City of Greenbelt

City Manager's Report Week Ending July 10, 2020

- 1. Thank you to staff throughout the organization who worked during the July 4th holiday weekend to keep everyone safe. This includes Police, Public Works, and Recreation. Thank you to Recreation and Public Information for the virtual celebration.
- 2. Thank you to police officers who supported various community activities, from the peaceful community demonstrations, to designing and implementing traffic control plans for Restoration Church's outdoor worship and distributions (two distributions held on separate days). Officers received praise from a demonstration participant and the Church, expressing appreciation for professionalism, kindness, and braving the elements.
- 3. Thank you to Gil Cabrera, Supervisory Code Enforcement Officer, who helped connect property management, resident, and Pepco to address the needs of a building without power for 48-hours.
- 4. Attached please find a copy of the County Council District 4 newsletter.
- 5. Attached is a County update from Ms. Hill.
- 6. Chief Bowers reports that as usual, the County continues to handle 911 calls uninterrupted, while the locally published City police emergency line was impacted by a private company's error. The issue continues to be reviewed. Notification will be made when complete.
- 7. Working with staff on emergency recovery efforts, including walk through of proposed facility improvements with staff and contractor.
- 8. Along with Dr. Park, Christal Batey, Anne Marie Belton, and Charise Liggins, I participated in a conference call with non-profits and faith and spiritual organizations regarding relief programs and experiences to date to assist the City in providing support to the community. This included discussion on food, rent, utility, and business relief, as well as exchanging information about other suggested areas for consideration. Questions raised included recreation for youth, potential to expand access to internet for seniors and low-income individuals and families (particularly Franklin Park Apartments), and volunteer opportunities. Meals on Wheels has continued need for volunteers to serve increased demand for service (throughout the service area). Availability of services by text messaging, as well as delivery options for seniors and the disabled were also shared. Language needs are being met by volunteers, with the main language beyond English being Spanish; however additional support would be helpful. Resources will be updated on the City website, including the upcoming County Council District 4 food distribution for senior citizens on July 29 and the City food and housing relief programs.
- 9. As noted in an earlier daily report, please look at the online Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the I-495 & I-270 Management Lanes Study. Here is the link: https://495-270-p3.com/DEIS. Comments and speakers are sought. Thank you to Terri Hruby, Megan Young, Greg Varda and Joe McNeal for work on monitoring and responding to prior requests regarding sensitive areas that might be impacted.

- 10. As noted earlier this week, the City received the Royal Farms applicant's detailed site plan and the departure application. Planner Molly Porter met with the applicant and will share a proposed schedule. As noted last month, M-NCPPC accepted the application, yet inadvertently also accepted signage process that normally would be considered by the City.
- 11. The Greenbelt Branch Library Manager confirmed that the curbside pick-up/walk-up service will start on July 21. The service will be provided in the rear parking lot by appointment only.
- 12. Charise Liggins has helped promote M & T Bank's virtual webinar series to Greenbelt businesses. Information is posted on the City website.
- 13. Welcome to Wendy Soriano, accounting technician. Ms. Soriano started work in Finance this week.
- 14. Met and teleconferenced with staff and legal counsel regarding personnel, operations and legal matters.

15. Assistant City Manager

a. On leave.

16. City Treasurer/Finance

- a. The interim fieldwork for the annual audit began this week; things went smoothly. The fieldwork is scheduled for August 10 through August 21. Finance staff will spend the rest of the month closing FY 2020 and preparing for the audit.
- b. Began preparing audit confirmation letters.

17. Information Technology

a. On leave.

18. Economic Development

- a. COVID19 Outreach
 - Local restaurants
 - Local retail
 - Local economic developers
- b. Meetings & Webinars
 - Bisnow Commercial Real Estate Leadership Series
- c. Economic Development Admin
 - Outreach to businesses to touch base about COVID-19 reopening, recovery and ongoing needs
 - Working with staff to coordinate communications about COVID-19 to the community.

