

County Councilman David Marks

Fifth District Newsletter



Message from Councilman Marks

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Putting Public Safety First

The most important priority for local government is maintaining public safety—secure communities, schools, roads, parks and other places. That includes places like the White Marsh Town Center, one of our busiest commercial and residential areas for the past five decades. No one should have to live in fear if they own or rent a home in White Marsh, and no one should be worried about public safety if they dine, go shopping, or meet up with friends here. [publicsafety]

I did not represent much of the White Marsh Town Center until December 2022. I was immediately concerned that hundreds of apartments were being planned without a clear vision for the area or a plan to guarantee public safety. That's why we acted in 2023 [to block 320 apartments from being built near the White Marsh library](#).

The White Marsh police precinct communicates with both White Marsh Mall and The Avenue at White Marsh. Candidly, without this coordination, I believe the incident on March 7th would have been much worse. The Police Department received advance intelligence of a planned "link-up" at White Marsh Mall, and police coordinated with Mall and Avenue management to increase security presence. Officers were pre-positioned around the parking lot with a clear directive: monitor, de-escalate, and disperse.

I am fully supportive of increasing the number of police and private security personnel throughout the Town Center. Moving forward, the police will continue to do all they can to mitigate future events. They are monitoring social media. Discussions are underway about how to create pick-up points that can reduce crowds while rideshare drivers attempt to find their fares. There are also talks about how we can expand the use of area cameras and better utilize drones.

Police need to know about crimes, even those that seem minor, in order to accurately assess the situation and allocate resources. If you have information about the March 7 assaults or any upcoming gatherings, please contact the White Marsh precinct at 410-887-5000. You can also join the White Marsh Police and Community Relations Council. I thank this organization for hosting the community meeting that outlined what happened and how we can improve safety in the future.

Councilman David Marks

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

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Work Underway on New Vocational Training Center

On March 23, Councilman David Marks and leaders from Plumbers and Steamfitters UA Local 486 toured the site of a future training center that will be located at 5811 Allender Road in White Marsh. Construction is set to start soon on the training center that will replace the derelict Freestate Arena. [The center was made possible through legislation sponsored by Councilman Marks.](#)



Councilman Marks Salutes White Marsh Volunteer Firefighters and Paramedics

On March 14, Councilman Marks attended the installation of officers and awards dinner for the White Marsh Volunteer Fire Company. The company has served eastern Baltimore County since the Second World War.

Fencing Upgrades Underway at White Marsh Service Center

BGE will be making fencing upgrades to its White Marsh Service Center at 11350 Pulaski Highway. The improvements are expected to be finished around May 29. Residents may contact bgeproject@bge.com or (410) 324-2744 for more details.

Provide Input on Recreation and Parks in Baltimore County

The Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks is hosting a series of town hall meetings to determine priorities for the upcoming five-year plan. One will be held at Eastern Regional Park (11723 Eastern Avenue) on Tuesday, May 12 at 6 p.m. [Learn more about the planning process here.](#)



Playground Rebuilt at Andrea Avenue

The Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks recently replaced the aging playground at Andrea Avenue in Carney. [Playgrounds will be also be replaced in the Beldale Court area and at Kingsville Park.](#)



Baltimore County Breaks Ground on New Senior Center

On March 24, the Baltimore County Department of Aging broke ground on a new Jacksonville Senior Center that will include 17,000 square feet of recreational space. The facility will triple in size and serve 1,500 active members.

Input Sought on Transit Options in Northern Baltimore County

The Baltimore County Department of Public [Works and Transportation is collecting responses on a survey related to transit in northern Baltimore County.](#)

Councilman Marks believes that public support is critical for any transportation project. This survey is asking for suggestions about how to improve transit for connections such as Countywide. There are no plans for bus lines in northern Baltimore County.

Honeygo Boulevard/Gunpowder Farm Road Qualifies for a Signal

As a result of a new study, Honeygo Boulevard/Gunpowder Farm Road intersection now qualifies for a traffic signal. The Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation acted on a request by Councilman Marks and many residents to study this intersection. The engineering criteria have now been met. This means that the county can proceed with the original traffic circle planned at Cross Road, or it can move forward with a traffic signal that will be less expensive and faster to implement. The Department of Public Works and Transportation will hold a meeting shortly to present findings and hear from the community.

County to Hold Second Meeting on Silver Spring Road Changes

The Baltimore County Public Works and Transportation will hold a second meeting to consider changes to the Silver Spring Road corridor. Join the WebEx on Monday, April 13 from 7 to 8 p.m. [Here is the link.](#)