

COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

January 8, 2024, 7:00 pm

Public Access Virtual via live stream on the Town's Facebook and YouTube pages

- | | |
|--|--------|
| I. CALL TO ORDER | 1 min |
| II. OPENING PRAYER | 2 min |
| III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE | 1 min |
| IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA | 1 min |
| V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES | 2 min |
| i. December 11, 2023, Town Council Meeting Minutes | |
| VI. PRESENTATIONS | |
| Police Department Promotions – to Police Officer First Class | 5 min |
| - Colton Burnett | |
| - Tyrone Merritt | |
| - Benjamin Moon | |
| - Asia Thorton | 3 min |
| VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS | |
| Written comments can be submitted prior to the meeting. Comments can be submitted to
Clerk@BladensburgMD.gov | 5 min |
| VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS | |
| 1. Board of Election Supervisors Update | 10 min |
| IX. FINANCIAL BUSINESS | |
| 1. FY 2024 Budget Update | |
| X. NEW BUSINESS | |
| 1. APPROVAL OF MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE SESSION ITEMS | 15 min |
| 2. COMMUNITY LEADERS MEETING | 5 min |
| XI. STAFF REPORTS (3 minutes each) | |
| Treasurer; Public Safety & Code Enforcement; Town Clerk; Public Works; Town Administrator | |
| XII. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS (3 minutes each) | |
| Council Member Brown – Ward 1 | |
| Council Member Dixon – Ward 1 | |
| Council Member McBryde – Ward 2 | |
| Council Member Blount – Ward 2 | |
| Mayor James | |
| XIV. ADJOURNMENT | |

COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT
December 11, 2023, 7:00 pm

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor James called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Those in attendance were Council Members Blount, McBryde, Brown, and Dixon. Also in attendance were Code Supervisor Rinehart, Deputy Chief Dickerson, Treasurer Tinelli, and Town Administrator Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth.

II. OPENING PRAYER

CM Dixon gave the Opening Prayer.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CM Dixon led the Council and audience in the pledge of allegiance.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor James requested a motion to approve the meeting agenda. CM Blount motioned, and McBryde seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member Brown motioned to approve the November 13, 2023, minutes, which Council Member Blount seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

Mayor James and Deputy Chief Dickerson presided over the swearing-in of the two newest police officers (Joel Pichardo and Kraig Webb).

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- **Renee Green:** *Appeared on Zoom.* Ms. Green provided an overview of the Veterans Day Ceremony in November, the December 7th Pearl Harbor Memorial Ceremony, the Peace Cross Memorial Condition update, and the next patriotic event will be Memorial Day.
- **Susan McCutchen:** Announced the importance of the Port Towns Sector Plan, the construction of a new community center, and being involved in decisions around the town.
- **Nana Malia:** Talked about the recent closure of 52nd Ave and 48th Street and emphasized the need for proper signage on road closures throughout the town.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

IX. FINANCIAL BUSINESS

- A. **Budget Adjustment 4-2024:** Approval of a budget adjustment for expenses related to the Technical Assistance Panel, consulting services, and other related expenses for the Bostwick House project using ARPA funds (\$50,000).

Motion: CM Blount

Second: CM McBryde

Passed: 5-0

- B. **Budget Adjustment 5-2024:** Approval of a budget adjustment to add recently awarded CDBG PY 48 R Projects expenses. For \$290,000 for 57th Avenue Sidewalks/Paving and Bridge repairs projects.

Motion: CM Brown

Second: CM Dixon

Passed: 5-0

X. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Contract Approval 11-2024:** Approval of a budget adjustment for expenses related to the Technical Assistance Panel, consulting services, and other related expenses for the Bostwick House project using ARPA funds (\$50,000).

Motion: CM Brown

Second: CM Dixon

Passed: 5-0

- B. **Resolution 3-2024:** A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND GRANT PERMISSION TO THE CLEAN WATER PARTNERSHIP, AND ITS CONTRACTORS AND ASSIGNS, TO ALLOW ACCESS AND ENTRY TO MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES AND RIGHTS OF WAY WITHIN THE TOWN OF BLADENSBURG IN ORDER TO DESIGN, SURVEY, LOCATE UTILITIES, TEST SOIL, LOCATE & PLANT TREES, AND PERFORM OTHER DUTIES IN CONNECTION WITH INSTALLATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF URBAN STREET TREES.

Motion: CM McBryde

Second: CM Dixon

Passed: 5-0

- C. **Resolution 4-2024:** A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE PORT TOWN'S APPLICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING FOR THE STATE OF MARYLAND'S SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES RENEWAL APPLICATION AND PERMISSION TO ALLOW THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO ACT ON THE TOWNS BEHALF FOR SUBMISSION.

Motion: CM McBryde

Second: CM Dixon

Passed: 5-0

D. **Resolution 5-2024:** A RESOLUTION APPOINTING COUNCIL MEMBERS AND STAFF TO THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (COG) TO THE COG BOARDS AND POLICY COMMITTEES FOR THE 2024 CALENDAR YEAR.

- Reaching Forward Coalition- Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth, alternate Treasurer Tinelli
- Human Services Policies Committee- CM Blount, alternate CM Dixon
- Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy- Mayor James, alternate Town Administrator Bailey-Hedgepeth
- Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy- CM Brown, alternate CM Dixon
- Food and Agriculture Region Member Policy- CM McBryde, alternate CM Blount

Motion: CM Brown

Second: CM Dixon

Passed: 5-0

XI. **STAFF REPORTS**

- **Treasurer:** He noted this report was accessible and submitted online for review.
- **Public Safety:** Deputy Chief Dickerson provided his report on the Annapolis Rd Pedestrian Safety Matter during the work session
- **Code Enforcement:** Mr. Rhinehart announced the Annual Holiday Lights Contest for single-family homes, townhomes, apartments, and condominiums, with an award amount of \$100. Judging will take place before December 19th. Be sure to register if you want to be judged.
- **Public Works:** Mr. Hall was absent due to illness. However, the Town Administrator announced that three beautification specialists have been added to the public works team and that the team has been working hard on leaf collections and other projects. The Leaf Vacuum Season timeline is from November 27, 2023, to January 5, 2024. Mr. Hall submitted a written report to the Council on November activities.
- **Town Administrator:** She noted that her report was submitted as part of the packet; however, she mentioned that the Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk positions will be posted to the town website by the end of the month.

XII. **MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

- **Council Member Brown – Ward 1-** Working with Newton Green and the new resident manager on new lighting and security cameras system to improve security for the Town residents and occupants of Newton Green. Also provided an overview of the events that happened over the past few weeks. January 20th safety meeting will begin; check the newsletter for more information.
- **Council Member Dixon- Ward 1-** Thanked the Town Council, Police, and residents for the warm welcome for her election and provided an overview of the events that she participated in during her first days in office.

- **Council Member McBryde – Ward 2-** Provided an overview of the events that she participated in over the last month. The meal distribution specifically and the food hand-delivered to their doors at the Senior facilities.
- **Council Member Blount – Ward 2-** Thanked the staff and police officers for participating in the Senior Gathering. She also mentioned that the Department of Recreation is collecting toiletries for the homeless being collected at the Bladensburg Recreation Center.
- **Mayor James-** Her written report will be accessible online. The library opening was wonderful in November, and she wished everyone a happy holiday season.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor James requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM.

Motion: CM Brown

Second: CM McBryde

Passed: 5-0



Agenda Item Summary Report

Meeting Date:
January 8, 2023

Submitted by:
Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth, Town Administrator

Item Title:

Board of Election Supervisors Update

Work Session Item [X]
Council Meeting Item [X]

Documentation Attached:
BOES Agenda – January 2024
Attachments

Recommended Action:

Update only. No action is needed.

The Board of Elections Supervisor met online on January 3, 2024, at 3:30 PM. The meeting agenda and video have been uploaded to the Town's website.

As part of the meeting, BOES discussed the following items

- Review of materials provided by College Park Clerk
- Next Steps for the BOES with timeline and workplan

The Board will continue to meet monthly and more frequently closer to the election. A summary memo has been attached for Council review.

The Town Administrator will be able to answer any questions at this meeting.

Budgeted Item: Yes [] No [X]
Budgeted Amount: \$ NA
One-Time Cost: NA
Ongoing Cost:

Continued Date:

Council Priority: Yes [] No []

Approved Date:

**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
BOARD OF ELECTIONS SUPERVISORS
MEETING AGENDA
January 3, 2024 at 3:30 PM**

MEETING IS ALL VIRTUAL VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Please contact the Town Clerk at clerk@bladensburgmd.gov or at 301-927-7048 if you would like the virtual meeting link.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes – November 1, 2023 & December 6, 2023
- III. Review of Internal Procedures from College Park, Maryland
 - 1. Processing the application
 - 2. Receiving, scanning, and securing ballots
 - 3. Application Collection Log
 - 4. Ballot Collection Log
 - 5. Collection from ballot boxes and PO Boxes
 - 6. Election Manual
 - 7. Ballot Oath Envelop
 - 8. Election Return Envelop
- IV. Staff Updates
- V. Board Member General Discussion
- VI. Next Meeting Date
- VII. Adjournment

Memo

To: Town of Bladensburg Council

From: Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth, Town Administrator

Date: January 4, 2023

Re: Staff Update – BOES January Meeting

Introduction: The BOES met on January 3, 2024, to review the materials that were provided to staff from the City of College Park. The Board members asked for a timeline on the process and the breakdown of tasks.

Summary: As part of the inquiry with the City of College Park, the following documents were provided to the Board Members to review.

1. Processing the application
2. Receiving, scanning, and securing ballots
3. Application Collection Log
4. Ballot Collection Log
5. Collection from ballot boxes and PO Boxes
6. Election Manual
7. Ballot Oath Envelop
8. Election Return Envelop

As part of this meeting, the Board inquired about the timeline and the need for clarifications of duties:

- Staff provided a rough timeline that process documents should be drafted by the summer of 2024 and completed by the Fall of 2024.
- The Board should also adopt and review the candidate materials and handbook by January 2025.
- As a deliverable for the next meeting on February 21, 2024, Town Staff will provide an overview document with a draft timeline and try to assemble an initial draft process document for the Board to review.

The Town Administrator will be available to answer questions about this matter.



Agenda Item Summary Report

Meeting Date:
January 8, 2023

Submitted by:
Vito Tinelli, Treasurer

Item Title:

FY 2024 Budget Update

Work Session Item [X]
Council Meeting Item [X]

Documentation Attached:
Treasurer Reports
Tax Differential

Recommended Action:

Update only. No action is needed.

Mr. Tinelli will briefly update the Council on the town budget from July to November 2023. The staff has also attached information regarding the most recent tax differential.

The Town Treasurer will be able to answer any questions at this meeting.

Budgeted Item: Yes [] No [X]
Budgeted Amount: \$ NA
One-Time Cost: NA
Ongoing Cost:

Continued Date:

Council Priority: Yes [] No []

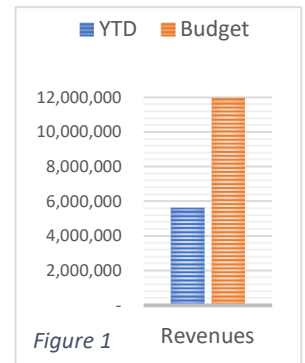
Approved Date:

Treasurer's Report – for November FY24

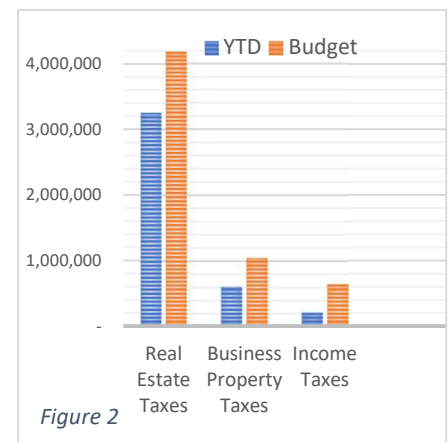
January 8, 2024 Mayor and Council Meeting

Please see the financial highlights through November as we get closer to the halfway point in our fiscal year. December financials are still being compiled as we are still receiving and booking expenses through the second week of January.

Revenues: The Town has received almost half of the budgeted revenues through November (see Figure 1). The most noteworthy revenue activities are detailed below:



- Tax Collections – The majority of real estate taxes have been received but we will see the balance come in slowly over the remainder of the fiscal year (see Figure 2). Business property tax assessments continue to increase and we should see another large bump come the April and June filing deadlines. Income tax revenues are generated from the extended filings of personal and business tax returns and have increased since last year. This really is a timing issue of when returns are filed which can cross over into the next fiscal year.
- American Rescue Plan Act (Federal) Funding - The Town has expended \$720K through November to assist residents with rental assistance, business assistance, food assistance, and to offset salary costs. Revenues realized here are to offset these expenses and transferred into our operating account. Please refer to the ARPA Dashboard in the expenditures section for more detailed information of how these funds are helping serve the Town and the community.
- Automated Traffic Enforcement – The program has generated \$470K in paid traffic citations through November. Since its inception a year ago, we have received \$1.8M which has funded almost \$1.4M of Public Safety expenditures. The difference, or fund balance, is held separately from our operations account since it can only be used for Public Safety purposes. ARPA funds are treated in the similar matter since these are a separate funds as well.

