



THE City of Laurel Ledger

VOL. 3, NO. 8

AUGUST 2024

EXCITEMENT BUILDS FOR GRAND OPENING OF LAUREL MULTISERVICE CENTER

The City of Laurel is buzzing with anticipation as it prepares to unveil its state-of-the-art Craig A. Moe Laurel Multiservice Center (LMSC) at 204 Fort Meade Road. This visionary facility, aimed at supporting marginalized populations, particularly low-income residents and people experiencing homelessness, is set to become a cornerstone of community support and a beacon of hope for many. Everyone is welcome to join us for the Craig A. Moe Laurel Multiservice Center Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Tour of the Center on September 10th, from 11:00am – 1:00pm.

Background and Development

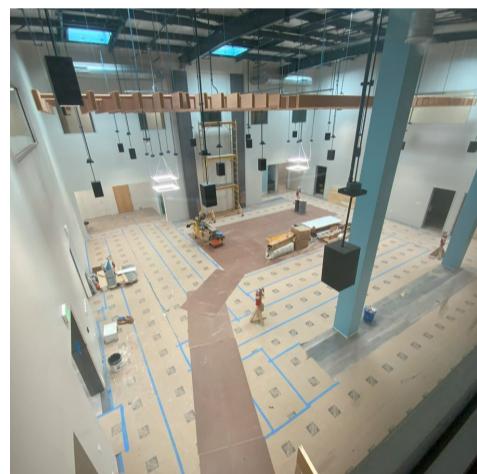
The property was acquired with a clear mission: to develop a comprehensive multiservice center that could serve the diverse needs of the Greater Laurel community. The LMSC aims to streamline human services in coordination with various local agencies, ensuring seamless delivery and accessibility for those in need.

The creation of the LMSC can be traced back to 2019 when the City of Laurel Homelessness and Community Task Force embarked on a mission to enhance community wellness and reduce homelessness. The Task Force conducted an in-depth capability analysis and feasibility study to identify resource gaps and infrastructure needs, laying the groundwork for the services the LMSC will offer. These recommendations formed the foundation of the LMSC's services, which include a learning center for job training, a medical suite, a clothing distribution center, transitional housing, overnight winter sheltering, a meal service kitchen, a postal and package delivery area, a barber and hair salon, a food pantry, laundry facilities, and showering amenities.

Innovative Services and Support

The LMSC represents a unique one-stop-shop approach to human services, addressing critical needs within the community through wraparound services provided by the LMSC staff and partners. Individual and family short-term housing units, overnight sheltering, and a suite of essential services are designed to support those in transitional phases, offering a

secure and nurturing environment. LMSC's on-site facilities include a prepared meal service kitchen, a learning center for job training, 19 transitional housing units, and a medical suite equipped for comprehensive care by physician and nursing staff. Additionally, the LMSC provides practical amenities to ensure dignity and comfort for all who seek assistance.



The LMSC has partnered with several local non-profit organizations who support marginalized community members on their journey from economic instability to sustainable security. Current partnerships include: the Laurel Advocacy and Referral Services (LARS), who will manage the transitional housing program, and offer additional services for clients; FISH of Laurel, who will provide daily meal services; Employ Prince George's, who will serve as a bridge between job seekers looking to begin or change careers, and businesses looking for skilled workers; the Department of Social Services for Prince George's, Anne Arundel, and Howard Counties, who will assist clients with SNAP benefits, healthcare insurance, and more. Taking Care of Our Neighbors, who will manage our winter shelter program (late November through March); JustLiving Advocacy, who will provide supportive services to low-income, single-parent households; Hope House, who offers treatment of substance-use disorders, co-occurring mental health challenges and problem gambling; and Touch Stones Financial Wellness Services, who will provide financial literacy and counseling services. The LMSC will continue to

explore additional partnerships, based on the needs of the community.

Mission and Vision

The mission of the LMSC is to promote stability and self-sufficiency among vulnerable populations through equitable service provision. By creating a hub for essential services, LMSC will aim to enhance wellness, foster independence, and strengthen community ties throughout the Greater Laurel area. The vision of the LMSC is to reduce homelessness and promote independent living through a combination of immediate support and long-term resource access.

Serving the Community

LMSC is strategically located to serve communities in Prince George's, Anne Arundel, and Howard counties, and easily accessible to public transportation, making it a vital resource for those who need it most. Despite the existence of 19 shelters in the surrounding areas, many individuals remain underserved due to accessibility and availability barriers. The LMSC seeks to fill these gaps by not only providing temporary housing, but also offering resources to prevent potential homelessness and support individuals in their journey towards self-reliance.

