



## MAYOR MOE STEPS DOWN AFTER 33 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE...

How do you sum up over 3 decades of service in this insert? The answer is you can't! So, instead, below is brief pictorial view of Mayor Moe's service to the City he loves. If you would like to learn more about all he has done for the City and its residents, be sure to pull up the Laurel Independent's article on him at <https://bit.ly/MayorMoeLooksBack>. But at the heart of Mayor Moe's historical 33 years, was his dedication to the people that make up the Laurel community. As you step down, let us step up and say Thank You for all you have done for the City of Laurel! You are simply the best! Watch Laurel TV's final interview with former Mayor Moe: <https://bit.ly/LaurelTVInterview>.



## WELCOME TO THE NEW MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL



As Mayor Moe stepped down, a new Mayor and City Council were sworn in.

Learn a little bit about your new Mayor and City Council members' backgrounds below:

**Mayor Keith R. Sydnor:** Served in the Navy for 24 years. Worked for 22 years in Federal Law Enforcement. Elected in 2017 as the Ward 2 Council member and has been a substitute teacher in the Prince George's County school system since 2021. Proud to be a mentor with the Prince George's Chapter of 100 Black Men of America. As the first African American to serve as Mayor in the City of Laurel, Mayor Sydnor says his administration will be open and transparent. He will advocate for the youth and looks to increase businesses in the City. He looks forward to serving the citizens of Laurel and says he works for you, so please do not hesitate to contact his office. Follow him on **Twitter**: @LaurelMayor; **Instagram**: @CityofLaurelMayor; **Email**: laurelmayor@laurel.md.us.

**Council President James Kole (Ward 1):** This is Council member Kole's second term, having been elected to the Ward 1 seat in 2021. He will continue to support sustainability initiatives and be fiscally responsible. He was elected as Council President at the November 27, 2023, Mayor and City Council Meeting.

**Council member Carl DeWalt (Ward 1):** Having served 3 terms as the Ward 1 Council member, Mr. DeWalt is a former Laurel Police Officer and will continue to advocate for rent control and support unionization for the employees in Public Works.

**Council member Kyla Clark (Ward 2):** This is Council member Clark's first term. She serves on multiple City Committees and looks forward to working tirelessly for the citizens of Laurel.

**Council member Christine Johnson (At Large):** A former employee of the City of Laurel, she is humbled that the citizens of Laurel show faith in her ability and will work with the administration to get things done.

**Council member Jeffrey Mills (Ward 2):** This is Council member Mills' first term and is a business owner in the City of Laurel. He is ready to work and honored to have been elected to this position.

We wish all of the newly elected officials the best as they serve the citizens of Laurel. Call 301-725-5300 ext. 2120 if you would like to speak with your representative.



# It's Easy Being Green!



## GREEN INITIATIVES ON THE HORIZON

Effective January 1, 2024, new plastic bag/paper bag legislation will take effect throughout the region in Prince George's County, Anne Arundel County, Greenbelt, and City of Laurel.

On January 1, 2024, a retail establishment shall charge, collect and retain at least ten cents (\$.10) for each paper carryout bag that it provides to a customer. Here are the highlights for the City of Laurel's own Ordinance:

- A retail establishment shall post notices that advise customers to bring reusable bags and that a paper bag will be subject to a fee.
- The notices shall be posted at the public entrance to the retail establishment and at each point of sale and shall be in English and Spanish.
- The fee charged shall be paid by the customer and retained by the retail establishment.
- The sales receipt shall reflect both the number of bags provided to the customer and the fee collected for the bags.

Following the rollout, residents will be able to report non-compliant stores through online reporting or a hot line. So, avoid the fee and bring your own bag!

Residents may not get plastic bags at checkout, but that doesn't mean that there isn't plastic film to be recycled. Residents can bring all plastic film to the City's new drop-off containers. The containers are located at Joseph R. Robison Laurel Municipal Center (8103 Sandy Spring Road), the Robert J. DiPietro Community Center (7901 Cypress Street), the Laurel Armoy (422 Montgomery Street) and the Laurel Police Department (811 5th Street).



