

# County Councilman David Marks

Fifth District Newsletter



## Message from Councilman Marks

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## Ensuring a Green and Productive Baltimore County

On May 29, I joined the Maryland Secretary of Agriculture, county and state officials at Prigel Family Creamery to help launch the state ice cream tour. The Prigel Creamery is a landmark in northern Baltimore County, famous for its thick, handcrafted ice cream made with milk from the farm's grass-fed cows. It's one of nearly 800 farms in Baltimore County that produce more than \$90 million for our economy every year.

I want to ensure that rural Baltimore County remains green, beautiful, healthy and productive. Here's what we are doing.

- **Preserving our Land.** I've voted to preserve more than 14,000 acres of land, much of it in northern Baltimore County. The county's goal is to permanently protect at least 80,000 acres from development.
- **Holding the Line on Energy Projects.** There is currently a moratorium as the Planning Board considers standards for data centers. Learn more [here](#). [We have also worked with Kingsville residents to push back against the Brandon Shores transmission line project.](#)
- **Strengthening the Urban Boundary.** I sponsored a charter change, Question A, that will appear on the November general election ballot. [Should the voters approve Question A](#), it will require a supermajority of the Baltimore County Council to adjust the Urban-Rural Demarcation Line that serves as a boundary between our developing areas and rural communities.
- **A Department of Agriculture.** I also supported a charter change [to consolidate farm-related functions](#) under a Baltimore County Department of Agriculture. My hope is that we can improve the permitting process and better respond to the needs of all farmers.
- **Promoting Local Products.** We need to better market Baltimore County products and use local produce in schools, community colleges, senior centers.
- **Diversifying our Economy.** Baltimore County's wineries and breweries are popular, particularly in warmer weather. Many longtime farmers are experimenting with pick-your-own activities that draw visitors to our county.

I hope you will take the time to learn about farming in Baltimore County and support initiatives that keep our rural areas green and productive.

Councilman David Marks

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

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### Contact Our Office

Historic Courthouse  
400 Washington Avenue  
Towson, MD 21204  
(410) 887-3384  
[council5@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:council5@baltimorecountymd.gov)

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@david\_s\_marks

