

CITY OF LAUREL

Government to the People Magazine

January 2019

**Laurel's
2018
Annual
Review
and
Upcoming
Events**





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Produced by Department of Communications

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Executive Editor
Carreen Koubek

Contributing Editors
Department Heads and Staff

Letter from Mayor Craig A. Moe:

I am pleased to share that your City Government has had a busy year working for you.

We have accomplished many of our initial goals and we continue working hard to keep the City of Laurel the beautiful, safe and friendly community we all enjoy. This is accomplished by working together with our entire community and your active participation unifies all of us in this effort.

Through the "Government to the People" program, we have made City Hall more accessible to the public with extended hours from 5:00-7:00pm every Tuesday. This gives you more opportunities to drop in on the Mayor and City Council, pay City-related invoices, apply for a permit, find out about youth and recreational programs and even apply for a passport.

I am pleased that the following accomplishments were met in 2018 as well:

- The Mayor's Office continued the Golden Shovel Award Program last summer.
- We continued one of our most popular programs, the Mayor's Summer Job Program, which is open to resident Laurel students between the ages of 14 and 17.
- We enjoyed several community events, the most popular being the Main Street Festival, July 4th Celebration, and Riverfest.
- An Economic Development service has been established in the Department of Community Development, which offers assistance in matching available properties with purchasers or tenants.
- Enhanced illuminated Stop signs are being evaluated for placement throughout the City where traffic issues exist. Two of these signs have been placed on Montgomery Street and Fifth Street, and your opinion is requested, as well as your suggestions for additional locations are welcome.
- Emergency Response training and service delivery evaluation are ongoing to ensure the most timely and efficient response to our citizens is provided.
- The City's measurement of recycling participation and providing participation incentives has been very well received and will continue.
- Our use of social media, i.e. Facebook and Twitter, has been enhanced to include weather forecasts, street closures, and timely information on items affecting our neighborhoods and City Services.

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 credit for graduation; 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. This includes the newly formed 150th Anniversary Committee that will plan a celebratory event to be held in 2020. Volunteer members for these Committees are appointed by the Mayor and will be asked to 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. 2124.

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.

MAYOR'S OFFICE

Maryland General Assembly

The City of Laurel was well represented during the Maryland General Assembly Session, with two staff members assigned as liaisons and several Council Members and Department Heads testifying in support or opposition to legislation that would impact the City. We will continue to monitor events in Annapolis during the 2019 Session. As legislation is introduced that affects you, or you have a particular interest in, please notify my office and we will work with you to monitor it through the legislative process.

Slow Down Move Over Law

The Mayor's Office worked with Staff and other Agencies to draft Maryland State Senate Bill 445 requiring that motor vehicles move over and slow down when approaching a vehicle with visual signals. We testified on behalf of the City in support of SB 445 at Maryland State House and Senate hearings.

AND...

- Continued the *"Hometown Heroes Banner Program"* and honored a great community hero.
- Attended neighborhood block parties, local meetings, Town Hall meetings and Homeowner's Association meetings throughout the City.
- Implemented the new *"Mobile Mayor"* program to bring City Hall to multi-family communities.
- Continued efforts on monitoring and working with the University of Maryland Medical System to bring medical services to the Laurel-Beltsville community.
- Partnered with *"Wreaths Across America"* to honor veterans at Ivy Hill Cemetery.
- Presented Operating Budget to City Council with no tax increase and continued level of service to the community.



2019 GOALS

150th Anniversary Committee

The City of Laurel was incorporated on April 4, 1870 and in 2020, we will celebrate our 150th Anniversary. Mayor Craig A. Moe is forming a Volunteer Committee to plan a year-long celebration with a big event to be held on or near April 4, 2020.

If you own a business or manage an organization and would like to donate funding or volunteer for one of the anniversary events, contact Chief of Staff, Sara Green, at 301-725-5300 ext. 2124.

2019 My Time with the Mayor

Mondays - 4:30 - 6:30 pm

February 11

Laurel Municipal Center

April 8

Laurel Armory Anderson-Murphy
Community Center

August 12

Robert J. DiPietro Community
Center

Wednesday, October 16

Parks & Recreation Maintenance
Facility

December 9

Barkman-Kaiser Public Safety
Complex

2019 City Hall in the Park

Wednesdays - 6:30 - 8:00 pm

April 17

Emancipation Community Park

May 15

Discovery Community Park

July 17

Wellington Pool/Park

August 21

Centennial Park

September 18

Casula Point

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

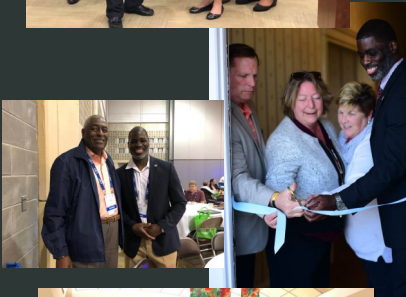
YouTube: youtube.com/user/
MayorLaurel

Instagram: @laurelmayor

2019 COMMITTEES

The following Councilmembers will sit on different Committees for the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government:

- ◇ Hon. Mike Leszcz - Board of Directors.
- ◇ Hon. Carl DeWalt and Hon. Fred Smalls - NCR Transportation Planning Board.
- ◇ Hon. Keith Sydnor and Hon. Valerie Nicholas - Metropolitan Washington Air Quality.