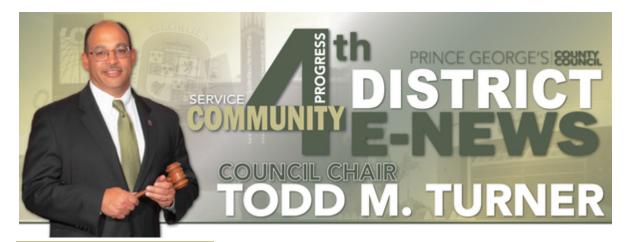
cc: Department Heads
David Moran, Assistant City Manager
Mary Johnson, Human Resources Officer
Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

From: Prince George's County Council District 4 [mailto:District4@pgccouncil.us]

Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2020 6:48 PM

To: Nicole Ard

Subject: 4th District - Special Edition E-News from Council Chair Todd M. Turner



July 2020

QUICK LINKS

Prince George's County
Government

<u>Chair Turner's Facebook</u> <u>Page</u>

Chair Turner's Web Page

District 4 Web Page

Prince George's County
Public Schools

Connect to the City of Bowie

Connect to the City of Greenbelt

Bowie BIC

CouncilConnection

Prince George's

Message from Chair Turner

Welcome to a Special Edition of the 4th District Legislative Email Newsletter. This Email Newsletter provides information on Council Bill CB-48-2020, a proposed Charter Amendment on the County's Homestead Property Tax Credit Cap that may be placed on the November 2020 General Election ballot for voters in the County.

First, I think it is important to share with you background information, the history of the Homestead Property Tax Credit Cap and information on recent County efforts to address our fiscal situation. Second, it is also important that you understand the Charter Amendment process and what CB-48-2020 is and is not. Lastly, to explain the context that the County is in as we start a conversation to address larger issues currently facing us.

<u>Upcoming Virtual Public Forum</u> <u>Monday July 13th - 7:00pm</u>

County Memorial Library System

Bowie Branch

South Bowie Branch

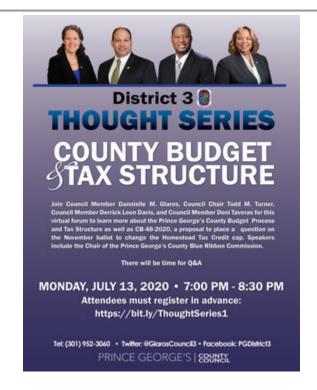
Greenbelt Branch

M-NCPPC Parks & Recreation

County Financial Condition Studies

Within the past several years, the County and Council have undertaken substantial reviews of our financial conditions and programs. Here's a brief summary and links to recent reports conducted:

Blue Ribbon
Commission on
Addressing Prince
George's County's
Structural Deficit

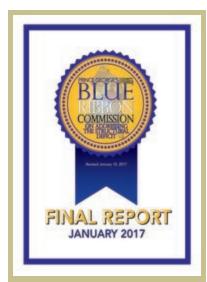


I will be joining my Council colleague Dannielle Glaros (District 3), along with Council Members Deni Taveras (District 2), and Derrick L. Davis (District 6), to discuss the County's tax structure, CB-48-2020 and the Blue Ribbon Commission report (see below). Please see the flyer for registration information for the virtual forum or click <a href="https://example.com/here-name="https://example.com/he

State Homestead Property Tax Credit

The Homestead Property Tax Credit is a State enacted program (Section 9-105 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland) which spreads out over a three-year process the implementation of the real property tax for any increase in the assessed value of one's primary residence.

