



Dear Friends,

FALL 2011 EDITION

With last fall's election, we have a new County Executive – Rushern Baker, III – and a new County Council with five of nine members beginning their first term. I am one of the four returning Council Members, and consider it an honor to serve as Vice Chair of the Council.

During this new term, many of the issues and challenges we have worked on over the last four years will continue as items on our agenda. My staff and I will keep moving forward on initiatives to work with communities on quality of life concerns; promote transit-oriented and smart growth redevelopment; protect our environment; and seek stronger public safety measures.

We are experiencing progress on redevelopment in District 3, much of which is detailed in the "Planning and Development" section on pages 5-6 of this newsletter. Three new student housing projects adjacent to the University of Maryland added thousands of beds in convenient proximity to the campus. There is also exciting news regarding the New Carrollton Metro station area, as the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) has selected a nationally recognized developer to build a significant commercial, office and residential community at the station. My office worked closely with WMATA and the State of Maryland to seek proposals for a major transit-oriented development and jobs center to be built at the New



*Council Member Olson and County Executive Baker at Parkdale High School's Graduation*

Carrollton Metro station. This comes on the heels of our work with the Planning Department and the community over recent years to develop a plan to guide development there.

In addition to new County leadership, there is also new leadership at the University of Maryland. Dr. Wallace Loh, who had been Provost at the University of Iowa, and held positions at the University of Washington, began his tenure as President of the University of Maryland last year. I have had numerous productive meetings with him, and he continues to prove that he is working collaboratively with our communities.

Lastly, we had a well-attended and successful Town Hall meeting at Parkdale High School in June, where County Executive Baker spoke and many of the new department heads also participated. Thanks to all who attended!

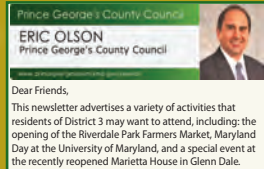
As always, please contact my office if my staff or I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

*Eric*

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Receive Our  
 Monthly  
 E-News



*Please sign up to receive Council Vice Chair Olson's monthly electronic newsletter. We strive hard to keep residents updated.*

*To receive the E-newsletter, please contact Thomas Mayab in the District 3 office at (301) 952-3060 or via email at [tsmayab@co.pg.md.us](mailto:tsmayab@co.pg.md.us) with your email address.*

## IN THE COMMUNITY



*Council Member Olson cuts the ribbon for the new "Varsity" development with U-MD President Wallace Loh, College Park Mayor Andrew Fellows and others*



*Council Member Olson at his June Town Hall Meeting*



*Del. Anne Healey and Council Member Olson join the Beacon Heights Civic Association to unveil their beautification project and neighborhood sign*

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# The Public Trust

## 2011 APPOINTMENTS FOR COUNCIL MEMBER OLSON:

Vice Chair, Prince George's  
County Council

Chair, Transportation, Housing  
& Environment Committee

Member, Planning, Zoning  
& Economic Development  
Committee

Member, Health, Education &  
Human Services Committee

Chair, Metropolitan  
Washington Council of  
Governments Region Forward  
Committee

Member, Metropolitan  
Washington Council of  
Governments Transportation  
Planning Board

The past year has seen a great deal of attention to reforming County government, and for good reason.

With federal guilty pleas from both former County Executive Jack Johnson and his wife, former Council Member Leslie Johnson, our County is turning a page into a new era. There should be zero tolerance for “pay to play” schemes

between developers and elected officials, and these revelations of corruption have exposed the need to tighten some of the rules and laws on the books. Many of the laws governing elected officials and the legal system are at the State, rather than the County level. I have requested that the Council ask for State legislation to be drafted to help deal with some of the problems we saw from these cases, and legislators are working on a number of bills on other aspects of public corruption.

Last fall, several of my colleagues and I, called upon Mrs. Johnson not to take the Oath of Office, although there was no legal mechanism to deny her the seat. We did not assign any committees to Mrs.

Johnson, and we limited her role in land use matters. Once she entered a guilty plea and did not immediately step down (which I consider a loophole that must be closed), the Council stripped her of every privilege possible. We reassigned her staff, took away her parking space, computer, cell phone, and more. She has since resigned, and a Special Election has been held to fill the District 6 seat.

.....  
“There should be zero tolerance for “pay to play” schemes between developers and elected officials...”

