

SEVENTH DISTRICT NEWS



In this issue:

- Rain Tax
- County Cleanup
- Area Development
- Bus Stop Cleanup
- Monthly Tip

Message from Councilman Todd Crandell

This and future monthly newsletters will provide the community with informative articles to promote involvement and increased communication.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd Crandell".

Rain Tax 1/3 Is Not Enough

The Kamenetz administration has offered a plan to cut the existing Stormwater Management Fee by roughly 33%. This 1/3 cut is across the board. I felt this offer was insufficient at a time when our district is home to the largest industrial economic redevelopment project in the nation.

The "Rain Tax" has a direct and measurable negative effect on the growth and efforts of the team at Sparrows Point, not to mention all of our existing medium and small businesses that have already felt the sting of the higher price of doing business in this state. In addition to all of this, I believe the administration has been unappreciative of last year's election results and the multitude of candidates that called for complete repeal – not reduction.



"I am actively working to find options to increase this reduction..."

-Councilman Crandell

Formation of the Community Cleanup

Perhaps more so than any other county district, we have a long-standing history of multiple vibrant communities. Currently many of these communities have long-standing cleanup programs which involve commercial sponsors, multiple days, and coordination with national initiatives and programs. I believe synergy and communication among all involved groups, as well as support from the county will benefit those who have worked so hard to keep our district clean. A committee of community leaders is being formed along with help from the county department of public works. This committee will identify ways in which their efforts can be broadened and enhanced through partnerships, communication, and more commercial sponsorships. One district-wide cleanup day is currently tentatively set for April, more news to come as the committee is formed and makes



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Area Development

North Point Government Center: The first thing I did upon entering office was to investigate what means I have to stop, slow down, or reset the process that sells off part of the North Point Government Center property for private development. Because the Planned Unit Development resolution that permitted the process to continue occurred outside of 45 days of my taking office, I have no power to revoke it. Because it occurred outside of 60 days of my taking office, I have no power to amend it.

The development process for the commercial development part of the property is underway. To learn where in the process the development stands, you can go here: http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/permits/pdm_devmanage/newpud.html

The Development Plan is in review. After that a Development Plan Hearing will occur, followed by a judgment of the Administrative Law Judge, after which there is opportunity for appeal. There are no dates set for these steps in the process.

As for the replacement of the recreation part of the property, the new building and fields are being designed by the county now.

As you know, I am philosophically opposed to the selling of recreation and park assets for private development and believe a bad precedent has been set. My predecessor and the County Executive do not agree. Moving forward, I have concerns regarding the new development and am raising them.

Foundry Station (Seagram's)

A Community Input Meeting for the Foundry Station development will be held Tuesday February 10, 6:30-8:30pm at the North Point Library.

Osprey Point

For more information on this development, look on the county website here:

<https://citizenaccess.baltimorecountymd.gov/>



Bus Stop Cleanup and Removal

While traveling through the district I drove past a bus-stop which was over run with trash, debris, and evidence of nefarious activity. We successfully engaged the help of both county and state agencies to get it cleaned up. The

shelter structure itself was in disrepair and is no longer used, so we had it removed. I know many more similar examples exist all over our district. It is my hope that we remind others to be successful stewards of our district. We are on the rise, and I hope we are creating purposeful, caring citizens as we climb.



Environmental Tip of the Month:

Winter is a great time to research and plan your vegetable gardens.