The Homestead Credit limits the increase in taxable assessments each year to a fixed percentage. Every county and municipality in Maryland is required to limit



In 2016, the County Council established a 15-member Blue Ribbon Commission charged with recommending policies to the County Council and County Executive that will address the County's structural deficit – the imbalance caused when normal government spending exceeds tax revenues on an annual basis.

assessment taxable assessment taxable assessment.

collected. Commission reviewed and discussed comparative budget data and information regarding Prince George's County's fiscal health; policies and practices that affect Prince George's County's revenue structure and the strength of its tax base; the structure and fiscal dynamics of the Prince George's County Government; and feedback from community stakeholders concerning the County's budget and tax structure. link

The Commission's Final Report was issued in January 2017 and made several recommendations, including seeking the repeal of the Cap on the Homestead Property Tax Credit to give the County more flexibility. For a copy of the Final Report and other

taxable assessment increases to 10% or less each year. For a property owner to be eligible to receive the credit, the property owner must have owned the property for at least one year, it must be their principal residence, and they must submit a one-time application. Under State law, every property (residential and commercial) is assessed every three (3) years based on market value, construction costs and/or other information.

Here is an example of this process:

Assume that your home's old assessment was \$100,000 and your new phased-in assessment for the first year is \$120,000. State law provides for an assessment cap of 10% which would then limit your taxable assessment to \$110,000. The difference in property taxes based on the uncapped assessment of \$120,000 and capped assessment of \$110,000 would be \$100, at a property tax rate of \$1.00 per \$100 of assessment.

This table shows the most recent Homestead Assessment Caps for all Maryland Counties and Baltimore City (including the County's approved percentage FY 2021 that began July 1st):

HOMESTEAD ASSESSMENT CAPS (Maryland Counties)						
COUNTY	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021			
Allegany	4%	4%				
Anne Arundel	2%	2%				
Baltimore City	4%	4%				
Baltimore	4%	4%				
Calvert	10%	10%				
Caroline	5%	5%				
Carroll	5%	5%				
Cecil	4%	4%				
Charles	7%	7%				
Dorc hester	5%	5%				
Frederic k	5%	5%				
Garrett	5%	5%				
Harford	5%	5%				
Howard	5%	5%				
Kent	5%	5%				
Montgomery	10%	10%				
Prince George's	2%	3%	2%			
Queen Anne's	5%	5%				
St. Mary's	5%	5%				
Somerset	10%	10%				
Talbot	0%	0%				
Washington	5%	5%				
Wicomico	5%	5%				
Wordester	3%	3%				

materials, please link to

Prince George's County Tax Credit Reform Commission



In 2018 the County Council established a 17-member Prince George's County Tax Credit Reform Commission to review and analyze all existing and proposed tax credits in the County to determine the tax credit's effectiveness, utilization, and efficacy in the County, and to recommend reform of the tax credit policy based on its review and deliberations.

This Commission issued its final report in September 2018 and found that the Homestead Property Tax Credit was the largest of the all the tax credits in the County, representing approximately \$51.5 million or 81% of all tax credits in Fiscal Year 2018 dollars. Commission also posed several questions about expansion of additional tax credits, including recommending any additional real property tax credits.

For a copy of the Final Report and other materials, please click

This table shows the most recent Homestead Assessment Caps for Large Municipalities in Maryland (population > than 5,000), including those in Prince George's (including the cities of Bowie and Greenbelt which I represent):

Table 7 HOMESTEAD ASSESSMENT CAPS (Large Maryland Municipalities)					
MUNICIPALITY	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021		
Aberdeen		10%			
Annapolis		10%			
Bel Air		10%			
Bladensburg		10%			
Bowie		5%			
Brunswick		5%			
Cambridge		5%			
Chesapeake Beach		10%			
Chestertown		5%			
Cheverly		10%			
College Park		0%			
Cumberland		4%			
District Heights		10%			
Easton		10%			
⊟kton		8%			
Frederick City		5%			
Frostburg		6%			
Fruitland		10%			
Gaithersburg		10%			
Glenarden		3%			
Greenbelt		10%			
Hagerstown		5%			
Hampstead		7%			
Havre de Grace		5%			
Hyattsville		10%			
La Plata		7%			
Laurel		10%			
Mount Airy		0%			
Mount Rainier		10%			
New Carrollton		10%			
Ocean City		0%			
Poolesville		10%			
Riverdale Park		10%			
Rockville		10%			
Salisbury		0%			
Takoma Park		10%			
Taneytown		10%			
Thurmont		5%			
Walkersville		10%			
Westminster		7%			
roe: Maryland State Department of					

Cap History In Prince George's County

In 1992, the residents of the County, through a voter approved referendum question, imposed the current County Homestead Property Tax Credit Cap in the County Charter Section 812 (d):

this link.