—Vice Chair Olson

Last year, I sought to amend a resolution concerning compensation for the next County Council and County Executive. This legislation would have frozen pay for elected officials and decreased these officials’ salaries if the Consumer Price Index decreased. My resolution failed on a 4-3 vote. With County employees not receiving increases for several years, I felt the County Council and County Executive should also forgo increases during this economic downturn. While the proposed resolution failed, I will voluntarily give back to the County my cost of living increase if County employees are not receiving an increase. Moving forward, I will continue to explore possible legislative fixes to this problem.



Vice Chair Olson and County Executive Baker



Vice Chair Eric Olson discusses the need for senior housing during Transportation, Housing and the Environment Committee off-site meeting at Newton Green Senior Housing Complex in Bladensburg.

Vice Chair Eric Olson joins Deputy CAO Carla Reid and UM officials to discuss economic development opportunities along Route One in College Park.



# The Budget

## FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY AND FUNDING DECISIONS

At the end of May, the County Council approved the Fiscal Year 2012 Budget. With the current economic climate, this was not an easy budget year. Although we were in better fiscal shape than some of our neighbors, we still faced tough decisions. I sought to prioritize schools, public safety, programs that engage at-risk youth, and efforts to protect neighborhood quality of life. Over the last few years, we have dramatically cut our budget back to FY 2008 levels while providing even more services as foreclosures in the community demand greater code enforcement; residents require greater social services; and agencies shoulder an increased work load with fewer people. Below I have outlined some highlights of the FY 2012 budget adopted by the County Council.

## Board of Education

The County Council added \$7.5 million to the Board of Education Budget to restore funding for specialty program bus service, Reading Recovery, HeadStart/PreK, and Camp Schmidt. Funds to restore these programs were found by decreasing the Board of Education funding in areas that do not directly impact children, and modestly tapping into reserves. The Board of Education Budget also outlines several schools that will receive new or replacement playground sets, including Glenridge Elementary School, University Park Elementary School, Beacon Heights Elementary School, and Woodridge Elementary School. Finally, the new Hyattsville area elementary school scheduled to open in 2014 adjacent to Nicolas Orem Middle School continues to stay on schedule to relieve area overcrowding.

## Park and Planning

Park and Planning will continue to move forward with some of its projects, while others have been scaled back or delayed. Over the next few years Park and Planning anticipates the much needed renovation of the Wells Linson Ice Rink and Swimming Pool; construction of the Riverdale Park/Hyattsville Trolley Trail; addition of new bike path spurs in College Park and Berwyn Heights; and new dog parks. The Lincoln Vista Community Center project continues to proceed and the expansion of the Good Luck Community Center will take place, but at a slower pace. We continue to advocate for a Community Learning Center in the Landover Hills area and for connecting the WB&A Trail from Seabrook to the New Carrollton Metro Station, and through Landover Hills to Cheverly and the Bladensburg Waterfront.

## General Budget

The Council also made adjustments in other areas of the budget, including funding to add six inspectors to the Department of Environmental Resources. This is important because we must continue to increase code compliance to improve quality of life in our neighborhoods. The Council also restored funding to the Health Department to compensate for reductions in state and federal funding.

Another priority of mine was to restore funding for Youth and Gang Violence prevention. While funding was slightly reduced from last year, we were able to provide a little more than \$300,000 to nonprofits working in this area. Funds to renovate the heavily-used Hyattsville Library were included, and we restored funding for Fire Department apparatus to bring that total up to \$4.2 million. We also increased funding modestly for repaving roads.

# NEW HOSPITAL



On July 21st, the County, State, and University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding creating a comprehensive plan for a new hospital system in Prince George's County. It will succeed the Dimensions system (which consists of Prince George's Hospital Center in Cheverly, Laurel Regional Hospital, the Bowie Health Campus, and the Glenridge Medical Center). Engaging the University of Maryland Medical System is a significant step toward building a new world-class health system where medical students and other health sciences – including College Park's School of Public Health – will partner in a new facility to serve residents of Prince George's County and the Southern Maryland region. Over the next 18 months, the partners will develop a strategic plan, create cost projections, a funding agreement, and select a site for a new hospital campus, creating the architectural design and other steps necessary for developing such a facility.

# Improvements for Pedestrians and Bicyclists

**NEW TRAILS AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE**

One of the key priorities we have focused on during the last five years is connecting our neighborhoods, commercial areas and transportation hubs through better pedestrian and bicycle access. We have sought to expand our bike trail system, increase our sidewalks, and identify safety improvements for pedestrians and cyclists. After many years working with Parks and Recreation, municipalities, and other stakeholders, we have some exciting news on trails progress, with significant construction coming in the spring.