CONTACT:

Clerk to the Council, Kim Rau

301-725-5300 ext. 2121

Administrative Assistant

301-725-5300 ext. 2120

COUNCIL OFFICE

Council President Frederick Smalls

Elected Council President on November 26, 2018, Mr. Smalls is currently serving his fifth term as Councilmember, Ward 2. Councilmember Smalls represents the City Council on the City's Planning Commission.

Councilmember Valerie Nicholas

Appointed President Pro Tem on Monday, November 26, 2018, Ms. Nicholas is currently serving her fourth term as Councilmember, Ward 1. Ms. Nicholas was recently appointed to the National League of Cities (NLC) Human Development Committee for 2019, which leads responsibility for developing NLC federal policy positions on issues involving social services, children and learning, poverty and income support, employment and workforce development, equal opportunity, Social Security and seniors, individuals with disabilities, public health care, mental health parity and immigration reform. Ms. Nicholas also serves on the Tree Board.

Councilmember Mike Leszcz

Mr. Leszcz is currently serving his eleventh term on the Laurel City Council. 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. In June 2018, Mr. Leszcz was appointed to serve on the Maryland Municipal League Convention Planning Committee.

Councilmember Keith Sydnor

Currently serving his first term as Councilmember, Ward 2, Mr. Sydnor was appointed to the National League of Cities (NLC) 2018 Public Safety and Crime Prevention federal advocacy committee. This committee has the lead responsibility for developing NLC's federal policy positions on issues involving crime prevention, corrections, substance abuse and gun control. Mr. Sydnor is the Chairman of the City's Public Safety and Transportation Committee. Mr. Sydnor also serves on the Maryland Municipal League Outreach Committee.

Councilmember Carl DeWalt

Currently serving his first term on the City Council representing Ward 1, Mr. DeWalt serves as Chairman of the Environmental Affairs Committee.

Contributions

Financial contributions were given to Bernadette's House to send their participants to Summer Camp and to St. Mark's United Methodist Church's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner to feed the homeless.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

Health Fair

Laurel's 1st Annual Health Fair was held on January 28, 2018, at the Anderson-Murphy Community Center (Laurel Armory). Over 50 vendors attended to provide free services and resources to participants.

Memorial Garden

The City of Laurel's Memorial Garden has been growing over the last couple of years with additions of the 9-11 Memorial, Berlin Wall, Pearl Harbor and the most recent, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, which will be dedicated on January 18, 2019.

Walk Laurel Day

Each year, in the month of October, the City follows Walk Maryland Day, the official exercise of the State of Maryland. City employees meet to walk together and in 2018, we held our 3rd Annual Walk. Employees met at City Hall, walked to McCullough Field and back to City Hall.

Lactation Room

Recognizing the need for nursing mothers to have a private space to pump their breast milk or feed a baby, the City of Laurel created a special Lactation Room at the Laurel Municipal Center. The room is available for City employees and visitors to City Hall.

HEAL Cities Award - Gold Level

At the Annual Maryland Municipal League Conference in June, the City was awarded the Heal City Gold Award. Several of the achieved goals were to promote walking meetings, monthly lunch and learn workshops, healthier options and fresh foods in the vending machines in City facilities.

Stop the Bleed Training

City employees were taught how to be trainers for the National "Stop the Bleed" Campaign. The program trains citizens to be first responders at incidents that will stop an injured person from bleeding until EMS arrives. A Community "Stop the Bleed" training session was offered November 10, 2018, with over 50 citizens signing up for the training.

*Washington Blvd. (Route 1)
looking North in 1907.*



2019 GOALS

- ◇ Develop Department Succession Plans to identify and prepare our next generation supervisors and managers.
- ◇ Streamline City Services through the use of enhanced technologies.
- ◇ Evaluate and restructure internal processes to eliminate redundancy and reduce costs.



CONTACT:

City Administrator, William Goddard

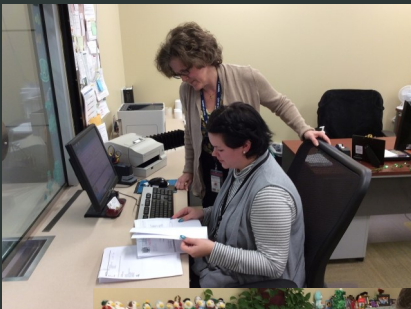
301-725-5300 ext. 2204

Dep. City Administrator, LouAnn Crook

301-725-5300 ext. 2216

2019 GOALS

- ◇ Coordinate monthly professional development training for employees.
- ◇ Update the City's Records Retention Schedule in order to expand use of digital imaging and reduce storage needs in the Archives Room.



