

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR MONTHLY MEMO

June 2024

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



Things we have accomplished lately:

- Hosted America In Bloom Panel and provided an overview of Town Projects.
- Obtained Bids for 57th Avenue Lighting Project – Included on the June Agenda.
- Obtained Bids for Sidewalks and Roadways- Included on the June Agenda.

America In Bloom: The team visited us on June 3 and 4, and it was a great experience. This national initiative aims to improve and enhance municipalities through innovative greening and community planning. Their report will be sent to the Town in the Fall; I want to thank the Town Staff, Mayor, Council, and the community for their help. These steps are part of our commitment to keeping Bladensburg Beautiful long term.



Bostwick House Updates: Last month, we planned a significant event for Bostwick House: hosting a Technical Assistance Panel event in collaboration with the DC chapter of the Urban Land Institute. On April 18, 2024, the panel presented an interesting report, which is available on the Town's website. We are awaiting the final report, which will be completed in June.

Green Updates: Have you had a chance to check out our new chargers at Town Hall! We are proud to announce that the high-speed charger at Town Hall is finally online. It has been several months in the making, but it will now allow electric vehicles in the area to get a more rapid charge. It is part of the EV Smart network.



Budget Time: The Town has begun its Budget Process for Fiscal Year 2025. We will hold a meeting on May 20, 2024, where we will review the final draft budget, and the Council will review the various departments and Town operations.

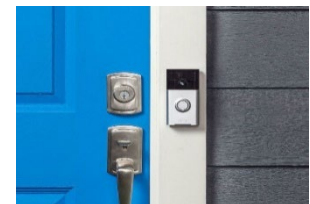


Free Chromebooks: The Town has started the process and distributed over 75 laptops last month! There are only a few more laptops left for income-qualified Bladensburg residents. If you have questions about this program, please contact Jessica Amaya at the Town Hall at 301-927-7048.

Business Roundtables: On Tuesday, July 30th the Town will hold our next **Business Roundtable at the Town Hall**. These meetings allow local business owners to network and work with Town officials on ways to improve the business climate and build economic development within the Town. The next meeting will be held in July.

Legislative Affairs: Throughout the legislative session, the Town has worked closely with LA Perez, and we have watched and supported several Bills throughout the session. As the legislative session closes soon, we will have our consultants this summer to provide an overview and work on items for the next year. This year, we have collaborated and worked closely with other agencies.

Security Camera Reimbursement Program: The Town started advertising the program in early August, and information is on the website. We have also posted announcements on the Town's social media. The program is funded with \$50,000 in ARPA funds. This is estimated to assist 50 households in each ward. *Please make sure to apply today!*



Port Town Sector Plan: On Saturday, June 8, there will be another community session for the Port Town Sector Plan in Colmar Manor at Larisy Park from 10 AM – 2 PM. These sessions are important because the County's plan is updated every 10 to 15 years to help gauge and determine future development and growth in the area. The Town of Bladensburg continues to work with Colmar Manor, Cottage City, and Edmonston to determine common goals and objectives; your assistance will help us shape this vital report. Please check out the town website for more details.

I am so thankful for the great team we have here at the Town, and I everyone a great summer!

Best Regards,

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Michelle Bailey-Hedgepeth, Town Administrator