



#WeAreLaurelStrong

CITY OF LAUREL

Government to the People Magazine

2020 Review





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Letter from Mayor Craig A. Moe:

I hope this letter finds you well and staying healthy! As you know, this past year was Laurel's 150th Anniversary! On April 4, 1870, the General Assembly of Maryland passed an act that incorporated the City of Laurel and was signed by Governor Oden Bowie. With the ongoing Public Health Emergency, most of the events the 150th Anniversary committee planned had to be cancelled. This time last year I wrote "Our 150th Anniversary is a significant milestone in Laurel's history, and worthy of City-wide recognition and festivity." I invited you to join us in a year-long celebration by participating in the various "Laurel is ..." events celebrating our 150 years. The events that were planned by many dedicated citizens and volunteers were numerous, and I want to thank those dedicated volunteer citizens. I am hoping that a few of the events that were planned may be able to take place in late 2021.

I would like to thank the many volunteers who have helped with the City's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the numerous food distribution efforts to keep our community healthy and fed. I would also like to thank our volunteers in advance for their continued assistance with the pandemic. This public health crisis is far from over, but we will get through this together.

I am pleased to share that your City Government has had a busy year working for you. We were able to accomplish some of our initial goals and we continue working hard to keep the City of Laurel the beautiful, safe and friendly city we all enjoy. This is primarily accomplished by working together with our entire community and your active participation unifies all of us in this effort.

During this pandemic, all community gatherings were cancelled. The Laurel Municipal Center and your government did not close its doors to the residents and businesses, but instead we moved to doing the people's business virtually.

I am pleased the following accomplishments were met in 2020:

- Presented the Operating Budget to the City Council with no tax increase and continued the level of service to the community you expect.
- Held many community briefings on the City's response to COVID-19.
- Moved forward with the expansion of the City's Organics Recycling Program.
- Established the City of Laurel Marcus Colbert Outstanding Citizenship Award.
- Renewed Lease Agreement between the City of Laurel and the Laurel Historical Society, Inc. for the operation of the Laurel Museum.
- We will have a Comprehensive City-wide Traffic and Parking Analysis and will develop recommendations regarding those issues.
- Amended Chapter 11 Planning and Development, Article III "Affordable Housing Program" of the Laurel City Code; and provided an effective date.
- Administered the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) as detailed in the City's CRF Spending Plan to support the community of Laurel on issues related to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Updated the amount of impact fees for development and redevelopment in the City of Laurel, Maryland and provided an effective date.
- Adopted the 2020 FEMA Region III Patuxent River Flood Study as the City's Official Flood Study.
- All City buildings were brought up to CDC, Maryland Health Department and Laurel's Health Officer standards, for the protection of employees and the public.
- Charter Resolution to amend the Charter of the City of Laurel Election Laws.
- Purchased a 24,000 square foot building for the City's new multi-service center.

Continued on Page 2

MAYOR'S OFFICE

2020 and the Impact of COVID-19

As everyone had to in 2020, there were many adjustments that the Mayor's Office made to ensure that we were able to continue serving the needs of our citizens and businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of those changes were:

- Mayor Moe issued 27 Executive Orders throughout the year to implement changes and restrictions required to protect the public health and slow the spread of the virus in the City of Laurel.
- Mayor Moe and the Chief of Staff participated in weekly briefings regarding COVID-19 from the White House, State, and County Officials.
- Chief of Staff monitored all COVID-19 press conferences at the County and State Level.
- All of Mayor Moe's daily meetings were held virtually.
- Due to COVID-19 restrictions, all City Hall in the Park and My Time with the Mayor events had to be cancelled. Mayor Moe began weekly addresses to City residents via Laurel TV and Social Media platforms to keep the community informed about the ongoing public health emergency and other City happenings.
- All Boards, Commissions, and Committee meetings were held virtually to keep citizens, volunteers and City Staff as safe as possible while continuing with the business of the City and ensuring that all meetings were open to the public.
- Bilingual Senior Administrative Assistant received over 100 calls on the Spanish hotline for information related to COVID-19 testing, rental assistance, and utility bill payments from March through the end of May.
- Directed the implementation of the City's "Chat with a Senior" program to connect volunteers with members of our Senior community on Sunday evenings who were feeling alone and isolated due to stay-at-home orders.
- Senior Administrative Assistant teleworked from September through December to assist and care for school age children who were learning virtually.
- Hosted virtual town halls with community public health and public emergency experts to address citizen concerns and provide information regarding COVID-19.

AND...

- Directed the expansion of the City's Organics Recycling Program.
- Represented the City as a member of the Governor's Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee and Radio Control Board, FEMA Region III Advisory Council and the Metropolitan Council of Governments (MWCOG) Board of Directors.
- Continued efforts on monitoring and working with the University of Maryland Medical System to bring medical services to the greater Laurel area.
- Partnered with "Wreaths Across America" to honor veterans at Ivy Hill Cemetery.
- Appointed the City's Clergy Advisory Council to provide faith-based messages to the community and assist the Mayor with spiritual guidance for the community, as necessary.
- Chief of Staff monitored all County, State, and MML Legislative matters.

The City's Volunteer Program provides the opportunity for citizens, from students to senior citizens, to become involved with the community and their local government.

Volunteers can assist City staff members by performing various administrative tasks, participating in municipal events, or participating in neighborhood cleanup activities. Students can earn community service credits for graduation and scouting organizations can meet badge requirements. No experience is necessary and training is provided. If you would like more information on becoming a City Volunteer, please contact the Office of Communications at 301-725-5300 Ext. 2110.

You can also help serve the City by becoming involved with any of our Citizens Advisory Committees. Volunteer members of these Committees are appointed by the Mayor and advise on matters relating to Public Works, Public Safety, Parks and Recreation, Senior Citizens, Youth, Persons with Disabilities, the Arts, and Cable TV. For more information, you may contact the Mayor's Office at 301-725-5300 Ext. 2125.

I am proud to call Laurel my home and of the hard work our City staff and Elected Officials do to ensure a beautiful community for you to live, work and play in every day.

I hope you will participate in community activities and local government affairs, because it is your input and participation that are critical to our continued success. Please call whenever we may be of service to you. The City's staff and Elected Officials are here to serve you.

Looking forward to 2021! Craig



#TakeTheShotLaurel

Follow the Mayor!

Phone: 301-725-5300 Ext. 2124

Email: laurelmayor@laurel.md.us

Twitter: @LaurelMayor

Facebook: @craig.a.moe

LinkedIn: @craigamoe

PAPER.Li: @Laurel Mayor Journal

YouTube: youtube.com/user/MayorLaurel

Instagram: @laurelmayor



COUNCIL OFFICE

Council President Keith Sydnor - Ward 2

Council President Keith R. Sydnor was elected Council President in November 2019 and led the City Council in approving the FY 2021 Annual Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program during the pandemic. As a member of the Laurel Police Department's General Order Review Committee, he conducted a comprehensive review of policies and procedures that direct the police department's personnel interactions within the Laurel community. The Committee covered the following general orders that have been a primary part of the National debate on police reform: Use of Force-Firearm, ASP Baton, Conducted Electrical Weapon (EW) Taser, OC Spray, and Pepper Ball; Civil Disturbance; Body-worn Cameras; Vehicle Pursuits; Community Policing and Engagement; Foot Pursuits; and Complaints Against Police Action. Council President Sydnor was also featured in the 2020 edition of Way to Be magazine.