## **Trolley Trail (Riverdale Park, Hyattsville)**

The City of College Park, and Park and Planning, constructed a significant stretch through College Park over the last decade. It is nearly finished within the City boundaries, although College Park is slated to complete the trail by building segments in the coming year in the Lakeland and Old Town neighborhoods. In a real breakthrough, and in collaboration with the Town of Riverdale Park and Park and Planning, we have gained agreements to complete the segments from approximately Tuckerman Street in Riverdale Park, south through Riverdale Park Town Center (home of the Farmers Market), continuing south behind the new Hyattsville Arts District development, all the way to Franklin's Restaurant. This segment, which is nearly a mile, is planned for completion in the spring of 2012. This work does not, however, include the segment through the Cafritz property. When completed, the trail would connect the downtowns of Hyattsville, Riverdale Park, and College Park, and would provide links to the rest of the Anacostia Trails System.

## **Indian Creek Nevada Street Trail Spur (Berwyn Heights)**

This spring, a trail will be built from the end of Nevada Street in



*Residents enjoy the trails at Lake Artemesia.*

Berwyn Heights to the Indian Creek Trail. This project has approvals from the Maryland Department of the Environment and will feature a boardwalk over some low-lying areas. It will provide residents on the south side of Berwyn Heights easy and convenient access to the trail system and Lake Artemesia. This has been a priority of Berwyn Heights for more than a decade.

## **WB&A Trail to Bladensburg Waterfront (Glenn Dale, Seabrook, New Carrollton, Landover Hills, Cheverly)**

This ambitious trail connection will link many neighborhoods in the Annapolis Road corridor, and will serve as a way for cyclists and pedestrians to commute to the New Carrollton and Cheverly Metro stations. It will also link the WB&A Trail with the Anacostia Trails System at Bladensburg Waterfront, which will soon connect with a new trail being built into Washington, DC. This trail has been added to the County's Master Plan of Transportation, and is in early planning stages.

## **College Park Woods Trail (College Park)**

This proposed connection from the end of DePaw Street down to the Paint Branch Trail would connect the College Park Woods neighborhood to the overall trail system, and in particular, to the University of Maryland. Because the College Park Woods neighborhood is already linked by an existing trail to the Buck Lodge neighborhood, this connection would help expand access to our trails system for many more county residents. Parks and Recreation is working closely with a property owner to secure an easement for this trail to be built.

## **Paint Branch Parkway/Trolley Trail Crossing (College Park)**

Early this summer, a traffic light was installed on Paint Branch Parkway where the Trolley Trail crosses this busy road. The trail is used by College Park Metro station commuters; residents; and University of Maryland students, faculty, and staff. Several pedestrians and cyclists have been hit there by cars in recent years, so this is a significant safety improvement.

# Amenities Coming to Route 1 Area

A number of new businesses are opening along the Route 1 corridor from Hyattsville to College Park. Please visit these new businesses and continue to support existing businesses along the corridor and in the County!

## The Varsity Student Housing

(8150 Baltimore Avenue, College Park)

Looney's Pub, Bobby Flay's Burger Palace, ChiDogo's, Austin Grill Express and Royal Farms

## University View Retail

(8204 Baltimore Avenue, College Park)

Pizza Autentica; Shanghai Tokyo Cafe; and Sweetgreen (salads and yogurt)

## Arts District Hyattsville

(5331 Baltimore Avenue, Hyattsville)

Yes! Organic Market, Busboys and Poets, Elevation Burger, Chipotle, Yogi Castle, Big Bad Woof, Essential Day Spa, Tara Thai, Spice 6 (Indian restaurant), and Royal Cleaners

## Dumm's Corner Market

(4705 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park)

Dumm's Corner Market is moving to a new, larger location, which will include a convenience store, beer & wine sales, and a business center as well as wi-fi and a patio. The new store will open in December 2011.



## Adelphi Road Crossing at Hyattsville Library

(University Park, Hyattsville)

At the crossing of Adelphi Road from University Park to the Hyattsville Library, we installed a new "countdown" light at the crossing. The time pedestrians had to cross was also lengthened. These changes offer residents a safer crossing to the library, retail establishments, and other University Town Center amenities.

## Riverdale Heights sidewalks (Riverdale Heights)

Two years ago, as part of a repaving project, sidewalks were constructed on several roads, including Roanoke Avenue.

