



TOWN ADMINISTRATOR MONTHLY MEMO

December 2025

Dear Town Council, Residents, Business owners, and Employees of the Town of Bladensburg;

Holiday Wishes

As we enter the month of December—a season of reflection, gratitude, and community—I want to extend my warmest wishes to all residents, staff, and partners of the Town of Bladensburg. This month brings several opportunities for us to come together, including the Council Swearing-In Ceremony on December 3rd, the annual Yule Log Celebration on December 5th, and the Senior Gala on December 11th.



In addition, throughout December, we will feature our Holiday Tree and Lights Display at Town Hall, Shop with a Cop, and support the Police Department's holiday safety patrols. These activities reflect our commitment to celebrating longstanding traditions while ensuring strong municipal operations and services during this festive time.

I remain deeply grateful for the dedication of our team and the resilience of our community. Despite challenging economic conditions, Bladensburg continues to deliver high-quality programs and services with care, creativity, and compassion. As we close out the calendar year, I wish everyone peace, joy, and meaningful moments with loved ones.

Looking ahead to FY 2026 and beyond, my priorities as Town Administrator remain focused on strengthening transparency, improving quality of life, and advancing key projects that will shape Bladensburg's future. These priorities include:

- Continued transparency and regular public reporting.
- Support of the legislative agenda and capital priorities, including the new Town Hall and infrastructure improvements.
- Advancing economic development initiatives and implementing the 2025 Annexation Plan to support long-term fiscal sustainability.
- Conducting a collaborative review of departmental progress to refine the Town's Strategic Plan.
- Supporting the Town Hall Project through the release of an RFP/RFQ for design, development, and financing.
- Continued work at Bostwick House in partnership with the Aman Memorial Trust and community organizations.

- Coordinating efforts for the upcoming America 250 celebrations with the State of Maryland.
- Developing a balanced and forward-thinking FY 2027 budget.
- Expanding grant-seeking efforts to secure external funding for Town needs.
- Enhancing overall quality of life through civic space improvements, signage and wayfinding upgrades, infrastructure projects, and expanded community partnerships.
- Collaborating with Port Towns partners and supporting the implementation of the BCCE Port Towns Community Development Corporation.

Bladensburg moves forward because of the commitment, teamwork, and shared vision of its leaders, employees, and residents. Every initiative, large or small, adds to our collective progress. I am sincerely grateful for your continued support, creativity, and perseverance as we work together to strengthen Bladensburg and build a community that we can all be proud to call home.

Grant Applications | The Town continues to apply for a myriad of grant opportunities not only on its own but with other Port Towns. Most recently, we have applied for the following grants, which allow us to expand services to our residents and provide additional infrastructure.

- **CDBG PY 52** – Infrastructure funding for sidewalks and roads
- **L-GEM (Local Government Energy Grant)** – funding for energy improvements in the Police Department Annex
- **Residential Energy Equity Grant** – Request for funding for the Energy Efficiency program for the Port Towns residents and homeowners.

Green Team Updates | Last month, the Town Council received an update on the Prince George's County Department of the Environment Tree Program. There will be County Staff out in the Community as part of the planting process. Additional information on this project is posted on the Town's website.



We Need YOU! The Green Team is always looking for new members who have ideas for beautifying and making the Town more **GREEN**. Email the Town at clerk@bladensburgmd.gov.

Reminder! Leaf collection began last month; all collected leaves are taken to Eco City Farms for composting and mulching. This supports the town's sustainability goals by recycling organic waste into usable materials. Communication about leaf collection will be reinforced in the town newsletter and on social media to reduce illegal leaf burning.

Informational Memos | Each month I will be including additional Informational memos with my report to provide additional details and updates. These reports allow me to go into more detail on matters.

Upcoming Community Events:

- Swearing-In Ceremony – December 3, 2025 – Town Hall 6 PM
- Yule Log – December 5, 2025 - 6 PM – 8 PM Town Hall
- Senior Gala – December 11, 2025 – 11 AM – Community Center

If you have any questions, I am here to answer them!

Best Regards and Happy Holidays!

Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth

Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth, Town Administrator