Council Member Carl DeWalt - Ward 1

Councilmember Carl DeWalt is currently serving his second term on the Laurel City Council representing Ward 1. Mr. DeWalt has been working closely with Laurel Elementary this year to help with their food distribution for students and families. He also serves as chairman of the City's Public Safety and Transportation CAC.

Council Member Mike Leszcz - Ward 1

Councilmember Michael Leszcz is currently serving his twelfth term on the Laurel City Council, this time representing Ward 1. Mr. Leszcz represents the Council as a member on the City's Historic District Commission. Mr. Leszcz is the current Chairman of the Patuxent River Commission, originally appointed by Governor Ehrlich in 2005, and reappointed by Governor O'Malley in 2010. Mr. Leszcz serves on the National League of Cities Transportation Services and Infrastructure Steering Committee, dealing with all modes of public transportation in the United States.

Council Member Valerie Nicholas - At-Large

Councilmember Valerie Nicholas was re-elected to serve her fifth term on November 5, 2019. On November 23, 2020, Ms. Nicholas was elected by her fellow Council members as the first African-American female President of the Council, an honor she holds dear. She continues to work closely with the homeless and those in need, feeding them during the pandemic and works hard in between her Council duties and full-time job to build her non-profit, Love is Not Enough, Inc.

Council Member Brencis D. Smith - Ward 2

Brencis Smith was elected to his first term on the Laurel City Council on Tuesday, November 5, 2019. Mr. Smith was appointed to the City's Education Advisory Committee. Mr. Smith previously ran for State Delegate in 2018. After unsuccessfully winning the primary, he was appointed to the City's Homelessness Task Force created by Mayor Craig Moe in 2019 where he served as the Co-Vice Chair. Mr. Smith's work is centered around creating a better quality of life, increasing community engagement through neighborhood sponsored events, representing the diverse and unique background of all Laurel citizens.

CONTACT:

Clerk to the Council, Kim Rau

301-725-5300 ext. 2121

Administrative Assistant, Kenya Barro

301-725-5300 ext. 2120

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

New Government Business Model

One of the most significant and exciting changes implemented in the Laurel City Government is how we interact with and provide administrative services to Laurel's citizens. Utilizing enhanced technologies, we transitioned our outdated traditional "legacy" business platform into what has become a more seamless, efficient and streamlined business model. This new business model incorporates on-line services and user-friendly "customer-service kiosks" in the Laurel Municipal Center lobby to provide a "virtual" method of service delivery for all our citizens. Embedded behind the scenes in many of the changes has been an array of operational policies and procedures developed to ensure we maintain a safe and healthy work environment for all our employees and the citizens we serve.

Telework Policy

The City of Laurel recognized during the early stages of the COVID-19 Pandemic Outbreak that there was a need to consider innovative and alternative means of conducting business. The City believed that implementing a non-traditional work program, such as Teleworking, could be a valuable tool to ensure the remote delivery of essential government services during the Pandemic. The program also supports the City's goal to "Go Green" by reducing the number of vehicles on the road for daily commuting, improving air quality, and reducing traffic congestion.

Buy a Brick Program

The City of Laurel's 150th Anniversary Committee started a Buy-a-Brick Program where an employee or citizen can purchase a brick that will be placed along the walkway in the City's Memorial Garden. This program has been a great success and will continue until all the bricks in the Memorial Garden walkways have been replaced with a personalized brick.

Automatic External Defibrillator (AED)

The City has purchased 30 new state-of-the-art Automatic External Defibrillators. These units are located in every Police Vehicle and dispatched to the scene of cardiac-related emergencies throughout the City.



CONTACT:

City Administrator, William F. Goddard, III
301-725-5300 ext. 2204
Dep. City Administrator, Lou Ann Crook
301-725-5300 ext. 2216

2020 Atlantic Tropical Cyclone Names											
Arthur	Hanna	Omar	Alpha	Iota	Rho	Sigma	Tau	Upsilon	Phi	Chi	Psi
Bertha	Isaias	Paulette	Beta	Kappa	Lambda	Mu	Nu	Xi	Pi	Omega	Omega
Cristobal	Josephine	Rene	Gamma								
Dolly	Kyle	Sally	Delta								
Edouard	Laura	Teddy	Epsilon								
Fay	Marcia	Vicky	Zeta								
Gonzalo	Nana	Wilfred	Eta	Omicron	Pi						
Be prepared: Visit hurricanes.gov and follow @NWS and @NHC_Atlantic on Twitter.											
11/24/20											

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

CARES Act Funding

Successfully managed \$1.57 million Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds to support local businesses, food pantries and establish safety measures to protect residents and City employees. Mayor Craig A. Moe handed out checks from the CARES Act to local organizations that have been assisting families in need during the pandemic right before Thanksgiving.

Active Hurricane Season

With 2020 being a very active hurricane season that ran from June 1 to November 30, the Office of Emergency Management monitored and planned for 30 tropical cyclones. Out of the 30, thirteen became hurricanes (top winds of 74 mph or greater) and six major hurricanes (top winds of 111 mph or greater). And the State was hit by the remnants of Isaias in August 2020, that required a State of Emergency declaration by Mayor Moe, a Tropical Storm Watch and Flash Flood Watches and Warnings. The EOC was opened to monitor the storm so the City could be there for the residents and businesses during the emergency if needed. This was the fifth consecutive year with an above-normal Atlantic hurricane season.

Community Rating System (CRS) Program

The Office of Emergency Management continues to work on the Community Rating System (CRS) program. This incentive program grants discounts for flood insurance premiums by completing community actions to reduce flood damage to insurable property, strengthening the aspects of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), and taking a comprehensive approach to floodplain management.



CONTACT:

Emergency Manager, Christina Cornwell

301-725-5300 ext. 2232

Emergency Management

[View](#) [Edit](#) [Reorder the book](#) [Revisions](#) [Track](#) [Convert](#) [Outline](#) [Devel](#)

301-725-5300 ext. 2232

ccornwell@laurel.md.us

Laurel Municipal Center
8103 Sandy Spring Rd
Laurel, MD 20707

Follow on [Twitter](#)



Get Emergency Notifications



Preparedness Resources



Partners



City Emergency Operations Guide

The Office of Emergency Management plays a critical role in keeping the citizens of Laurel safe. The office plans and prepares for emergencies, educates the public about preparedness, coordinates emergency response and recovery efforts and disseminates information during emergencies and disasters. As a part of its complex activities, the office helps the community by assisting in the coordination of emergency management efforts and providing support to various City Departments.

Each City Department's response during an emergency is monitored to ensure compliance with policies and statutory responsibilities established by the Mayor and City Council. At the direction of the Mayor or City Administrator, the Emergency Manager is responsible for activating the City's Emergency Operations Center and coordinating Departmental activities during an emergency within the City of Laurel or surrounding jurisdictions.



Christina L. Cornwell
Emergency Manager

BUDGET AND PERSONNEL SERVICES

FY2021 Budget Approved

Finalized and presented FY2021 General Operating and Capital Improvement Budgets remotely amid the economic effects of COVID-19.

Streamlined Procedures

Due to the pandemic, BAPS had to come up with ways to remotely prepare payroll, payments and receipt procedures, including additional payment system for personal property tax payments and miscellaneous donations. Thanks to the hard work of the BAPS personnel, they were able to streamline these processes while keeping employees, residents and businesses safe.