## Annapolis Road (Landover Hills, Woodlawn)

As part of the Central Annapolis Road Sector Plan passed last year, plans are being made to increase the level of safety for pedestrians along this six-lane road. Enhancements are also being made to better accommodate bicyclists and bus transit. Tragically, a boy was struck and killed on this stretch of road several years ago.

Because this is a state road, county planners are working with the State Highway Administration to gain state funding to implement the plan changing this stretch from six lanes to four. This would allow the outside lane for bikes and buses, until the entire roadway is made more pedestrian friendly. It will not interfere with the traffic flow, but will make for a safer experience for bikes and pedestrians.

## Route 1 (College Park)

After many years of fighting for funding to implement the State Highway Plan to make Route 1 a safer, more friendly place for pedestrians and bicyclists, this year we have finally seen some progress. The State Highway Administration recently allocated \$8.8 million for engineering of the stretch between downtown College Park north to Greenbelt Road. This is a necessary first step to rebuild Route 1 into a "boulevard" type main street area. Construction money will still need to be secured from the state.

## New Carrollton Metro Station area (New Carrollton, West Lanham Hills)

We helped secure funding for a study to identify pedestrian safety improvements in and around the New Carrollton Metro Station. We are now in the process of applying for funding through the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and the U.S. Department of Transportation to fund these improvements.

## Pedestrian Safety in Your Neighborhood

While the pedestrian and bicycle improvements above are not a comprehensive list of what has been done in District 3 in recent years, they provide a good overview. I know there are more needs in our communities and hope to pursue additional improvements in the coming years. Please let me or my office know about specific safety problem areas for pedestrians and bicyclists. We will be happy to have our Department of Public Works and Transportation evaluate any problems and work toward solutions.

# Planning and Development Update

## Encouraging Revitalization

In spring 2010, my office hosted a tour of District 3 for prospective developers to encourage redevelopment and revitalization and introduce them to many of the opportunities that exist here. Over 50 developers, architects, and attorneys visited redevelopment opportunities in College Park, Riverdale Park, Riverdale, Glenridge/Landover Hills, and New Carrollton. The developers also had the opportunity to see where the proposed Purple Line stations would be located.



## New Carrollton Metro Plan and Future Development

In spring 2010, the update to the New Carrollton Metro Plan was approved by the County Council. The new plan expands the area eligible for mixed use development and laid the groundwork for the joint WMATA/MDOT partnership to identify a team to redevelop at the Metro station. On March 24, 2011, WMATA and MDOT announced that development team and I look forward to working with the community and developers to move development forward at this

important Metro Station. I'm also pleased to report that the State of Maryland's Department of Housing and Community Development, and related retail, office and housing will be coming to the New Carrollton Metro Station.

## US Route 1 Sector Plan and Development

The US Route 1 Sector Plan was approved in 2010 and establishes the parameters for continued revitalization along this corridor. I am pleased that some of the projects in the pipeline are moving forward and I look forward to a dynamic development at the University of Maryland's East Campus area. In addition, I have met with several developers who are interested in redeveloping underutilized or vacant property on the corridor.

## Route 450/Annapolis Road Sector Plan and Next Steps

This Sector Plan was approved in late 2010 to enhance the Annapolis Road corridor; improve pedestrian safety and connectivity; and prepare for the future Purple Line light rail. While a good portion of the plan is dependent on property owner interest in redeveloping, I am working with the State Highway Administration to begin to make some of the improvements along the corridor, including restriping Route 450 to include bike lanes. A new restaurant is arriving at Capital Plaza and I am actively working to attract a grocery store to this location.

## Central Kenilworth Avenue Community Development Corporation



The Central Kenilworth Avenue Community Development Corporation (CDC) has been created. This is an outgrowth of a planning study completed in 2009. The CDC is working on a host of projects including greening the corridor; working with small businesses; and seeking solutions for loitering. If you live in the Kenilworth Avenue Corridor, you may become involved with this group by contacting Lenny Wertz at [juslenny@hotmail.com](mailto:juslenny@hotmail.com).

## Purple Line Update

The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) continues to hold community meetings on the proposed Purple Line and will be fine-tuning their engineering work and other details of the proposed line now that the "green light" to move forward has been given by the Federal Transit Administration. Please participate in community meetings. For more details on meetings, visit: [www.purplelinemd.gov](http://www.purplelinemd.gov).

In addition to the work MTA is conducting, the Prince George's Planning Department has hired a consultant team to closely examine the proposed stations at Adelphi Road, College Park Metro Station, River Road-M-Square, Kenilworth Avenue-Riverdale Park, and Beacon Heights to prepare recommendations to ensure that these stations are well-planned, pedestrian accessible, and are appropriately zoned to encourage redevelopment.

