



Council Member Jocelyn Route

Town of Bladensburg

Ward 1



To: Town of Bladensburg Residents, Staff, and Town Council
From: Council Member Jocelyn Route, MSW
cc: Acting Town Administrator Rich Charnovich
Date: April 13, 2023
Re: March Council Report – Ward 1

I have participated in the following activities throughout the month of March-Present:

- ❖ Met with Community Members regarding Warm Night shelter concerns
Although the County Executive has stated there will be no Warm Night Shelter in the Town of Bladensburg, residents are concerned about the other shelter opportunities that the County Executive has said she would like to work on with the Town of Bladensburg, as announced at the last meeting.
- ❖ Testified at PG County Council Meeting in support of CB007 Rent Stabilization
Many Residents of Bladensburg may have questions regarding the new PG County, MD legislation that passed. Here is a FAQ on the enacted legislation [CB-7-Rent-Stabilization-Act-FAQs-PDF](https://princegeorgescountymd.gov/CB-7-Rent-Stabilization-Act-FAQs-PDF)
(princegeorgescountymd.gov)
- ❖ Participated in Foreclosure & Eviction Workshop sponsored by Council Member Jolene Ivey & Congressman Glenn Ivey
<https://pgccouncil.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1351&ARC=1915>
- ❖ Attended Women's Rose Awards sponsored by Bladensburg Police Department
Congratulations to all nominees and award winners! This event was well attended and was held at Elizabeth Seaton High School
- ❖ Spoke as a panelist at Maryland Municipal League- Young Municipal League Panel
- ❖ Sent in Written Testimony for HB0892
<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgaweb/Legislation/Details/hb0892?ys=2023RS>
- ❖ Attended Community Funding (Earmarks) Info Session-Congressman Glenn Ivey
The Federal House Appropriations Committee released its guidance for community project funding in fiscal year 2024. Beth MacKenzie and Ethan Sweep hosted an information session on Wednesday, March 8, 2023 from 5:30 – 6:30 pm to discuss this guidance and answer any questions.
- ❖ Advocated to DPIE for 5301 Quincy Village Resident's needs; met with Deputy Director of DPIE
Bladensburg has a few outstanding needs related to issues that fall under the oversight of PG County DPIE. Here are a few issues I raised with DPIE:



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- County Code Violations: Construction projects not permitted when will this be improved.
- Parking of Commercial vehicles on residential streets who will cite these vehicles in municipalities?
- Virtual Permit Cafe Glitches
- Town of Bladensburg Floodplain Studies can we get county assistance with these studies
- Multifamily Dwelling Units unlicensed what can be done to account for the homes that are not registering to rent rooms.

❖ Trained in Naloxone Administration by PG Health Department

Naloxone will save someone's life if they are experiencing an opioid overdose. Fentanyl is a deadly drug that unfortunately our youth and senior citizens are unfortunately victims of. I urge everyone to be trained in Naloxone administration and carry a dose of Naloxone on your person because you never know if you will be able to save someone's life.

<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/2958/Overdose-Response-Training>

- ❖ Secured Smoothies -Gratis for the Town of Bladensburg Mental Health Awareness event May 6, 2023 at 2:30pm at the Bladensburg Community Center. Hope to see you there!
- ❖ Attended a tour of Elizabeth Seton High School and spoke about community needs. Strategies were developed to assist with outreach efforts for various programs to support Port Towns residents to include Bladensburg residents. Looking forward to attending the a Hispanic-Latino Business Reception to support the start of a Latina Endowment.
- ❖ Assisted with outreach regarding Elizabeth Seaton's Hispanic-Latino Businesses which the endowment will grow the Latina population and make Seton a viable choice for Bladensburg girls who want to come to the private school but think they cannot afford it.
- ❖ Attended PG County Healthcare Action Coalition Quarterly Meeting Presentations we're made by Dr. Areola, Dr. Baur, Dr. Linhales Barker, Dr. Larue, and Jacob Riley for engaging discussions and presentations.

The recording from the meeting is now available: [March Coalition Recording](#)

The full 2022 Community Health Assessment is available here: [Community Health Assessment - 2022](#)



