

# County Connection

<http://ccgovernment.carr.org>

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## Cost-cutting measures taken

The Board of County Commissioners last month announced steps to ensure fiscal flexibility in the months to come. The move is in response to the State of Maryland's expected \$432 million shortfall.

Pending any actions from the State, Carroll County fully anticipates finishing Fiscal Year 2009 within its budget. FY 2010, however, is expected to bring even greater financial challenges at both the state and county levels. To prepare for possible changes in State funding, the Board of County Commissioners:

◆ froze all hiring. All 26 vacant positions will remain unfilled, subject to review.

◆ restricted travel for training and conferences to the mid-Atlantic region.

◆ extended for up to six months the initial probation for all new employees.

◆ limited take-home vehicles to in-county use only.

Commissioners also urged allied agencies that receive county funds to consider similar actions.

**Carroll County**  
*a great place to live  
a great place to work  
a great place to play*

## Pathways Plan delayed to add new section on water resources

The release of Carroll County's first comprehensive plan update since 2000 has been delayed until next summer.

Known as Pathways to Carroll's Future Landscape, the plan outlines how the county should look in the next 20 years. Traditionally, these plans set priorities and provide tools to address issues such as housing, transportation and business.

By October 2009, however, the State of Maryland is also requiring that it include a section on water resources.

In order to gather information from service providers in towns and unincorporated areas, Carroll has pushed back the schedule for Pathways. The plan should be completed by spring and adopted by next summer.

The extra time is needed to develop calculations and analysis of Carroll's water resources.

### CELEBRATING HALF A CENTURY



Office of Public Information

The Carroll County Public Library system marked its 50th anniversary in September, with cake at every branch and a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its new headquarters in New Windsor. Additional photo on Page 2.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Award winners	2-3
Votes	2
Upcoming meetings	4

### DID YOU KNOW?

- The deadline to register to vote in this year's presidential election is Tuesday, Oct. 14th.
- Applications to register must be either hand-delivered to the Board of Elections by 9 p.m. on Oct. 14th or be post-marked by Oct. 14th.
- Carroll County's Board of Elections is located at 300 South Center Street, Westminster. Offices are in Room 212 of the Robert Moton Center (next to the Health Department).
- For information about polling places, voting machines, and other deadlines, call the Board of Elections at 410-386-2080.

# Economic Development wins national awards

The Northeast Economic Developers Association recently presented four marketing awards to the Carroll County Department of Economic Development during the 2008 NEDA Annual Conference Literature & Promotions Competition in Buffalo, N.Y.

The competition recognizes select economic development organizations from throughout the northeastern United States for outstanding promotional materials and marketing practices.

The department received an Award of Excellence/Best of Class for the depart-

ment's e-newsletter distributed to more than 500 subscribers monthly. Individuals sign up to receive the e-newsletter online and stay up-to-date with the latest economic news, business events and training opportunities.

An Award of Excellence for the 2007 Annual Report and Business Appreciation Week Coaster Memento, and a Merit Award for the recently launched Carroll County Manufacturing Consortium Web site were also presented.

The Carroll County Manufacturing Consortium web site was designed with input

from Carroll manufacturers to promote the industry, their individual businesses and careers in manufacturing to help with employee recruitment. Through its marketing efforts, Carroll's Department of Economic Development works year round to enhance the county's appeal in the region.

"We are pleased to be recognized for our marketing initiatives. Finding new and creative ways to communicate our accomplishments and assets creates a positive image and business climate that encourages business expansion and attraction," said Director Lawrence Twele.

## Votes made, actions taken by the Board of County Commissioners during September

### SEPTEMBER 4

◆ Impact fee waiver. No vote taken. The Maryland Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses Inc. in Westminster requested a waiver of \$6,836 in impact fees for the addition of a one-bedroom apartment for a volunteer couple. Commissioner Dean L. Minnich's motion to approve the request died for lack of a second. Commissioner Julia W. Gouge requested further discussion on the matter.

◆ Gang Intervention Grant. No vote taken. The Carroll County Detention Center requested pre-approval for a 2008 anti-gang strategy grant application to fund a position for a gang suppression officer at a cost of \$63,722. At the end of the grant period, the position would be funded by the County, starting in fiscal year 2011 with an estimated amount of \$70,000. Commissioner Michael D. Zimmer moved to pre-approve the application. Commissioner Gouge requested the vote be postponed for further discussion.