# New Route 1 Ride Bus 17

One of the many initiatives I have been working on to revitalize our area is the “Route 1 Ride” project involving the Route 17 County bus (TheBus) serving the Route 1 Corridor from Mt. Rainier to North College Park. The Route 1 Corridor is in the midst of redeveloping, with new space construction and activity occurring along many parts of this boulevard.

However, Route 1 has much existing “through” traffic, and little possibility to construct additional lanes due to right-of-way limitations. The long-term vision for Route 1 includes a transportation system that provides connectivity to every part of the Corridor, coordinating transit providers like the University of Maryland, Metrobus, and others to avoid duplication and overlapping service routes as much as possible. This service will ultimately have limited wait times, extended hours, weekend service, and use of modern buses.

Two years ago, community leaders and I worked with the Department of Public Works & Transportation (DPW&T) to modify the existing bus route so that TheBus Route 17 ran the length of the Corridor from Mount Rainier to North College Park. Recently, an additional bus was added to the route and service was extended to the College Park Metro Station. Headway times have been reduced to 25 minutes, and ridership is up 35 percent from last year.



The next phase is to “brand” the service so any regular or potential rider can recognize the unique “Route 1 Ride” symbol and know that a “branded” bus can take them to virtually any point in the Corridor. Branding will include distributing brochures as well as “wrapping” one or more buses with a creative design that promotes the Arts District, municipalities, and points of interest along Route 1. Later we plan to create and distribute marketing brochures called “Z-Cards” that will list everything from places to eat, hotels, historic sites, retail stores, and grocery markets.

Moving forward, we are working on more ways to provide excellent bus service with the Route 1 Ride. For example, partnering with the University of Maryland, all students and staff now only need to show their ID to ride without paying upfront; the cost is paid in a lump sum monthly through the UMD Transportation Services Department. In addition, we are working with DPW&T to provide for “day passes”- which would require a small fee by a patron and allow them to ride the bus all day. This would be ideal for residents who may need to make several stops regularly on the bus, or visitors who want to park their vehicles in one place and utilize the bus and visit several sites along the corridor. In addition, the County has received federal grants that will be providing infrastructure improvements such as queue jump lanes and transit signal prioritization, reducing headway times.

Stay tuned for the launch of the next exciting new phase of public transportation along the Route 1 Corridor. And in the future, if you need to get to a destination along Route 1, consider leaving the car behind and take the Route 1 Ride- you’ll be part of fulfilling the vision for the Route 1 Corridor. More details can be found at [www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/Government/AgencyIndex/DPW&T/Transit/thebus.asp](http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/Government/AgencyIndex/DPW&T/Transit/thebus.asp).

# New Stormwater Management Law

In 2007, the State Legislature passed a law mandating counties to adopt stricter stormwater management rules when developers seek to build. The law set minimum standards that new development must address 100 percent of runoff for new development, and 50 percent for redevelopment sites. With Prince George's waterways severely impaired, and many communities experiencing water and flooding problems, I felt it was important for the County Council to adopt strong standards. I also wanted to encourage quality redevelopment and revitalization of our commercial areas. We need environmentally sensitive development that respects existing neighborhoods, while greening and enhancing our communities. Montgomery County has had strong stormwater standards for new development and redevelopment for years, and my feeling was that we should demand no less.

Developers sought minimum County standards while many community and environmental advocates sought stronger rules. In the end, the bill was weaker than I hoped, but it was a bill of compromises that places Prince George's second in the state for the strength of stormwater regulations. As Chair of the Transportation, Housing and Environment Committee, I helped forge the compromise that elevated the standard for higher water quality and quantity protection. In the final bill, redevelopment projects will have to capture and treat 75 percent of their runoff starting in 2014, and meet a 100 percent standard in 2019. Until 2014, they will have to meet the State mandated 50-percent minimum standard. For sites that legitimately cannot meet these standards due to site constraints, there are alternatives like off-site mitigation, and paying a fee-in-lieu to address flooding in a watershed. We also inserted a tax-credit for projects that raise their stormwater management at least 25 percent above the minimum. Another Council addition to the bill responded to a request by municipalities and others to receive notice of the filing of stormwater concept plans by developers. In the past, stormwater concept plans would be signed off by County reviewers without knowledge or notice to the affected communities.