## What's New with Recycle Coach?

The new and improved Recycle Coach is available. Do you have questions about what can go into your blue cart? Not sure when the next yard debris or special pick up is? Sign up for Recycle Coach! You can type in your question such and download our digital calendar right on your phone. Set up reminders about collections, holiday schedules and special pickup days. It is free and easy! Find the app on the City's website at <https://www.cityoflaurel.org/green>, then click on Recycle Coach.

**Interested in being part of the City's First Sustainability Plan? Contact us at [greenliving@laurel.md.us](mailto:greenliving@laurel.md.us) or call Michele Blair, Environmental Programs Manager at 301-725-5300 ext. 2203. Together, we can find the solution for a sustainable Laurel!**

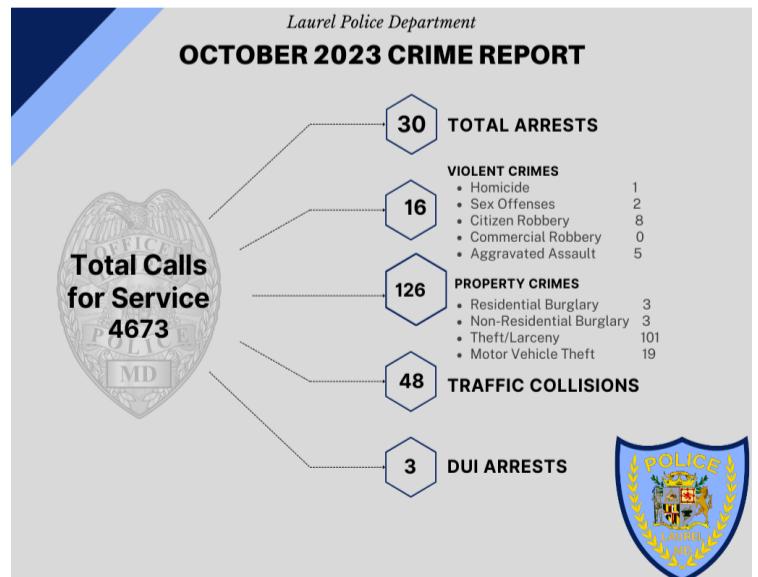
**Green Living Calendar!!** The new year is right around the corner and the new 2024 Green Living calendar will be ready for residents in January.



## LAUREL POLICE MONTHLY CRIME REPORT

### OCTOBER 2023

List of Laurel Police Crime Reports can be found at [www.cityoflaurel.org/police/community-info/crime-reports](http://www.cityoflaurel.org/police/community-info/crime-reports).



# Laurel Council Connections

## Legislation

Listed below are recent actions taken by the Laurel City Council during past Mayor and City Council meetings. For further information on any of these actions, please feel free to contact the Office of the City Clerk at 301-725-5300 x2121 or at [clerk@laurel.md.us](mailto:clerk@laurel.md.us). For the full agendas, visit [www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org).

### Approved Ordinances/Resolutions:

- **Resolution No. 10-2023** - A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Receive the Returns of the 2023 General Election from the City of Laurel Board of Election Supervisors.
- **Resolution No. 11-2023** - A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland to Authorize the Director of the Department of Budget and Personnel Services to Pay the Election Officials for the 2023 General Election.