CONTACT:

Director, Michele Saylor

301-725-5300 ext. 2236

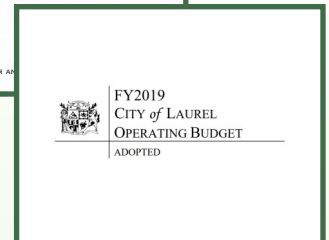
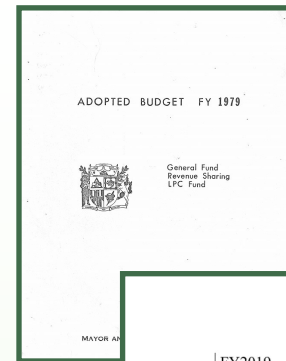
Deputy Director, Lisa Woods

301-725-5300 ext. 2235

BUDGET AND PERSONNEL

DID YOU KNOW:

We pulled up a Budget from 1979 and the annual funding was at \$1.45 million compared to 2019, when we adopted a budget of \$34.2 million. What a difference 40 years makes! You can't see it, but in the '79 Budget, they used white out and mimeograph paper. Computer-generated budgets didn't come until the 80s.



HR is Going Green!

The employee processing forms are now being emailed to employees. In partnership with IT, reports and processes were implemented to:

- Pre-print insurance selection forms to make the enrollment process easier for employees and HR staff.
- The health and dental enrollment forms will be emailed to each employee and can be emailed back to Human Resources.
- Reports were created to streamline the electronic submittal of annual employee information to the Actuary to produce the pension plan valuations and employee retirement statements.

Employee Benefits

Health and Dental insurance selection forms will be staying with Cigna and Aetna due to the low increase in the price structure. Working with the employee insurance broker, a new benefit brochure was created.

Special Programs

The Department is responsible for administering the Employee Awards Program; the Mayor's Summer Job Program; and Annual Benefits Fair. This year marked the 23rd Annual Employee Awards Program-there were nominations to collect, voting by Department Heads, a luncheon to organize, as well as plaques to order. This was the 10th Mayor's Summer Job Program and the 21st Annual Benefits Fair.

Online Payments

In partnership with the LPD and IT Departments, online payments for parking tickets is up and running. This improves convenience for citizens and reduces paperwork from walk in and mail in payments.

COMMUNICATIONS

Closed Captioning

In an effort to allow our hearing-impaired community to enjoy our government meeting broadcasts and other programs on our public access television station, we have installed Closed Captioning equipment for Laurel TV. Viewers can turn the service on or off when they choose by using the settings in their television's remote control.

Membership Program Established

The membership program gives show producers greater access to Laurel TV's professional staff and equipment. The partnership will take the quality of programming to a whole new level.

Upgraded Tech Room with HD Equipment

The City now has a second fully functioning, HD ready, broadcast site. This is a necessary backup should the Council Chambers be inoperable, especially during an emergency.

FUN FACT:

Laurel's Cable TV, formed in 1983, became the Laurel Cable Network Foundation in 1986 and was located in a janitor's closet in the Old City Hall at 350 Municipal Square off of Main Street. It moved to the current location at the Laurel Municipal Center in 1993 and now occupies approximately 3000 square feet.



Laurel Cable Foundation president Jerry Moore (right) and news director Dick Howard confer in their present cramped space at city hall.

Cable TV coming out of closet

Party on, Laurel! The rallying cry from Saturday Night Live's "Weekend Update," a fictional public-access television show, may well apply to Laurel's new public access station, which is set to be a dramatic expansion of the city's "coming-out party."

Channel 12's "coming-out party" means that it will no longer occupy a janitor's closet in city hall off Main Street. Instead, it will occupy a 3,000-square-foot premises — more space than that of any city department — in the next city hall, a former junior high school that is currently being renovated for government use on Sully Spring Road.

Current plans for the future include a state-of-the-art TV studio, two control rooms and remote-controlled cameras, not to mention offices, waiting area and — get this — a "green room" where guests can wait for their appearance on a show.

The City Council chamber will have a one-way glass window so that all meetings can be televised without the inconvenience of set-up and take-down that is now necessary.

"This is a quantum leap," said Jerry Moore, five-year president of the Laurel Cable Network Foundation, a 16-member volunteer board that runs the cable operation.

"They are going to have a Taj Mahal on my the main," said Mayor Joseph Rubenstein.

A picture of the finances

The expansion needed to run the facility will come from a tidy act of age that the foundation has built up over the years.

The original agreement between the city and the company, holding the cable franchise for residents Prince George's County in 1983 was that the cable foundation would receive 1% of the revenues generated each year from city subscribers. But the cable company never paid any of this amount until 1988, when one company said the franchise is its property.

owner, Multivision Cable. At that time, the foundation agreed to let the proceeds due in exchange for a one-time payment of \$10,000. Moore said.

"That was kind of a windfall for us," Moore said. "Because the most money we ever had, when I got involved in this thing, we had \$300 and that was it."

That beyond money went into various things, including, but not all of it will now be used to buy new equipment for the facility. It probably will not be enough.

That being the case, the foundation then is trying to use out its financial relationship with the city. Through the original franchise agreement, the city receives 5% of Multivision's revenues from the city's 5,100 subscribers, which this year will amount to about \$100,000.