This bill passed the Council in late spring and was signed into law by County Executive Baker. While the bill is not perfect, it represents a big step forward for controlling runoff and cleaning our water.

## Economic Development Incentive Fund

County Executive Baker has proposed a \$50 million fund to help attract employers to Prince George's County and to grow our job and commercial base. Right now, because we do not have as large a commercial and office sector, the County relies heavily on residential property tax revenue. We must attract new jobs and new investment to grow our tax base so we can expand funding for schools, infrastructure and other services, without relying so much on residential taxes. This Economic Development Incentive Fund (EDIF) would also make lesser amounts available to small businesses that demonstrate they are a worthy investment. Only \$7 million of the fund would be available each year, and the funds would be replenished as the county would recoup its investment over time.

While I supported this fund, and I believe it will help push the County forward on economic development, I wanted to ensure there will be proper oversight and that checks and balances are safeguarded. The County Executive proposed that an independent panel of financial professionals will scrutinize each deal, and will be empowered to do the fiscal analysis regarding what deals would make a wise investment. However, the County Council also has a fiduciary responsibility and must ensure that taxpayer money is well spent. We worked through the details of the EDI Fund with the County Executive to ensure proper safeguards and oversight, while removing politics from the process and retaining the necessary flexibility for consummating big economic development deals. The Council also pushed the direction of the bill to focus the funds more toward investment in redevelopment and revitalization - including transit-oriented development - so that the County is not spending taxpayer money to help finance sprawl outside the Beltway. I believe that properly managed, and by making wise investment decisions, the use of these funds will pay off for the County many times over by creating a more robust local economy that diversifies and expands our tax and jobs base.



*Uncontrolled stormwater, from streets, parking lots, and exposed ground, cause sediment in the waters of the Anacostia Northeast Branch near Riverdale, Md.*

# Strengthening Our Community

*Removing blight is a community effort. If you have a neighborhood blight concern, please contact the County at the following numbers so the problem can be resolved. Also, feel free to call Council Member Olson's office directly at 301-952-3060 for assistance.*

*Residents of Berwyn Heights, College Park, Landover Hills, New Carrollton, Riverdale Park, and University Park should first contact your local municipality. Blight concerns in these areas are mostly handled by city or town government.*

Illegal Dumping (parks, behind businesses, on roadways)	301-499-8520
Abandoned Vehicles, Vehicles on property (Unlicensed, Expired Tags, Dismantled, Inoperative, etc.)	301-883-6100
Parking on Front Lawns	301-772-2060
Boarded House Violations	301-883-6100
Commercial Vehicles/Tractor-trailers (parked in home driveways or county roads)	301-925-9448
Graffiti	301-699-2980 in Police District 1
Tree Trimming/Dead Trees	301-499-8520
Damaged/Missing Signage and Markings	301-883-5600
Bulk Pickups	301-952-7600
Unkept Sites (Construction: Dirt all over the roads, etc.)	301-883-6100
Illegal Mobile Vendors (selling food/wares on roadside, in parking lots)	301-883-6100
Abandoned Homes	301-883-6100
Tall Grass/Weeds	301-883-6100
Trash/debris around Premises/Unightly Property	301-883-6100
Residential Car Repair or Sales (home business)	301-883-6100
Open Storage (automotive parts/tires, indoor appliances, construction debris, etc)	301-883-6100
Illegal Signs (A-Frames, Banners, Pennants, Whirly, lawn signs along roadways)	301-883-5600
Litter	301-499-8520
Roadway Maintenance	301-499-8520
Street Lights (existing)	1-877-737-2662 or 1-800-685-0123 (BGE)
Storm Drain Maintenance	301-499-8520
Resurfacing	301-883-5600
Sidewalks	301-883-5600
Curbs and Gutters	301-883-5600
County Right-Of-Way Maintenance	301-883-5600
State Right-Of-Way Maintenance	301-776-7619
Traffic Signals	301-883-5650

**Prince George's County**  
**Eric Olson, Council Member District 3**  
**Together Strengthening Our Communities**  
**Website: [www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/district3](http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/district3)**  
**Phone: 301.952.3060**