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- ❖ Submitted Letter of Support for FBI relocation to PG County
- ❖ Followed up with Town Staff regarding TOB Security Camera Rebate Program
- ❖ Contacted Maryland Municipal League for leads to companies who are able to conduct a Parking Study
Parking in Ward 1 continues to be a MAJOR issue and concern. I have performed some outreach to companies who are capable of conducting a survey. I am looking forward to working with Town staff to release an RFP.
- ❖ Attended PG County African Diaspora Advisory Board International Women's Day event
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=894087961662502>
- ❖ Attended and Participated in the General Body Meeting of the Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) – I serve as a Board Member.
- ❖ Attended the MD State Highway Administration Safety and Intersection Improvement Project Virtual meeting. They plan to reduce the route 202 highway from the intersection at route 450 to 57th Ave from 6 lanes down to 4 lanes to provide a dedicated 5-foot-wide lane for bikes only on both sides of route 202.
- ❖ Advocated for increased Police presence at Quincy Village Apartments in Ward 1. Unfortunately, there have been the presence of White Vans and Suspicious Vehicles. Chief Collington deployed Officers to increase patrol in this area.
- ❖ Met with Council Member Jolene Ivey and her staff along with owner of Sav A Lot store located in Ward 1. The SavAlot store has undergone new ownership. There have been a host of issues this store has experienced. Refrigeration units have been replaced and a new floor has been laid. There are a host of needs the store has to include staffing shortages. The PG Economic Development Corporation will be working with the store ownership to further support fiscal needs. Bladensburg is unfortunately in a food desert and we do not want to lose this grocery store. This store has fresh produce and an in-house butcher shop which is very different the competing grocery stores who get the meat/produce from factories.
- ❖ Attended events at the NLC Congressional Cities Conference held in Washington DC.



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- ❖ Met with coordinators of the State of Maryland C.A.R.E. Property Services Weatherization Assistance Program to understand about the installation of energy efficiency items. The organization received funding through the state of Maryland and other energy assistance programs to upgrade Apartment properties with income-qualified tenants. Tenants would need to verify their identity, household size and income to prove their qualifications. All of the work is income-based and if a tenant falls below 80% of PG County's median income the tenant and apartment community will qualify for the service and free improvements to apartment homes.
- ❖ Conducted outreach to Ward 1 Bladensburg Businesses who may qualify for Town of Bladensburg ARPA related relief. Businesses may access the application by visiting [Emergency Business Assistance Application post edits \(1\).docx \(live.com\)](#)
- ❖ Attended National Black Caucus-Local Elected Officials Board Meeting. I serve as 2nd Treasurer
- ❖ Participated in the Elizabeth Seton Career Day as a Panelist
- ❖ Initiated Ward 1 Street Light Project. I have recently heard the concerns from Bladensburg Residents and Businesses regarding Safe Passage issues in Ward 1. I collaborated with the phenomenal and responsive Bladensburg Police Department to identify dim areas in Bladensburg that presented a safe passage issue.

Streetlights that have been repaired

1. 5300 blk tilden road ---no lighting
There is One (1) light in the middle of the street very dim
PEPCO POLL # 820403-440720
2. 4115 53rd Place
Light out
PEPCO POLL # 820403-1841
3. 4106 53rd place
PEPCO POLL # 820403-1820
4. 5301 Upshur
PEPCO POLL # 820402-2895



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5. 5400 – 5405 Taylor st
PEPCO POLL # 821403-0123

6. 4100-4200 56th ave
4202 56th Ave
PEPCO POLL # 822403-3640 3459

Unidentified Streetlights

4200 blk 54st---dark no lighting
PEPCO Poll 820403-7254 **Bad Pole #**
Pep8246
Lightbulb out

5300 blk taussig----- dim lighting **Need Pole #**
NO POLL NUMBER

4100-4300 blk 54 pl- dim and dark
No numbers on poll
Poll had a light but very dim **Need Pole #**

4303 54th
Pepco 820403-7086
Peo871713
Poll present but no light on the poll **Can not find pole**

54th and Upshur
820403-7095
Pedestrian struck @ 9pm on 4/4/23 **Can not find pole**
Dim light

Streetlights that the Town of Bladensburg May Have to Pay to have Light Installed

To my understanding this will be a cost to the Town. I would like to request that my colleagues prioritize the Ward 1 need during FY23-24 upcoming budget session.

1. 5440 Taussig
Pepco poll 821403-9058
Pep833418
Poll present but no light on the poll **No Light showing in GIS**

2. 5434 Taussig
821403-7957
Pep833420
Poll present but no light on the poll **No Light showing in GIS**



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3. 5429 Taussig
82140315551
Pep833421
Poll present but no light on the poll **No Light showing in GIS**

4. 5209 Upshur
820403-4096
Poll present no light- very dark **No Light showing in GIS**
Pep854234

5. 5400 blk spring rd ---dark no lights
Poll no light
821402-0297 **No Light showing in GIS**
Pep849780

6. 4206 56th Ave **No Light showing in GIS**

7. 4300 blk 51st st ---dark no lighting **No Light showing in GIS**

8. 5200-5300 blk---dark no lighting **No Light showing in GIS**

All My Best,

Jocelyn Route, Council Member
"The People's Council Woman"