Frederick County Council News

Council Members left to right: Billy Shreve, Jessica Fitzwater, Vice President M.C. Keegan-Ayer, President Bud Otis, Treasurer Tony Chmelik, Jerry Donald and Kirby Delauter.

Pending Legislation

The Frederick County Council is limited to 45 legislative days per year. As of the end of November the Council has sat for 22 legislative days. Under Article 3, Section 301, the Council may enact public local laws for the peace, good government, health, safety or welfare of the County and on all subjects that have been delegated to the County.

CB 15-11 Amendment to Frederick County Code - Chapter 1-7.1 Ethics. Sponsor: Council President Otis, on behalf of the County Executive. First Reading (9/15/15) . Work Session (10/06/15) **Second Reading/Public Hearing (**11/03/15) 7:00 p.m. First Floor Hearing Room.

CB15-12 Modifying Permitted Uses in Waterbody Buffers. Sponsor: Jerry Donald. Co-Sponsor: Jessica Fitzwater. First Reading (10/06/15) . **Second Reading/Public Hearing** (11/03/15) **7:00 p.m. First Floor Hearing Room. Third and Final Reading** (12/1/15) 4:30 pm.

Submitting Testimony to the Council

Testimony is public comment on pending legislation presented at a Council public hearing, mailed via the postal service, or emailed to Council Members. All testimony becomes part of the official record and is given equal consideration. To provide testimony:

- **In Person:** Sign-up outside the First Floor Hearing Room on the day a public hearing is scheduled. for the legislation on which you wish to speak. Please bring 15 copies of any handouts.
- **Email:** Send an e-mail to CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov.
- **Postal Mail:** Mail your letter to Winchester Hall, 12 E. Church Street, Frederick, MD 21701.

Council Schedule

December

- **1st** - 4:30 p.m., Council Legislative Meeting, 1st Floor Hearing Room
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- **8th** - 4:30 p.m. Workshop
  Open Meetings & Public Information Act
  1st Floor Hearing Room
- **15th** - 4:30 p.m. Council Legislative Meeting
  1st Floor Hearing Room

See Council website for more information

Contact Us

Winchester Hall
12 East Church Street, 1st Floor
Frederick, MD 21701

Phone: (301) 600-1135 | **Fax:** (301) 600-1849

Maryland Relay: 711 or (800) 201-7165

E-mail: CouncilMembers@FrederickCountyMD.gov

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Web: FrederickCountyMD.gov/CountyCouncil

Council Member Corner

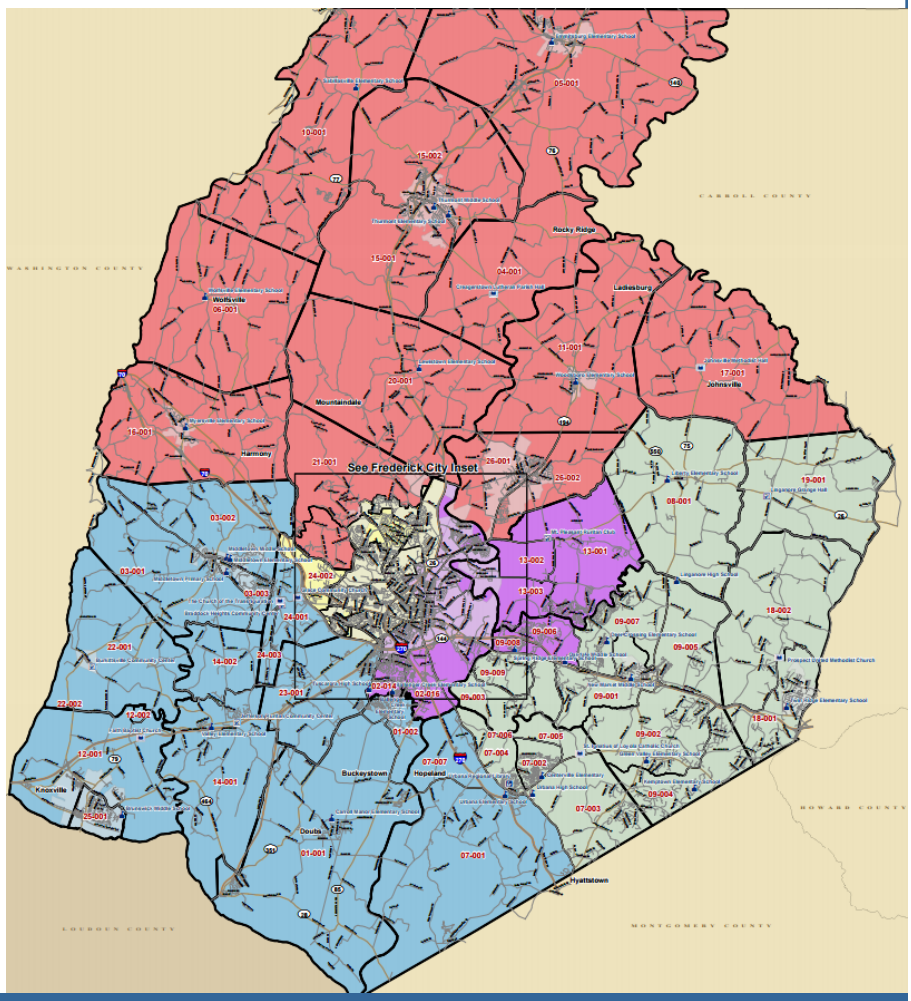
This Month: A Message from Council Member Jerry Donald

I am pleased to contribute information to the residents of Frederick County on this first anniversary of Charter Government. It has been an incredibly busy year for the County Council. It has been a tremendous honor being elected to serve as the first council member from District 1. We have enacted several bills and deliberated on various legislative matters. However I want to take this opportunity to discuss some issues I believe are important to the people of Frederick County.

I have introduced a bill titled, "Modifying Permitted Uses in Waterbody Buffers" (Bill 15-12). It had its public hearing on Tuesday, November 3. This bill restricts what can be done in the area immediately surrounding a body of water thereby allowing this buffer a better opportunity to keep our water clean. It will eliminate future building of open shelters, pole type structures, recreational equipment, or impervious surfaces within the waterbody buffer area . As one member of the public stated, future generations will never look back and say they wish we didn't do more to preserve our streams and rivers.

On November 2, County Executive Jan Gardner and I hosted a meeting in Point of Rocks to brief the public on Frederick County's plans for addressing a fire or hazardous spill along the railroad. We had an attendance of about 60 people, many of whom participated in the question and answer session and then stayed after the meeting for further discussion. I hope that other areas and towns in Frederick County will be interested in having a similar public safety meeting.

In closing, I want to thank each one of you for caring about Frederick County and I want to encourage you to get involved and stay involved in our governmental processes.



Recent Council Votes	
Council Bill 15-07, Purchases	**Yays:** 4 **Nays:** 3 **Abstentions:** 0
Council Bill 15-08, Repeal Official English Ordinance	**Yays:** 4 **Nays:** 3 **Abstentions:** 0
Council Bill 15-09, Com. & Industrial Tax Credit	**Yays:** 5 **Nays:** 2 **Abstentions:** 0