Updated June 2011

# Additional Important Numbers

Requests for New or Improved Street Lights	301-883-5650
Requests for Speed Humps on County Streets	301-883-5710
Voter Registration	301-430-8020
Mosquito Control	301-422-5080
Animal Complaints	301-780-7200
Snow Removal	301-350-0500
Police District 1 (University Park, College Park, Riverdale Park, Riverdale, Beacon Heights, West Lanham Hills, New Carrollton, Landover Hills)	301-699-2630
Police District 2 (Seabrook, Lanham, Glenn Dale)	301-390-2100
MNCPPC Park Police	301-459-3232
Fire/EMS Non-Emergency	301-352-1200
Board of Education	301-952-6115
Department of Aging	301-265-8450
Prince George's Community College	301-336-6000
Department of Environmental Resources	301-883-5810
Department of Public Works and Transportation	301-883-5600
Prince George's County Planning Department	301-952-3650
Prince George's Parks and Recreation	301-699-2255
<b>Free</b> Smoke Detectors	Call your local fire station
<b>Free Guides:</b>	
Homeowner's Guide to Property Maintenance	301-883-5810
Guide to the Permit Process	301-883-5810
Park and Recreation Guide - classes for children and adults	301-699-2255

## Interested in Becoming More Involved In Your Community?

Here are a few ways to get started:

### *Join the Community Partners Program*

The Department of Public Works and Transportation is looking for residents to serve as their eyes and ears by becoming volunteer inspectors. Help the department by identifying problems such as snow and ice removal before they become major community concerns. Contact Susan Hubbard at 301-883-5600 for more information.

### *Join or Start a Neighborhood Watch Program*

Help the police by reporting suspicious activity. Find out more about your local neighborhood watch by contacting Kim Lugo, Police District 1 at 301-345-2553 or Sgt. James Rodgers, Police District 2 at 301-390-2184.

### *Coordinate a Neighborhood Cleanup*

You supply the volunteers and gloves and the Department of Environmental Resources will provide a dumpster for a neighborhood cleanup. Contact Valerie Watson at 301-574-5870 to coordinate.

### *Join or Start a Citizen Association*

Working together with other members of your community can help your neighborhood more effectively advocate your concerns. Contact Wanda Brooks at 301-952-3060 to find out about your local citizen association or for assistance in starting one.

### *Volunteer With Your Local School or Senior Center*

Many Prince George's County organizations are looking for volunteers. To find your perfect fit, please reference the 'Important Numbers' above.

—Please Keep For Reference—



# Proposed Legislation

## A Sampling of Several Bills Proposed by Vice Chair Olson

**Restrictions on Adult Entertainment.** Throughout the County, we have seen improbable buildings, such as an auto repair garage, turn into “strip clubs” at night, often next to residential communities. These establishments have caused problems for adjacent neighborhoods ranging from shootings and prostitution to speeding, noise, and littering. The “clubs” have been able to persist because of a loophole. Property owners have, in the past, requested an “auditorium” designation as part of their use designation and then they assert that nude dancing is protected under the Constitution as freedom of expression. This has meant that Police and other County agencies must expend resources to deal with these situations, but the core loophole allowing this has persisted. My bill would deem these auditorium uses as a “Special Exception” to the land use rules, and these property owners would have to reapply for the auditorium use. “Special Exceptions,” however, require a public hearing where residents may testify and the County Council would make a final ruling on whether to grant such an exception for such a use.

**Pedestrian and bicycle accommodations in Development Projects.** Today, when a development is proposed, applicants must meet certain requirements for accommodating traffic and meeting other “Adequate Public Facilities” (APF). There is little that governs a project’s adequacy for accommodating pedestrians and bicyclists. We have all seen sidewalks that abruptly end, or barren stretches between sidewalks. My bill would create a new APF requirement to help ensure that a person could safely and easily reach a new building by bike or on foot, that connections are made to nearby bike paths and sidewalks, and that any gaps inhibiting walking or biking are addressed within a reasonable distance.