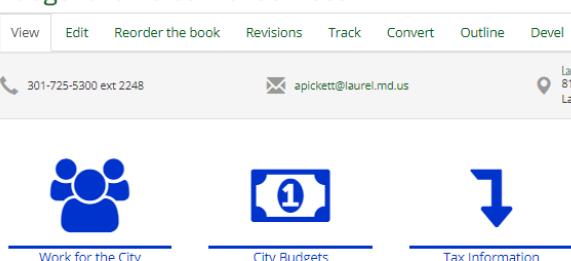
Virtual Processes

One of the biggest obstacles during the pandemic was how do you fill vacant positions and hire new employees if you can't interview in person? Again, BAPS personnel came up with ways to remotely conduct applicant interviews, hold new hire orientations, host open enrollment and employee benefit seminars, and hold COVID-19 Lunch and Learns.

Risk Management

Risk Management was transferred from the Office of the City Administrator to BAPS. Given the concerns of mental and physical health repercussions of life during a pandemic, three virtual Lunch and Learns were held for City employees via Teams with an emphasis on COVID-19. Topics included COVID-19 and Mental Health; Parents and Virtual Learning with their children; and Setting Up Your Workstation during COVID-19, which included exercises to help with eye, neck and back strain due to inactivity.

Budget and Personnel Services



The Budget and Personnel Services Department's responsibility to the City of Laurel and its citizens is to ensure that adequate controls exist in order to protect the City's funds and maintain adequate and accurate records of all financial transactions. The Department of Budget and Personnel Services strives for the performance level necessary to achieve a favorable certified audit in order to maintain our current "A" bond rating and eligibility for Federal grant funds.

The Department must maintain strict cash controls, diligent monitoring and reconciliation of monies to maintain adequate cash flow.

The City of Laurel accepts Mastercard and Visa. Effective 10/01/2010 there will be a minimum charge of \$10 for credit card payments. Credit card payments are accepted at Laurel Municipal Center, Laurel Police Department, Robert J. DiPietro Community Center, Laurel Armory, Gude Lake, Laurel Pool and Greenview Pool.



Michele Saylor
Director of Budget and
Personnel Services



CONTACT:

Director, Michele Saylor

301-725-5300 ext. 2236

Deputy Director, Lisa Woods

301-725-5300 ext. 2235



COMMUNICATIONS

During the first days of the pandemic, the Department of Communications had to quickly come up with creative ways for City leaders to keep the public informed about the coronavirus in a safe, socially distanced way. The challenge was doing it without being allowed in the Laurel Municipal Center, without a studio, and for a while, with no reporters on the street.

Going Virtual

Laurel TV hosted and produced several virtual town halls, with the added components of call-ins, and the use of LIVE Social Media platforms. All Government meetings, including the Mayor and City Council meetings, went virtual too. Laurel TV implemented a system to broadcast Zoom meetings simultaneously over the airwaves for television viewers.

Studio Shutdown and Reporters Pulled Off the Street

With studio operations suspended starting in March and in-house productions postponed, Laurel TV found unique sources for on-air content. Reporters were equipped with boom mics and other gear to allow the safe, socially distanced recording of news stories in the field and many interviews are now conducted via Zoom.

Social Media Becomes the Rising Star

Our coverage of community events continued safely as we broadcast many events LIVE on Social Media with no crowds present. We taped weekly briefings with the Mayor on iPads, interviewed Council members in the neighborhood and residents relied on our Social Media apps to make service requests.

Passport Office Shutdown

The Passport Office was redesigned to keep customers outside of the room and our agents now process applications behind a glass window. The Passport Office also went to an appointment-only system so we could keep guests socially distanced, since we could not have lobby seating. And working with Budget and Personnel Services, we instituted a cashless system to eliminate our agent's exposure to paper money.

Front Desk

Being the first line of defense with visitors, front desk personnel were tasked with reminding visitors and employees of temperature checks and hand sanitizing before conducting business in the building. Mail carriers and package delivery employees are now kept outside the secured interior of the lobby area to reduce exposure to front desk staff and all mail and packages are cleaned by UV rays before distribution.



CONTACT:

Director, Audrey Barnes

301-725-5300 ext. 2208

Asst. Director, Joyce Jackson

301-725-5300 ext. 2106

Public Info/Social Media, Carrean Koubek

301-725-5300 ext. 2109

LAUREL TV
TURN YOUR POWER ON

Have a story idea? Let Laurel TV know by calling 301-725-5300 ext. 2208 or email us at info@laureltv.org! We are always looking for great local stories to better educate and inform our residents and businesses about what's happening in and around Laurel!

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Census

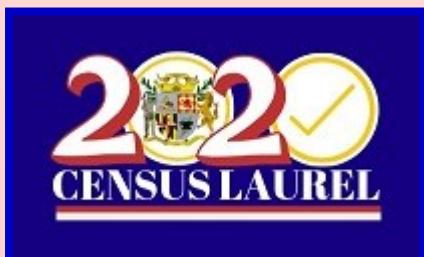
The pandemic definitely put some crimps in the 2020 Census plans this year, but thanks to our hard working staff and the citizens of Laurel, we are pleased to say that we surpassed the 2010 Self-Response rate! Thank you for taking the time to "Make Laurel Count!"

Planning and Zoning

During the pandemic, the Department had to adapt rather quickly from holding in-person meetings, public hearings, and citizen services with the community. Staff developed a virtual meeting process for the Planning Commission, Board of Appeals, Historic District Commission (HDC) and Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA). Meeting documents were processed and distributed electronically. Staff also held conference calls or virtual meetings with residents or business owners regarding various concerns. Permits for zoning compliance were reviewed and approved through an on-line system. The virtual transition provided an efficient approach to continue to conduct business and not delay projects. Over the course of the year, the Department reviewed and presented 20 zoning applications for approval. The Department also processed 89 HDC certificates and 10 tax credits for exterior renovations for properties located within the Historic District.

2020 Was a Busy Year for ECD:

- ◆ The Department administered the Laurel Strong COVID-19 Small Business Grant, where \$271,000 was awarded to 17 local businesses.
- ◆ A Business Town Hall meeting on safety and prevention measures during COVID-19 occurred and the event was in partnership with the Laurel Board of Trade.
- ◆ The Department also held a webinar series for business owners on a variety of topics throughout the course of the year. Small Business Saturday went virtual in 2020, where over 30 businesses participated in the Zoom event.
- ◆ Prior to navigating to a virtual platform, the Department was able to hold a vision board event for the community that had a wonderful turnout.



CONTACT:

Director, Christian Pulley

301-725-5300 ext. 2252

Dep. Director, Robert Love

301-725-5300 ext. 2313

Sr. Administrative Asst., Brooke Quillen

301-725-5300 ext. 2303

Welcome to a City of Laurel Self-Service Kiosk
To get started at this kiosk, select a self-service option below.

Need to contact a department director? Click the phone icon at the top right.

Parks & Rec: Registration
Help is available to register for sports, classes, and events.

Permits and Planning: Portal
Log in to pay for special batch permits or other services.

Other Payments:
Log in to pay for special batch permits or other services.

Passport Services: Book an appointment with the passport office.

More self-service options are coming soon. In the meantime, if this kiosk can't meet your needs you can also access the resources below, or use the phone icon at the top right to call a department representative.

2020 Census: Fill out the 2020 Census for your household.

Browse the City Web Site: All sorts of City Information at your fingertips.

Ongoing Events Calendar: Find out what's happening around the City.

Address Services Lookup: Find your local service information for your address.



CONTACT:

Director, Stephen Allen, Sr.