### Bid Approvals:

- No Bid Approvals for November

### Mayoral Appointments/Reappointments:

- No Appointments in November



## COUNCIL OFFICE

 301-725-5300 ext. 2121  [clerk@laurel.md.us](mailto:clerk@laurel.md.us)

## Government Meetings

(Dates and Times Subject to Change)

### December 2023 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ December 25th - CANCELLED

### December 2023 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ December 19th - Historic District Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ December 28th - Board of Appeals (6:00pm)

### January 2024 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ January 3rd - Virtual Mayor and City Council Work Session (6:00pm)
- ◆ January 8th - Virtual Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)
- ◆ January 22nd - In-Person Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)

### January 2024 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ January 9th - Planning Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ January 16th - Historic District Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ January 25th - Board of Appeals (6:00pm)

## City Announcements & Events

(Dates and Times Subject to Change)

- ◆ **December 25, 2023 - City/Passport Offices Closed In Observance of Christmas.** Visit [www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org) for adjusted collections.
- ◆ **January 1, 2023 - City/Passport Offices Closed In Observance of New Year's Day.** Visit [www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org) for adjusted collections.
- ◆ **January 15, 2024 - City/Passport Offices Closed In Observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.** Visit [www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org) for adjusted collections.
- ◆ **January 15, 2023 - Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service** - Visit [www.cityoflaurel.org/calendar](http://www.cityoflaurel.org/calendar) for upcoming details.
- ◆ Learn more about **Laurel Parks and Recreation's Adult Trips, Teen Club, Senior Activities and Classes** by calling 301-725-7800 or visit [www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org)

*From the  
Mayor and City Council,  
wishing all of our residents,  
businesses and organizations  
a Safe and Happy  
Holiday Season!*



# Public Works Monthly Glance



CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE. PLACE ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR.

Veganuary January

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 New Year's City Offices Closed Monday Trash/Recycling & Composting collected on Tuesday	2 Tuesday Trash/Recycling & Composting collected on Wednesday	3 Virtual Mayor And City Council Work Session - 6pm  No change to Wednesday collection	4	5	6
7 	8 Virtual Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm	9 Planning Commission - 6pm	10   	11	12	13
14 	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Monday Trash/Recycling & Composting collected on Tuesday	16 Historic District Commission - 6pm   	17 Tuesday Trash/Recycling & Composting collected on Wednesday	18 Sustainability Plan Kick Off Meeting - 5:30pm - Council Chambers 	19	20
21 	22 In-Person Mayor and City Council Meeting - 6pm	23	24   	25 Board of Appeals - 6pm	26 Free Friday Indoor Movie: Super Mario Brothers Movie - Partnership Activity Center - 7pm 	27
28	29	30	31   	Christmas tree collection every Wednesday in January. Residents should contact DPW to schedule the pickup to ensure their trees are not missed.		

Board of

PUBLIC WORKS



301-725-0088



DPW@laurel.md.us

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE. PLACE ON YOUR REFRIGERATOR.

## Laurel Division of Emergency Management: BEING PREPARED FOR WINTER TRAVEL

The weather has a habit of changing quickly, especially during the winter. With forecasters predicting a higher than average amount of snow for this season, now is the time to prepare yourself for winter travel.

As we have learned from past experiences, powerful winter storms can bring considerable amount of snow, ice, and strong winds, creating whiteout conditions. Temperatures can drop 50 degrees or more in only a few hours. These hazards can occur with little to no warning! Educate yourself now about how to travel in hazardous winter conditions and how to be prepared.

Following are just a few tips on preparing for winter road travel:

- Check Road Conditions Along Your Route:** Weather conditions can change quickly when traveling, check the hourly conditions at your local National Weather Service Office.
- Have A Winter Weather Emergency Kit Ready:** Your kit should include items such as jumper cables, flares/reflective triangles, ice scrapers, cell phone chargers, blankets, a map, tire chains or sand.
- Winterize Your Vehicle:** Keep your vehicle in tip top shape to tackle the winter weather by switching to winter tires, installing winter wipers, and keeping your gas tank above half full.
- Stay Connected:** Using your mobile phone, you can receive the most up-to-date weather warnings from the National Weather Service.

For more winter travel and safety tips, visit <https://www.ready.gov/winter-weather> or <https://www.weather.gov/lwx/> .



### CITY CONTACTS



[www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org)

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