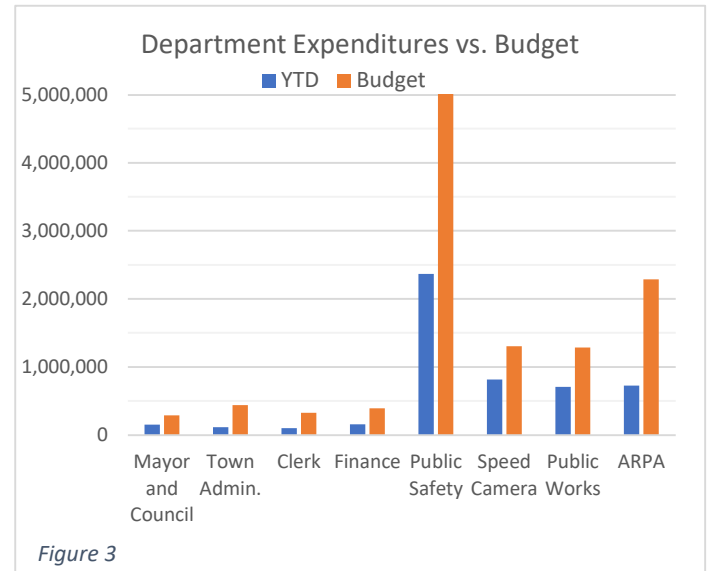


- Other Revenues – The main highlight here is we have earned almost \$200K of interest through November because of the higher interest rate market. This is for interest earned on our funds invested in the Maryland Local Government Investment Pool which holds our operating, ARPA, and Speed Camera funds which are all carrying large fund balances.
- Total Revenues – The Town has received \$5.6M of the budgeted \$12M in revenues through November. In comparison to last year, we are at a very similar point through this time.

Expenses – We have expended 43% of the budget through November. Department financials are attached (see Figure 3) along with a combined revenue and expense statement.

- Mayor and Council is operating ahead of budget due to our Community Events which are very busy these first few months. These include the July 4th Fireworks, Senior Gathering, BladeFest, and the Haunting of Town Hall. We also advanced the volunteer fire department their full funding instead of doing quarterly installments.

- The Administrative departments which are the smallest, include the Town Administrator, Finance, and Clerk and represent 10% of the Town's budget have only expended a third of their combined funds.
- Public Safety being our largest department has over 50% of the Town's budget. This is mostly within budget through November but the largest increase is the overtime. We have had a few officers on leave which required additional overtime to backfill the shifts. Workers compensation insurance has also come in higher than expected.
- Speed Camera funds - \$800K has been expended with three-quarters of this or \$600K for capital items. These included new mobile data stations for our police cruisers, mobile security and reconnaissance towers and remote cameras which are placed at hot spots throughout the town. Several vehicles have been also purchased to upgrade our fleet.



- Public Works is operating above budget largely for the emergency repairs to excavate and replace an underground sewer line behind our Town Hall building. This required flooring work as well and we used this opportunity to upgrade the floors in the Police Department and Town Hall. We expended \$215K of our Highway User Funds for the milling and asphalt overlay of 57th Ave and spent another \$40K of capital items such as a crosswalk lining machine under Highway User expenses. These were all budgeted over the full year but happened all within the first few months of the fiscal year.
- ARPA – Please refer to the attached ARPA statement and more importantly, the dashboard of fiscal year and cumulative activity. Since this program started well over a year ago, we have expended \$3.6M or almost three-quarters of the funds allocated to the Town. Half of these funds were used for direct community assistance, a quarter for compensation, and the balance for capital purchases and other items. We have until December 2024 to fully expend these funds.

Other Items

- We requested from the State additional time to complete the FY23 audit which should be completed in the next two weeks.
- We contracted with a company to automate our accounts payable process. This is needed since our workflow has greatly increased as our budget has almost doubled over the couple years while administrative staffing has remained the same. They can also process payments directly to vendors. This will dramatically cut down the amount of paper traded constantly back and forth and time expended on expense approvals, printing, stuffing, and mailing of checks.

Please contact myself or Christina Daves in our Finance Office if you should have any questions and have a Happy New Year. Thank you.

Vito Tinelli

Town Treasurer

vtinelli@bladensburgmd.gov

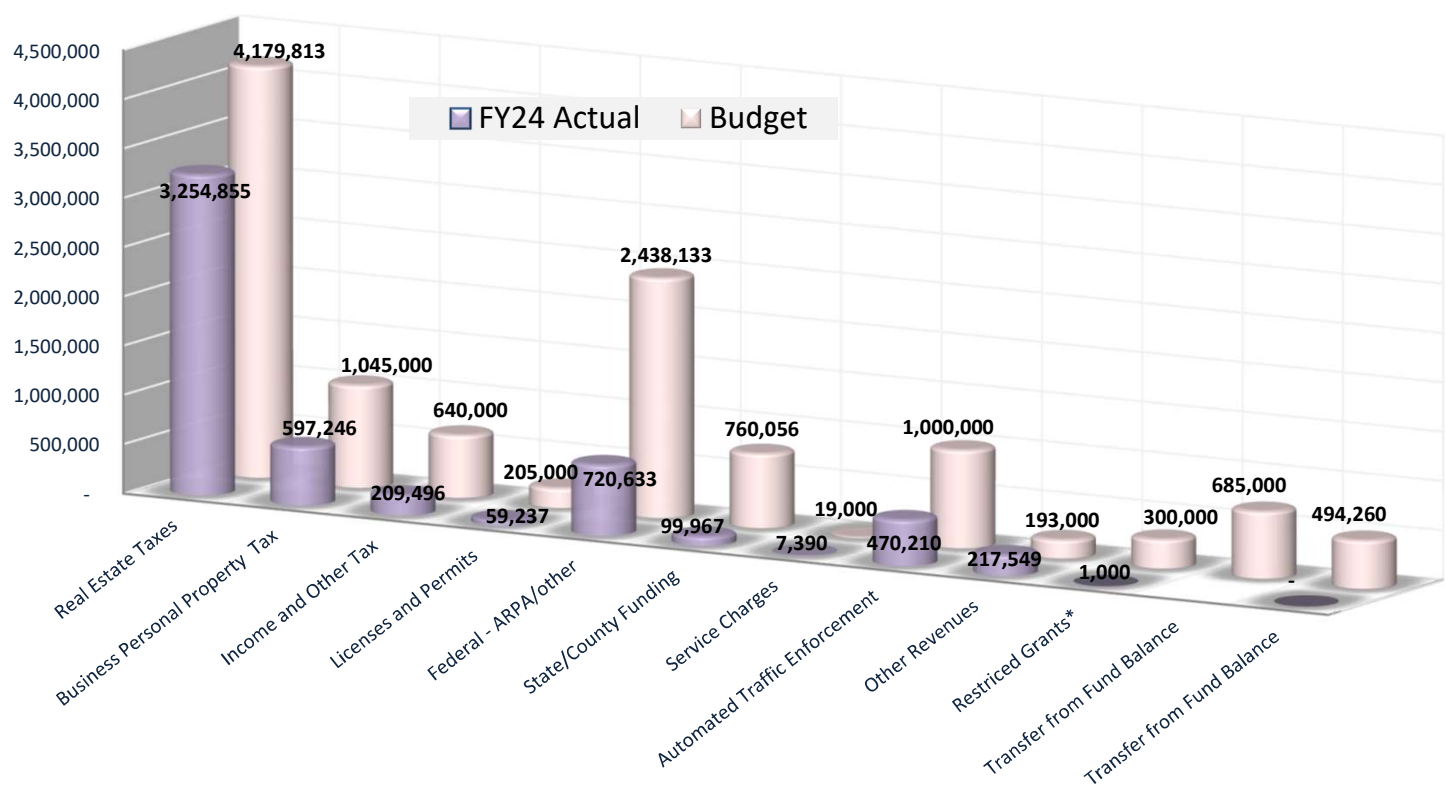
Table 1. Town of Bladensburg Financial Summary

Nov-23

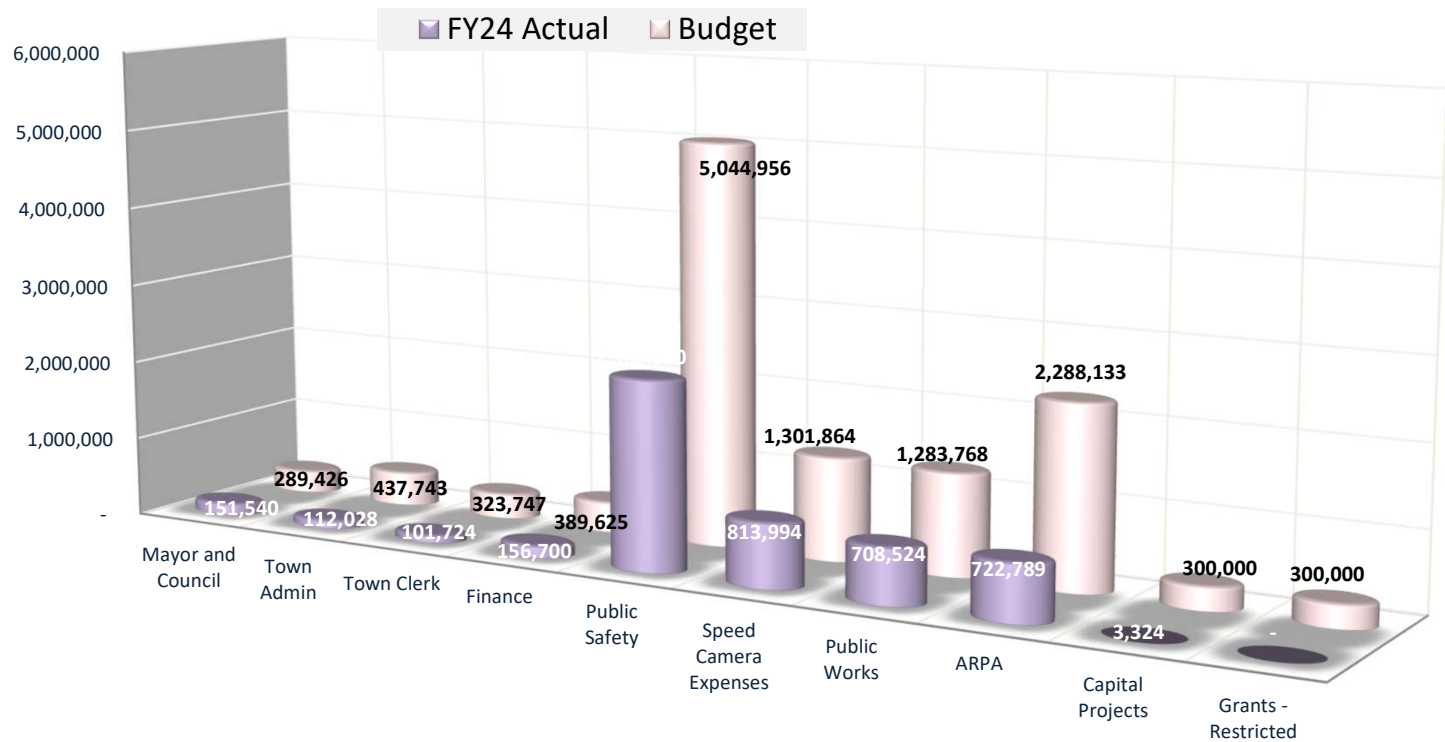
Financial Summary	FY24 Nov YTD	Budget	Variance	Last Year Nov YTD	Change since last year
Revenues					
Property Tax	3,254,855	4,179,813	78%	3,203,135	2%
Personal Property Tax	597,246	1,045,000	57%	896,124	-33%
Income and Other Tax	209,496	640,000	33%	185,551	13%
Licenses and Permits	59,237	205,000	29%	50,077	18%
Federal funding - ARPA	720,633	2,438,133	30%	1,026,696	-30%
State and County Funding	99,967	760,056	13%	103,674	
Service Charges	7,390	19,000	39%	11,718	-37%
Automated Traffic Enforce.	470,210	1,000,000	47%	-	
Other Revenues	217,549	193,000	113%	111,005	96%
Restricted Grants	1,000	300,000	0%	9,000	-89%
Speed Camera Transfer		685,000			
Fund Balance Transfer	-	494,260	0%	-	
Total Revenues	5,637,583	11,959,262	47%	5,596,980	1%
Expenses by Dept.					
Mayor and Council	151,540	289,426	52%	111,867	35%
Town Administrator	112,028	437,743	26%	4,869	2201%
Town Clerk	101,724	323,747	31%	127,683	-20%
Finance	156,700	389,625	40%	144,865	8%
Public Safety	2,368,300	5,044,956	47%	1,997,776	19%
Speed Camera Expenses	813,994	1,301,864	63%	51	
Public Works	708,524	1,283,768	55%	417,295	70%
ARPA Projects	722,789	2,288,133	32%	1,030,731	-30%
Grants	-	300,000	0%	3,000	
Capital Projects	3,324	300,000		-	
Total Expenses	5,138,923	11,959,262	43%	3,838,137	34%
Surplus / (Deficit)	498,660	-		1,758,843	-72%

