



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. The Council meets the first and third Tuesday's in legislative session. 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.

The County Council will consider legislation to repeal the Agricultural Rights Transfer Ordinance (ARTO) to pursue a reinstatement of Maryland's Tier IV exemption allowing for land use development in agricultural areas in the County and initiate a Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) program.

The County Council will consider legislation requested by the Division of Fire and Rescue Services (DFRS) which will do several things, among them; codify the position of the Director of Volunteer Fire and Rescue Services, tighten up minimum response time for emergency equipment, enhance First Responder minimum standards

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

- **May 17th** - 4:30 p.m. Adoption of County Budget and Tax Rate
- **May 24th** - 4:30 p.m. Council Workshop
- **June 7th** - 4:30 p.m. Legislative Day
- **June 14th**—4:30 p.m.. Council Workshop
- **June 21st**—4:30 p.m. Legislative Day
- **June 28th**—4:30 p.m. Council Workshop

All Council Meetings are in the First Floor Hearing Room and televised unless noted.

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

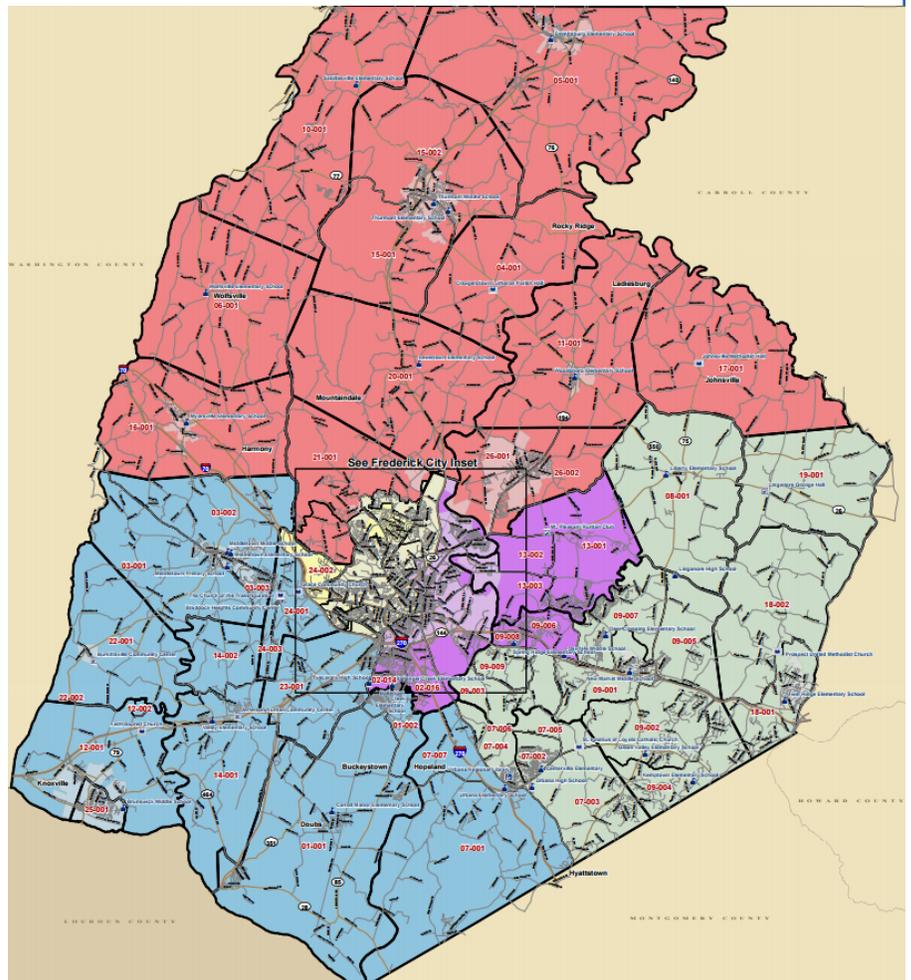
Council Member Corner

This Month: A Message from Vice President MC Keegan-Ayer

We are coming to the end of budget season; the County Executive developed and released her proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year. The Council has spent the past several weeks scrutinizing the proposed spending for each and every division of the County government. Under the terms established by the Charter, we have until May 25th to pass a budget or the budget as proposed by the County Executive goes into effect.

This year the Council made all of our decisions regarding what cuts needed to be made without outside help. We chose to save the money that had been set aside in last year's budget to hire an outside consultant, believing that it is our duty and responsibility to make these decisions ourselves. This meant we had to read and understand the budget, and use our time effectively. We scheduled three full days of interviews with each division in order to determine whether the proposed level of funding was appropriate. We then made our decisions based on what we had heard from the public during our two public hearings (April 18th and 19th) and our own political beliefs regarding spending levels versus the level of service provided to our residents.

This process has proved most enlightening. It gave the public additional insight into the reasoning processes of their elected officials. Also, because we now have a bicameral government, it provided residents of Frederick County more opportunity to have input in the money appropriated to all various divisions of our government that provide services to our residents.



Council Member Phone Numbers	
Council Member	Phone
Bud Otis	301.600.1101
MC Keegan-Ayer	301-600.2336
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Tony Chmelik	301-600-1034
Jessica Fitzwater	301-600-2336
Kirby Delauter	301-600-1034
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