Both reports, by member of the community, key stakeholders and professional County staff, fiscal conditions that gave rise to the Council's conversation and consideration of current Charter Amendment.

County Executive Updates



Today Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks delivered a press conference to provide an update to the community on the County's COVID-19 response and recovery. Please click here to view the press conference.

Bulky Trash

Modified bulky trash drop-off collections continue throughout the nine councilmanic districts through August 1, 2020. See the flyer for upcoming locations and visit the Department of the Environment website for a complete list.

"In accordance with the provisions of Section 9-105 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, on or before January 1 of each year, the County Council shall set, by law, the homestead credit raise serious issues about the percentage for the taxable year beginning the following County's current and future July 1. The homestead credit percentage shall be no greater than 100% plus the percentage of increase in the Consumer Price Index for the previous twelve months, rounded to the nearest whole number, but not more than 105%."

> Prince George's has operated under this Cap for over 28 years which has had a financial impact on both our residents and the County. For a listing of the Cap amounts since the County Cap was imposed, click this link. Please note that the County has only hit the 105% Cap twice in almost 30 years because of the CPI requirement.

This Table shows the impact of the self-imposed 5% or CPI Cap over the past ten (10) County Fiscal Years:

Homestead Tax Credit Cap and Related Foregone Revenue (Fiscal Years 2012 Through 2021)						
Fiscal Year	County Credit Cap	(In Millions)				
		Revenue Foregone at County Cap	Revenue Foregone at 10% State Cap	Difference		
2021	102%	\$78.5	\$58.5	\$20.0		
2020	103%	\$71.2	\$53.4	\$17.8		
2019	102%	\$66.1	\$46.3	\$19.8		
2018	101%	\$39.6	\$19.4	\$20.2		
2017	100%	\$23.5	\$12.2	\$11.3		
2016	102%	\$24.6	\$13.3	\$11.3		
2015	102%	\$28.1	\$16.4	\$11.7		
2014	102%	\$57.0	\$41.3	\$15.7		
2013	104%	\$101.9	\$87.0	\$14.9		
2012	101%	\$244.4	\$214.3	\$30.1		
		\$734.8	\$562.1	\$172.7		

CB-48-2020 - Proposed Charter **Amendment**

CB-48-2020 is NOT a tax increase, it is a proposed Charter Amendment that would be decided by Prince George's County voters in the November General Election. In addition, CB-48-2020 does not impact TRIM (Tax Reform Initiative by Marylanders) the property tax restrictions adopted in the 1970s in the



Maryland Health Connection



The deadline to enroll in health insurance through Maryland Health Connection has been extended until July 15. If you need health insurance, you can get covered by visiting this link.

Stand Up an Deliver

County.

CB-48-2020, as proposed by Council Member Derrick L. Davis, would ask County voters to consider whether to change the County's Charter Section 812. It would ask the following question in November:

"In accordance with the provisions of Section 9-105 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, on or before [January 1] March 15 of each year, the County Council shall set, by law, the homestead credit percentage for the taxable year beginning the following July 1. The homestead credit percentage shall be no [greater] less than 100% [plus the percentage of increase in the Consumer Price Index for the previous twelve months, rounded to the nearest whole number, but not more than 105%.] or exceed 110% for any taxable year; and shall be expressed in increments of 1 percentage point."

Therefore CB-48-2020 would do two things: (1) change the date by which the County would set the homestead credit percentage from January to March (as now required by State law) and (2) remove the Consumer Price Index (CPI) requirement and the 105% Cap.