Interim Financials, Subject to Change

November FY24 Revenues vs Budget



November FY24 Expenditures vs Budget by Department



2:01 PM
01/04/24
Accrual Basis

Town of Bladensburg
Mayor and Council FY24
July through November 2023

	<u>Jul - Nov 23</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Expense			
6000 · Compensation			
6010 · Regular Pay	18,092	60,008	30%
6030 · FICA	1,306	4,591	28%
6040 · Health Insurance	13,575	40,468	34%
6050 · Pension	2,500	6,559	38%
6060 · Workers Comp		2,000	
Total 6000 · Compensation	35,474	113,626	31%
6140 · Professional Development			
6145 · Council Business Development	9,856	22,000	45%
Total 6140 · Professional Development	9,856	22,000	45%
6160 · Employee Recognition	3,712	8,000	46%
6210 · Council Projects		2,500	
6225 · Community Grants			
6226 · Fire Department Donation	30,000	30,000	100%
6227 · Scholarships		5,000	
6225 · Community Grants - Other		12,000	
Total 6225 · Community Grants	30,000	47,000	64%
6230 · Community Events	50,415	66,000	76%
6235 · Senior Citizen Projects	4,500	4,500	100%
6255 · Town Meetings	5,699	5,000	114%
6320 · Wireless Communications	400	4,800	8%
6550 · Insurance - Liability	681	3,000	23%
6825 · Membership	10,803	13,000	83%
Total Expense	151,540	289,426	52%
Net Ordinary Income	-151,540	-289,426	52%
Net Income	-151,540	-289,426	52%

Town of Bladensburg
Town Administrator FY24
July through November 2023

	<u>Jul - Nov 23</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Expense			
6000 · Compensation			
6010 · Regular Pay	57,696	150,613	38%
6030 · FICA	4,382	11,522	38%
6040 · Health Insurance	11,578	14,686	79%
6050 · Pension		16,462	
6060 · Workers Comp		500	
	<u>73,656</u>	<u>193,783</u>	<u>38%</u>
Total 6000 · Compensation			
6110 · Tuition Reimbursement		1,000	
6140 · Professional Development	1,174	4,000	29%
6260 · Transportation	14,291	60,000	24%
6320 · Wireless Communications	330	960	34%
6560 · Legal	4,960	40,000	12%
6580 · Contractual Services	10,000	100,000	10%
6810 · Advertising	6,617	30,000	22%
6820 · Website		4,000	
6825 · Membership		1,000	
6835 · Travel	1,000	3,000	33%
	<u>112,028</u>	<u>437,743</u>	<u>26%</u>
Total Expense			
Net Ordinary Income	-112,028	-437,743	26%
Net Income	<u>-112,028</u>	<u>-437,743</u>	<u>26%</u>

2:02 PM
01/04/24
Accrual Basis

Town of Bladensburg
Town Clerk FY24
July through November 2023

	<u>Jul - Nov 23</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Expense			
6000 · Compensation			
6010 · Regular Pay	65,014	203,803	32%
6020 · Overtime	3,424	3,000	114%
6030 · FICA	5,236	15,820	33%
6040 · Health Insurance	5,692	22,574	25%
6050 · Pension	7,500	24,728	30%
6060 · Workers Comp		500	
Total 6000 · Compensation	86,865	270,425	32%
6110 · Tuition Reimbursement		2,000	
6140 · Professional Development		3,000	
6240 · Memorials		2,000	
6270 · Historic Promotion		2,402	
6320 · Wireless Communications	160	1,920	8%
6460 · Software Contract		10,000	
6570 · Equipment Lease	2,751	5,000	55%
6825 · Membership		500	
6835 · Travel	51	1,500	3%
6850 · Office Supplies	2,956	8,000	37%
6855 · Postage	1,458	2,000	73%
6880 · Election Costs	5,597	8,000	70%
6890 · Utilities	1,886	7,000	27%
Total Expense	101,724	323,747	31%
Net Ordinary Income	-101,724	-323,747	31%
Net Income	<u>-101,724</u>	<u>-323,747</u>	<u>31%</u>

Town of Bladensburg
Finance FY24
July through November 2023

	<u>Jul - Nov 23</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Expense			
6000 · Compensation			
6010 · Regular Pay	83,162	198,468	42%
6020 · Overtime	113	1,000	11%
6030 · FICA	6,347	15,259	42%
6040 · Health Insurance	4,645	10,067	46%
6050 · Pension	12,139	24,871	49%
6060 · Workers Comp		500	
Total 6000 · Compensation	106,406	250,165	43%
6110 · Tuition Reimbursement		2,000	
6140 · Professional Development	275	2,000	14%
6150 · Payroll Service	2,414	6,000	40%
6320 · Wireless Communications	80	960	8%
6460 · Software Contract	36	2,000	2%
6510 · Audit	7,000	17,000	41%
6520 · Bank Charges	2,192	5,000	44%
6530 · Bad Debts		6,000	
6550 · Insurance - Liability	3,937	10,000	39%
6825 · Membership		500	
6835 · Travel	229	1,000	23%
Total Expense	122,569	302,625	41%
Net Ordinary Income	-122,569	-302,625	41%
Other Income/Expense			
Other Expense			
6950 · Debt Service	34,131	87,000	39%
Total Other Expense	34,131	87,000	39%
Net Other Income	-34,131	-87,000	39%
Net Income	-156,700	-389,625	40%

2:05 PM
01/04/24
Accrual Basis

Town of Bladensburg
Public Safety FY24
July through November 2023

	<u>Jul - Nov 23</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Expense			
6000 · Compensation			
6010 · Regular Pay	1,216,610	2,727,440	45%
6020 · Overtime	236,045	272,744	87%
6030 · FICA	108,293	229,514	47%
6040 · Health Insurance	245,413	584,108	42%
6050 · Pension	145,000	354,650	41%
6060 · Workers Comp	130,000	250,000	52%
Total 6000 · Compensation	2,081,362	4,418,456	47%
6110 · Tuition Reimbursement		20,000	
6130 · Recruitment	9,013	16,000	56%
6140 · Professional Development	21,232	35,000	61%
6160 · Employee Recognition	1,374	4,000	34%
6230 · Community Events	11,911	20,000	60%
6310 · Telephone	19,305	27,000	72%
6320 · Wireless Communications	18,650	40,000	47%
6350 · Internet Access	2,579	7,000	37%
6360 · Data Fees	371	2,000	19%
6440 · IT Support	21,100	42,000	50%
6460 · Software Contract	10,883	20,000	54%
6545 · Insurance - Auto	23,601	50,000	47%
6550 · Insurance - Liability	14,712	55,000	27%
6570 · Equipment Lease	6,565	9,000	73%
6580 · Contractual Services	9,605	15,000	64%
6620 · Fuel	56,245	100,000	56%
6640 · Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance	17,159	40,000	43%
6650 · Vehicle Body Repairs	5,439	30,000	18%
6670 · Equipment Maintenance	180	3,000	6%
6680 · Weapon Repairs and Supplies	3,275	20,000	16%
6825 · Membership	1,822	1,500	121%
6835 · Travel	4,394	5,000	88%
6850 · Office Supplies	3,981	15,000	27%
6855 · Postage	429	3,000	14%
6865 · Supplies	18,280	20,000	91%
6885 · Finger Printing	428	1,000	43%
6890 · Utilities	4,401	26,000	17%
Total Expense	2,368,300	5,044,956	47%

Interim Financials, Subject to Change

4:18 PM

01/04/24

Accrual Basis

Town of Bladensburg
Automated Traffic Enforcement Fund FY24
July through November 2023

	<u>Jul - Nov 23</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Expense			
6000 · Compensation		362,863	
6120 · Uniforms	36,449	62,000	59%
6330 · Communications Contracts		38,000	
6570 · Equipment Lease	24,822		
6580 · Contractual Services	3,300	50,000	7%
6590 · Automated Traffic Enforcement	137,982	100,000	138%
6680 · Weapon Repairs and Supplies	1,397	3,000	47%
Total Expense	<u>203,950</u>	<u>615,863</u>	<u>33%</u>
Net Ordinary Income	-203,950	-615,863	33%
Other Income/Expense			
Other Expense			
6970 · Capital Outlay	610,044	686,000	89%
Total Other Expense	<u>610,044</u>	<u>686,000</u>	<u>89%</u>
Net Other Income	<u>-610,044</u>	<u>-686,000</u>	<u>89%</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-813,994</u></u>	<u><u>-1,301,863</u></u>	<u><u>63%</u></u>

Town of Bladensburg
Automated Traffic Enforcement Cumulative Activity
 July 2022 through November 2023

	<u>Jul '22 - Nov 23</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4700 · Service Charges	
4770 · Automated Traffic Enforcement	<u>1,797,506</u>
Total 4700 · Service Charges	<u>1,797,506</u>
Total Income	<u>1,797,506</u>
Gross Profit	1,797,506
Expense	
6120 · Uniforms	50,090
6140 · Professional Development	12,145
6160 · Employee Recognition	8,317
6230 · Community Events	3,500
6420 · Computer Expense	7,561
6460 · Software Contract	30,545
6570 · Equipment Lease	31,702
6580 · Contractual Services	28,050
6590 · Automated Traffic Enforcement	246,011
6680 · Weapon Repairs and Supplies	1,397
6860 · Shop Supplies	1,423
6865 · Supplies	<u>5,320</u>
Total Expense	<u>426,060</u>
Net Ordinary Income	1,371,446
Other Income/Expense	
Other Expense	
6970 · Capital Outlay	<u>985,504</u>
Total Other Expense	<u>985,504</u>
Net Other Income	<u>-985,504</u>
Net Income	<u><u>385,942</u></u>

Town of Bladensburg
Public Works FY24
July through November 2023

	<u>Jul - Nov 23</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Expense			
6000 · Compensation			
6010 · Regular Pay	117,340	318,158	37%
6020 · Overtime	5,984	10,000	60%
6030 · FICA	9,361	25,104	37%
6040 · Health Insurance	26,128	69,282	38%
6050 · Pension	12,500	39,224	32%
6060 · Workers Comp	15,000	35,000	43%
Total 6000 · Compensation	186,313	496,768	38%
6110 · Tuition Reimbursement		3,500	
6120 · Uniforms	536	3,000	18%
6140 · Professional Development		2,000	
6350 · Internet Access	866	3,000	29%
6620 · Fuel	8,827	20,000	44%
6640 · Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance	6,065	20,000	30%
6670 · Equipment Maintenance	1,515	10,000	15%
6710 · Building Maintenance	62,751	50,000	126%
6720 · Grounds Maintenance	13,396	30,000	45%
6740 · Street Lights	21,091	50,000	42%
6750 · Sanitation Contract	122,842	300,000	41%
6760 · Landfill Fees	3,676	16,000	23%
6770 · Building Supplies	5,876	10,000	59%
6790 · Janitorial Services	12,083	30,000	40%
6835 · Travel	90	500	18%
6860 · Shop Supplies	56	3,000	2%
6890 · Utilities	7,638	28,000	27%
Total Expense	453,623	1,075,768	42%
Net Ordinary Income	-453,623	-1,075,768	42%
Other Income/Expense			
Other Expense			
6970 · Capital Outlay			
6975 · Capital Outlay - Seized Funds			
6979 · Highway User Projects	215,195	150,000	143%
6970 · Capital Outlay - Other	39,706	58,000	68%
Total 6970 · Capital Outlay	254,901	208,000	123%
Total Other Expense	254,901	208,000	123%
Net Other Income	-254,901	-208,000	123%
Net Income	-708,524	-1,283,768	55%

Town of Bladensburg
ARPA FY24
July through November 2023

	<u>Jul - Nov 23</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Expense			
6000 · Compensation			
6010 · Regular Pay	231,715	617,422	38%
6020 · Overtime	39,132	49,543	79%
6030 · FICA	20,766	51,022	41%
6040 · Health Insurance		20,975	
6060 · Workers Comp		3,171	
Total 6000 · Compensation	291,613	742,133	39%
6120 · Uniforms		3,000	
6220 · Community Initiatives			
6221 · Housing Assistance	317,067	500,000	63%
6222 · Business/Non-Profit Assistance	6,000	250,000	2%
6223 · Food Assistance	51,265	50,000	103%
6224 · Monitoring	891	20,000	4%
Total 6220 · Community Initiatives	375,223	820,000	46%
6235 · Senior Citizen Projects	3,000	3,000	100%
6420 · Computer Expense	12,168	20,000	61%
6580 · Contractual Services	36,913	50,000	74%
6720 · Grounds Maintenance	1,120	50,000	2%
6865 · Supplies	2,752	25,000	11%
Total Expense	722,789	1,713,133	42%
Net Ordinary Income	-722,789	-1,713,133	42%
Other Income/Expense			
Other Expense			
6970 · Capital Outlay			
6972 · Long Term Capital Projects		500,000	
6970 · Capital Outlay - Other		75,000	
Total 6970 · Capital Outlay		575,000	
Total Other Expense		575,000	
Net Other Income		-575,000	
Net Income	-722,789	-2,288,133	32%

