

VOLUME 4, NO. 10

OCTOBER 2025



# THE LAUREL LEDGER

OFFICIAL NEWS FROM THE CITY OF LAUREL, MARYLAND



## CITY ELECTIONS ARE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER...

It's a privilege we are afforded to vote, so make sure to step up and exercise your voice this November and vote in the City of Laurel General Elections! **Election Day is Tuesday, November 4, 2025.** The election is for five (5) City Council seats: two (2) from Ward 1, two (2) from Ward 2, and one (1) At-Large. Councilmembers serve for a two (2) year term. You can scan the QR Code for details about the City's 2025 General Election.

All residents who reside within the incorporated City limits of Laurel, Maryland, in Prince George's County, may register to vote if they are a United States citizen; are a Maryland resident; at least 16 years of age (you may register to vote at 16, but cannot vote until at least 18 years of age by the date of the next general or special election); are not under guardianship for mental disability, or if you are, have not been found by a court to be unable to communicate a desire to vote; and have not been convicted of a felony, or if you have, you have completed serving a court-ordered sentence of imprisonment. For the purposes of eligibility to register to vote, convictions include federal, state, and out-of-state convictions. And have not been convicted of buying or selling votes.



Residents can **register to vote** at the State Board of Elections online at [www.elections.state.md.us](http://www.elections.state.md.us) or the Prince George's County Board of Elections at [www.princegeorgescountymd.gov](http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov). Residents can also complete an Online Voter Registration Application provided by the State Board of Elections at Voter Registration (maryland.gov). **If online isn't for you**, then you can pick up of a Voter Registration Application at the **Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Social Services, and local events within Prince George's County** or visit the **Prince George's County Board of Elections office at 1100 Mercantile Lane, Suite 115A, Largo MD 20774**. Their office hours are 8:00am – 4:30pm, Monday through Friday. Please note that **paper registration forms cannot be scanned and emailed or faxed** because the voter's original signature is required on paper forms. Or residents can request a voter registration application by calling 301-341-7300. Voter registration deadline is October 10th.

If you missed out registering at any of the above opportunities, **Same-Day Registration during Early Voting or on Election Day** in the City of Laurel is available. Residents **must provide a current and valid Maryland driver's license/ID card, student, employee, or military ID, U.S. Passport and provide a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document with the voter's name and current address** (the same address will be on the voter registration application) and "current" means that the document is dated within three (3) months of the election. Once the Chief Election Judge determines that the voter is a resident of the City, qualified to register, and is at the correct polling location, the voter will be permitted to vote in the election using a provisional ballot. In the event that the voter is not at the correct polling location, the Chief Election Judge will provide the voter with directions, including the address and a map indicating the proper polling location and direct the voter to the proper polling location to complete the proper provisional ballot.

The General City of Laurel Election is scheduled for Tuesday, November 4, 2025, (You **MUST** vote in the Ward you live in). **Voting location for Ward 1 is the Joseph R. Robison Laurel Municipal Center, 8103 Sandy Spring Road. Voting location for Ward 2 is the Robert J. DiPietro Center, 7901 Cypress Street.**



There are a few different ways that you can vote in City elections. To vote via **Ballot Drop Boxes**, you can return a completed mail-in-ballot by dropping it in one of the City's two convenient drop boxes that will be available October 20 - November 4, 2025. Ballot drop boxes will be monitored 24/7 and ballots will be retrieved by trusted Election Officials multiple times a day. If you choose to utilize a drop box, your ballot must be dropped off by 8:00pm on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. Please note that drop boxes are not the property of the United States Postal Service.

