

County Councilman David Marks

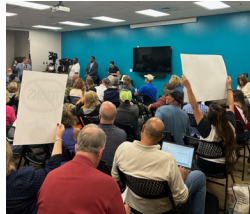
Fifth District Newsletter

Message from Councilman Marks

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The Community Demands Action on Days Cove

The Days Cove Reclamation Company has operated a rubble landfill on state-owned property at 6425 Days Cove Road for more than three decades. The company has applied for a renewal of its permit to discharge treated leachate into a swale that leads to the Gunpowder River. This prompted the community hearing held at the Perry Hall public library on September 16th.



That public hearing was among the most contentious I have ever attended as a County Councilman—but also, one of the most unified. [Not a single individual spoke in favor of the permit, except perhaps the representative of the company who briefly introduced himself.](#)

That's because it is clear the Days Cove Reclamation Company no longer deserves the opportunity to lease this state-owned property. The company certainly has not earned the ability to modify or increase its discharge into the Gunpowder River.

The "trash juice," as some have called it, comes from a variety of construction materials. Data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency shows that discharges exceeded pollution limits at least 16 times in 2023; for four months, the facility failed to test leachate for trivalent arsenic, a potent human carcinogen.

The Bird River and the larger Gunpowder River Valley are under assault from both chemical pollution and sediment contamination. Not only does this pollution impact our health and the viability of our fish and wildlife, but it increases the desirability and economy of a region directly tied to our waterways.

Enough is enough.

A company with this record on respecting the environment and engaging the community does not deserve another permit, nor the opportunity to lease this state-owned land.

Senator J.B. Jennings, Delegates Ryan Nawrocki and Kathy Szeliga have joined me in opposing the permit.

[The Gunpowder Riverkeeper and the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy have spoken out against the plan.](#)

Josh Sines, president of the Essex Middle River Civic Council, has helped lead community opposition.

Anyone who purports to care about the Eastside needs to make their opposition clearly known. Comments should be sent to the Maryland Department of the Environment at paul.hlavinka@maryland.gov. Governor Moore and the state could halt this permit and begin the process of closing the landfill.

In the end, it begs the question: who will stand with the community and the Gunpowder River?



Councilman David Marks

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

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Councilman Marks Condemns Middle River Library Decision

In early October, with no advance notice to the community, County Executive Klausmeier ended two years of planning for the proposed Middle River library. [There has been exhaustive coverage about the reaction from Middle River's elected officials and residents who would have benefited from this library.](#) The developer of Greenleigh has committed to keep the space open and enter into negotiations once a different County Executive takes office in December of 2026.

Additional Acres Added as Parks in the Fifth District

[In May of 2024, Councilman Marks sponsored legislation that formally designated 68 acres as protected parkland in northeastern Baltimore County.](#) This fall, Baltimore County erected signage at those locations.

- Seven Oaks Park has been created north of the Seven Oaks Senior Center;
- Jennifer Run Park has been designated in Carney north and west of the Park-and-Ride at Jomat Avenue.
- About 28 acres of land north of the Honeygo Village Center has been added to Honeygo Regional Park;
- Indian Rock Park has been extended from its current terminus at Silver Spring Road along Perry Hall Boulevard near Beaconsfield Road, creating 23 acres of new parkland; and

Since Baltimore County already owns the land, there was almost no cost to taxpayers except for signage. The new parks provide another guarantee that this public property will be protected from development and serve as wildlife habitat and open space.

Perry Hall 250 Committee to Bury Time Capsule



This year marks Perry Hall's 250th anniversary. The Perry Hall 250 Committee will bury a time capsule on Monday, November 3rd at 4 p.m. at the new Veterans Memorial at Honeygo Boulevard and Joppa Road. All are welcome! The capsule includes mementos of life in our community and letters from Boy Scouts, schools, and community leaders.

Upper Falls Welcome Sign to be Dedicated

Upper Falls Odd Fellows Lodge 175 will dedicate the new community welcome sign at a brief ceremony on Friday, October 24th at 5 p.m. All residents are invited. The sign will be located at the lodge property at 7801 Bradshaw Road in Upper Falls, at the intersection of Bradshaw and Raphel Roads. It was funded as part of the lodge's commitment to the community.



Honeygo Boulevard Resurfaced

One of the busiest corridors in northeastern Baltimore County has been resurfaced: Honeygo Boulevard between White Marsh Boulevard and Joppa Road. This has been a top priority for Councilman Marks, and he thanks the Department of Public Works and Transportation for its support. Much of the corridor has not been improved in more than two decades.

Interim Measures Planned for Honeygo/Cross Intersection

The Baltimore County Department of Transportation and Public Works has decided to move forward with an interim safety plan at Honeygo Boulevard and Cross Road in Perry Hall. The plan includes the installation of flexi-posts that will limit left turns from Cross Road onto Honeygo Boulevard. Councilman Marks has urged the Department to instead focus on accelerating the long-stalled land acquisition needed for the traffic circle.



Volunteers Clean Up Historic Dowden Chapel

On Saturday, October 4, Councilman Marks partnered with Senator Carl Jackson and other organizations to remove debris and clean up the Dowden Chapel in Fullerton, a church that was part of the Underground Railroad. He and Senator Jackson thank their partners: Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation for dumpsters; the Lake Roland Nature Center for supplying equipment and critical manpower; Patrick Taylor from Baltimore County Government; Scouting America Troop 732; the Parkville High School NAACP led by Nichelle Broomer-Hicks; and the Baltimore County NAACP. Thank you to Bradley Lang from Councilman Marks' office and Rachel Keatts from Senator Jackson's office for coordinating.