◆ Shock Trauma. Voted 3-0 to contribute \$50,000 to help support the planned \$83 million modernization of the R Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

◆ Emergency services. Approved 3-0 the purchase of a \$187,250 replacement computer server for the Computer Aided Dispatch system from Public Safety Systems Inc. for the 911 emergency communications center.

◆ Emergency services. On a 3-0 vote, awarded a contract to Motorola Inc. for the replacement of channel banks at various communication tower sites for the 911 center at a cost of \$1,909,810.

◆ Annexation. Agreed 3-0 to sign a letter of support for an annexation into the Town of Hampstead. The town extended public water to the property on an emergency basis when a well failed. The annexation involves 0.68 acres on the southeast corner of South Carroll Street and Gill Avenue, known as the Graham property.

◆ Rezoning. Voted 3-0 to grant a request by Virginia Marriott to rezone 3.79 acres of land at 100 West Old Liberty Road from Agricultural to Business-General. The reclassification will correct a mistake made in a 1977 plan.

◆ Fire company loan. Approved 3-0 a loan request from Lineboro Volunteer Fire Department Inc. for \$237,000 for the completion of a building project. The loan is in addition to previous loans for this project totaling \$2 million.

◆ Bid approvals. On separate 3-0 votes, awarded the following contracts: a) \$306,802 to Miller Brothers Ford for the purchase of 14 Ford Crown Victoria 2009 Police Interceptors using a State of Maryland contract for use by Sheriff's Services; b) \$94,631.72 to Baltimore Mack Trucks for one new lowboy tractor (bobtail) for use by the Roads Bureau; c) \$149,058.96 to InterClean Equipment for a touchless recycled water vehicle and equipment wash system to provide preventive maintenance on county vehicles, including oversized trucks. The purchase is contingent on approval from the City of Westminster regarding water; and d) \$30,745 to Marathon Equipment for the purchase of one new all-terrain mower using a Montgomery County Public Schools contract.

### SEPTEMBER 11

◆ Grant application. Approved 3-0 Continuum of Care applications from Human Services Programs requesting funding for various projects from the Department of Housing and Community Development to provide homeless services and assistance.

◆ Grant award. Voted 3-0 to accept a \$650,000 Community Development Block Grant Award from Maryland Department of Housing & Community

Development for the Youth Services Bureau Capital Project.

◆ Town/County agreements. On a 3-0 vote, approved the fiscal year 2009 agreements with the towns of Manchester and Union Bridge. The agreements outline how the County and towns participate in planning and other government functions. The agreements also include direct grants to the towns – \$231,371 for Manchester and \$66,714 for Union Bridge – that are based on the size of the towns.

◆ Bennett Cerf Park. Awarded 3-0 a \$28,950 contract to Recreation Dynamics/Rapidan Resources for the construction of a 20-by-44-foot pavilion at Bennett Cerf Park.

◆ Taneytown Library. Voted 3-0 to award a contract for \$130,685.65 to Liberty Systems Inc. for furnishings at the Taneytown Library addition.

◆ Fiber network. Approved 3-0 the purchase of routers and switches for all facilities being connected to the Carroll County Public Network from Presidio for \$456,426.47.

◆ Fiber network. On a 3-0 vote, approved three separate contracts to prepare utility poles for fiber

Office of Public Information



Library Director Lynn Wheeler speaks at the opening of the library headquarters on Sept. 23.

## 2007 educational efforts recognized

Carroll County Government won national recognition for its efforts to educate Carroll residents about environmental issues.

The Office of Public Information's work during National County Government Week 2007 earned meritorious status in the National Association of County Information Officers' annual Awards of Excellence.

Classroom visits, a trivia contest, brochures and displays all helped to explain the role county government plays in protecting the environment. Environmental Awareness Award winners were announced during the week.

## Votes (continued from Page 2)

attachment: Verizon - \$500,000; BGE - \$400,000; and Allegheny Power - \$100,000.

### SEPTEMBER 18

◆ Bond sale. Following a public hearing, voted 3-0 to approve the sale of economic development revenue bonds amounting to less than \$11.7 million. Proceeds from the bond sale will be loaned to Fairhaven Inc. and Copper Ridge Inc. to finance or refinance expansion projects of their facilities.