As the LMSC prepares to open its doors, the City of Laurel stands proud of this monumental step forward in supporting its most vulnerable residents. LMSC is poised to make a lasting impact, providing a lifeline to those in need and fostering a stronger, more resilient community.



For more information, contact the Laurel Multiservice Center Director, Marchelle LeBlanc, at mleblanc@laurel.md.us, or 301-725-5300 ext. 2204.



It's Easy Being Green!



GREEN HAPPENINGS IN LAUREL!

Composting is the number one way that individuals can reduce methane gas emissions at our landfills, reduce the cost of tipping fees and reduce trash overflow. During the summer months, our kitchen countertops are very attractive to fruit flies and ants. So how to avoid and conquer? Here are some helpful tips to reduce smells and pests that may be feasting on your kitchen countertop compost containers:

- Freeze compost directly in the bag provided by DPW or any certified compostable bag.
- Keep the kitchen countertop container out of the sun and keep the lid closed!
- Line the bottom of your compost container with a layer of newspaper.
- Sprinkle baking soda on the newspaper lining the bottom of your containers.
- Mix some organic tea tree oil with water and spray on the newspaper.
- Empty compost every 2 to 3 days.
- Dry the container before adding a new liner.
- Throw a sprig of fresh mint in your compost.
- Use organic essential oils. Lavender, lemongrass, eucalyptus, or peppermint help keep the fruit flies at bay
- Wash your fruit! Fruit flies can travel on the fruit you purchase outside of your home - just remember the egg story from above and you will always want to wash your fruits and veggies.
- Spraying some organic essential oils such as tea tree, peppermint or cinnamon can act as an ant deterrent.
- Ants are also not fond of white vinegar and lemon juice.



Our Farmer's Market is in full swing! Come out and visit your favorite vendors from last year and meet some "new" favorites, pick up some tasty food and relax and listen to music in the shade. We also accept SNAP/EBT benefits and are now participating in the Maryland Market Money program, giving our shoppers extra market cash to shop with. Stop by the Welcome Tent to get tokens. The Market is open every Thursday, from 3-7pm, through September 26th. Be sure to check out our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/thelaurelquilllot>) and our City website (<https://www.cityoflaurel.org/1617/Laurel-Farmers-Market>).

The Maryland Department of Agriculture will spray on Sunday evenings in Laurel, as necessary. If you find that you are experiencing a large mosquito population around your home or if you would like your property to be exempt from the program, visit https://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/mosquito_control.aspx for more details. For more ecofriendly, proactive ideas like Tip It or Toss It, visit <https://md-laurel.civicplus.com/1598/Informational-Videos>.

Want to get the most recent information about the City's sustainability initiatives. Follow us on Facebook at Sustainable Laurel. This is a place where we can share ideas, highlight upcoming events and residents can stay informed on all things Sustainable.



GRAN INAUGURACIÓN DEL CENTRO MULTISERVICIO LAUREL



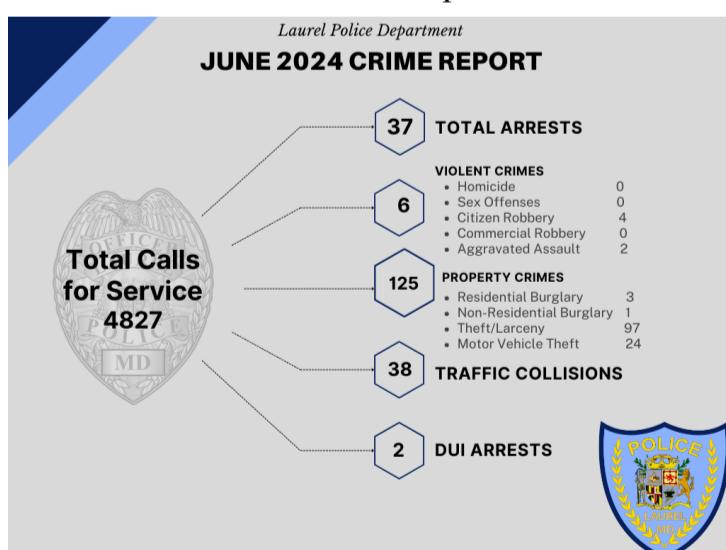
La ciudad de Laurel está llena de anticipación mientras se prepara para presentar su Laurel Multi-service Center (LMSC) de última generación en 204 Ft. Camino Meade. Esta instalación visionaria, destinada a apoyar a las poblaciones marginadas, en particular a los residentes de bajos ingresos y a las personas sin hogar, se convertirá en una piedra angular del apoyo comunitario y un faro de esperanza para muchos. Todos son bienvenidos a unirse a nosotros para la ceremonia de inauguración del Centro Multiservicios de la ciudad de Laurel y el recorrido por el Centro el 10 de septiembre, de 11:00 a. m. a 1:00 p. m.