301-725-5300 ext. 2244

Dep. Director, Melanie Wieringa

301-725-5300 ext. 2253

FIRE MARSHAL AND PERMIT SERVICES

Accomplishments for 2020

The Fire Marshal and Permit Services Department (FMPS) continues providing key services to the citizens of the City involving a wide range of categories. From issuing over forty (40) types of permits involving building, construction, fire protection and use and occupancy, to conducting compliance inspections for the various City, County, State and National codes, ordinances, and regulations.

Completed and Ongoing Projects

Projects Completed in 2020:

- The complete revision and updates to the Laurel City Code, Chapter 18, "Building and Building Regulations". This comprehensive regulation provides the vital guidelines, procedures, and direction for FMPS to carry out our legal responsibilities.
- Development and implementation of the City's COVID-19 enforcement rules and regulations to support the Governor's, County Executive and Mayor's COVID-19 Executive Orders.
- Conversion from a permit paperwork processing format to an electronic permit processing format which allows individuals to request permits online.
- Scanning paper property files into an electronic filing system for immediate access for all FMPS and ECD staff.
- Coordinating inspection compliance on several major housing developments within the City.



City of Laurel Community Health Advisory



REDUCE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19!

* By Authorization of Mayor Craig A. Moe and Medical Health Officer, Dr. Uzo Wilfred Uenegbu, MD, MBA

Be Smart...Do Your Part! Per State, County, Mayor Executive Orders!

- Face Coverings Required for Inside Establishments and Facilities.
- Face Coverings Required in Outside Public Spaces if less than 6' Social Distancing is not possible.
- Social Distancing (6') Required Both Inside & Outside Establishments, Facilities and Public Spaces.
- All gatherings and events limited to one person/family unit per 200 square feet or 100 persons - which ever is lower.

Be
Smart,
6 Feet
Apart



Social Distancing
Required

For Up-To-Date Information, Visit:

CDC: www.CDC.gov

Maryland: <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/>

PG County: <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov>

Laurel: www.CityofLaurel.org

**** Report Violations to covidcompliance@co.pg.md.us
or Call 301-883-6548 ****

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

COVID-19

The pandemic arrived in late winter and IT was tasked with establishing safe telecommuting for almost fifty City employees. Laptops were purchased, policies created, and additional cyber security practices were implemented. As we prepared to come back to work in the summer, we created three lobby kiosks. These kiosks allowed our residents, who had limited or no internet ability, to come to the Laurel Municipal Center and pay bills, apply for permits, and if necessary, communicate with staff using a videocall system configured on the Kiosk. All this interaction could not have been accomplished without staff interaction.

Update on MyLaurel MD App

In early winter, we transitioned to a new mobile application. Our new mobile app is called MyLaurel MD. Our new app has all the great features of our previous mobile app. The new mobile app will provide more integration with our permit system, our code enforcement system and our finance system. In addition, there are new capabilities Public Works and our Economic Development team can utilize. As we build out all these features it means better communication between the City and our residents.

5G

IT was heavily involved in the City's transition to the cellular technology better known as 5G. This latest wireless technology will provide faster peak data speeds, ultra-low connection times, more reliability, increased device capacity, better availability, and a more uniform user experience. In the process, we did considerable research before completing our wireless facilities design guide in the spring. As part of the process, we created a new Chapter 13 in the City Code that specifically addressed this new wireless technology. Finally, in January we effected our first 5G wireless franchise with AT&T. In the very near future, City residents will be seeing the benefits of 5G wireless.

Fiber Construction

Sub-surface fiber construction continues to be high on our priority list. We completed three construction projects in the past six months. These projects connect Laurel and provide an infrastructure that is ready for new digital technology that requires a secure reliable connection with higher bandwidth and less latency. Our fiber telecommunications phase 1 projects will be completed in the spring with all City buildings on private City-owned fiber.

Sign Up for Emergency Notifications!

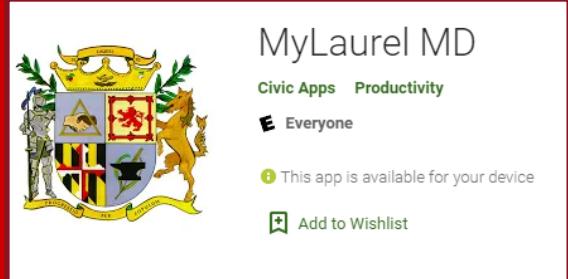
With the City updating our app, MyLaurel MD, be sure to receive notifications in a timely fashion and connect with your local government!

iOS App Store

<https://tinyurl.com/AppleMyLaurelMD>

Android

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.civicapps.laurelmd>



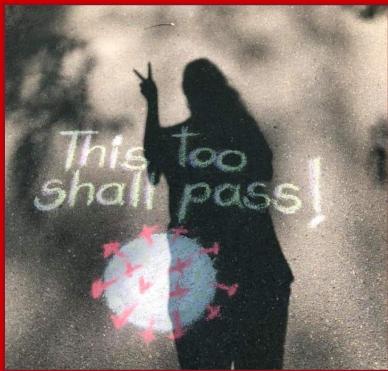
CONTACT:

Director, Kevin Frost

301-725-5300 ext. 2310

Dep. Director, James Cornwell-Shiel

301-725-5300 ext. 2240



CONTACT:

Director, Joanne Hall Barr

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Asst. Director, Tim Van Der Vossen

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Asst. Director, Bill Bailey

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PARKS AND RECREATION

Safe Work Environment

Facilities and Grounds staff successfully accomplished the overwhelming task of ensuring that City buildings and operations were safe for the eventual reopening of services. Work included modifying all City-owned building's HVAC systems by installing upgraded filters, increased fresh air flow into the system and added UV lighting to help improve the quality of outside air in the facility. We also purchased and maintained an inventory of supplies such as sanitizing agents, disinfecting equipment, PPE and supplies used for the daily sanitizing of office space and vehicles. Electrostatic and UV equipment was procured to provide weekly deep sanitizing and disinfecting of every building and for use to address immediate needs in the event of a possible COVID exposure.

Senior Services

As the Division of Senior Services was forced to shut down, the staff became a lifeline for many of the most vulnerable in the community by providing safe transport for medical appointments and grocery shopping and becoming an integral part of the City's food distribution operations by delivering food and working with local pantries.

Rising to the Challenge

Though faced with CDC and Government restrictions due to the pandemic, the Recreation side of the Department rose to the challenge of modifying and making safe many City services to include:

- Summer Camp, Paddle Boating, Aquatic Facility Operations, Preschool, Outdoor Classes in the Parks, Fitness Programs and Fitness Room operations and Youth Counseling services.
- Recreation staff continued throughout the early days of the pandemic with preparing the aquatic facilities for hopes of a summer opening.
- All-virtual activity registration .
- Creating safe, physically distanced activity spaces based on restricted capacities.
- Implemented frequent sanitizing schedules to keep spaces safe for staff and patrons.

With all the Department's special events curtailed, staff provided engagement through activities utilizing both virtual and on-site platforms. The highlights included virtual senior paint nights, chalk walk and online scavenger hunts, Hallo-week Tractor Treat and Spooktacular Stroll and 24 Days of Seasons Greetings Holiday Offerings.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been particularly difficult for the Department of Parks and Recreation because so much of what we do is reliant on personal face-to-face interaction which is just not possible during the crisis. What may sometimes be thought of as a non-essential, luxury service, the pandemic has shown that the need to enjoy the outdoors, connect with others and enjoy life has never been more missed than right now. With the isolation that so many are feeling, the pandemic reinforced the importance of the services we provide for good health and well-being.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Policies

LPD has implemented fourteen new/re-written policies working in partnership with FOP Lodge 11 for the betterment of not only the agency, but the citizens we serve here in Laurel. At the direction of the Mayor, we also conducted an in-depth policy review with representatives of the City Council to help ensure we were best representing the standards of the people of Laurel.