If adopted (ratified) in the November General Election, this would put Prince George's County in the same position as almost every other County and municipal government in the State of Maryland. This process would allow the County Executive and Council, as part of our annual budget review public process, to determine the percentage of the homestead tax credit without artificial restrictions and gives your elected officials the discretion. It would not require a change in the homestead tax credit percentage nor would it require the County to increase it.

Charter Amendment Process

Section 1105 of the County Charter sets for the procedure and timing for a Charter Amendment question to be placed on the ballot for



Through the partnership with the Capital Area Food Bank and the Prince George's County Council, we will distribute groceries to go on Friday, July 10 at 12:30 PM at five locations across the County: Beltsville Seventh Day Adventist Church in Beltsville, Community of Hope A.M.E. Church in Temple Hills, The First Baptist Church of District Heights in District Heights, Mt. Ennon Baptist Church in Clinton, and The the voters of the County." Sanctuary at Kingdom Square in Upper Marlboro.

If you are in need of food assistance, please stop by one of these distribution locations additional food distribution locations on our website by clicking here.

Contact the District 4 Team

Tomeka C. Bumbry Chief of Staff/ **Legislative Aide** tcbumbry@co.pg.md.us

Evelyn Archie Community Outreach Coordinator

consideration. Section 1105. - Charter Amendment states:

"Amendments to this Charter may be proposed by an act of the Council approved by not less than two-thirds of the members of the full Council, and such action shall be exempt from executive veto. Amendments may also be proposed by petition filed with the County Executive and signed by 10,000 registered voters of the County. When so proposed, whether by act of the Council or by petition, the question shall be submitted to the voters of the County at the next general election occurring after the passage of said act or the filing of said petition; and if at said election the majority of votes cast on the guestion shall be in favor of the proposed amendment, such amendment shall stand adopted from and after the thirtieth day following said election. Any amendments to this Charter, proposed in the manner aforesaid, shall be published by the County Executive in the County newspapers of record and in media for public notice as defined in Section 1008 of this Charter for five successive weeks prior to the election at which the question shall be considered by

In order to meet the Charter and State law certification requirements, as well as the Council legislative calendar, any Council Charter Amendment would have to be introduced by the end of June, subject to a Public this week. You can also find Hearing and enacted by the end of July. In this case, CB-48-2020 was presented on June 23rd, heard in our Committee of the Whole and favorably recommended by a vote of 8-3.

> It will now go to a Public Hearing on Tuesday July 21st prior to any vote by the Council to place it on the ballot. The Council will also adopt legislation for the ordering of all questions on the November ballot (On June 23rd the Council also approved five (5) bond bills for referendum, which will also have public hearings on the proposed Charter the 21st). lf enacted, Amendment in CB-48-2020 would have to be certified by the County Attorney and transmitted to the County Board of Elections for placement on the November General Election ballot for County voters.

ejarchie@co.pg.md.us

Rhonda Tinsley Administrative Aide/Grants Administrator rtinsley@co.pg.md.us

Martin A. Mitchell Constituent Services Aide mamitchell@co.pg.md.us Please visit the Clerk of the Council <u>website</u> for instructions on public participation, including providing written testimony or verbal comments to the Council.

Community Conversations

The impact of the current public health emergency caused by COVID-19 and police brutality are forcing our nation and this County to re-examine ourselves and our priorities moving forward. George Floyd's death in police custody has fueled a movement in communities across our nation and here in Prince George's County, against police brutality and racial injustice and for social justice.

As local leaders, residents are asking that we do things differently and focus on making improvements in addressing these issues. We must work together to achieve the real transformative change we express as a nation and a community – the discussion on this nearly 30-year-old Cap should be part of that discussion as we begin to recover from COVID-19 and address these larger issues.

At the end of the day – the voters of this County would make the decision on the referendum on the Charter Amendment in November. I believe that the voters of Prince George's County are intelligent and sophisticated enough to evaluate this Charter Amendment and make the final decision in November.