**Vote in-person for Early Voting on Saturday, November 1, 2025**, from 9:00am - 5:00pm at the polling locations listed in bold above. Or **vote in-person on Election Day, Tuesday, November 4, 2025**, from 7:00am - 8:00pm at the polling locations listed above. **REMEMBER: You MUST vote in the Ward you live in.** To verify your voting ward, visit [www.cityoflaurel.org/system/files/files/wards.pdf](http://www.cityoflaurel.org/system/files/files/wards.pdf) or call the Clerk's Office at **301-725-5300 Ext. 2120** or email us

at [clerk@laurel.md.us](mailto:clerk@laurel.md.us). Voters can also contact the Board of Election Supervisors to request an application for a Mail-In ballot at [elections@laurel.md.us](mailto:elections@laurel.md.us) or call the Clerk to the Board of Elections at 301-725-5300, extension 2120.

## ELECTRONIC RECYCLE AND SHREDDING EVENT AT PUBLIC WORKS, OCT. 18TH

As part of the City of Laurel's on-going commitment to reduce landfill waste and promote reuse, repurpose, and recycle, Mayor Sydnor and Public Works are happy to announce our Fall Electronic Recycling/Paper Shredding Event. Gather up your old, important papers, old entertainment electronics, lightly-used home goods, Styrofoam and old paint (for a fee) and come down to Public Works, 305-307 First Street, on Saturday, October 18, 2025, from 8:00am - Noon. This is a FREE event for entertainment electronics recycling, paper shredding, GreenDrop donation, and Styrofoam drop-off for CITY OF LAUREL RESIDENTS/BUSINESSES ONLY. Paint (wet or dry) can be dropped off for recycling at \$5 per can (cash, check or charge). For more information, visit the Public Works web page at [www.cityoflaurel.org/dpw](http://www.cityoflaurel.org/dpw), for more details on this very popular event!



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# It's Easy Being Green!

## REMOVE FOOD WASTE FROM YOUR TRASH...COMPOST!

Some residents may have noticed a sticker on their trash – no need to panic! We are here to help. The City has delivered organic recycling carts to all single family and town home communities and all residents have at least a 35-gallon recycling cart and a matching trash cart, so we are all prepared to reduce our trash! Staff is available to walk you through the easiest ways to reduce your trash and eliminate overflow and the possibility of fines (1) remove all food waste and other organic materials (paper napkins, pizza boxes, corn husks, etc.); (2) put all recyclable materials in the blue cart – this is all cans, bottles (glass and plastic) and newspaper/fliers. Have a question about what goes where? Download the Recycle Coach app or ask for a 2025 Municipal Calendar – both the app and the calendar show you the best way to recycle and compost and reduce overflow. Need a larger/smaller cart or additional recycling or composting carts – e-mail larger carts are available upon request.



We still have a few rain barrels available! Now you can tap into the Power of Rain, thanks to a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust! Through this grant, the City of Laurel's Sustainability Division has purchased rain barrels that are free to City residents for use in their yards! Sign up to receive a FREE rain barrel and start collecting rainwater for your garden, lawn, or other outdoor use. Easy to install – volunteers will be on hand for installations. **FOR CITY OF LAUREL RESIDENTS ONLY. ONE RAIN BARREL PER HOUSEHOLD.** There is a limited number of Rain Barrels to giveaway, so sign up today at [www.cityoflaurel.org/1962/Rain-Barrel-Initiative](http://www.cityoflaurel.org/1962/Rain-Barrel-Initiative) or scan the QR Code.

Our Farmer's Market is ending – our last market day will be October 16th. We have had a wonderful season and look forward to seeing you next year! 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 will be accepting SNAP/EBT benefits along with the Maryland Market Money program until the end of the market. Stop by the Welcome Tent to get tokens. Don't forget to turn in your "stars" to get your reusable bag thank you gift! The Market is open every Thursday from 3 - 7pm through October 16th. Be sure to check out our Facebook page, [@LaurelMarketOnMain](https://www.facebook.com/LaurelMarketOnMain), and our City webpage at [www.cityoflaurel.org/1617/Laurel-Farmers-Market](http://www.cityoflaurel.org/1617/Laurel-Farmers-Market).