In past years, the city split this income 50-50 with the foundation, but as balances have grown lighter, the city has kept more for itself.

(See CABLE, page A-5)



Watch Laurel TV on:

Comcast
Channels 996 (HD) or 71 (SD)

Verizon
Channel 12
LaurelTV.org

2019 GOALS

- ◇ To increase reach and engage Laurel residents, businesses and visitors through the use of Social Media.
- ◇ Increase viewership of Laurel TV and create more Specials.



CONTACT:

Director, Audrey Barnes

301-725-5300 ext. 2208

Asst. Director, Joyce Jackson

301-725-5300 ext. 2106

Public Info/Social Media, Carreen Koubek

301-725-5300 ext. 2109

2019 GOALS

- ◇ The Department will conduct a comprehensive review and update of the City's Unified Land Development Code.
- ◇ The Department will continue to host various economic development events that will attract and retain local businesses within the City of Laurel.



CONTACT:

Director, Christian Pulley

301-725-5300 ext. 2252

Dep. Director, Robert Love

301-725-5300 ext. 2313

Office Manager, Brooke Quillen

301-725-5300 ext. 2303

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

First in the County Designation

City was designated as part of the Main Street Maryland Program through the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. And the City received silver designation from the national SolSmart program for making it faster, easier, and more affordable for homes and businesses to go solar.

Re-certified as a Sustainable Community

Re-certified as a sustainable community through the Sustainable Maryland Program, which is a collaborative effort between the Environmental Finance Center (EFC) at the University of Maryland and the Maryland Municipal League

Planning and Zoning

Department reviewed and presented 24 zoning applications to the Planning Commission and/or Board of Appeals for approval including Candlewood Suites Hotel and the re-development of the Patuxent Greens Golf Course. Department also processed 92 HDC certificates for exterior renovations for properties located within the Historic District.

Economic Development

Started monthly newsletter "Laurel ECD News." The Department also hosted several economic development events including, but not limited to:

- Main Street Block Party Ellicott City Fundraiser to raise money for Old Ellicott City rebuilding efforts due to flooding.
- First annual small business resource fair with the Laurel Library.
- Shop Small Passport Program in celebration of Small Business Saturday.
- Summer Workshop Series for business owners.

DID YOU KNOW....

The City of Laurel is one of the few Municipalities that has its own Zoning Authority? And when the Department was split from the Fire Marshal and Permits Services in 2016, it created a Main Street Grant program for existing and new business owners and established an Arts and Entertainment District, all located on Main Street. Visit our website at CityofLaurel.org for this and more information about the 2020 Census and Affordable Housing Program.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Community Rating System (CRS) Project

This major project is entering its second phase which involves the City completing a Community Assistance Visit (CAV) and receiving a passing report by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The CAV is a part of the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Community Rating System (CRS), which, when completed, could provide a cost savings of up to 45%, on every flood insurance policy holder within the City of Laurel. This multi-year evaluation is a complex and extensive review of every aspect of our floodplain management program.

Community Resilience Project

This major project is to provide the necessary emergency resources for the City of Laurel to be self-sustaining for the first 72 hours after a disaster or major emergency. This project is a joint venture between the City and Booz, Allen & Hamilton through a FEMA contract and involves establishing various resource centers and points of distribution (PODS) throughout the City to assist and supplement disaster services during major emergencies/disasters/incidents/events. The City has established 2 resource centers, with signed written Memorandum of Agreements (MOA) within this program. We are currently working with the entire Laurel- area faith-based organizations and the business sectors in establishing the next 3 PODS.

Hazard Mitigation Program and Watershed Project

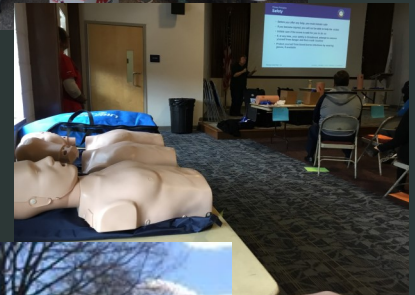
This project involves multiple areas within the City and concentrates on reducing the hazards associated with both man-made incidents and natural disasters. A major part of the mitigation program is the reduction of risks associated with flooding. The City is leading a regional partnership with the surrounding jurisdictions and agencies to identify, develop, and implement a major flood reduction program within the Patuxent River Watershed.

*Newly refurbished Emergency
Management logo.*



2019 GOALS

- ◇ To get more residents and businesses signed up for Emergency Notifications.



CONTACT:

Emergency Manager, Stephen Allen, Sr.
301-725-5300 ext. 2244
Admin. Asst., Emilia Ana Taulbee
301-725-5300 ext. 2203

2019 GOALS

- ◇ Expand use of online permit submittals.
- ◇ Decrease wait time at front counter by implementing new software and a public terminal.
- ◇ Increase number of smoke detector installs for elderly residents.
- ◇ Adoption of the 2018 codes.



