

# County Councilman David Marks Fifth District Newsletter

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Proudly Serving Carney, Kingsville, Loch Raven, Parkville, Perry Hall, and Towson

## **MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMAN MARKS: ROAD PROJECTS, TOWSON CIRCULATOR KEY TO MOBILITY**

Before my election to the Baltimore County Council, I worked for 15 years in the transportation industry. That experience taught me that each community has different transportation needs.

For most people, driving is their preferred form of transportation. Unfortunately, the state has nearly eliminated the road resurfacing money it provides to Baltimore County, making it more difficult to fill potholes and maintain neighborhood streets. Fortunately, Baltimore County has found the resources to resurface some of our key routes. **This month, Baltimore County will resurface Klausmier Road and the western section of Chapel Road in Perry Hall, and more are planned for improvement this fall. I would like to thank the County Executive for his support.**

Over the next three years, the state will expand the Baltimore Beltway between Harford Road and Perring Parkway. The project involves the construction of new lanes between the entrance and exit ramps of Harford Road and Perring Parkway. Crews will replace the Old Harford Road bridge with a wider one with new sidewalks and bicycle-compatible shoulders.

In a dense area like Downtown Towson, there are few places where we can build more roads. That's why we need bike parking and dedicated bike lanes—an initiative strongly supported by our office over the past three years. **Our vision for Downtown Towson includes more biking, better pedestrian connections, and a circulator to improve mobility.**



I have asked a task force to develop recommendations, and there will be a public input meeting in the fall. You can learn more at [www.facebook.com/towsoncirculator](http://www.facebook.com/towsoncirculator).

## **UPGRADES PLANNED FOR KLAUSMIER AND CHAPEL ROADS**

Two critical corridors in Perry Hall, Klausmier and Chapel Roads, will be resurfaced in early August. The southern section of Chapel Road had already been resurfaced in 2013. While plans originally called only for patching of Klausmier Road, the entire route will now receive substantial upgrades. The resurfacing will be done during weekdays and last between two and three weeks. Residents should plan their travel accordingly during this time.



## LOCH RAVEN

### **Final Preparations for Ridgely Manor Park**

Preparations are nearly done for the first new park along the Loch Raven Boulevard corridor in a half-century—Ridgely Manor Park. The park is located at Yakona Road, on the former site of homes contaminated by underground gasoline. The land was reclaimed, and Councilman Marks worked with the Hess Corporation, NeighborSpace of Baltimore County, and the community to draw up plans for a park. Councilman Marks and members of the Ridgely Manor Community Association are seen below at the groundbreaking.



## PERRY HALL

### **Park Projects Advance in Perry Hall**

Baltimore County is finishing three major park projects in Perry Hall. **Soukup Park**, featured below, includes a 12,000 square foot arena on 30 acres on the other side of Honeygo Boulevard, near the intersection of Chapel and Joppa Roads. The park is named for Jerry and Pat Soukup, longtime leaders in the Perry Hall Recreation Council.



**The trail at Indian Rock Park** will be finished by late August. An asphalt pathway has been laid between Ebenezer Road and the neighborhoods to the south of Perry Hall High School, part of a regional trail system that will eventually extend to the Overlea area.

**Gough Park** is a 17-acre property at East Joppa Road and Honeygo Boulevard. It will feature athletic fields, walking trails, a comfort station and pavilions. It is named for the founding family of Perry Hall and should be finished this fall.

## TOWSON

### **County Executive Announces Tabling of School Plan**

On August 1st, Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz announced that the school system's central area overcrowding plan would be tabled. The County Executive expressed support for a new Towson Elementary School at the existing Bykota Senior Center, with a modern replacement built for Towson's seniors. Additionally, the County Executive has asked that improvements at Dumbarton Middle School be limited to interior renovations, preserving trees at the campus.

### **Council to Advance Redevelopment of DMW Property**

At its August meeting, the Baltimore County Council will consider a resolution that advances the redevelopment of the Daft-McCune-Walker property south of Towson Square. Developers plan to build 35 townhomes at the site. Councilman Marks supported the redevelopment of this aging property because the project is an appropriate transition between Downtown Towson and Historic East Towson. Improvements will be made to two nearby parks, and there will be no student housing at the site.

### **Council Enlarges Southland Hills Permit Parking Zone**

At its August meeting, the Baltimore County Council will consider a resolution that enlarges the Southland Hills permit parking zone. The resolution adds the even-numbered homes from 314 to 320 Alabama Road to the zone. Residents have complained about non-local motorists parking in this area, and Councilman Marks supported the resolution since there was local support.

### **Towson University Modifies Stadium Proposal**

Towson University has modified the softball stadium proposed at the edge of campus near Stanmore Court. You can read the statement from the Towson University President's office here: <http://tunews.towson.edu/2014/07/29/lighting-conduits->