ARPA Cumulative Expense Summary

as of: 12/31/2023

Summary	FY22	FY23	FY24	Total Expended
Compensation	94,840	528,436	344,213	967,489
Community Asst				-
Rental/Mortgage	138,633	1,052,465	427,644	1,618,742
Business/Non Profit		44,485	12,000	56,485
Food Assistance		17,308	51,265	68,573
Monitoring			891	891
Trauma Kits		46,919		46,919
Computer	31,521	24,831	13,850	70,202
Grounds Maintenance			1,120	1,120
Capital - Police	49,331	234,048		283,379
Capital - Other		378,117		378,117
Contractual	11,969	29,492	48,421	89,882
Senior Buildings		3,000	3,000	6,000
Supplies	18,058	-	-	18,058
Public Works Equipment	-	-	2,752	2,752

<u>Cumulative Program Expense all years</u>		
967,489	27%	Total Compensation
1,815,668	50%	Total Assistance
661,496	18%	Total Capital
163,956	5%	Total Other
3,608,609	100%	

ARPA Totals	344,352	2,359,101	905,156	3,608,609	73%
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Total Award	4,933,972	
Interest Earned (passed to General Fund, not part of ARPA funds)	170,486	
Cumulative Expended	3,608,609	73%
Balance of Funds Remaining as of December 31, 2023	1,325,363	27%

FY24 Only

	FY24 Budget	FY24 Expenses	FY24 Budget Balance Only
Compensation	742,133	344,213	397,920
Community Asst			-
Rental/Mortgage	500,000	427,644	72,356
Business/Non Profit	250,000	12,000	238,000
Food Assistance	50,000	51,265	(1,265)
Monitoring	20,000	891	19,109
			-
Computer	20,000	13,850	6,150
Ground Maint.	50,000	1,120	48,880
Capital - Other	575,000	2,752	572,248
Contractual	50,000	48,421	1,579
Senior Buildings	3,000	3,000	-
Supplies	28,000	-	28,000
	2,288,133	905,156	1,382,977

Town of Bladensburg
FY24 Actuals vs. Budget
July through November 2023

	<u>Jul - Nov 23</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4000 · Property Taxes			
4020 · Real Estate Taxes	3,254,855	4,179,813	78%
4040 · Business Personal Property Tax	597,246	1,045,000	57%
Total 4000 · Property Taxes	3,852,101	5,224,813	74%
4100 · Income Tax	203,280	600,000	34%
4200 · Other Local Taxes			
4220 · Admissions and Amusement Tax	6,216	40,000	16%
Total 4200 · Other Local Taxes	6,216	40,000	16%
4300 · Licenses and Permits			
4310 · Local Business Licenses	18,355	80,000	23%
4320 · County Traders License	462	15,000	3%
4340 · Building and Occupancy Permits	155		
4370 · Cable Franchise Fees	39,903	110,000	36%
4300 · Licenses and Permits - Other	362		
Total 4300 · Licenses and Permits	59,237	205,000	29%
4400 · Federal Funding			
4410 · Federal Earmark		150,000	
4400 · Federal Funding - Other	720,632	2,288,133	31%
Total 4400 · Federal Funding	720,632	2,438,133	30%
4500 · State Funding			
4510 · Highway User Revenues	29,772	285,200	10%
4520 · Police Aid	70,195	300,000	23%
4550 · Bond Bill		150,000	
Total 4500 · State Funding	99,967	735,200	14%
4600 · County Funding			
4620 · County Disposal Fee Rebate		22,484	
4640 · Bank Stock		2,372	
Total 4600 · County Funding		24,856	
4700 · Service Charges			
4720 · Local Fines/Fees	7,120	15,000	47%
4730 · Copier Fees	270	3,000	9%
4740 · Fingerprinting		1,000	
4770 · Automated Traffic Enforcement	470,210	1,000,000	47%
Total 4700 · Service Charges	477,600	1,019,000	47%

Town of Bladensburg
FY24 Actuals vs. Budget
July through November 2023

	Jul - Nov 23	Budget	% of Budget
4800 · Other Revenues			
4810 · Insurance Reimbursement	500	60,000	1%
4820 · Bus Shelter Advertising		2,000	
4830 · Property Rental	17,500	42,000	42%
4840 · Vehicle Deployment	2,850	7,000	41%
4870 · Misc. Revenues	6,652	2,000	333%
4880 · Interest Earned	190,047	80,000	238%
Total 4800 · Other Revenues	217,549	193,000	113%
4900 · Restricted Revenues			
4950 · Community Legacy - Restricted		290,000	
4960 · CDBG Construction Grant			
4970 · Other Grants	1,000		100%
4900 · Restricted Revenues - Other		10,000	
Total 4900 · Restricted Revenues	1,000	300,000	0%
4998 · Transfer from Speed Camera Fund		684,999	
4999 · Transfer from Fund Balance		494,260	
Total Income	5,637,583	11,959,261	47%
Gross Profit	5,637,583	11,959,261	47%
Expense			
6000 · Compensation			
6010 · Regular Pay	1,789,630	4,529,227	40%
6020 · Overtime	284,699	365,488	78%
6030 · FICA	155,690	374,445	42%
6040 · Health Insurance	307,031	796,725	39%
6050 · Pension	179,639	487,640	37%
6060 · Workers Comp	145,000	294,694	49%
Total 6000 · Compensation	2,861,689	6,848,219	42%
6110 · Tuition Reimbursement		28,500	
6120 · Uniforms	36,984	68,000	54%
6130 · Recruitment	9,013	16,000	56%
6140 · Professional Development			
6145 · Council Business Development	9,856	22,000	45%
6140 · Professional Development - Other	22,682	46,000	49%
Total 6140 · Professional Development	32,538	68,000	48%
6150 · Payroll Service	2,414	6,000	40%
6160 · Employee Recognition	5,087	12,000	42%
6210 · Council Projects		2,500	

Town of Bladensburg
FY24 Actuals vs. Budget
July through November 2023

	<u>Jul - Nov 23</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
6220 · Community Initiatives			
6221 · Housing Assistance	317,067	500,000	63%
6222 · Business/Non-Profit Assistance	6,000	250,000	2%
6223 · Food Assistance	51,265	50,000	103%
6224 · Monitoring	891	20,000	4%
Total 6220 · Community Initiatives	375,223	820,000	46%
6225 · Community Grants			
6226 · Fire Department Donation	30,000	30,000	100%
6227 · Scholarships		5,000	
6225 · Community Grants - Other		12,000	
Total 6225 · Community Grants	30,000	47,000	64%
6230 · Community Events	62,326	86,000	72%
6235 · Senior Citizen Projects	7,500	7,500	100%
6240 · Memorials		2,000	
6255 · Town Meetings	5,699	5,000	114%
6260 · Transportation	14,291	60,000	24%
6270 · Historic Promotion		2,402	
6310 · Telephone	19,305	27,000	72%
6320 · Wireless Communications	19,620	48,640	40%
6330 · Communications Contracts		38,000	
6350 · Internet Access	3,445	10,000	34%
6360 · Data Fees	371	2,000	19%
6420 · Computer Expense	12,168	20,000	61%
6440 · IT Support	21,100	42,000	50%
6460 · Software Contract	10,919	32,000	34%
6510 · Audit	7,000	17,000	41%
6520 · Bank Charges	2,192	5,000	44%
6530 · Bad Debts		6,000	
6545 · Insurance - Auto	23,601	50,000	47%
6550 · Insurance - Liability	19,330	68,000	28%
6560 · Legal	4,960	40,000	12%
6570 · Equipment Lease	34,138	14,000	244%
6580 · Contractual Services	59,818	215,000	28%
6590 · Automated Traffic Enforcement	137,982	100,000	138%
6620 · Fuel	65,072	120,000	54%
6640 · Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance	23,225	60,000	39%
6650 · Vehicle Body Repairs	5,439	30,000	18%
6670 · Equipment Maintenance	1,695	13,000	13%
6680 · Weapon Repairs and Supplies	4,672	23,000	20%
6710 · Building Maintenance	62,751	50,000	126%
6720 · Grounds Maintenance	14,516	80,000	18%
6740 · Street Lights	21,091	50,000	42%
6750 · Sanitation Contract	122,842	300,000	41%
6760 · Landfill Fees	3,676	16,000	23%
6770 · Building Supplies	5,876	10,000	59%

Town of Bladensburg
FY24 Actuals vs. Budget
July through November 2023

	Jul - Nov 23	Budget	% of Budget
6790 · Janitorial Services	12,083	30,000	40%
6810 · Advertising	6,617	30,000	22%
6820 · Website		4,000	
6825 · Membership	12,625	16,500	77%
6835 · Travel	5,764	11,000	52%
6850 · Office Supplies	6,938	23,000	30%
6855 · Postage	1,887	5,000	38%
6860 · Shop Supplies	56	3,000	2%
6865 · Supplies	21,032	45,000	47%
6880 · Election Costs	5,597	8,000	70%
6885 · Finger Printing	428	1,000	43%
6890 · Utilities	13,925	61,000	23%
6900 · Grants - Restricted			
6930 · CDBG		290,000	
6900 · Grants - Restricted - Other		10,000	
Total 6900 · Grants - Restricted		300,000	
Total Expense	4,236,523	10,103,261	42%
Net Ordinary Income	1,401,061	1,856,000	75%
Other Income/Expense			
Other Expense			
6950 · Debt Service	34,131	87,000	39%
6970 · Capital Outlay			
6972 · Long Term Capital Projects	3,324	800,000	0%
6975 · Capital Outlay - Seized Funds			
6979 · Highway User Projects	215,195	150,000	143%
6970 · Capital Outlay - Other	649,750	819,000	79%
Total 6970 · Capital Outlay	868,269	1,769,000	49%
Total Other Expense	902,400	1,856,000	49%
Net Other Income	-902,400	-1,856,000	49%
Net Income	498,660		100%



Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

December 19, 2023

The Honorable Takisha D. James
Mayor
Town of Bladensburg
4229 Edmonston Road
Bladensburg, MD 20710

Dear Mayor James:

Thank you for submitting your FY 2025 Municipal Tax Differential Request. The Office of Management and Budget has reviewed your submission and supporting documentation. As a result, your application is accepted as submitted with the following modification:

Human Services – Housing and Community Development

The Town requested a tax differential of 100% for Human Services - Housing and Community Development; 20-percentage points above the level received in FY 2024. Based on the information provided, the County has determined that the Town qualifies for an 80% tax differential, because it does not have a separate unit dedicated to this function in its budget.

Community Safety – Volunteer Fire

The Town requested a tax differential of 40% for Community Safety – Volunteer Fire, the same level received in FY 2024. According to the scale for services and the Town's donation, the County has determined that the tax differential for volunteer fire support will be set at 70%. This change from prior years reflects the modification by the Tax Differential Task Force in 2023 which set the credit at a percentage of real property tax revenues relative to County spending for volunteer fire services.

Wayne K. Curry Administration Building, 1301 McCormick Drive, Largo, MD 20774
(301) 952-3300

www.princegeorgescountymd.gov



The Honorable Takisha D. James
December 19, 2023
Page 2

A spreadsheet is enclosed which summarizes the Town of Bladensburg's original tax differential submission and the County's decisions. We appreciate your cooperation throughout this process. Please feel free to contact Ms. Shanai Jordan via email at srjordan@co.pg.md.us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stanley A. Earley', written in a cursive style.