- This included a revised Use of Force policy with a “Duty to intervene” requirement for LPD personnel.
- LPD’s Pursuit Policy was revised as well in order to enhance public and officer safety.
- Use of Force investigations were re-structured so that fairness and equity for all involved could be preserved.

Recruitment and Retention

Our renewed recruitment and retention efforts provided dividends as we have introduced four new police officers to the agency, including a new Deputy Chief, while losing no sworn personnel who have successfully completed our new officer training programs.

Community Engagement Unit

Although Community Engagement has suffered due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CEU has played a crucial role in conducting community outreach efforts and in assisting with multiple peaceful protests in the aftermath of the George Floyd homicide.

Fleet Management Program

The Department is piloting a new Fleet Management Program for the City, in partnership with Enterprise Fleet Management. Under this new program, we will migrate to leasing, rather than purchasing vehicles, in order to provide for an overall cost savings going forward, increased community and officer safety.

Pedestrian and Traffic Safety

Department members have conducted over 4,400 traffic stops year to date – most resulting in educating drivers in traffic safety measures. The LPD has, unfortunately, made 111 arrests of drivers operating vehicles under the influence of drugs or alcohol during 2020. Many of these cases came to our attention as a result of motor vehicle collisions that have greatly jeopardized the safety of everyone who walks or drives in our community. We have also expended efforts educating the community in the prevention of DUI’s via our social media platforms.

Crime Down

The City of Laurel witnessed an 11% decrease in violent crime and an overall 18% decrease in property crimes in 2020. This speaks volumes about the dedication of the women and men of the LPD in their commitment to serve the community, especially during a pandemic that has placed additional risks upon them. The Bureau had an impressive unit case closure rate of 50% in their assigned criminal investigations to include serious assaults, robberies, sex offenses and burglaries that all adversely impact the quality of life for all who live in or visit our community.



CONTACT:

Chief Russell Hamill, III

301-498-0092

Non-Emergency Line

301-498-0092

Laurel Police CrimeLine:

**Report any criminal information to
301-498-7645. All calls are anonymous.**



PUBLIC WORKS

Serving Our Residents

- Continued uninterrupted service of refuse, recycling and composting to all residents.
- Continued residential yard debris collection.
- Established completely virtual Architectural and Engineering contract services selection process.
- Resumed curbside residential special collections in June of 2020.
- Resumed Electronics Recycling and Paper Shredding event in October 2020.
- Resumed city-wide tree planting in Fall of 2020.
- Implemented LED lighting replacement program for City-owned streetlights.



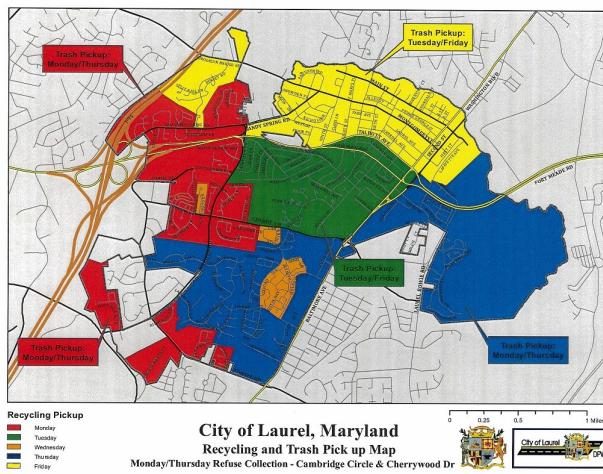
CONTACT:

Director, Brian Lee

301-725-0088 ext. 3202

Asst. Director, Christy Fang

301-725-0088 ext. 3214



FAQs ABOUT CITY SERVICES: Where Can You Find It?

SIGN UP FOR:

Emergency Notifications: <https://tinyurl.com/COLEmergNot>

MyLaurel MD App: <https://tinyurl.com/MyLaurelApp>

Press Releases/PSAs: LaurelPIO@laurel.md.us

LOOKING FOR:

Agendas: www.cityoflaurel.org/clerk/meetings

Budget: www.cityoflaurel.org/baps/city-budgets

Calendars: www.cityoflaurel.org/calendars

City Elections: www.cityoflaurel.org/clerk/elections-and-voter-registration

Code Enforcement: www.cityoflaurel.org/permits/code-enforcement

Featured Events: www.cityoflaurel.org/parks/featured-events

Laurel's 150th: 150.CityofLaurel.org

Laurel 4th of July: www.Laurel4th.org

Laurel Police Services: www.cityoflaurel.org/police

Laurel TV: www.cityoflaurel.org/comm/laurel-tv

Main Street Grant Programs: www.cityoflaurel.org/ecd/main-street-development-programs

Municipal Code: www.cityoflaurel.org/clerk/municipal-code-and-city-charter

Parks and Rec Brochure: www.cityoflaurel.org/parks/classes-and-registration

Passports: www.cityoflaurel.org/comm/passport-office

Pet Licensing (Now through PG County Only): <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/234/Animal-Licensing>

Press Releases: www.cityoflaurel.org/comm/press-releases

Public Works Services: www.cityoflaurel.org/dpw

Social Media: www.cityoflaurel.org/comm/social-media-center

Speed/Red Light Cameras: www.cityoflaurel.org/police/community-info/speed-redlight-camera-information

Volunteering: www.cityoflaurel.org/comm/volunteering

2021 HOLIDAYS

City and Passport Offices will be CLOSED the following holidays:

- ◊ **January 1** - New Year's Day
- ◊ **January 18** - Martin L. King, Jr. Day
- ◊ **February 15** - Presidents' Day
- ◊ **May 31** - Memorial Day
- ◊ **July 5** - Independence Day
- ◊ **September 6** - Labor Day
- ◊ **October 11** - Indigenous People Day
- ◊ **November 11** - Veterans' Day
- ◊ **November 25/26** - Thanksgiving
- ◊ **December 24** - Christmas
- ◊ **December 31** - New Year's Day



Main Street Festival, 2019

2021 COMMUNITY EVENTS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, at this time the City has no events planned. Please follow our social media platforms and check our website. The City will begin to plan events as soon as the CDC recommendation of 75% - 80% of the population receives vaccinations. The Mayor and City Council are committed to keeping our community safe and in the know. Although we all want to enjoy large gathering events right now, we are working closely with the Prince George's County Health Department to ensure that we are following all recommended guidelines to ensure our residents, businesses and visitors remain safe!

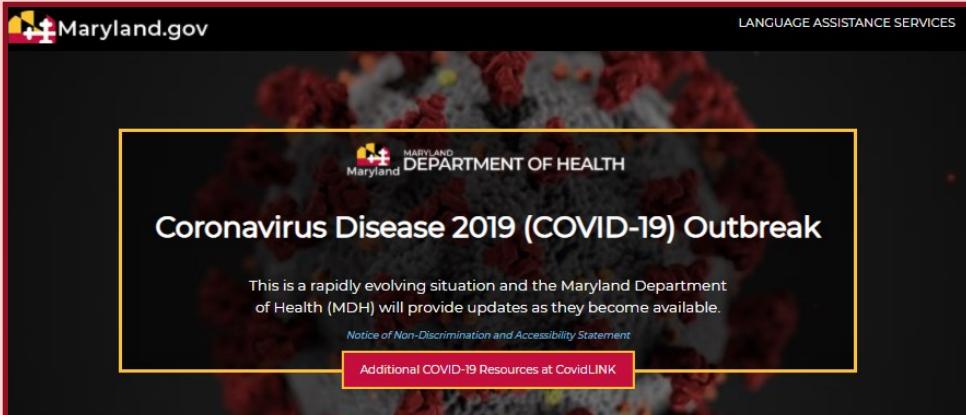
For more information, visit
www.CityofLaurel.org

COVID-19 TIMELINE

The start of a long year of limitations...