Ubicado estratégicamente para servir a las comunidades de los condados de Prince George, Anne Arundel y Howard, el LMSC es fácilmente accesible a través del transporte público, lo que lo convierte en un recurso vital para quienes más lo necesitan. A pesar de la existencia de 19 refugios en las zonas circundantes, muchas personas siguen desatendidas debido a barreras de accesibilidad y disponibilidad. La LMSC busca llenar estos vacíos no solo proporcionando alojamiento temporal sino también ofreciendo recursos para prevenir una posible falta de vivienda y apoyar a las personas en su camino hacia la autosuficiencia.

LAUREL POLICE MONTHLY CRIME REPORT

JUNE 2024

List of Laurel Police Crime Reports can be found at www.cityoflaurel.org/police/community-info/crime-reports.



Laurel Council Connections

Legislation

Listed below are recent actions taken by the Laurel City Council. For further information on any of these actions, please feel free to contact the Office of the City Clerk at **301-725-5300 x2120** or at clerk@laurel.md.us. For the full agendas, visit www.cityoflaurel.org.

Adopted Legislation:

- Ordinance No. 2028 - amending the General Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 and Providing an Effective Date.

Bid Recommendations:

- Bid Recommendation - Granville Gude Park Path Banners - Parks and Recreation. (\$109,580)
- FY2025 CIP - Fleet Replacement Schedule - Public Works. (\$1,308,597)
- Fleet Leasing Purchase - FY2025 - Laurel Police Department. (\$287,017)
- Bid Recommendation - Ammunition Purchase - Laurel Police Department. (\$55,000)

Appointments/Reappointments:

- Bharati Dhruba - Arts Council - 7/8/24 - 7/8/27



JOIN THE CELEBRATION!

Craig A. Moe
Laurel Multiservice Center
RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

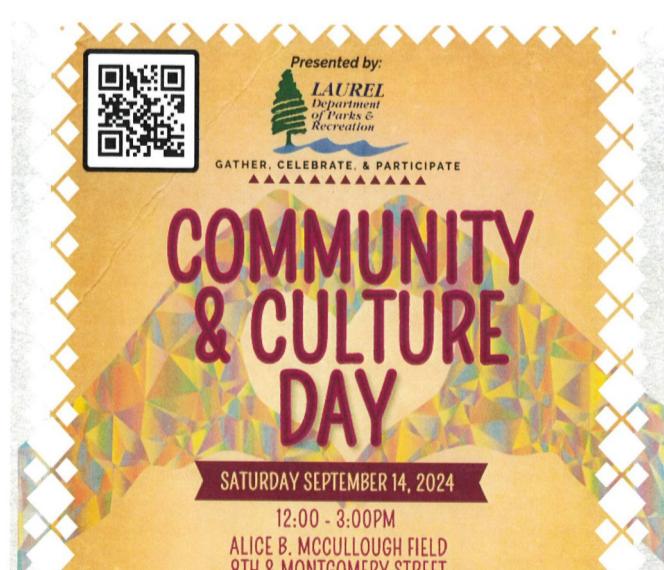
Please join us for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Tour of our new facility!

Tuesday, September 10th
11:00am - 1:00pm

204 Fort Meade Road
Laurel, MD 20707



Scan the QR Code to learn more about our Services and Partnerships or visit laurelmsc.org/.
Questions? Please contact Marchelle LeBlanc, Laurel Multiservice Center Director, at mleblanc@laurel.md.us.



COUNCIL OFFICE

301-725-5300 ext. 2120 clerk@laurel.md.us

Government Meetings

(Dates and Times Subject to Change)

August 2024 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ August 7th - Mayor and City Council Work Session (CANCELLED)
- ◆ August 12th & 26th - Mayor and City Council Meetings (CANCELLED)

August 2024 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ August 13th - Planning Commission (CANCELLED)
- ◆ August 13th - Environmental Affairs Committee (CANCELLED)
- ◆ August 20th - Historic District Commission (CANCELLED)
- ◆ August 22nd - Board of Appeals (CANCELLED)

September 2024 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ September 4th - Virtual Mayor and City Council Work Session (6pm)
- ◆ September 9th - Virtual Mayor and City Council Meetings (6pm)
- ◆ September 23rd - In-Person Mayor and City Council Meeting (6pm)

September 2024 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ September 10th - Planning Commission (6pm)
- ◆ September 10th - Environmental Affairs Committee (6pm)
- ◆ September 17th - Historic District Commission (6pm)
- ◆ September 26th - Board of Appeals (6pm)

City Announcements & Events

(Dates and Times Subject to Change)