Stanley A. Earley
Director

Enclosure

cc: Shanai Jordan, Budget Management Analyst
David Juppe, Revenue and Legislation Manager

Municipal Tax Differential

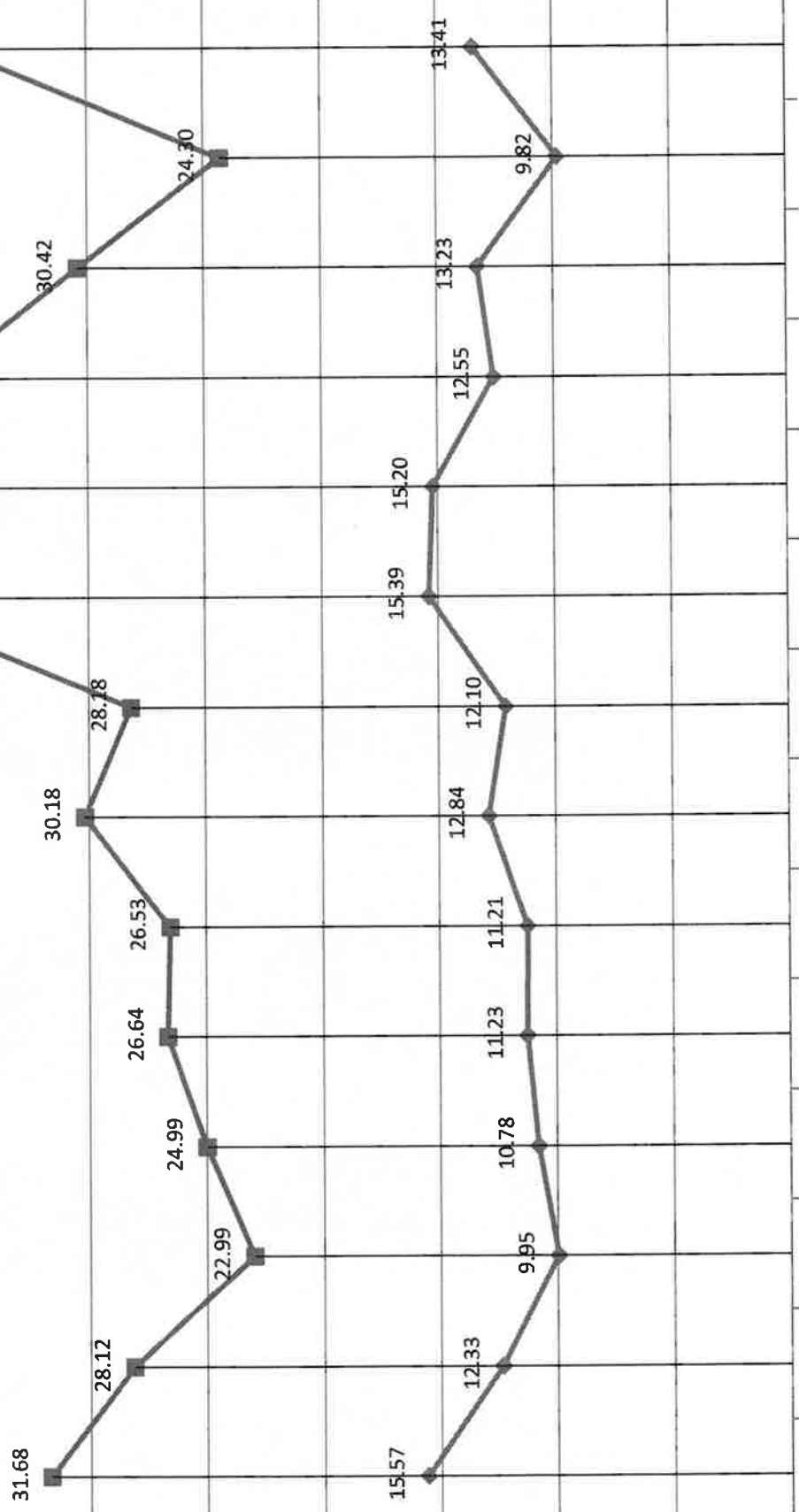
Town of Bladensburg

Service Area	FY 2024 Decision	FY 2025 Request	FY 2025 Decision	County			
				County Real Property Tax Rate Equivalent (Cents)	Personal Property Tax Rate Equivalent (Cents)	Municipal Tax Differential (Real)	Municipal Tax Differential (Personal)
Public Works/Inspections							
Engineering	80%	80%	80%	0.04	0.11	0.03	0.09
Public Works Vehicles	0%	100%	100%	2.40	6.37	2.40	6.37
Human Services							
Youth Services	NA	100%	100%	0.04	0.09	0.04	0.09
Housing and Community Development	80%	100%	80%	0.34	0.91	0.27	0.73
Homeland Security - Public Safety Communications							
Police Dispatch	100%	100%	100%	0.13	0.34	0.13	0.34
Community Safety - Police							
Patrol Services	100%	100%	100%	7.46	19.82	7.46	19.82
Administration	100%	100%	100%	2.02	5.37	2.02	5.37
Crossing Guards	NA	0%	0%	0.12	0.32	0.00	0.00
Police Vehicles	100%	100%	100%	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
Fire Department							
Administrative Services	0%	0%	0%	0.69	1.84	0.00	0.00
Emergency Operations	0%	0%	0%	7.50	19.95	0.00	0.00
Debt	0%	0%	0%	0.64	1.70	0.00	0.00
Volunteer Fire	40%	40%	70%	0.97	2.58	0.68	1.81
Environmental Services							
Animal Management	80%	80%	80%	0.40	1.08	0.32	0.86
Animal Management Vehicles	0%	0%	0%	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00
Education/Library							
Library	0%	0%	0%	1.14	3.03	0.00	0.00
Debt	0%	0%	0%	0.45	1.19	0.00	0.00
Non-Departmental							
Street Lighting/Traffic Control	70%	70%	70%	0.08	0.20	0.06	0.14
Total				24.43	64.93	13.41	35.63

	County Equivalent				Bladensburg Differential	
	Real	Business Property			Real Estate	Business Property
FY12	27.72	56.40	56%	56%	15.57	31.68
FY13	23.16	52.80	53%	53%	12.33	28.12
FY14	21.67	50.08	46%	46%	9.95	22.99
FY15	22.28	51.64	48%	48%	10.78	24.99
FY16	23.69	56.23	47%	47%	11.23	26.64
FY17	24.79	58.69	45%	45%	11.21	26.53
FY18	24.03	56.47	53%	53%	12.84	30.18
FY19	26.20	61.07	46%	46%	12.10	28.18
FY20	26.83	68.91	57%	57%	15.39	39.55
FY21	26.64	72.28	57%	57%	15.20	41.24
FY22	25.02	72.70	50%	50%	12.55	36.47
FY23	23.49	54.03	56%	56%	13.23	30.42
FY24	22.28	55.09	44%	44%	9.82	24.30
FY25	24.43	64.93	55%	55%	13.41	35.63

History of Town Tax Differential Rate

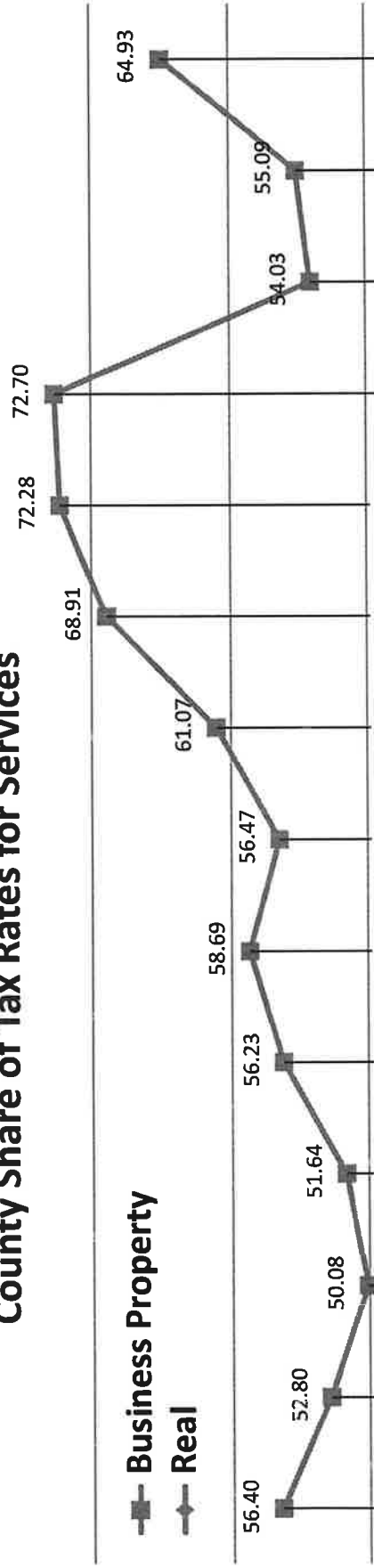
◆ Real Estate
■ Business Property



FY12 FY13 FY14 FY15 FY16 FY17 FY18 FY19 FY20 FY21 FY22 FY23 FY24 FY25

County Share of Tax Rates for Services

■ Business Property
◆ Real



County Business Property Tax Rate: \$2.50

Their share of business taxes to fund

County Services

County Real Estate Tax Rate: \$1.00

Their share of property taxes to

fund County services

FY12 FY13 FY14 FY15 FY16 FY17 FY18 FY19 FY20 FY21 FY22 FY23 FY24 FY25



Agenda Item Summary Report

Meeting Date:
January 8, 2023

Submitted by:
Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth, Town Administrator

Item Title:

APPROVAL OF MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE SESSION ITEMS

Work Session Item [X]
Council Meeting Item [X]

Documentation Attached:
Draft Legislative Bill List
Public Safety Information

Recommended Action:

Staff requests the Council's direction, input, and comments on legislative items to monitor, review, and provide support or opposition during the 2024 State Legislative Session.

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE LIST: As part of the Work Session, Tony Perez will be presenting an overview for the Council on Legislative Items of note for the 2024 Maryland Legislative Session. The staff has made some draft notes for the Council to review on items of interest.

PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION: Mayor James provided a handout as part of her December 2023 Report and she is seeking Council Input on these items.

The Town Administrator will be able to answer any questions at this meeting.

Budgeted Item: Yes [] No [X]
Budgeted Amount: \$ NA
One-Time Cost: NA
Ongoing Cost:

Continued Date:

Council Priority: Yes [] No []

Approved Date:

Bill#	Title/Purpose/Impact	Legislative Sponsor	Current Status	Council's Position
101-24	PG/MC Bi-County: FOR the purpose of expanding the Connection Pipe Emergency Replacement Loan Program to include certain sewer pipes and diagnostic actions; altering the maximum amount of a loan that may be made under the Program; altering the total amount of loans that the Program may provide or have outstanding; altering the amount of funding and fiscal years for which the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission must include funding for the Program in the Commission's budget; and generally relating to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission Connection Pipe Emergency Replacement Loan Program.			NA
102-24	PG/MC Bi-County: PG/MC Bi-County/ Conclusion: Bill PG/MC 102-24 presents a focused approach to addressing speeding violations on Maryland Route 210. While the enhanced penalties may contribute to improved road safety and revenue generation, careful consideration should be given to potential impacts on drivers, particularly in terms of financial burden and the risk of disproportionately affecting certain communities. Balancing the need for traffic safety with the potential consequences for individuals will be essential in evaluating the overall effectiveness of the proposed amendments.			Watch - NA
103-24	PG/MC Bi-County Conclusion: Bill PG/MC 103-24 aims to streamline and enhance the functioning of the Washington Suburban Transit Commission. While the proposed reforms offer potential benefits such as improved representation and flexibility, concerns exist regarding the potential concentration of power and the impact on local representation. Striking a balance between efficiency and oversight will be crucial in evaluating the overall impact of these proposed changes. PG/MC Bi-County Pros:			Watch - NA
105-24	1. Local Decision-Making: Enables the municipal corporation to make decisions tailored to its specific needs and priorities. 2. Streamlined Processes: Potential for more efficient and responsive land use processes within the municipal corporation. 3. Empowerment: Empowers local authorities to take charge of certain land use decisions, fostering community involvement. Cons: 1. Fragmentation: Could lead to a fragmentation of land use decisions, potentially conflicting with the broader county-wide planning. 2. Uniformity Challenges: Ensuring consistency with the county zoning law might pose challenges, impacting the uniformity of land use regulations.			Watch - Support

106-24	<p>PG/MC Bi-County Pros:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.Fairness in Zoning: Aims to ensure fairness in zoning decisions by allowing the district council to review certain matters.2.Local Control: Grants the district council authority to adopt and amend zoning law procedures, allowing for more local control.3.Expiration of Approvals: Introduces a provision for the expiration of approvals, preventing indefinite validity. <p>Cons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.Review Limitations: The bill places limitations on the matters that the district council can review, ensuring it aligns with its jurisdiction.2.Zoning Amendment Restrictions: Limits the district council from amending certain aspects of zoning laws for specific properties. <p>Tax Implications: The bill doesn't explicitly mention tax implications. However, changes in zoning and land use regulations could indirectly impact property values, potentially affecting property taxes.</p>			Watch - Support
107-24	<p>PG/MC Bi-County Pros:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.Community Input: If at least 25% of the residents, landowners, or businesses in the impact area oppose a development, the district council may require a CBA. This provision emphasizes community input in the development process.2.Enforcement: The district council is mandated to enforce a CBA, ensuring that developers adhere to the agreed-upon terms.3.Legal Recourse: Residents have the right to bring civil action against developers for violating the terms of a CBA. Damages may include up to three times the number of actual damages, reasonable attorney's fees, and court costs. <p>Cons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.Potential Development Delays: Requiring CBAs may introduce additional negotiation processes, potentially leading to delays in development approvals.2.Subjectivity in Opposition: The bill relies on a subjective measure (25% opposition) to trigger CBA negotiations, which might lead to disputes over the validity of opposition claims.			Watch - Neutral

110-24	<p>PG/MC Bi-County Local Effect Pros:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Streamlined Recordation: Allowing the Clerk to accept a subdivision plat signed by one party may streamline the recordation process, potentially reducing administrative burdens. 2.Digital Recordation: The option to draw, record, and maintain plats in electronic form aligns with modern practices, providing a more efficient and accessible record-keeping system. <p>Cons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Limited Information: The bill does not provide detailed information on the specific requirements or standards for electronic recordation, leaving room for ambiguity. 			NA
111-24	<p>PG/MC Bi-County Pros:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Flexibility in Approval: Tentative approval allows for flexibility in the subdivision process. The Planning Board can approve plats conditionally, providing an opportunity for developers to address specific requirements or concerns. 2.Efficiency: The bill streamlines the approval process by allowing tentative approval without the need for the plat to be filed or recorded immediately. This can expedite the initial stages of development. 3.Post-Completion Process: If all specified conditions are met, the bill eliminates the need for a post-completion hearing before final approval and submission to the land records, potentially saving time and resources. <p>Cons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Lack of Transparency: Tentative approval without entry on the subdivision plat may lead to a lack of transparency for residents and other stakeholders who review these plats. They might not be aware of the specific conditions attached to the approval. 2.Potential Challenges in Enforcement: Ensuring that all specified conditions are met before final approval and submission is essential. The effectiveness of the process depends on robust enforcement mechanisms. 			Watch - Neutral