CONTACT:

Director, Dave Cope

301-725-5300 ext. 2250

Dep. Director, Melanie Wieringa

301-725-5300 ext. 2253

FIRE MARSHAL AND PERMIT SERVICES

DID YOU KNOW...

Do you have a pet? Is getting down to Upper Marlboro hard for you with your schedule? Then come into the Laurel Municipal Center! Our Department is working with Prince George's County to issue animal licenses.



Accomplishments for 2018:

The Fire Marshal and Permit Services Department assisted the Laurel Board of Trade and IT with the Main Street Speaker Wiring. They also, installed a "Rain Gauge" sensor at Riverfront Park, along with trouble shooting various electrical issues at City Buildings:

- Community Center
- Police Department
- Gude Lake House
- Main Street Pool/Pool House
- Greenview Pool/Pool House

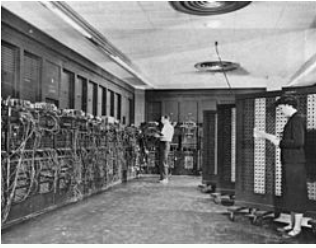
Completed and Ongoing Projects

The Department issued Use & Occupancy Permits for Dollar Tree, Dollar Store, Double-T Diner and Korean BBQ. We saw the completion of Westside Townhouses, and in the same development, the start of a Royal Farms. And we issued permits for the Laurel High School Addition.

2018 Building Permits

	PERMITS ISSUED	VALUE	PERMIT FEE
JANUARY	8	\$1,773,000.00	\$6,475.00
JANUARY - FEBRUARY	9	\$1,843,892.00	\$17,084.00
FEBRUARY - MARCH	9	\$302,940.00	\$3,928.50
MARCH - APRIL	26	\$1,800,233.00	\$26,844.10
APRIL - MAY	9	\$1,109,610.00	\$11,665.15
MAY - JUNE	10	\$1,152,351.00	\$19,511.55
JUNE - JULY	15	\$471,020.00	\$6,245.00
JULY - AUGUST	11	\$4,574,293.00	\$43,396.90
AUGUST - SEPTEMBER	20	\$2,498,049.00	\$146,116.20
SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER	5	\$121,400.00	\$1,486.60
OCTOBER - NOVEMBER	9	\$2,014,339.00	\$17,872.00

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



FUN FACT: The first computer ever built weighed 30 tons and filled a 50-foot long basement! We've come a long way since 1945. Our IT Department works hard every day to ensure our computer systems stay safe from malware and work seamlessly so City employees can continue to do the work to help you!

Small Cell Technology

Small Cell technology governance was almost a weekly discussion this past year. We joined in many technology discussions on how to manage small cells in the City's rights of way. We developed Ordinance 1933 for siting small cells and created new internal business processes.

Recovery Plan

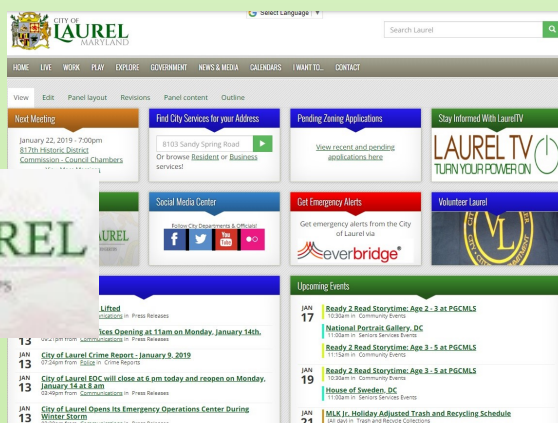
An extensive effort was taken to develop an IT recovery plan that supports our Continuity of Operations Plan.

CyberSecurity

Installed several cybersecurity applications to monitor the City's network against the latest cybersecurity threats.

Online

Laurel's Information Technology Department also manages the City's website and MyLaurel App. Be sure to visit both sites and stay up to date with what's happening in the City of Laurel.



2019 GOALS

- ◇ Transition our Police Dispatch and Records software to Prince George's County's Police software.
- ◇ Implement new Permitting and Land Management software that includes Citizen Services and paperless plan review.
- ◇ Continue to build out our telecommunications fiber infrastructure.



CONTACT:

Director, Kevin Frost

301-725-5300 ext. 2310

Dep. Director, Bryan Lau

301-725-5300 ext. 2209

2019 GOALS

- ◇ The Department will add a picnic pavilion to Roland B. Sweitzer Park, as well as continued efforts to improve the water quality of the pond.
- ◇ Fitness enthusiasts will love the new outdoor fitness equipment that is slated to be added to Granville Gude Park. This will be a great addition to anyone's walking or jogging regimen.
- ◇ Additionally, the path lighting will be upgraded to new LED lights and the upgrade of electricity at the Lake stage that will greatly enhance the speaker system used for large scale community events like the July 4th Celebration.