We thank you again for your interest as a resident of Prince George's County. Please be safe and well. As always, please reach out to my office for any assistance you may need as we are operating remotely at this time.

I am Sincerely Yours in Service,



Hon. Todd M. Turner Council Chair 4th Council District

Service. Community. Progress

Chair Todd M. Turner 4th District



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RE: UPDATES JULY 10

НМ

Hill, Ola M. <OMHill@co.pg.md.us>

Fri 7/10/2020 2:32 PM

To: tjames@bladensburgmd.gov; tadams@cityofbowie.org; rocio.treminio-lopez@brentwoodmd.gov

+24 others

Cc: mbroadbent@berwynheightsmd.gov; vtinelli@bladensburgmd.gov; alott@cityofbowie.org

+162 others

- Library Book Drops Reopen: The Library has officially reopened book drops as part of their
 phased reopening plan. Most book drops are now open, except for a handful of locations. All
 open locations are noted on their graphic in the folder, and can also be found on their webpage,
 included below for your convenience:
 - a. https://pgcmls.info/reopening
- 2. CovidLink Social Media Campaign: CovidLink is the official contact tracing program used by the State of Maryland and our County Health Department. We are continuing to move forward with our awareness campaign around contact tracing. Included in the folder are several new graphics as part of this campaign, as well as social media language to go with each. Please help us regularly share this information on contact tracing throughout the next several weeks, as contact tracing is one of the critical tools we are relying on to ensure we continue to contain the spread of this virus in our community.

COVID Link Graphics

COVID Link - Slogan

Respond. Connect. Recover. CovidLINK is Maryland's contact tracing initiative, and it gives YOU the power to help protect your community from COVID-19.

Learn more at coronavirus.maryland.gov. #PGCCOVID19

COVID Link – Answer the Call

When you see "MD COVID" on your caller ID (or the phone number 240-466-4488), that means one of our public health professionals is reaching out with important information about COVID and your community. This is your opportunity to protect your family, friends and neighbors.

Together, we can stop the spread of COVID-19. Learn more at <u>coronavirus.maryland.gov.</u> #PGCCOVID19

COVID Link – Stop the Spread

When you see "MD COVID" on your caller ID (or the phone number 240-466-4488), that means one of our public health professionals is reaching out with an important message about how you can help stop the spread of COVID in your community. You have the power to protect your family, friends, and neighbors, so please pick up the phone.

Learn more about contact tracing in Maryland at <u>coronavirus.maryland.gov</u>.

COVID Link - When you see MD COVID

When someone is diagnosed positive with COVID, we make a phone call to that person within 24 hours. When you see MD COVID on your caller ID, you'll know to answer it because we're there to help you with managing your condition, and with getting resources that you need. If you don't have caller ID, look for the phone number (240) 466-4488.

If you let us know who you might've been in touch with, we can offer them the same kinds of resources, and we can minimize the spread of COVID-19. For FAQs, testimonials, and more about CovidLINK, visit coronavirus.maryland.gov. #PGCCOVID19

COVID Link - Save Lives

When you see "MD COVID" on your caller ID (or the phone number 240-466-4488), that means one of our public health professionals is reaching out with an important message about how you can help stop the spread of COVID in your community. You have the power to protect your family, friends, and neighbors, so please pick up the phone.

WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE CALLER ID?

Don't worry. If your phone doesn't show the name or company of the person calling you, look for the phone number (240) 466-4488. If you still have concerns about the identity of the caller, simply answer the phone and ask the caller to prove their identity. Our public health professionals will be more than happy to provide you with ways you can prove their legitimacy and feel at ease speaking with them.

Visit coronavirus.maryland.gov for more details. #PGCCOVID19

Ola M. Hill
Municipal Liaison
Office of the County Executive
omhill@co.pg.md.us

Office: 301-952-3781 Cell: 240-825-9183