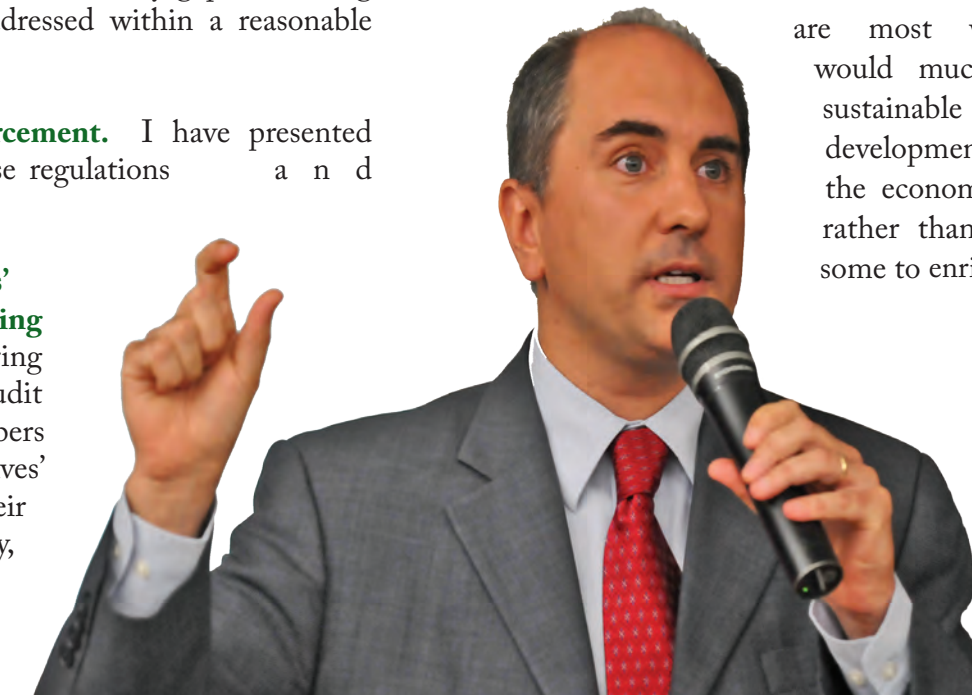
**Tightening Noise Enforcement.** I have presented legislation to tighten noise regulations and increase fines.

**Audit of Elected Officials’ office spending upon leaving office.** I am sponsoring legislation to mandate an audit of County Council Members and County Executives’ office spending upon their leaving office. Currently, there is a requirement that when department directors leave office, their spending must be audited.

**Car-Sharing.** In an effort to spur transit-oriented development and reduce car trips, I introduced a bill to encourage car sharing arrangements in developments near transit stations. My bill would reduce the number of parking spaces that developers must build for residential units if they have an arrangement with a car-sharing company (such as “Zip Car”). At developments within a half mile of Metro stations, for each car-share car provided, the development could reduce parking spaces by 8 cars. But there is a limit to how many spaces could be reduced. At transit stations and in urban areas, a couple may opt to own only one car (or no car) and use a car-share car when needed.

**Prohibiting Slot Machines in the County.** In 2008, a statewide referendum passed allowing slot machines in Maryland. The legislation specifically outlined that Prince George’s County would not be a site for slots. Consistent with the state referendum, I introduced a bill in 2009 that would have classified slot machines as a prohibited use in all of our land use zones (just in case a future effort to legalize them in the County would surface). This legislation did not make it through the County Council at that time. With a new County Council and a new County Executive, I re-introduced this bill. While casinos have their place in entertainment, having parlors for slots in the County could prey upon people who sink their money, hopes and dreams into a machine that gives back less than it takes in. While some players may win, these machines can be addictive and take in much more than is rewarded in jackpots. With record foreclosures, unemployment, and tough economic times, slots could hurt

individuals and families who are most vulnerable. I would much rather see sustainable economic development that expands the economic pie for all rather than taking from some to enrich others.





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## Improvements coming to the Herbert Wells Ice Rink and Ellen E. Linson Pool

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) will oversee a major, multi-year renovation of the Wells-Linson Ice Rink and Outdoor Pool. The work will be done in several phases over a two-year period to eliminate the need to close either facility and lose a swim or skate season. Planned improvements include: new roofing material, overhead lighting, concrete slab, chiller and piping system, and fresh paint at the rink; a new and redesigned outdoor pool with water play components and an accompanying bathhouse; and code compliance, and energy efficiency upgrades throughout the warming hut, including a total upgrade to the restrooms.

· Installation of the new ice rink roofing material will occur this fall before the start of the winter skating season. The rink's concrete slab and chiller equipment will be replaced during the spring and summer of 2012. Replacement of the slab and chiller equipment will impact the ability to access or use the ice rink floor for camp and other activities in summer 2012. Announcements regarding temporary locations for indoor summer programs will be forthcoming from M-NCPPC.

· M-NCPPC is engaging an architectural and engineering team to design the new outdoor pool and bathhouse facility. Construction of the new pool will start at the close of the 2012 swim season and will be complete in time for the 2013 swim season. Interior renovations to the warming hut are planned to commence early spring 2013, continue through the summer, and wrap-up before the start of the 2013 winter skating season.

If you would like more information, please contact Eileen Nivera, Northern Area Planner for the M-NCPPC, 301-699-2522.