



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: Town Administrator Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth, Clerk Rich Charnovich
Date: July 10, 2023
Re: June Council Report – Ward 1

Happy Minority Mental Health Awareness Month!

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

- ❖ Attended Virtual COG Farm Policy Committee Meeting 6/9/2023
- ❖ Participated in PG County District 5 Community Job Fair in Cottage City, MD 6/3/2023
- ❖ Responded to Ward 1 Resident Concerns regarding Bostick House and Hybrid Council Meetings 6/4/2023
- ❖ Responded to Bladensburg Business Inquiry regarding ARPA Business Assistance by sending application 6/4/2023
- ❖ Attended Bladensburg Budget Work Session 6/5/2023
- ❖ Provided support to Ward 1 Resident regarding ARPA Rental Assistance 6/6/2023
- ❖ Met with the Town Clerk/Town Administrator (acting), Chief of Police, and Town Treasurer regarding Security Camera Reimbursement Program in the Town of Bladensburg
- ❖ Provided support to Ward 1 Resident who has Landlord/Tenant issues 6/7/2023
- ❖ Attended PEPCO Planned Streetlight Tariff filing Webinar & corresponded with Alberto Zegada of PEPCO regarding Town of Bladensburg Ward 1 Lighting concerns
 - Surveyed Ward 1 Pepco Lights that were out or areas that are not well lit and submitted the information to Pepco. There are a host of areas within Ward 1 where there are street lights that are only on one side of the street or the trees are taller than the street light and cause reduced lighting. Dimly lit areas within Bladensburg can create an environment that is conducive to criminal activity. Poor lighting can make it easier for criminals to hide and can make it more difficult for law enforcement officials to see and respond to incidents. Dimly lit areas can reduce visibility, making it more difficult for drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians to see potential hazards such as potholes, debris, or other obstructions on the road. This can increase the risk of accidents and injuries.
- ❖ Surveyed Ward 1 reporting Code Issues using the My Bladensburg App
 - Thank you to Code Enforcement and Public Work for replying to concerns related to the culvert and getting it cleaned out
- ❖ Responded to Resident's concerns regarding increased crime in Ward 1
 - Informed residents about the Security Camera Reimbursement Program
 - Unfortunately, the application has not went live even after meeting with the Town Clerk/Town Administrator (acting), Chief of Police, and Town Treasurer



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- ❖ In collaboration with CM Brown, hosted a First Time Home Buyer Seminar at Elizabeth Seton High School
- ❖ Attended MML Conference in Ocean City, Maryland
 - Completed all Academy for Excellence in Local Government courses
 - Panelist during MML Conference: Homelessness, Housing, Mental Health
 - In meeting with Governor Moore's cabinet, requested an update from the State Highway Administration regarding 769-C:
The MD 769C project is being overseen and developed within SHA's District 3 Office in Greenbelt, MD. The current ongoing efforts include having a research project implemented that will make MD 769C a one-way street and utilize the remaining portion of the roadway as a pedestrian path. SHA anticipates that this condition will be put in place sometime in late Summer/Early Fall 2023. Once in place it is the SHA's intention leave the condition in place for 6 to 12 months. During this period SHA will be looking for community feedback on how this option functions as well as any other comments/ input that the community might have.
- ❖ Attended Town of Bladensburg Juneteenth Celebration in David Harrington Town Park
- ❖ Met with Ward 1 Residents regarding Town of Bladensburg needs
- ❖ The Town Council should seriously consider taking the Ward 1 lighting up as a Bladensburg Initiative to improve the safety and security of all residents and visitors. LED lighting should be explored to reduce cost to the Town of Bladensburg's PEPCO lighting bill in addition to increased brightness (Kelvin temperature) of the lights.

I continue to serve by doing my absolute best on behalf of Bladensburg, Residents, Businesses and Staff.

All My Best,

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