will close for Baltimore County's 2024 Comprehensive Zoning Map Process. It is very important that residents understand the timeline and significance of the CZMP.

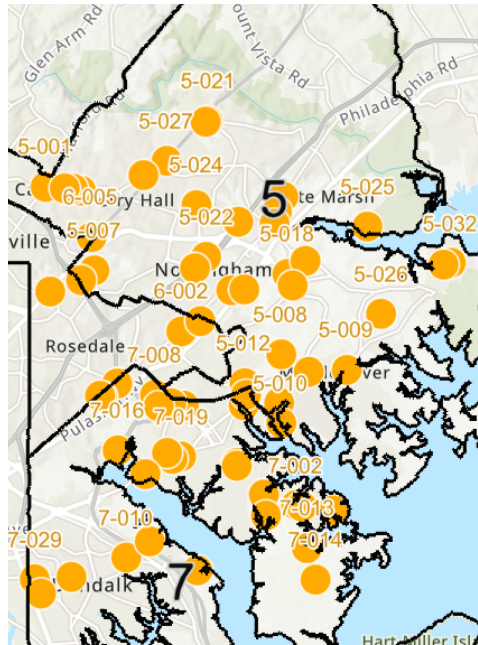
Every property in Baltimore County has a development potential. Once every four years, the Baltimore County Council has the ability to modify that potential through the Comprehensive Zoning Map Process.

This rezoning follows an exhaustive public input process that lasts for nearly a year. Private propertyowners, community organizations, Planning Board members, and Councilmembers have the ability to raise CZMP issues.

I take my role in the CZMP process very seriously. In 2012, [I sponsored legislation that created a new zoning category, Neighborhood Commons](#), so we could protect land as open space; since then, the NC designation has been applied to more than 4,000 acres throughout Baltimore County. [We have used rezoning to block overdevelopment and limit growth until new schools are built](#); in other cases, rezoning has been used to clear derelict properties and stimulate economic development.

Please visit the [Baltimore County CZMP portal](#) to learn about the issues raised in your community.

I also urge you to stay informed about opportunities to testify before the Planning Board and County Council. The Planning Board hearing is already set, for example, for Thursday, February 22 at 6 p.m. at Perry Hall High School (4601 Ebenezer Road). The County Council will hear testimony in late spring or early summer.



Serving the Eastside: Carney, Perry Hall, Kingsville, White Marsh, Chase, Bowleys Quarters, and Middle River

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Virtual Meeting Scheduled to Update Community on Traffic Circle

Councilman Marks has requested a community meeting to discuss the status of the traffic circle funded for Cross Road and Honeygo Boulevard. Join Councilman Marks and the Department of Public Works on Wednesday, November 15 at 5 p.m. for a virtual meeting. Join and participate in this meeting by [clicking here](#).

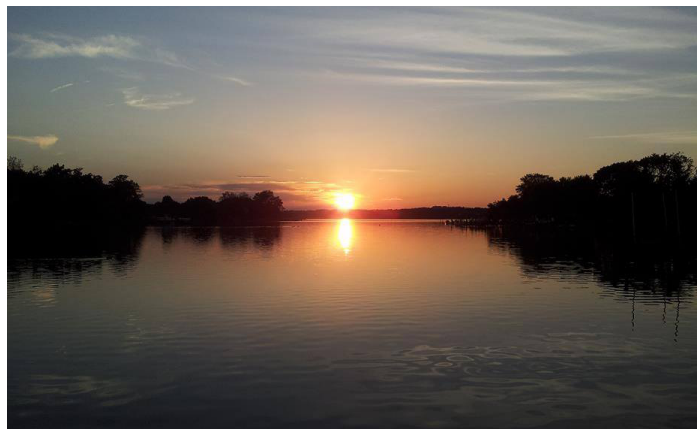
Grants Available to Improve Public Safety

The Baltimore County Police Department is now accepting applications for its Community Crime Prevention and Youth Activity Grants Program for fiscal year 2025 (July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025). Community Crime Prevention grants are available for Citizens on Patrol groups and other programs aimed at reducing crime in Baltimore County. Youth Activity Grants are available for programs that provide ongoing, sustained efforts focusing on early intervention and long-term behavior modification of at-risk youth.

Only non-profit groups, community organizations and individuals that operate in and provide programs for the benefit of Baltimore County citizens are eligible for funding. An application packet that outlines program rules and requirements may be obtained by calling Mr. Sebastian Zito of the Grants Management Team at (410) 887-5637. Completed applications must be received no later than 3 p.m. on Friday, December 15, 2023.

Bird River Cleanup Scheduled for November 4

The Bird River Watershed Restoration Campaign and nearby community organizations will be removing debris from the Bird River on Saturday, November 4 starting at 8 a.m. Join volunteers at 1216 Stumps Road; please wear waders if you have them. Contact jmart13106@gmail.com for more details. This is an excellent opportunity for young people to earn service hours and help improve the environment.



County Breaks Ground on Skatepark

On October 19, Baltimore County broke ground on the Hazelwood Skate Park, the county's second public skate bowl facility in a half-century. The park is designed for skateboarders—and those who bike, roller skate and ride scooters—of all skill levels, from novices to professionals. Expected to be completed in fall 2024, a significant portion of the property will remain wooded, ensuring the preservation of natural green space within the densely populated community. [Councilman Marks supported the formation of the Baltimore County Skateboard Council.](#)



Work Continues to Make the C.P. Crane Property Protected Parkland

Councilman Marks is working with local, state, and federal partners to protect the former C.P. Crane plant as open space. More than \$6 million has already been identified to buy the property for protected parkland. Even if public water were to be recommended for any part of this land, the negotiations have continued to a point where the site seems likely to be purchased by the county.

[Please view the video developed by Seneca Park community leaders.](#) Councilman Marks recently briefed the neighborhood on the status of negotiations.