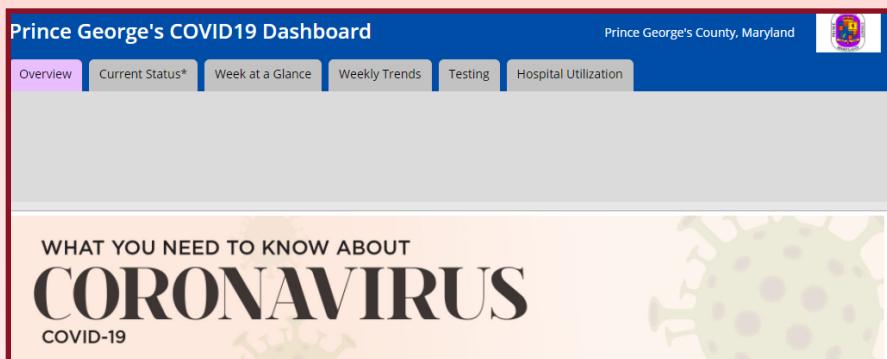
- ◆ December 2019 – First cases reported
- ◆ January 2020 – First case reported in US
- ◆ February 28, 2020 – 3 Marylanders test positive
- ◆ March 5, 2020 – Governor Hogan declares state of emergency
- ◆ March 10, 2020 – First cases reported in Prince George's County
- ◆ March 10, 2020 – Mayor Moe develops Action Plan that includes sanitation of facilities to protect the community
- ◆ March 11, 2020 – WHO declares COVID-19 a pandemic
- ◆ March 12, 2020 – City holds Town Hall meeting to discuss COVID-19 impacts
- ◆ March 13, 2020 – Mayor Craig A. Moe signs the first of many Executive Orders declaring a civil and public health emergency in the City of Laurel; the EOC partially opens
- ◆ March 16, 2020 – Prince George's County Executive Alsobrooks declares state of emergency in the County
- ◆ March 23, 2020 – Governor Hogan closes all non-essential businesses and Small Business Assistance is offered .
- ◆ March 27, 2020 – Congress passes CARES Act
- ◆ March 30, 2020 – Governor Hogan issues Stay at Home order
- ◆ In April, masks become mandatory in public. As numbers rise and fall, phases are adjusted and in December 2020, the first vaccines receive approval.

COVID-19 Resources



The Maryland Department of Health COVID-19 Outbreak page features a dark background with a red and white coronavirus graphic. At the top, the Maryland.gov logo and Language Assistance Services are visible. The main title is "Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Outbreak". Below the title, a message states: "This is a rapidly evolving situation and the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) will provide updates as they become available." A link to the "Notice of Non-Discrimination and Accessibility Statement" is provided. At the bottom, a red button links to "Additional COVID-19 Resources at CovidLINK".

Maryland COVID-19 Dashboard: <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/>



The Prince George's County COVID-19 Dashboard has a blue header with the title "Prince George's COVID19 Dashboard" and the location "Prince George's County, Maryland". Below the header is a navigation bar with tabs: Overview, Current Status*, Week at a Glance, Weekly Trends, Testing, and Hospital Utilization. The main content area features a large graphic of a green coronavirus cell and the text "WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CORONAVIRUS COVID-19".

Prince George's County COVID-19 Dashboard:

<https://princegeorges.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=82fa5c47b1f542849ca6162ab1564453>



The Prince George's County Vaccine Dashboard features a blue header with the county's logo and the text "Proud & Protected". The main content area shows three vials of COVID-19 vaccine and a syringe. Text on the left says "The County is currently in Phase 1C of its COVID-19 vaccine distribution plan." To the right, a list of vaccination clinics is provided: Sports and Learning Complex in Landover, Southern Regional Technology and Recreation Center in Fort Washington, Cheverly Health Center in Cheverly, and Laurel. A "Pre-register" button is at the bottom right.

Prince George's County Vaccine Dashboard:

<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3730/COVID-19-Vaccination>



The Maryland Vaccine Dashboard has a dark header with the Maryland.gov logo and links to "Find a Vaccination Site", "Vaccine Data", "Vaccine FAQs", and "Accessibility and Resources". The main content area is titled "COVID-19 Vaccinations in Maryland" and includes a note about vaccine distribution to priority groups. A "Maryland Vaccine Dashboard" button is at the bottom.

Maryland Vaccine Dashboard: <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/vaccine>

2021 GOVERNMENT MEETINGS (Virtual until Further Notice)

JANUARY

6th - Work Session - 6pm
11th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
12th - Planning Commission - 6pm
19th - Historic District Commission - 6pm
25th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
28th - Board of Appeals - 6pm

FEBRUARY

3rd - Work Session - 6pm
8th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
9th - Planning Commission - 6pm
16th - Historic District Commission - 6pm
22nd - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
25th - Board of Appeals - 6pm

MARCH

3rd - Work Session - 6pm
8th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
9th - Planning Commission - 6pm
16th - Historic District Commission - 6pm
22nd - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
25th - Board of Appeals - 6pm

APRIL

7th - Work Session - 6pm
12th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
13th - Planning Commission - 6pm
20th - Historic District Commission - 6pm
22nd - Board of Appeals - 6pm
26th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm

MAY

5th - Work Session - 6pm
10th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
11th - Planning Commission - 6pm
18th - Historic District Commission - 6pm
24th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
27th - Board of Appeals - 6pm

JUNE

2nd - Work Session - 6pm
14th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
15th - Planning Commission - 6pm
22nd - Historic District Commission - 6pm
24th - Board of Appeals - 6pm
28th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm

JULY

7th - Work Session - 6pm
12th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
13th - Planning Commission - 6pm
20th - Historic District Commission - 6pm
22nd - Board of Appeals - 6pm
26th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm

AUGUST

NO MEETINGS IN AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

1st - Work Session - 6pm
13th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
14th - Planning Commission - 6pm
21st - Historic District Commission - 6pm
23rd - Board of Appeals - 6pm
27th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm

OCTOBER

7th - Work Session - 6pm
12th - Historic District Commission - 6pm
14th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
19th - Planning Commission - 6pm
25th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
29th - Board of Appeals - 6pm

NOVEMBER

3rd - Work Session - 6pm
8th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
9th - Planning Commission - 6pm
16th - Historic District Commission - 6pm
22nd - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
25th - Board of Appeals - TO BE RESCHEDULED

DECEMBER

1st - Work Session - 6pm
13th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
14th - Planning Commission - 6pm
21st - Historic District Commission - 6pm
24th - Board of Appeals-TO BE RESCHEDULED
27th - Mayor and City Council - CANCELLED

MEETING DATES/TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

CAC MEETINGS (Virtual until Further Notice)