CONTACT:

Director, Joanne Hall Barr

301-725-5300 ext. 2307

Asst. Director, Tim Van Der Vossen

301-725-5300 ext. 2308

Asst. Director, Bill Bailey

301-725-5300 ext. 2233

PARKS AND RECREATION

Facility and Grounds

Completed resurfacing of Gymnasium and Dance Room floors at the Robert J. DiPietro Community Center, pool resurfacing and new tiles at the Laurel Municipal Pool, completion of the Memorial Garden Park at the Laurel Municipal Center, replacement of playground mulch at Riverfront and Wilson playgrounds with softer surfacing, as well as tree plantings and park clean up events that hosted over 50 volunteers throughout the year.

Recreation Programs

Offered many new programs to include: MLB sponsored "Mayor's Baseball Challenge," expanded Teen Outdoors Club trips to include Ocean City, Busch Gardens Williamsburg and National Harbor, created the Patuxent River Challenge, hosted a Youth Cricket Open House, Adult Pickleball and started a Holiday Movie night.

Laurel Arts Council

The Department assisted the Laurel Arts Council with several Artist Block events and a Community Tile Making program that will be used in a new City Outdoor Art Bench installation. Installed two functional art benches donated by the Laurel High School Art Honor Society. And awarded 4 grants to area youth organizations in the amount of \$5,000 each from the Youth Services Commission.

Miscellaneous

The Department was awarded \$100,000 in State Bond Bill funds for the expansion of the Riverfront Park Hiker/Biker Trail. Additionally, the Department was granted five Tree Swallow Houses that were designed by staff and installed in Riverfront Park to attract birds that act as an environmentally friendly way to reduce the mosquito population.

Soooo Much Space to Live, Work and Play...

The incorporated area that is the City of Laurel covers about 5 square miles. Within that area, Laurel Parks and Recreation maintains 19 park sites, six facilities, with 288 acres of parkland! And they use that space to their advantage. Check out what Laurel Parks and Recreation offers you by going to their brochure online at www.cityoflaurel.org/parks/classes-and-registration.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Speed Camera Program

The speed camera program has generated, approved, and mailed out approximately 30,000 speed citations generating over \$1.2 million in revenue, which was a slight decrease over the same time period last year. We have successfully organized, run, and maintained the program in compliance with the MPCTC and Maryland Traffic Article standards. The speed camera rotational program that was put in place in 2016 has been continued. No additional locations or cameras were added within FY2018. In combination with our dummy cameras and electronic sign boards, we have eleven locations within the City where we affect driver behavior on a daily basis.

Joint Narcotics Investigation

A Joint Narcotics Investigation with Anne Arundel County and Howard County PD produced 13 indictments in a drug ring that was operating in Howard, Prince George's and Anne Arundel Counties. Detectives served 10 search warrants, which resulted in the seizure of \$300,000 in cash, five vehicles, five handguns (one stolen), an assault rifle (stolen), approximately 12.5 kilograms of cocaine, and approximately 1.25 kilograms of heroin/fentanyl mix.

Skate with the Cops

July 14th LPD held the first annual Skate with the Cops Event! This free event for the public was very well attended by both citizens of Laurel and by Laurel Police Officers. Over very own resident DJ, DJ Franchise a.k.a., PFC Bright, provided great music to add to the skating. There were free popsicles for all and Pablos'S Tacos Food Truck was on hand to offer food and refreshments.

Polar Bear Plunge

Several officers from the Laurel Police Department participated in the Police Plunge at Sandy Point State Park. The Annual Polar Bear Plunge benefits Special Olympics Maryland. Hundreds of police officers, firefighters, and members of the military all plunged together for this great cause.

Law Enforcement Torch Run

Every year several officers run through the city for the Law Enforcement Torch Run benefiting Special Olympics Maryland.

2019 GOALS

- ◇ Maximize efforts to reduce the number of drug overdoses from opioids by coordinating with allied Police agencies for best practices and adopting aggressive education campaigns for our citizens.
- ◇ Reduce speeding throughout the City by increasing the use of radar and speed cameras.
- ◇ Enhance Community Policing activities by adding events for Officers to interact with the public.



CONTACT:

Chief of Police

301-498-0092

Dep. Chief, Keven Gray

301-498-0092

Laurel Police CrimeLine:

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

2019 GOALS

- ◇ Reduce refuse by 5 - 10%.
- ◇ Add 10 - 14 radar/speed limit signs in various communities to help reduce speed.
- ◇ Add 10 - 14 LED Flashing Stop Signs.



CONTACT:

Director, Rob Ferree

301-725-0088 ext. 3202

Asst. Director, Christy Fang

301-725-0088 ext. 3214

Asst. Director, Joseph Ajayi

301-725-0088 ext. 3208

PUBLIC WORKS

Streets Division

- Removed 64 dying street trees and replanted 62 new trees throughout the City. Vehicular/pedestrian safety enhancement and beautification.
- Installed four solar speed radar signs throughout the City.
- Installed the first "Stop" sign with solar blinking ring on 5th Street at Montgomery Street.
- Installed decorative crosswalk at 4th and Main Street. The addition of this crosswalk increases the number of enhanced crosswalks city-wide to more than 65, which increases pedestrian safety.

Waste Management and Recycling

Hosted two electronics recycling events. More than 460 residents attended the April and October events totaling more than 33,636 lbs. of electronics recycled. Public Works continues to collect electronics recycling curbside throughout the year.