We are here to help! Questions about organics recycling? Recycle right? Check out the Green Living Resource Page ([LINK](#)) and follow us on Facebook, [@SustainableLaurel](https://www.facebook.com/SustainableLaurel). This is a place where we can share ideas, highlight upcoming events and residents can stay informed on all things Sustainable.

## LAS ELECCIONES MUNICIPALES ESTÁN A LA VUELTA DE LA ESQUINA...

Poder votar es un privilegio, así que no olviden expresar su opinión este noviembre y votar en las Elecciones Generales de la Ciudad de Laurel. El día de las elecciones es el martes 4 de noviembre de 2025, de 7am-8pm, y la votación anticipada está programada para el 1 de noviembre de 2025, de 9am-5pm. Se eligen cinco (5) escaños en el Concejo Municipal: dos (2) del Distrito 1, dos (2) del Distrito 2 y un (1) escaño general. Los concejales ejercen su cargo por un período de dos (2) años. Los requisitos para postularse a concejales son: ser personas de reconocida integridad, experiencia y buen juicio; tener veintiún (21) años de edad; ser ciudadanos de los Estados Unidos; estar registrados para votar en las elecciones municipales; y haber residido en la Ciudad y el Distrito por el que se postulan durante el año inmediatamente anterior a la fecha de su elección. Escanee el código QR para obtener información sobre las Elecciones Generales de la Ciudad de 2025. Recuerde que DEBE votar en su distrito electoral.



Para más información, llame a la Secretaría al 301-725-5300, ext. 2120, o envíenos un correo electrónico a [clerk@laurel.md.us](mailto:clerk@laurel.md.us).

## LAUREL POLICE MONTHLY CRIME REPORT

### AUGUST 2025

List of Laurel Police Crime Reports can be found at [www.cityoflaurel.org/1896/LPD-Crime-Reports](http://www.cityoflaurel.org/1896/LPD-Crime-Reports).



# Laurel Council Connections

## Legislation

Listed below are recent legislative actions taken, if any, by the Laurel City Council during the past month of Mayor and City Council meetings. For further information on any of these legislative 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 full agendas, visit [www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org).

### Adopted Legislation:

- **Ordinance No. 2043** (Text Amendment No. 267) - to amend the Unified Land Development Code, Chapter 20, "Land Development and Subdivision Regulations," Section 20-22.50, "Interim Limited Retail Uses and Providing an Effective Date."
- **Resolution No. 8-2025** - for the Purpose of Approving Procedures on Social Media Use for the Laurel City Council.

### Bid Recommendations:

- Laurel Police - Purchase of Tasers
- Laurel Police - Handgun Replacements
- Public Works - Snowden Place, Ward Street, and Northview Court Road Improvements
- 2025-2030 Open Ended Architectural and Engineering (A&E) Services Contract Recommendation

### Appointments/Reappointments:

- **Stephen Slaughter** - Public Safety and Transportation Committee (09/22/2025-09/22/2027)
- **Gail Heath** - Ethics Commission (09/22/2025-09/22/2028)
- **Connor Johnson** - Public Safety and Transportation Committee (09/22/2025-09/22/2027)
- **Roy M. Smith, II (Reappointment)** - Public Safety and Transportation Committee (09/22/2025-09/22/2027)
- **Marcio Da Silva** - Multicultural Advisory Committee (09/08/2025-09/08/2028)
- **Danielle Delgado** - Multicultural Advisory Committee (09/08/2025-09/08/2028)
- **Ebony Lockwood** - Multicultural Advisory Committee (09/08/2025-09/08/2028)
- **Jaya Persaud** - Multicultural Advisory Committee (09/08/2025-09/08/2028)
- **Joanne Ricketts** - Multicultural Advisory Committee (09/08/2025-09/08/2028)
- **Arthur Thompson** - Multicultural Advisory Committee (09/08/2025-09/08/2028)