112-24	<p>PG/MC Bi-County Public Representation: The People's Counsel aims to represent the public interest, providing a voice for residents in land use planning proceedings.</p> <p>2.Fairness: The People's Counsel is mandated to ensure fairness to populations that may have been traditionally underrepresented in the land use planning process, fostering equity in decision-making.</p> <p>3. Transparency: The requirement for a complete public record in land use proceedings enhances transparency, making information accessible to the community.</p> <p>Cons:</p> <p>1.Potential Funding Challenges: The bill requires adequate funding for the People's Counsel, and the approval process involves the County Council. Funding challenges may impact the effective functioning of the People's Counsel.</p> <p>2.Limitation on Representation: The People's Counsel is restricted from representing private individuals or interest groups, which may limit advocacy for specific community concerns.</p> <p>Tax Implications: While the bill does not directly address tax implications, the allocation of funding for the People's Counsel could indirectly impact county budgets and tax allocations.</p>		Watch - Neutral
113-24	<p>PG/MC Bi-County Pros:</p> <p>1.Traffic Flow: Regulating the means of access for loading and service vehicles can contribute to smoother traffic flow, especially in areas with commercial activities.</p> <p>2.Pedestrian Safety: Ensuring that access for commercial vehicles does not obstruct pedestrian routes enhances safety for pedestrians.</p> <p>3.Focused Transportation Plans: The bill specifies that transportation plans should focus on the layout of the transportation network, preventing congestion, and maintaining a clear framework for development.</p> <p>Cons:</p> <p>1.Operational Limitations: Prohibiting transportation operational considerations in land use plans may limit the ability to address dynamic transportation issues and plan for future needs.</p> <p>2.Flexibility Concerns: The strict limitations on what can be included in transportation plans may reduce the flexibility of planners to adapt to changing circumstances or emerging technologies.</p>		Watch - Neutral

115-24	<p>PG/MC Bi-County Pros:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Preservation of Airport Zoning: The bill aims to maintain the designated use of certain properties as airports, preventing amendments that could compromise aviation-related activities or infrastructure. 2.Protecting Residential-Agricultural Zones: By restricting zoning changes in residential-agricultural zones, the bill supports the preservation of these areas for agricultural and residential purposes. <p>Cons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Limitation on Zoning Flexibility: The bill imposes a restriction on the ability of the district council to make zoning amendments, potentially limiting their flexibility to adapt zoning regulations to changing needs or circumstances. 2.Impact on Development: Prohibiting certain types of dwelling uses on airport property may limit the potential for mixed-use development or repurposing of underutilized areas. 			NA
402-24	<p>PG/ County Affairs Pros:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Promotion of Innovation: The creation of the Independent Innovation Agency signifies a commitment to promoting innovation and technology within Prince George's County, potentially attracting businesses and talent focused on these areas. Economic Development: The bill may contribute to economic development by creating an environment conducive to the growth of technology startups and innovative businesses, potentially leading to job creation and increased economic opportunities. Venture Capital Fund: The establishment of the Prince George's County Venture Capital Fund provides a dedicated source of funding for technology startups, supporting the growth of local businesses and fostering a culture of entrepreneurship. <p>Cons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Financial Responsibility: The bill implies a financial commitment from the State and the County to finance the agency and its activities. Some may argue that these funds could be allocated to other pressing needs. Limited Detail on Workgroups: While the bill mentions the establishment of workgroups to conduct specific tasks, it lacks detailed information on their composition, roles, and responsibilities, which may lead to ambiguity in their functioning 			Watch - Support

403-24	<p>PG/ County Affairs Pros:</p> <p>1.Community Involvement: The bill encourages community involvement by requiring the consideration of comments from the board of directors of the district corporation. This ensures that local perspectives are taken into account before any commercial property is sold.</p> <p>2.Preemptive Right: Granting the district corporation a preemptive right to purchase the commercial property underscores the commitment to prioritize local entities in property transactions, potentially fostering economic development that aligns with community interests.</p> <p>Cons:</p> <p>1.Potential Delays: The requirement for notification and consideration of comments from the district corporation may introduce additional steps in the property sale process, potentially leading to delays. This could impact the efficiency of commercial property transactions.</p> <p>2.Limited Flexibility: While the preemptive right for the district corporation is intended to protect local interests, some may argue that it limits flexibility in property transactions and may discourage outside investment.</p>			Watch - Neutral (more information)
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409-24	<p>PG/ County Affairs 1.Community Representation: The bill ensures diverse representation by including members from the Prince George's County Senate Delegation, House Delegation, County Council, local businesses, health practitioners, and relevant organizations. This diversity ensures a comprehensive and inclusive approach to health and wellness issues.</p> <p>2.Holistic Health Approach: The Workgroup is tasked with reviewing the availability of health and wellness practices, integrative health programs, and healthy eating options. This comprehensive approach acknowledges the interconnectedness of various factors contributing to overall community health.</p> <p>3.Program Recommendations: By making recommendations for best practices in health and wellness community programming, the Workgroup aims to enhance access to healthy food options, promote physical activity, and reduce the density of unhealthy food outlets. This could positively impact public health outcomes.</p> <p>4.Employer and Business Incentives: The bill suggests making recommendations for incentives to employers, businesses, and county agencies to promote health and wellness strategies. This encourages the private sector to actively contribute to community health initiatives.</p> <p>Cons:</p> <p>1.Short-Term Duration: The bill specifies a two-year duration for the Workgroup, with automatic abrogation at the end of June 30, 2026. This short-term approach might limit the Workgroup's ability to implement and assess the effectiveness of long-term health strategies.</p> <p>Tax Implications: The bill does not explicitly mention tax implications. However, if the Workgroup's recommendations include incentive programs, there could be tax-related considerations for businesses and employers.</p>			Watch - Support
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410-24	<p>PG/ County Affairs Pros:</p> <p>1.Accessibility for Disabled Drivers: The bill maintains the provision that requires retail service station dealers to provide fueling service at the self-service price to disabled drivers who display a disabled person's registration plate or parking permit. This ensures accessibility for individuals with disabilities.</p> <p>2.Expanded Service Hours: By mandating fueling service between 6:00 a.m. and midnight, the bill enhances convenience for customers who may require assistance during a broader range of hours, improving overall service accessibility.</p> <p>Cons:</p> <p>1.Limited Exemptions: While the bill includes exemptions for certain types of retail service station dealers, such as those with remotely controlled dispensing equipment, some critics argue that these exemptions may limit the effectiveness of the proposed requirements.</p> <p>2.Potential Operational Challenges: Retail service station dealers may face operational challenges in implementing the mandated fueling service, especially during peak hours. This could lead to increased operational costs and potential resistance from dealers</p>		Watch - Support
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301-24	<p>PG/ Law Enforcement PROS:</p> <p>1.Enhanced Traffic Safety: The use of traffic control device monitoring systems can contribute to improved traffic safety by discouraging violations such as running red lights or disregarding other traffic signals.</p> <p>2.Efficient Law Enforcement: Automated monitoring systems provide a more efficient means of enforcing traffic regulations, allowing law enforcement to focus on other critical tasks.</p> <p>3.Civil Penalties: The bill introduces civil penalties for violations recorded by monitoring systems, providing a financial deterrent against unsafe driving practices.</p> <p>4.Admissible Evidence: The bill establishes the admissibility of recorded images from monitoring systems in legal proceedings, streamlining the enforcement process.</p> <p>5.Local Control: The authorization of monitoring systems is subject to local law, giving the community and local authorities control over their implementation.</p> <p>Cons:</p> <p>1.Privacy Concerns: Critics argue that the use of monitoring systems raises privacy concerns, as it involves the collection and recording of images of vehicles and drivers.</p> <p>2.Contestability: While the bill outlines defenses against alleged violations, there may be concerns about the accuracy of monitoring systems and the ability of drivers to contest citations effectively.</p> <p>Tax Implications: The bill does not explicitly address tax implications. However, it may indirectly impact municipal finances through civil penalties and associated administrative costs.</p>			Watch - Support
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302-24	<p>PG/ Law Enforcement Enhanced School Security: The installation of metal detectors can contribute to enhanced security measures in public high schools, providing a potential deterrent to the introduction of weapons onto school premises.</p> <p>2.Quick Response to Fiscal Concerns: The bill includes a specific appropriation of \$100,000 for the Program in fiscal year 2025. This allocation addresses initial implementation costs and demonstrates a commitment to funding the initiative.</p> <p>3.Timely Implementation: By setting a deadline for the installation of metal detectors, the bill ensures a timely implementation of the Program, addressing security concerns in a relatively short timeframe.</p> <p>Cons:</p> <p>1.Financial Limitations: The allocated budget of \$100,000 for the Program may be insufficient to cover the complete installation and maintenance costs across all public high schools in the county.</p> <p>2.Sustainability: The bill specifies a two-year period for the Program, and it is set to be abrogated at the end of June 30, 2026, without provisions for its continuation. This raises concerns about the long-term sustainability of the metal detector initiative.</p> <p>Tax and Budget Concerns: The bill's fiscal impact is evident in the \$100,000 appropriation for fiscal year 2025. However, concerns may arise regarding the long-term financial implications of maintaining and operating metal detectors beyond the initial funding period.</p>			Watch - Support
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303-24	<p>PG/ Law Enforcement Pros:</p> <p>1.Economic Boost: The bill could contribute to the local economy by fostering the growth of cigar lounges, potentially attracting patrons and creating job opportunities.</p> <p>2.Exemption from Clean Indoor Air Act: The bill exempts businesses operating under this license from certain Clean Indoor Air Act restrictions, providing flexibility for cigar lounges to establish designated smoking areas.</p> <p>3.License Fee: With an annual license fee of \$900, the bill could generate revenue for the county.</p> <p>Cons:</p> <p>1.Public Health Concerns: Exempting cigar lounges from the Clean Indoor Air Act raises concerns about the potential impact on public health due to exposure to secondhand smoke.</p> <p>2.Distance Restrictions Exclusion: The bill excludes Class B-CL (Cigar Lounge) from certain distance restrictions, potentially leading to an increased concentration of such establishments in proximity to places of worship and schools.</p>			Watch - Oppose
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<p>304-24</p>	<p>FC/LAW ENFORCEMENT PROS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Support for Nonprofit Organizations: The bill opens the door for independent nonprofit organizations to obtain a Class C (fraternal/sororal/service organization) alcoholic beverages license. This can be a significant benefit for these organizations, providing them with an additional avenue for fundraising and community engagement. 2.Community Building: By allowing nonprofit organizations to hold a license, the bill encourages community-building activities within the county. Social gatherings in these organizations' facilities can foster a sense of camaraderie and mutual support among members. <p>Cons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Potential for Increased Alcohol Consumption: Critics argue that providing more establishments with alcohol licenses may lead to increased alcohol consumption. This could potentially result in public health concerns, such as alcohol-related accidents or incidents. 2.Enforcement Challenges: Regulating alcohol sales in nonprofit organizations may pose challenges for local authorities. Ensuring compliance with licensing regulations and preventing abuse of these licenses may require additional resources. <p>Budget Implications:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Revenue Generation: The introduction of additional licenses could contribute to increased revenue for the county through licensing fees and taxes on alcohol sales. 2.Enforcement Costs: The county may need to allocate resources for enforcement and monitoring to ensure that nonprofit organizations adhere to the regulations outlined in the bill. 			<p>Watch - Neutral</p>
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501-24	PG/ Education Pros:			Watch - Neutral
	1.Enhanced Efficiency: A comprehensive study will allow for a thorough assessment of potential locations, considering factors such as accessibility, central location, and proximity to public transportation. This could lead to the identification of a more strategically located headquarters, enhancing the overall efficiency of the school system's operations.			
	2.Financial Planning: The financial analysis included in the study is a proactive approach to estimating costs associated with the relocation. This allows for better financial planning, ensuring transparency and accountability in the allocation of funds for land acquisition, construction, and outfitting of the new headquarters.			
	Cons:			
	1.Financial Burden on the County Council: The County Council is required to cover the cost of the study. Critics may argue that this could place an additional financial burden on the county, especially if the study recommends an expensive relocation plan.			
	2.Potential Disruption: The relocation of a central administrative office can disrupt normal operations and may lead to challenges in the short term			

Senator Malcolm Augustine

2024 Legislative Constituent Memorandum

November 4th, 2023 – Leadership Breakfast

Amend SB696 - Prince George's County Gateway Development Authority

Amend to include the removal of blighted properties, assessment of streetscapes, penalizing owners who fail to maintain properties, façade improvements, Port Town redevelopment, and overall quality of life. Add the Prince George's County Revenue Authority as administrator.