- ◆ **National Night Out, August 6th, 6 - 9pm**, Gude Park, 8300 Mulberry St. Join the Laurel Police for safety demos, live music, food, games and more!
- ◆ **FREE Outdoor Concert, August 9th, 7 - 9pm**, Gude Park, 8300 Mulberry Street. Enjoy the tones of DuPont Brass.
- ◆ **My Time with the Mayor, August 12th, 4:00 - 5:30pm**, Laurel Police Department, 811 5th Street.
- ◆ **City Hall in the Park, August 28th, 6:00 - 8:30pm**, Greenview Drive Pool, 14403 Greenview Drive.
- ◆ **Doggie Dip Day, September 7th, 10am - 12pm**, Greenview Drive Pool, 14403 Greenview Drive. Cost is \$5 per dog.
- ◆ **Grand Opening of Craig A. Moe Laurel Multiservice Center, September 10th, 11am - 1pm**, 204 Fort Meade Road.
- ◆ **Community and Culture Day, September 14th, 12 - 3pm**, McCullough Field, 8th and Montgomery Streets. Celebrate and explore different cultures! Call 301-725-7800.
- ◆ **Senior Services Trips and Events** - Laurel Senior Services has great trips and local events for our 55 and over group. Call 301-776-6168 for details.
- ◆ **Laurel Citizens University (LCU) Coming This Fall!** October - November 2024! Learn about your local government from City Directors and staff! For more info, call 301-725-5300 ext. 2109. Register at www.cityoflaurel.org.



Visit the City of Laurel web site at www.cityoflaurel.org, to learn more about your local government!

Public Works Monthly Glance



CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE. PLACE ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR.



CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE. PLACE ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR.



National Preparedness Month

Yard Debris Collection

Bulky Item Collection

Email DPW@laurel.md.us to schedule a pickup.

September

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
City Pools Close September 2nd	1 Labor Day Monday Trash/Recycling & Composting collected on Tuesday	2 Tuesday Trash/Recycling & Composting collected on Wednesday	3 No change to Wednesday collection	4 Virtual Work Session - 6pm	5 Farmers' Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. At the Quill Lot	6 Doggie Dip Day Greenview Drive Pool 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
	8 Virtual Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm	9 Planning Commission - 6pm Grand Opening Laurel Multiservice Center - 11am	10	11 Virtual Tree Board Meeting - 6pm	12 Farmers' Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. At the Quill Lot	13 Community & Culture Day - 12pm - 3pm McCullough Field
	15	16 Historic District Commission - 6pm	17	18	19 Farmers' Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. At the Quill Lot	20
Autumnal Equinox	22 In-Person Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm	23	24 City Hall in the Park - Emancipation Park - 6:30pm	25 Board of Appeals - 6pm	26 Farmers' Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. At the Quill Lot LAST DAY	27
	29	30				28

Refuse/Recycling holiday schedule September 2nd.

Mosquito Control Spraying on Sundays – June through September

PUBLIC WORKS



301-725-0088



DPW@laurel.md.us

Community Resources and Emergency Management: Heat Safety

With the arrival of the warm, sunny days of summer, also comes the risk of heat-related illnesses like hyperthermia, heat exhaustion and heat stroke when temperatures get over 90 degrees and humidity makes it feel like 100!

Hyperthermia occurs when your body absorbs or generates more heat than it can release, causing muscle cramps, heat rash and heat stress. Heat Exhaustion is more serious, causing symptoms such as nausea, dizziness or feeling weak. The most serious of the heat-related illnesses is life-threatening Heat Stroke, with symptoms including, but not limited to, delirium, dizziness, pale skin, nausea, seizures and low/high blood pressure.

To stay safe during extreme heat, use the following tips:

- Limit outdoor activity to early morning or early evening.
- Wear loose-fitting, light-colored clothing.
- Stay hydrated!
- Minimize direct exposure to the sun.
- Make use of public space with air conditioning.



And make sure to keep your family and friends safe! Check on elderly and/or disabled adults to ensure they have air conditioning and electricity, and NEVER leave anyone in a vehicle, as interior temperatures can become deadly in minutes.

Also, with September just around the corner, we are gearing up for Emergency Preparedness Month, focusing this year on Emergency Notifications. So why not stay ahead of the game and sign up today at www.cityoflaurel.org/230/Stay-Informed and begin to receive notifications that will keep you in the know during a weather-related or man-made emergency!

CITY CONTACTS

MAYOR'S OFFICE

301-725-5300 ext. 2125

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

301-725-5300 ext. 2242

LAUREL POLICE

Non-Emerg: 301-498-0092
Emerg: 301-725-3000

PARKS AND RECREATION

301-725-7800

COMMUNICATIONS

301-725-5300 Ext. 2208

www.cityoflaurel.org



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