**City of Laurel**  
Your Vote  
Is Your Voice!

**EARLY VOTING**  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST 9:00AM - 5:00PM

**ELECTION DAY**  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH 7:00AM - 8:00PM

**Two Voting Locations (By Ward Only):**  
**Ward 1 - Joseph R. Robison Laurel Municipal Center**  
8103 Sandy Spring Road

**Ward 2 - Robert J. DiPietro Community Center**  
7901 Cypress Street

**City of Laurel General Election** is Tuesday, November 4th, from 7am - 8pm. **Early Voting** is Saturday, November 1st, from 9am - 5pm.  
\*\*\*REMINDER: You **MUST** vote in your Ward!\*\*\*

## Contact the Council:

If you have questions or concerns, contact your Council member from the list below:



Council President  
Kyla Clark (Ward 2)  
[kclark@laurel.md.us](mailto:kclark@laurel.md.us)

Ward 1 Council members  
James Kole  
[jkole@laurel.md.us](mailto:jkole@laurel.md.us)



Ward 2 Council member  
Jeffrey Mills  
[jmills@laurel.md.us](mailto:jmills@laurel.md.us)

At Large Council member  
Christine Johnson  
[cjohnson@laurel.md.us](mailto:cjohnson@laurel.md.us)



Or call the City Council Office at  
301-725-5300 ext. 2120.



## Government Meetings (Dates and Times Subject to Change)

### October 2025 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ **October 15th (Wed)** - Virtual Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)
- ◆ **October 27th** - In-Person Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)

### October 2025 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ **October 14th** - Virtual Historic District Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ **October 21st** - Virtual Planning Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ **October 23rd** - In-Person Board of Appeals (6:00pm)
- ◆ **October 28th (Date Change)** - In-Person Master Plan Committee (6pm)

### November 2025 Mayor and City Council Meetings

- ◆ **November 5th** - Virtual Work Session (6:00pm)
- ◆ **November 10th** - Virtual Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)
- ◆ **November 24th** - Mayor and City Council Meeting (6:00pm)

### November 2025 Boards and Commissions

- ◆ **November 18th** - In-Person Planning Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ **November 25th** - In-Person Historic District Commission (6:00pm)
- ◆ **November 27th** - Board of Appeals (CANCELLED)

## City Announcements & Events (Dates and Times Subject to Change)

- ◆ **Laurel Farmer's Market** - Every Thursday UNTIL Oct. 16th - 3 - 7pm at 378 Main Street.
- ◆ **October 13th - Indigenous Peoples' Day** - City/Passport Offices Closed. Visit [www.cityoflaurel.org](http://www.cityoflaurel.org) for updated collection schedule.
- ◆ **October 17th - Music at the Mansion** - 6 - 8:30pm, Gude Mansion, 13910 Laurel Lakes Avenue - 21 and Over Only!
- ◆ **October 24th - Take-Away-Treat Spooktacular** - 6:30 - 8pm, Robert J. DiPietro Community Center, 7901 Cypress Street.
- ◆ **October 25th - Pushed into Purpose Conference** - 10:00am - 1:00pm, Laurel Multiservice Center, 204 Fort Meade Road - Engaging discussion from industry leaders.
- ◆ **November 7th - Harvest Moon Hayride** - 6:00 - 9:00pm - Riverfront Park (Starts at parking lot behind Outback Leather) Cost \$5/person on site.
- ◆ **To learn more or register for Parks and Recreation activities**, visit [www.cityoflaurel.org/parks](http://www.cityoflaurel.org/parks) or call 301-725-7800.
- ◆ **Senior Services** offers many classes, trips and events. Find out more at [www.cityoflaurel.org/parks](http://www.cityoflaurel.org/parks). There's no better way to jeopardize a program than by not signing up early!



**STAY IN THE KNOW:** Scan the QR Code and it will take you to the City of Laurel's Web Site Calendar. Stay up to date on what's happening when and where in the City!

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