Service Year Option for Seniors

This legislation would be modeled after the current service year option but geared towards senior citizens 65+

Circuit Rider Program

This legislation would increase awareness and funding for the Circuit Rider Program – expansion. The fund would provide a 50% match in funding up to \$50,000 for communities under 10,000 residents to hire a professional administrator/manager.

Small Business Development

The office is working with the Department of Commerce discussing effective ways to ensure small businesses prosper in District 47.

Neighborhood/Civic Association Funding

The office is working with DHCD on options for implementing a fund on the state level in support of these organizations.

Housing Security Assistance for Seniors

The office is working with the Department of Housing and Community Development on options for assisting seniors with staying in their homes

Electric Vehicles

The office is looking into room for improvement with electric vehicles. Specifically, the Town of Brentwood's request to introduce funding/programs that support underserved/low-income families purchase electric vehicles.

Additional Legislative Priorities

- Annual Behavioral Health Wellness Visits – Mental Health
- Photographs on Disabled Placards – Vehicle
- Statewide Electronics Recycling Program
- Extension/Permanent Funding of the 988 Program
- Third Party Retail Energy Supplier Reformation
- State Board of Examiners in Optometry Licensing Reform
- EUSP/MEAP Energy Assistance Program
- * Automatic Admissions for the Top 10% to MD institutions of higher learning
- Crisis hotline number placement on student ID cards beginning with 6th graders.
- MD Metro Funding Act of 2024
- Administration of Vaccines – Pharmacists
- Elderly Financial Exploitation Protections

Colleague Support

A number of constituents reached out about legislation regarding artificial intelligence and the Comprehensive Flood Management Grant Program. Senator Augustine spoke with the sponsors, Senator Washington and Senator Hester, and will support their efforts in passing this in the 2024 Legislative Session. Senator Augustine will also be supporting the 2-man crew legislation sponsored by Senator Ellis.

- Reduction of food deserts in the state
- Smarter commercial development for underserved districts
- Support of pollinator-friendly zones and projects
- Smarter gun laws that target criminals and not responsible firearm owners
- Ban the sale of assault rifles (AR-15, AR Pistols, Heavy Barrel (HB) rifles, etc.)
- Create and fund a permanent state program that offsets the cost of childcare, which is unaffordable to all but the very wealthy, and improves the wages/standard of living for childcare workers (examples: New Mexico, Vermont). Our state should be leading on this, not lagging behind; and
- Additional financial support and incentives for minority owned cannabis related businesses.
- Speed control measures for State Roads (i.e. Riggs Road)
- Additional support for safe pedestrians and bicyclists (i.e. additional sidewalks and bike lanes) state-wide
- Litter control around the state
- Vegetation control & beautification efforts along state roads
- Additional support to county governments, non-profits, and other community organizations in unincorporated areas (storm water, flooding, litter, etc.)
- Additional police officers for higher crime areas
- Additional activity programs for at-risk youth.
- Designated Navigators for Seniors 65+
- Designated Navigators for English Language Learners
- Aging in Place Task Force
- College & Career Days
- Meeting Spaces for Neighborhood/Civic Associations
- Cur Patient to Nurse Ratio at Rehab Centers
- Senior Expo - Modeled after Silver Spring
- Civic HOA Grant Program

COMMUNITY FORUM ON RISING CRIME – PARTICIPANT PACKAGE

Since the General Assembly adjourned in April, Maryland has experienced a significant increase of highly visible crimes including carjackings, retail theft, guns and juveniles. A bipartisan group of concerned Senators have come together to address these issues raised by our community. I have received input from law enforcement, State's Attorneys, business owners, parents, M-NCPPC, members of the clergy, the NAACP and our friends and neighbors throughout the 23rd Legislative District, and Councilmanic District 4, who demand that action be taken now.

We are here as one united community to set forth several possible initiatives that might make a difference in the upcoming 2024 Legislative Session. The authors of the bills summarized below are prepared to work with our Governor, law enforcement, groups such as Moms Demand Action, and virtually anyone who wants to see peace and safety restored in our communities *with* appropriate aspects of restorative justice.



How Restorative Justice Works

The bills are divided into five sections, each dealing with a different aspect of the State's crime problem. Each section contains a description of multiple bills that will be introduced in the General Assembly 2024 90-day Legislative Session, January - April. These bills provide a starting point so that we as a community can come together, discuss, modify, add, and ultimately have a crime-package that we can all get behind and present to the Governor.

Just as there are many fish in the sea, many suggestions for fighting crime will certainly bubble up to the surface in the next several months. The ideas set forth above are merely the suggestions of a small group of State Senators, law enforcement and concerned community residents and certainly not an exhaustive list. The ultimate goal is a package of bipartisan legislation that can be passed in the Maryland General Assembly and that will have a measurable impact on crime in Maryland and in particular, Prince George's County.

A. Closing gaps in our criminal laws and providing for stiffer penalties for repeat offenders

1. **The Violent Firearms Offender Act (LR1125).** State Senator Ron Watson will be sponsoring this bill with Senators Anthony Muse, Chris West and Mary Beth Carozza as co-sponsors. Last year's SB 744 was an omnibus bill which never received a vote. As slightly expanded, this year's bill will make several changes to the law: First, it labels as a felony instead of as a misdemeanor (as at present) the use of a firearm with a magazine holding more than ten rounds of ammunition or an assault weapon in the commission of a felony or a crime of violence. Second, the bill delays parole eligibility for prohibited persons who are caught possessing firearms. Third, it provides that a person caught illegally possessing a firearm is guilty of a misdemeanor and is subject to up to five years imprisonment for the first offense and is guilty of a felony and is subject to up to ten years in jail for any subsequent offenses. Also specifies that the use or possession of a firearm while under parole, probation, or mandatory supervision is not a technical violation. This bill targets repeat violent offenders. This bill would also require the Commissioner of Correction to provide inmates with a re-entry kit and with assistance in obtaining Medicaid benefits upon the inmate's release from prison which include: (1) At least 1 week of supplies for basic human needs, (2) an ID card, (3) Contact information for entities specializing in re-entry services, housing assistance, substance use treatment, and mental health services, and (4) Assistance in obtaining Medicaid benefits.

COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

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4. Protection at the Pump (LR1175). State Senator Ron Watson and Joanne C. Benson will be sponsoring this local Prince George's County bill. The District and Prince George's County have accounted for almost all of the region's reported carjackings in recent years, according to statistics. Most carjackings take place between 10PM and 2AM, and most often in a busy commercial area where cars are parked and when the owner is entering or exiting the parked vehicle. Women driving alone, disabled persons and senior citizens are particularly vulnerable. We have all seen video of what can happen when a person exits their vehicle, especially at gas stations. This bill provides an option for citizens who prefer to remain in their vehicles, or otherwise vulnerable citizens, and those in high crime areas when pumping their gas. This bill requires an attendant to be available during the hours of 6AM and Midnight at all gas stations in Prince George's County. This bill also requires gas stations in Prince George's County to mount security cameras on their premises filming activities that occur outside the gas station in the vicinity of the pumps so that law enforcement will be able to quickly understand how any criminal activity in that vicinity occurred.

COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

-Security cameras make sense, but add that the criteria for the cameras will be set forth by the PD or County Council.

- Add that they will have a security assessment after 2 or more violent crimes at the locations and it will be filed with the PD

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COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

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6. Firearm Dealers – National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN). State Senator Ron Watson will be sponsoring this bill. In 1997, ATF established the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) to provide local, state, tribal and federal law enforcement partners with an automated ballistic imaging network. This technology is vital to any violent crime reduction strategy because it enables investigators to match ballistics evidence with other cases across the nation. This process also helps reveal previously hidden connections between violent crimes in different states and jurisdictions. Prince George's County is standing up a Crime Gun Intelligence Center (GCIC). CGIC is a multi-agency collaboration that uses ballistic evidence like shell casings to identify shooters, recognize crime connectivity, and provide actionable intelligence to reduce crime. This bill will mandate all firearm dealers, prior to selling a firearm, conduct at least one test shot and provide the shell casing to the NIBIN for inclusion in the database.

COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

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COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

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B. Juvenile Crime. Two years ago, significant juvenile crime reform legislation was passed (Chapter 42, 2022 Maryland Laws). In the meantime, certain juvenile crimes have exploded, particularly carjackings, handgun offenses and auto thefts. This situation cannot be ignored.

8. Juvenile Justice Reforms (LR1126). State Senator Ron Watson will be sponsoring this bill with Senators Chris West and Mary Beth Carozza co-sponsoring. The juvenile crime reform package did not anticipate the rise in violent crimes committed by juveniles carrying firearms. With 20-20 hindsight, several of the measures contained in the reform package went too far. This bill includes four provisions which pull back slightly from the reforms: (a) if a juvenile commits a felony or another crime involving a firearm, the case will go to the State's Attorney, who will then decide how the case will be handled; (b) it lengthens the period for which a juvenile guilty of a misdemeanor can be placed on probation from six months to 2 years and provides that probation extensions in such cases can last up to 3 years; (c) it lengthens the period for which a juvenile guilty of a felony, OR A CRIME INVOLVING A FIREARM can be placed on probation from 1 years to 5 years; (d) it treats offenses involving firearms, for probation purposes, as if they were felonies.

COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

- COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?**
- Mandate they be kept for 24 hours and make it mandatory that they see a judge and not just a commissioner and DIS
 - Also, take into account the record of the juvenile in VA and DC (Police Chief comments)

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9. Parental Accountability (LR1134). State Senator Ron Watson will be sponsoring this bill with Senators Chris West and Mary Beth Carozza co-sponsoring. In Maryland, a Child in Need of Assistance (CINA) is a legal term used to describe a child who is believed to be at risk of abuse, neglect, or other forms of harm, and as a result, the state may intervene to provide protection and support for that child.

This bill seeks to hold parents accountable for activities that contribute to the neglect of a child and mandate the child AND parents participate in appropriate services. Kids under 13 years old are not subject to the juvenile court system, police and prosecutors are finding that criminal gangs are using kids under 13 to engage in criminal activity on behalf of the gangs because if the kids are caught, they are just reprimanded and sent home. Within hours, they are back on the streets engaging in criminal activity once again. This bill amends the law to provide that in the case of a kid under 13 years old:

ON THE FIRST ARREST FOR AN OFFENSE INVOLVING THE USE AND POSSESSION OF A FIREARM, OR ON THE SECOND ARREST FOR ANY OTHER OFFENSE, A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SHALL MAKE A REPORT OT THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES FOR PURPOSES OF A NEGLECT INVESTIGATION AS PROVIDED BY LAW.

The bill requires both the parents and child to complete all aspects of any plan prescribed by Department of Social Services (DSS), which may include services such as counseling, parenting classes, substance abuse treatment and supervised visitation in the case of a child who is removed from the home. A parent who fails to complete any services prescribed by DSS must appear in court and may be subjected to the imposition of a court order regarding the completion of any such services. Any violation of the court order may subject the parents to possible contempt of court and fines.

COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

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COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

- Also, need the ability to direct the juvenile to services as a primary or secondary response (Police Chief)

12. Protecting our Schools – PG Metal Detectors (4LR0823). State Senator Ron Watson will be sponsoring this local Prince George's County bill. In September, a DuVal High School student, Jayda Medrano-Moore was pistol whipped and shot at point blank range. PGCPs, in response, installed metal detectors at DuVal High School. A few weeks ago, a Glock handgun was brought into Bowie High School's back door. This bill will mandate metal detectors at ALL High Schools in Prince George's County and will include \$100,000 appropriation to defray the costs.

COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

- COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT:**
- Direct some funds for investment in anti-gun programs like Law Enforcement Teaching Students or Blue in the Schools
 - We can also invest in gun dogs by PGPD to be used under the directive of the Superintendent. (Police Chief)
 - add alarms at each door to alert staff when a door is opened (Bowie HS PTA)

C. Amendments to the Juvenile Interrogation Act. The “Juvenile Interrogation Act” (Chapter 50, 2022 Maryland Laws) is the subject of great controversy. Police and States Attorneys say that it ties their hands in terms of interrogating juveniles in order to solve crimes. Public defenders say that it protects vulnerable kids and only applies when juveniles are “in custody”. Police and States Attorneys say that the term “in custody” is vague enough that the public defenders can argue that some juveniles believe that any time a law enforcement officer stops a juvenile and begins to question him, the juvenile is “in custody”. The JIA has two principal parts: (1) it states that whenever a juvenile is interrogated by police, the juvenile has to be read his Miranda rights, using any age-appropriate language as directed by the Maryland Supreme Court; and (2) unlike adults, who can waive their right to remain silent or talk to a lawyer, the bill states that no juvenile who has been taken “in custody” by a police officer, including a school resource officer, can be interrogated before the juvenile has actually talked to an attorney. The following three bills represent suggested compromises:

13. Juvenile Law – Custodial Interrogation – Parental Consultation (LR1136). State Senator Ron Watson will be sponsoring this bill with Senators Chris West and Mary Beth Carozza co-sponsoring. The Supreme Court’s Miranda decision requires that every person taken into custody by law enforcement must be read the person’s rights to remain silent and to talk to an attorney at any time before law enforcement interrogates the person. This rule applies equally to children and adults. It cannot be curtailed by State law. Two years ago, the Maryland General Assembly enacted the Juvenile Interrogation Act, which provided that all juveniles MUST speak to an attorney after being taken into custody and before they are questioned by law enforcement. Because the question of when a juvenile is in custody has been held to be a subjective decision determined by when the juvenile “thought” he could not leave, most law enforcement officers are refraining from asking juveniles any questions about a crime until they have spoken to an attorney, and the simple fact is that most attorneys in such situations instruct the juvenile client to refrain from talking to law enforcement. This, according to law enforcement, has been an impediment. Under this bill, a parent of a juvenile will have the power to waive the requirement in the Juvenile Interrogation Act that the child MUST consult with an attorney before speaking to law enforcement. This seeks to re-insert parents back into the equation by the requirement of consultation with an attorney OR A PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR CUSTODIAN. Once the parent waives the requirement, the child can always still decline to speak to law enforcement and can still insist that he/she wants to speak to an attorney. If the parent waives the requirement, the bill will provide that law enforcement should afford the child and parent a chance to talk (by phone or in person). The law will not require the parent to be present when the child talks to law enforcement.

COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

15. Social Services for Juvenile Offenders. State Senator Chris West will be sponsoring this bill, with State Senators Ron Watson and Mary Beth Carozza as co-sponsors. Information suggests that the Department of Juvenile Justice does not have sufficient funding to adequately provide needed supervision and social services for the State's juvenile offenders. This is unacceptable. The underlying premise of the juvenile crime reform legislation that the General Assembly passed two years ago was that data demonstrates that the incarceration of juveniles is counterproductive and that the preferred, data-proven approach is that one in which wayward juveniles are provided with effective supervision and social services. Much of the juvenile crime reform legislation thus assumed that the State would be capable of providing such effective supervision and social services to its juveniles. If these essential social services and adequate supervision are not being provided, it means that youthful offenders are not being held accountable for their crimes and are not being rehabilitated.

This bill will do two things: (a) Considerably beef up the existing monitoring of juvenile incarceration facilities and expand the mission of the monitoring team to include effective monitoring of the supervisory and social services program for juvenile offenders. The head of the monitoring program will be elevated to a gubernatorial appointment, subject to confirmation by the State Senate. The periodic reports of the monitors will be provided to each member of the General Assembly. Regular monitoring of juveniles who are receiving supervision and/or social services will be required in order to ensure that the needed supervision and social services are being effectively provided. (b) Establish a summer study of the current ability of the Department of Juvenile Services to provide effective social services to juvenile offenders. Members of the commission will include the Secretary of the Department of Juvenile Services or his nominee, a State Senator appointed by the Chair of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, a State Delegate appointed by the Chair of the House Judiciary Committee, representatives of the State Attorneys, the public defenders, the State police chiefs and the Office of the Attorney General. The study commission will be charged with recommending reforms along with the necessary funding levels to sustain them.

COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

-State Police cannot address the issues that county/municipal police chiefs deal with adequately. The Commission should include: (1) the County Chiefs or Dept Rep of the 5 largest county police agencies in MD. Name them specifically like Baltimore, Balt City, Montgomery Co and Prince George's Co which have proven to have the biggest volume of issues. (2) Add the Presidents of the MD Chief and MD Sheriffs Assoc. (Police Chief)

COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

-Also Failure to Leave Identification to stop a hit and run.

-Mandatory arrest and processing, no citations. AND stop citations for drunk driving, jail processing should be required. (PGPD)

D. Policing Reforms

17. A study of police understaffing State Senator Chris West will be sponsoring this bill. Most of Maryland's police departments are short-staffed, resulting in fewer "feet on the street" to fight crime. The understaffing has gotten worse in the last few years despite resourceful efforts to increase the successful recruiting of new officers. Last year, SB 18, as amended, was a bipartisan bill which passed on the floor of the State Senate 47-0. Both SB 18 and the House cross-filed bill died without action in the House Appropriations Committee. These bills would have set up the Police Retention Workgroup to study issues and factors potentially contributing to the decline in police officer recruitment and retention statewide. Certainly, the high vacancy rate in police department staffing is contributing to the severity of crime in Maryland, so a well-conceived study to get to the bottom of this problem would be a good first step in the State's efforts to fight crime. A bill along these lines should be introduced with bipartisan sponsors in 2024, preferably as a part of the Governor's anti-crime initiative.

COMMENTS, MODIFICATIONS, SUPPORT?

-We already know why the ranks are reduced across the nation: defund the police movements, low pay, no incentives like tuition reimbursement, loan forgiveness, housing incentives, state tax incentives, child care, etc.

- Early retirement systems that allow officers to exit at 20, 22, 25 years of service. A minimum retirement years of service and age needs to be set across the state. (Police Chief)



Agenda Item Summary Report

Meeting Date: January 8, 20203	Submitted by: Marylin Blount, Council Member
Item Title:	
Community Leaders Meeting	
Work Session Item [X] Council Meeting Item [X]	Documentation Attached:
Recommended Action:	
Council Direction and Comments	
<p>Summary: This is a concept that CM Blount would like to revive. She would like to start this up in February 2024 with the apartment managers, homeowners' associations, and other leaders in our community. The group has not met since 2015, and CM Blount found this to be a hands-on and one-on-one experience to be very helpful to the community. She noted that "we were able to learn what types of reports they [apartment managers] were getting from their tenants and among other issues."</p> <p>Meeting Frequency: This group would meet on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>Staff Support/Cost: Minimal</p> <p>CM Blount will be able to answer any questions at this meeting.</p>	
Budgeted Item: Yes [] No [X] Budgeted Amount: \$ NA One-Time Cost: NA Ongoing Cost:	Continued Date:
Council Priority: Yes [] No []	Approved Date:

STAFF REPORTS

January 8, 2024

Department of Public Works

Report for December 2023



Submitted by

Purnell Hall

Public Works activities for December, 2023:

During the month of December, Public Works worked on the following activities:

1. Public Works assisted with the Yule log event at the Town Hall.
2. Assisted the Police department with removing unwanted items out of the Police Station.
3. Public Works repaired stop sign in the 4100 block of 46th Street.
4. MDE (Maryland Department of The Environment) did their quarterly inspection at the Public Works facility.



5. Public Works has wrap up the leaf vacuum service. Happily, to say the department has collected around 37 tons of leaves throughout the Town.

6. Due to the change in season. Public Works has started installing winter equipment on trucks.

7. Public Works filled several pot holes throughout the Town.

8. Removed sofa chair that was illegally dumped in the 5400 block of Spring Road.

9. Replaced damaged ceiling tile in the Town Hall.

Measured in tons

Brush	0.78
Building material	1.63
Condominium bulk pick up	2.15

Ground Maintenance:

The Public Works crew is committed to keeping the Town clean and beautiful and as a result we have picked up litter in the following areas of the Town.

- a. Annapolis Road Pedestrian Tunnel
- b. The Industrial Area
- c. The alley-way in between 55th Ave. and 56th Ave.

Meetings:

1. Department Head meeting

If you have leaves for pick up, please place them in yard waste bags or trash cans marked with and X for pick up on MONDAYS.



Help Keep Bladensburg Clean!

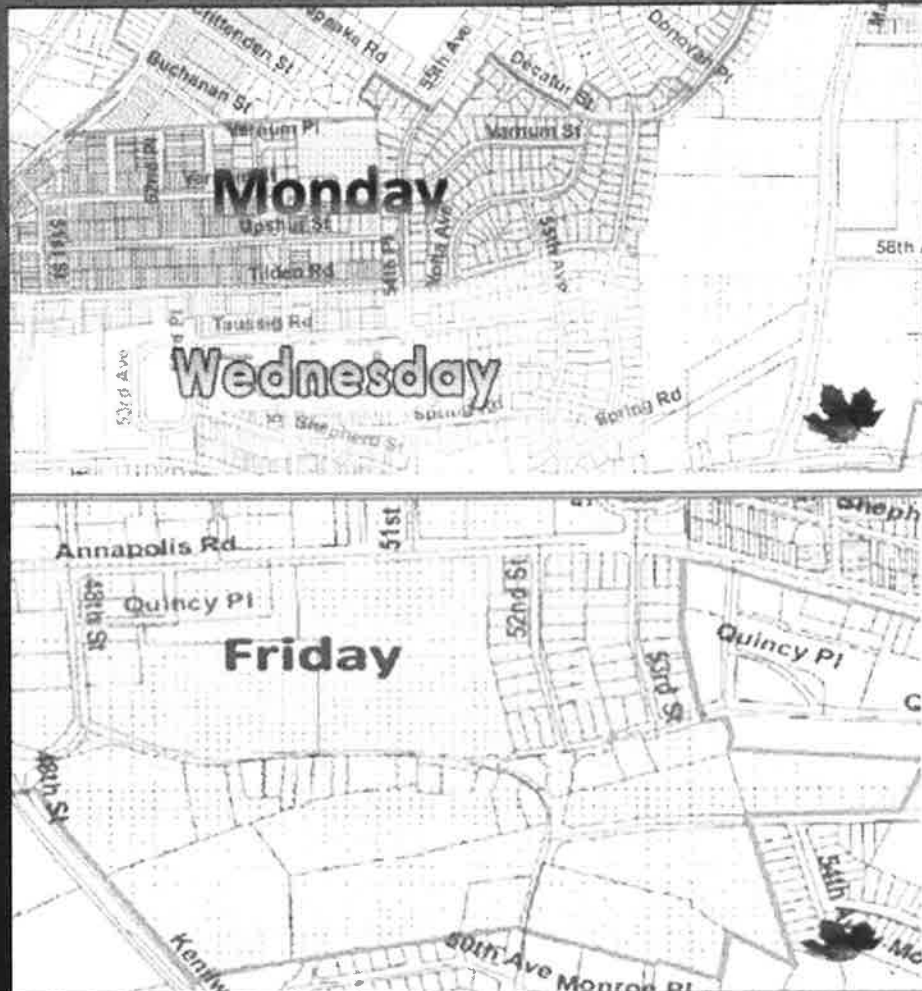
- In order for the Department of Public Works to keep the Town clean and litter free, we need a little help from our residents as well.
 1. Pick up litter in front of your property. (Curb line as well)
 2. Please put trash in a trash container with the lid closed.





**TOWN OF BLADENSBURG
RESIDENTIAL AF VACUUM
SCHEDULE**

NOVEMBER 27, 2023 - JANUARY 5, 2024





TOWN ADMINISTRATOR MONTHLY MEMO

January 2024

Dear Town Council, Residents, Business owners, and Employees of the Town of Bladensburg;

Happy New Year! It has been a busy six months with the Town of Bladensburg. Here are some things that you can expect in the new year!

**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

- **CDBG Bridge Repairs and Sidewalk Project:** In December, the Town officially received PY48R CDBG funds for the repairs to small bridges and sidewalk additions and replacement.
- **New Town Hall Design Charettes:** In Spring 2024, the Town will begin a public input and design process for a new Town Hall.
- **Bostwick House:** The beginning of Stabilizing repairs to the Bostwick House and implementing the Technical Assistance Panel with the Urban Land Institute.
- **Entryway Signage:** The installation of new Town entryway signage and continued work by the Beautification Team

Flood Channel Project Update: The County and Town will enter a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to begin the design and further public input process. The County will begin to work with residents to obtain Rights of Entry (ROE) so that they can start the planning and evaluation process to develop design models. The Town will work on this project with the County and Clean Water Partnership. We expect that the overall project will take until 2026.



Connected Devices Grant: We recently received a grant that provides “free” computers to low-income households. There are specific criteria that must be met, and there is a limit of only one device per household. More information and distribution dates will be released shortly.



Security Camera Reimbursement Program: The Town Council established a program funded with \$50,000 in ARPA funds. The program reimburses residents to install security cameras that can be shared with the Police Department. This is estimated to assist 50 households in each ward. *Please make sure to apply today!*

Business Roundtables: The Town has begun the quarterly business Roundtable for 2024, and the first meeting will occur on January 30 at 8 AM at Town Hall. These meetings will connect members of the business community and encourage information sharing. If you are interested in attending, please email business@bladensburgmd.gov

Port Town Sector Plan: On December 6, 2023, there was a kick-off meeting for the Port Town Sector Plan; this is important because Sector plans are updated every 10 to 15 years to help gauge and determine future development and growth in the area. The Town of Bladensburg will work with Colmar

Manor, Cottage City, and Edmonston to determine common goals and objectives; your assistance will help us shape this vital report.

Community Events in 2024: Attached to this memo is a list of Town and Police Department events that will occur in the 2024 Calendar Year.



Need a new job? The Town of Bladensburg has two new open positions on our website. We are seeking candidates for our Assistant Town Administrator (Town Clerk) and Deputy Town Clerk. These positions will close on **February 2, 2024**.

Again, Happy New Year!

Best Regards,
Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth
Town Administrator