Arts Council

2nd Tuesday of Every Month at 7pm

4th of July

2nd Wednesday of Every Month at 7pm

Community Redevelopment

2nd Wednesday of Every Month at 4pm

CERT Meeting

3rd Wednesday of Every Month at 7pm

Ethics Commission

4th Tuesday of Every Month at 7pm

Public Safety and Transportation

3rd Thursday Every 3rd Month

Ivy Hill Meeting

2nd Tuesday Every Other Month

Parks and Recreation CAC

2nd Thursday Every Other Month

Tree Board

Meets Quarterly

No-Kill Animal Shelter Task Force

2nd Tuesday of the Month



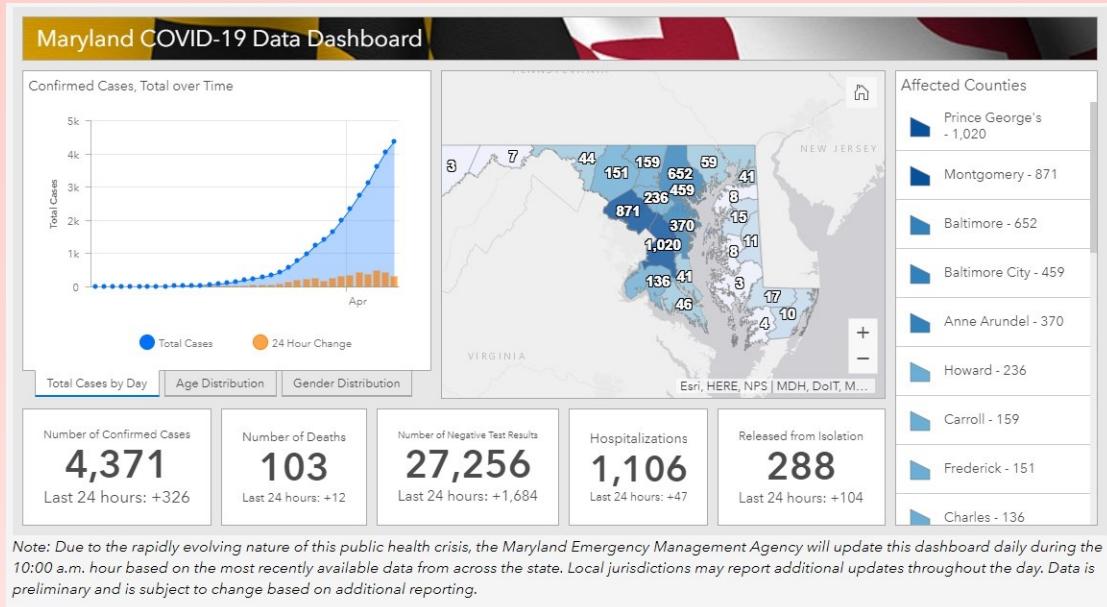
Volunteerism is the cornerstone of great services and there is nothing that kills a Program or Committee quicker than not having enough volunteers!

If you are interested in sitting on one of our Boards, Commissions or CACs, please call the Mayor's Office at

301-725-5300 ext. 2124.

COVID-19: A 2020 Pictorial Review

**The first
Dashboard
post for
COVID-19
numbers -
April 7, 2020**



COVID-19: A 2020 Pictorial Review





Be sure to keep this and the next page handy to stay up to date with who and what's happening in the City!

FOLLOW US!



Watch us on



SOCIAL MEDIA

We want you to stay connected with your government. We have many ways of doing this including the Public Works Calendars delivered annually to each home, the MyLaurel MD App and Digital Signs placed strategically throughout the City to Laurel TV.

However, our best way to reach you as quickly as possible is through our Social Media Platforms.

Many of our Departments are on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. If you aren't on one of these platforms, sign up today!

We'll be putting out short "How To..." videos to help you navigate the world of social media and if you have any ideas on what you would like to see, be sure to email us at SocialMedia@laurel.md.us.

Below is a list of all our Social Media Platforms and where you can find them:

Facebook:

City of Laurel: www.facebook.com/laurelmaryland/

Laurel Police: www.facebook.com/LaurelPolice/

Laurel TV: www.facebook.com/laureltv.org/

Laurel Parks: www.facebook.com/laurelparksrec/

Laurel ECD: www.facebook.com/LaurelECD/

Laurel CERT: www.facebook.com/LaurelCERT/

Twitter:

Laurel Mayor: <https://twitter.com/LaurelMayor> - @LaurelMayor

Laurel COS: <https://twitter.com/COSLaurelMD> - @COSLaurelMD

Laurel Clerk: <https://twitter.com/LaurelClerk> - @LaurelClerk

City of Laurel: <https://twitter.com/cityoflaurel> - @cityoflaurel

Laurel Emergency: <https://twitter.com/LaurelCityOEM> - @LaurelCityOEM

Laurel is 150: <https://twitter.com/Laurelis150> - @Laurelis150

Laurel Parks: <https://twitter.com/LaurelParksRec> - @LaurelParksRec

Laurel PIO: <https://twitter.com/LaurelPIO> - @LaurelPIO

Laurel Police: <https://twitter.com/LaurelPD> - @LaurelPD

Laurel TV: <https://twitter.com/LaurelTVorg> - @LaurelTVorg

Instagram:

Mayor Craig A. Moe: [laurelmayor](#)

City of Laurel: [cityoflaurelmd](#)

Laurel Police: [laurelpolicedepartment](#)

YouTube:

Laurel Mayor: www.youtube.com/user/MayorLaurel

Laurel TV: www.youtube.com/user/LaurelTVOfficial

CONTACT INFORMATION

Elected Officials

Mayor

Honorable Craig A. Moe ext. 2124
laurelmayor@laurel.md.us

Council President

Honorable Valerie Nicholas - At Large ext. 2120
vnicholas@laurel.md.us

Councilmembers

Honorable Carl DeWalt - Ward 1	ext. 2120 cdewalt@laurel.md.us
Honorable Michael Leszcz - Ward 1	ext. 2120 mleszcz@laurel.md.us
Honorable Bencis Smith - Ward 2	ext. 2120 bsmith@laurel.md.us
Honorable Keith Sydnor - Ward 2	ext. 2120 ksydnor@laurel.md.us

City of Laurel Management Staff

City Administrator

William F. Goddard, III ext. 2204 wgoddard@laurel.md.us

Deputy City Administrator

Lou Ann Crook ext. 2216 lcrook@laurel.md.us

Management Staff

Sara Green - Mayor's Office	ext. 2125 sgreen@laurel.md.us
Kim Rau - Council Clerk	ext. 2121 krau@laurel.md.us
Christina Cornwell - OEM	ext. 2232 ccornwell@laurel.md.us
Michele Saylor - BAPS	ext. 2236 msaylor@laurel.md.us
Audrey Barnes - Comm.	ext. 2208 abarnes@laurel.md.us
Christian Pulley - ECD	ext. 2252 cpulley@laurel.md.us
Stephen Allen, Sr. - FMPS	ext. 2244 sallen@laurel.md.us
Kevin Frost - CIO	ext. 2310 kfrost@laurel.md.us
Joanne Barr - Parks	ext. 2307 jbarr@laurel.md.us
Chief Russell Hamill - Police	301-498-0092 rhamill@laurel.md.us
Brian Lee - Public Works	301-725-0088 blee@laurel.md.us



What Is Laurel Helping Hands?

It is a family-focused counseling program run by the City of Laurel. Services are available to residents of Laurel and surrounding Prince George's County communities. Their primary mission is to strengthen families and help youth thrive by equipping parents with skills necessary to meet the developmental needs of children up to 18 years old so youth can maximize their potential at home, in school and in the community.