Legislative

Participated in the unveiling of the new Slow Down and Move Over Law at the MDOT Press Conference at the NB Rest Area on 95. Some of our Public Works crews were also featured in a Public Service Announcement highlighting the need to slow down and move over when you see the flashing lights of emergency vehicles, tow trucks and refuse trucks.



FAQs ABOUT CITY SERVICES: Where Can You Find It?

SIGN UP FOR:

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

MyLaurel 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 4th of July: 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: www.cityoflaurel.org/permits/pet-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

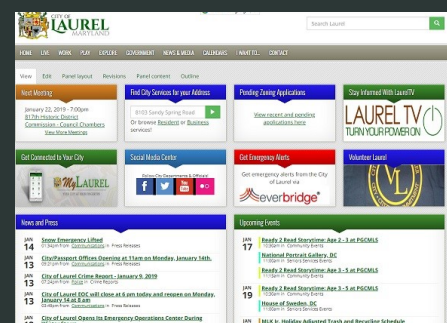
2019 HOLIDAYS

*City and Passport Offices will be
CLOSED the following holidays:*

- ◇ January 1 - New Year's Day
- ◇ January 21 - Martin L. King, Jr. Day
- ◇ February 18 - Presidents' Day
- ◇ May 27 - Memorial Day
- ◇ July 4 - Independence Day
- ◇ September 2 - Labor Day
- ◇ October 14 - Columbus Day
- ◇ November 11 - Veterans Day
- ◇ November 28/29 - Thanksgiving
- ◇ December 25 - Christmas
- ◇ January 1, 2020 - New Year's Day

2019 COMMUNITY EVENTS

- ◇ January 18 - Martin L. King, Jr. Memorial Dedication/Wreath Laying Ceremony
- ◇ March 3 - City of Laurel Open House
- ◇ April - Spring Clean Up Month
 - ◇ May 4 - Lakefest
 - ◇ May 11 - Main Street Festival
- ◇ July 6 - Independence Day Celebration
- ◇ August 17 - Back2School Jam
- ◇ September 7 - Emancipation Day
 - ◇ September 29 - Riverfest
- ◇ October 24 - Main Street Trick or Treat
 - ◇ November 5 - City Elections
- ◇ December 7—Breakfast with Santa



For more on these and other City
events, visit www.CityofLaurel.org



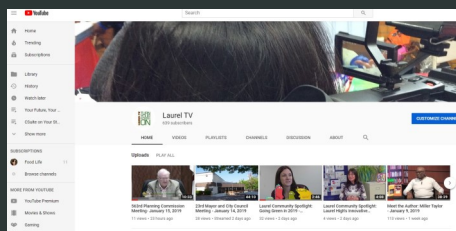
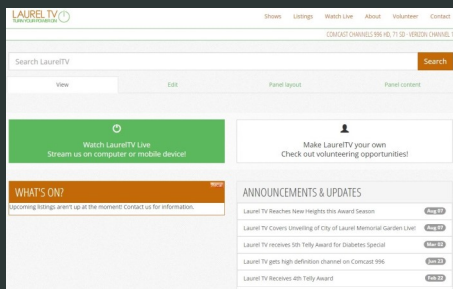
Want To Get Connected?

Send an email to
LaurelPIO@laurel.md.us to receive
 City Press Releases in your inbox.

Call the Media Line at 240-294-1307
 for updates and to tell us about your
 upcoming event.

Missed a Government Meeting on
 Laurel TV or looking for a past story?

Check out the LaurelTVOfficial
 YouTube Channel:
www.youtube.com/LaurelTVOfficial
 and be sure to Subscribe Today!



2018 LEGISLATION

DID YOU KNOW? That since the City's incorporation in 1870, our City Council has passed approximately one thousand nine hundred and thirty three Ordinances? Our City Council works hard each and every day to ensure the safety and well being of its residents, businesses and visitors.

Legislation Passed in 2018:

- ♦ **Resolution No. 1-18**, a resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel to establish a Citizens Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities.
- ♦ **Resolution 2-18**, a resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel opposing the High-Speed Superconducting Magnetic Levitation System between Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, Maryland.
- ♦ **Resolution No. 4-18**, a resolution to approve an Inter-Local Agreement for Enhanced 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) Service between the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, MD and Prince George's County, Maryland.
- ♦ **Resolution No. 5-18**, a resolution creating an Education Advisory Committee.
- ♦ **Resolution No. 6-18**, a resolution creating a 150th Anniversary Committee.
- ♦ **Ordinance No. 1927**, an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel amending the Code of the City of Laurel Chapter 6 "Taxation" to add Section 16-10 establishing an Elderly and Veteran Real Property Tax Credit Program.
- ♦ **Ordinance No. 1928**, an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel amending the Code of the City of Laurel Chapter 6 "Taxation" to add Section 16-11 establishing a Public Safety Officer Real Property Tax Credit Program.
- ♦ **Ordinance No. 1932**, an ordinance of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, MD to amend the City of Laurel Unified Land Development Code; Chapter 20, Land Development and Subdivision, to add Article VIA, "Telecommunications Facilities in public rights-of-way", to provide for certain standards and regulations relating to the location of telecommunications towers, antennas, and other structures within the City's public rights-of-way, consistent with federal and state law; and providing an effective date.



