



*MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION/LEGISLATIVE DINNER held Monday, December 15, 2008 , at the Greenbelt Marriott, for the purpose of discussing the City's legislative priorities for 2009 .*

*Mayor Davis convened the meeting at 8:30 p.m.*

**PRESENT WERE:** *Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Edward V.J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts, and Mayor Judith F. Davis.*

**STAFF PRESENT WERE:** *Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager; Robert A. Manzi and John Shay, City Solicitors; David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.*

**ALSO PRESENT WERE:** *State Senator Paul Pinsky; State Delegates Anne Healey, Tawanna Gaines and Justin Ross; and County Councilmembers Ingrid M. Turner and Thomas E. Dernoga.*

*Mayor Davis welcomed the legislators and thanked them for attending. She reviewed the City's priorities in the order in which they appeared in the Legislative Program booklet.*

### **State Issues**

**Enable New Site Plan Authority :** *Mayor Davis requested support for MC/PG 108 requiring the County to delegate additional planning and zoning authority to interested municipalities. Delegate Healey said the smaller municipalities in the County have expressed concern over passage of this bill as they feel it will allow the larger municipalities to be more successful in attracting new development. It was suggested to work with the Prince George 's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) to gain support from the smaller municipalities.*

**Public Safety Funding County Radio Upgrade :** *The City is hopeful that funding through the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention, or other State agency, can be identified to help fund this purchase. Delegates Gaines and Ross said they were working on an approach to obtain federal funding for the radio upgrade.*

**Funding for Greenbelt Lake Dredging :** *Delegate Ross said the only State funding available had to be used for improvements to navigational waterways.*

**Encourage/Require Gas Stations to Offer Alternative Fuels :** *Mr. McLaughlin explained the City was requesting incentives be provided to existing service stations to provide CNG or ethanol fueling options and mentioned the interest of the cities of College Park, Hyattsville and the University of Maryland. Senator Pinsky asked for a cost estimate and he would talk with the Maryland Energy Administration. Delegate Ross indicated there was money available to expand the City CNG facility as long as other municipalities and/or the public were allowed access.*

## ***County Issues***

Greenbelt Middle School : *Councilmember Turner referenced Senator Miller's request for the Interagency Committee on School Construction (IAC) to make changes to their priority list. Senator Pinsky stated there was a clear and concise need for funding to be kept in place for Greenbelt Middle School . Ms. Turner agreed and indicated her support.*

Reestablish County Landlord Tenant Commission : *Councilmember Dernoga said support was needed from the PGCMA in order to move forward with this request. Mayor Davis said she would address the issue at the next PGCMA meeting.*

Increase M-NCPPC Funds Provided to Greenbelt : *Mayor Davis said any help with increasing these funds would be appreciated.*

New Greenbelt Fire Station : *Mayor Davis said any help with funding for land acquisition and construction would be appreciated.*

## ***Alert Items***

*There was discussion regarding cutback in the County and State budgets.*

## ***Other Issues of City Interest***

***The following items were listed as being of interest: Opposition to Kenilworth Avenue (MD201) Extension/Expansion; Support for Purple Line/Opposition to Intercounty Connector; Prohibition of Transfer of Gas Station Liquor Licenses; Financial Reporting for Circulation of Municipal Petitions; Additional Funding for Noise Barriers; Full Funding of Bridge to Excellence (Thornton); Creation of Container Deposit Program; Municipal Electric Aggregation; Increased Penalties for Red Light Camera Violations (assess points, remove license); and Transit Service Issues.***

## ***Maryland Municipal League Legislative Program***

The Maryland Municipal League's priorities were listed: *Vehicle Speed Monitoring Systems; Initiative to Study Municipal Revenue Structure; and Local Government Energy Assistance Program.*

## ***Prince George's County Municipal Association Legislative Program***

The Prince George 's County Municipal Association priorities were listed: *Speed Cameras, Reinstate & Fund Landlord-Tenant Commission; and Mansionization/Neighborhood Standards.*

*The legislators thanked the City for its hospitality, and Council thanked them for coming.*

*The meeting ended at 9:57 pm .*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Cindy Murray*

*City Clerk*