They provide:

- ◊ Individual Counseling for persons 15 years and older.
- ◊ Family counseling for children and youth of all ages.
- ◊ Group counseling starting at school-age.
- ◊ Assessment and treatment referral for students suspended for Alcohol and other Drug infractions.
- ◊ Crisis Intervention for persons feeling suicidal or experiencing life crisis.
- ◊ Information and Referral Services.

Call **240-294-1304** today!

National Flood Insurance Program

WHY DO I NEED FLOOD INSURANCE?



Every Property is Vulnerable to Flooding...

Flooding can happen anywhere, at any time. In fact, more than 20 percent of the NFIP's claims come from outside high-risk flood areas. That's why it's important to protect the life you've built with flood insurance, even if you live in an area with low-to-moderate flooding risk. Property owners in the low-to-moderate risk areas should ask their insurance agents if they are eligible for the Preferred Risk Policy! This policy provides flood insurance protection as a lower cost than a standard policy in a high-risk area. The low-risk policy is ideal for homes and other properties currently mapped in the low-to-moderate risk areas...AND it can cost homeowners an average of only \$439 a year!

The NFIP Covers Flooding Resulting from Hurricanes or Other Weather Events...

The NFIP defines covered flooding as any temporary event where the surface of normally dry land is partially or completely underwater. Flooding can be caused by:

- Overflow of inland (lake or river) or coastal waters.
- Pooling of runoff or surface waters from any source, such as heavy rainfall.
- Mudflows.
- Collapse of land along the shore of a lake or other body of water due to wave or water currents.

You Can Purchase Flood Insurance Any Time....

There is usually a 30-day waiting period before the policy goes into effect. However, there are some exceptions:

- If you initially purchased flood insurance while securing, adjusting, or renewing a loan for your property, there is no waiting period. Coverage goes into effect when the loan is closed.
- If you live in an area newly affected by a flood risk map change, review your options with your insurance agent.

Additionally, the 30-day waiting period may not apply if your property experiences flood damage caused by wildfire in your community. Keeping these exceptions in mind, plan ahead so you are not caught off guard with no insurance. The policy does not cover losses caused by a flood that occurred prior to the policy becoming effective. In addition, you cannot increase your insurance coverage once a flood has begun.

In the Event of a Flood, Federal Disaster May Be Limited or Unavailable...

Most homeowners insurance does NOT cover flood damage, and federal disaster assistance is only available if the President declares a disaster. Disaster assistance can come in two forms: A U.S. Small Business Administration loan, which must be paid back with interest, or a FEMA disaster grant, which is about \$5,000 on average per household.

Flood Insurance is Available for Participating Communities...

Today, more than 22,000 communities participate in the NFIP and most people who live in participating communities, including renters and condo unit owners, can purchase NFIP Flood Insurance. Secure your flood insurance today, because everywhere it can rain, it can flood!



For more information, visit, www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program.



DID YOU KNOW?

The government REQUIRES that homes in high-risk flood areas are protected by flood insurance if they are backed by a federally regulated lender. Lenders MUST notify borrowers of their flooding risk, prior to closing, if they are purchasing property in a high-risk flood area.

El NFIP cubre inundaciones causadas por huracanes u otros fenómenos meteorológicos...

El NFIP define «inundación cubierta» a todo suceso provisional en el que la superficie de suelos normalmente secos queda bajo el agua, ya sea de manera parcial o total. Hay varias causas de las inundaciones, entre ellas:

- Desbordamiento de aguas costeras o terrestres (lagos o ríos).
- Acumulación o escorrentías de aguas superficiales de cualquier origen, por ejemplo, precipitaciones fuertes.
- Avalanchas de lodo.
- Colapso de tierras en las orillas de un lago u otra masa de agua.

Es posible comprar un seguro contra inundación en cualquier momento...

Generalmente hay un periodo de espera de 30 días para que el seguro entre en vigor, salvo en los siguientes casos:

- No habrá periodo de espera si la compra inicial del seguro contra inundación se hace en relación con la elaboración, el aumento, la prórroga o la renovación de un préstamo asegurado por la propiedad cubierta. En ese caso, la cobertura entrará en vigor al momento del cierre del préstamo.
- Si usted vive en una zona recién afectada por cambios hechos al mapa de riesgo de inundación, revisa sus opciones con su agente de seguros.

Además, el periodo de espera de 30 días quizás no se aplique si su propiedad sufre una pérdida por inundación causada por incendios forestales durante ese tiempo.

Teniendo en cuenta estas excepciones, planifique con anticipación para que no quede atrapado sin seguro. La política no cubre las pérdidas causadas por una inundación que ocurrió antes de que la política entre en vigencia. Además, no puede aumentar su cobertura de seguro una vez que ha comenzado una inundación.

Se ofrece seguro contra inundación para miembros de comunidades participantes...

La mayoría de los seguros para propietarios de viviendas NO cubren daños por inundación, y la asistencia federal por desastre solo está disponible si el Presidente declara un desastre. La asistencia por desastre puede venir en dos formas: un préstamo de la Administración de Pequeñas Empresas de EE. UU., que debe devolverse con intereses, o una subvención de desastre de FEMA, que es de aproximadamente \$ 5,000 en promedio por hogar.

¿SABÍA USTED?

El Gobierno requiere que las viviendas ubicadas en zonas de alto riesgo de inundación estén protegidas con un seguro contra inundación si cuentan con el respaldo de un prestamista sujeto a reglamentos federales. Si la propiedad se encuentra en una zona de alto riesgo de inundación, los prestamistas deben notificar a los prestatarios sobre sus riesgos de inundación antes del cierre del préstamo.

Hoy, más de 22,000 comunidades participan en el NFIP. La mayoría de las personas que viven en comunidades participantes, incluidos inquilinos y propietarios de condominios, pueden comprar el seguro contra inundaciones de NFIP. ¡Asegure su seguro contra inundaciones hoy, porque en todas partes puede llover, puede inundarse!



FEMA

For more information, visit,
www.fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program.



Programa Nacional De Seguero Contra Inundaciòn

¿POR QUE NECESITO UN SEGUERO CONTRA INUNDACIÓN?



Todos Las Propiedades Corren el Riesgo de Inundarse...

Las inundaciones pueden ocurrir en cualquier lugar y en cualquier instante. De hecho, más del 20 por ciento de las reclamaciones del Programa Nacional de Seguro contra Inundación (NFIP, por sus siglas en inglés) provienen de áreas que están fuera de las zonas de alto riesgo. Por eso es importante proteger la vida que usted ha creado con un seguro contra inundación. Los propietarios de viviendas ubicadas en zonas de riesgo bajo a moderado deben preguntarles a sus agentes si son elegibles para la Póliza de Riesgo Preferido, la cual es ideal para viviendas u otras propiedades que se encuentren en zonas clasificadas como de riesgo bajo a moderado; su costo promedio para los propietarios de viviendas es de \$439 al año!

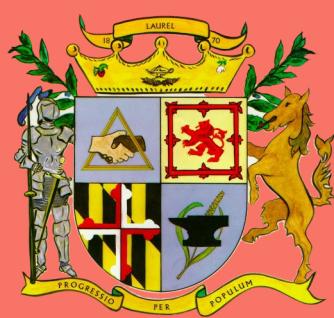
CITY OF LAUREL

8103 Sandy Spring Road

Laurel, MD 20707

Phone: 301-725-5300

Website: www.CityofLaurel.org



Government to the People