This is just a sampling of what your Mayor and City Council passed in 2018. From creating tax credits for our Elderly, Veterans and First Responders to establishing the Education and 150 Anniversary Committees, stay up to date in 2019 and come down to a number of our Government meetings or watch them on Laurel TV at Comcast 996/71; Verizon 12; or at LaurelTV.org!

GOVERNMENT MEETING DATES

JANUARY

14th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
15th - Planning Commission - 7pm
22nd - Historic District Commission - 7pm
23rd - Emergency Services Commission - 7pm
24th - Board of Appeals - 7pm
28th - Mayor and City Council Meeting

MARCH

6th - Work Session - 7pm
11th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
12th - Planning Commission - 7pm
19th - Historic District Commission - 7pm
25th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
27th - Emergency Services Commission - 7pm
28th - Board of Appeals - 7pm

MAY

1st - Work Session - 7pm
13th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
14th - Planning Commission - 7pm
21st - Historic District Commission - 7pm
22nd - Emergency Services Commission - 7pm
23rd - Board of Appeals - 7pm
29th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm

JULY

3rd - Work Session - 6pm
8th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
9th - Planning Commission - 7pm
16th - Historic District Commission - 7pm
22nd - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
24th - Emergency Services Commission - 7pm
25th - Board of Appeals - 7pm

SEPTEMBER

4th - Work Session - 7pm
9th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
10th - Planning Commission - 7pm
17th - Historic District Commission - 7pm
23rd - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
25th - Emergency Services Commission - 7pm
26th - Board of Appeals - 7pm

NOVEMBER

6th - Work Session - 7pm
12th - Historic District Commission - 7pm
13th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
19th - Planning Commission - 7pm
25th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
25th - Emergency Services Commission - 7pm
28th - Board of Appeals - TO BE RESCHEDULED

FEBRUARY

6th - Work Session - 7pm
11th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
12th - Planning Commission - 7pm
19th - Historic District Commission - 7pm
25th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
27th - Emergency Services Commission - 7pm
28th - Board of Appeals - 7pm

APRIL

3rd - Work Session - 7pm
8th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
9th - Planning Commission - 7pm
16th - Historic District Commission - 7pm
22nd - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
24th - Emergency Services Commission - 7pm
25th - Board of Appeals - 7pm

JUNE

5th - Work Session - 6pm
10th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
11th - Planning Commission - 7pm
18th - Historic District Commission - 7pm
24th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm
26th - Emergency Services Commission - 7pm
27th - Board of Appeals - 7pm

AUGUST

NO MEETINGS IN AUGUST

OCTOBER

2nd - Work Session - 7pm
8th - Historic District Commission - 7pm
15th - Planning Commission - 7pm
16th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
23rd - Emergency Services Commission - 7pm
24th - Board of Appeals - 7pm
28th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm

DECEMBER

4th - Work Session - 7pm
9th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
10th - Planning Commission - 7pm
17th - Historic District Commission - 7pm
28th - Mayor and City Council Meeting - 7pm
25th - Emergency Services - CANCELLED
26th - Board of Appeals - 7pm

CAC MEETINGS

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

(NEW) Education Committee

Meeting Days and Times TBD



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.

FOLLOW US!



SOCIAL MEDIA

We want you to stay connected with your government. We have many ways of doing this from the Public Works Calendars delivered to each home to the MyLaurel App to 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 **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 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

The Honorable Craig A. Moe
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laurelmayor@laurel.md.us

Council President

Honorable Fred Smalls - Ward 2
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fsmalls@laurel.md.us

Councilmembers

Honorable Mike Leszcz - At Large
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Honorable Carl DeWalt - Ward 1
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Honorable Valerie Nicholas - Ward 1
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Honorable Keith R. Sydnor - Ward 2
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City of Laurel Management Staff

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Deputy City Administrator

LouAnn Crook
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Management Staff

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Kim Rau - Council Clerk
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Christian Pulley - ECD
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Dave Cope - FMPS
ext. 2250 dcope@laurel.md.us

Kevin Frost - IT
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Joanne Barr - Parks
ext. 2307 jbarr@laurel.md.us

Office of the Chief of Police
301-498-0092

Rob Ferree - Public Works
301-725-0088 rferree@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!



Craig A. Moe
Laurel Mayor

I hope you enjoyed the first edition of our Government to the People Magazine. It's just another way for us to connect with all of you and highlight the hard work of our dedicated City staff.

Special thanks to Director of Communications Audrey Barnes and her Department for producing this informative publication. If you have any ideas on what you'd like to see next year, contact Ms. Barnes at 301-725-5300 ext. 2208 or email her at info@laureltv.org.



Audrey Barnes
Director, Communications

Government to the People

CITY OF LAUREL

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Laurel, MD 20707
Phone: 301-725-5300