◆ Cable television ordinances. After holding a public hearing, agreed 3-0 to leave the record open for at least 20 business days for public comment on proposed code amendments regarding cable television, including rights-of-way and consumer protection.

◆ Town/County agreement. Approved 3-0 the fiscal year 2009 agreement with the Town of New Windsor, in which the County and town agree to the sharing of funds and participation in planning and other government functions. The agreement also includes a direct grant to the town for \$68,259, which is based on the size of the town.

◆ School roof replacement.

Granted approval, 3-0, to transfer funds from two completed school projects to the Francis Scott Key High School gymnasium and auditorium roof replacement.

◆ Emergency food assistance. On a 3-0 vote, approved a grant application from Citizen Services for funds to store and distribute food for emergency assistance programs provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The agreement will provide up to \$5,000 each year for three years, and the funds will be passed to Carroll County Food Sunday.

◆ Child support enforcement. On separate 3-0 votes, approved the following grant agreements for fiscal year 2009: a) Circuit Court of Carroll County - \$19,117 from the Department of Health and Human Services, and \$11,608 in matching county funds, will provide partial funding for employee salaries and benefits and operating expenses; b) Sheriff's Office - \$99,249 from the Department of Health and Human Services, and \$60,259 in matching county funds, will provide salaries and benefits for one full-time deputy, one part-time clerical position, and other related expenses; and c) State's Attorney's Office - \$512,369 from the Department of Health and Human Services, and

\$311,081 in matching county funds, will provide funding for the Child Support Division's request for salaries, benefits, and other related expenses.

◆ Gang intervention. Voted 3-0 to approve a grant application from the Carroll County Detention Center for 2008 Anti-Gang Strategy funds for a designated gang suppression officer position. At the end of a successful grant period, the position would be funded by the County, starting with fiscal year 2011 at an estimated amount of \$70,000.

◆ Tire recycling. Awarded 3-0 a contract with M. A. S. Co. Inc. for \$83,125 to provide services including pickup, recycling, and scraping of old tires of old tires collected at the Northern Landfill.

◆ Vehicle purchase. Approved 3-0 the purchase of two new six-man crew cab stake body trucks from Hertrich Fleet Services for \$82,480. The trucks will be used by the Roads Bureau for general maintenance.

### SEPTEMBER 25

◆ Town/County agreements. Approved 2-0 (Commissioner Michael D. Zimmer was absent) the fiscal year 2009 agreements with the Towns of Sykesville and Mount Airy, in which the County and town agree to the sharing of

funds and participation in planning and other government functions. The agreements also include direct grants to the towns - \$233,887 for Sykesville and \$141,910 for Mount Airy - that are based on the size of the towns.

◆ Greenwood campus. Agreed 2-0 to purchase the Daniel Shaffer property located at 223 Young St., also known as Vaughan's addition to Westminster, which is in the Greenwood Campus Project. The parcel contains a two-story dwelling and 1.01 acres of land with a purchase price of \$242,000.

◆ Domestic Violence Unit. Voted 2-0 to accept a \$48,325 Violence Against Women Act grant award from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to the Sheriff's Office. The money will fund the salary and partial benefits for a facilitator with the domestic violence program. The grant requires a \$3,442 cash match from the County, as well as in-kind match totaling \$54,580.

◆ Revenue bonds. On a 2-0 vote, agreed to sign documents for issuance of economic development revenue bonds for Fairhaven Inc. and Copper Ridge Inc. Proceeds from the bond sale will be used to finance or refinance expansion projects of their facilities.

# UPCOMING MEETINGS

Unless noted otherwise, meetings will be held in the County Office Building at 225 North Center Street, Westminster. All times are subject to change. Check the County's Web site closer to the date of the meeting, or call 410-386-2400.

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1

3 p.m. Water Resource Coordination Council – Room 105

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

9:30 a.m. Open community discussion with Commissioners – Room 311  
10 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311  
6:30 p.m. Carroll County Agricultural Land Preservation Advisory Board – Room 007

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8

9 a.m. Board of License Commissioners (Liquor Board) – Room 003  
10:30 a.m. Commission on Aging – Bureau of Aging Administrative Conference Room, 125 Stoner Ave., Westminster  
6:30 p.m. Historic Preservation Commission – Room 003

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9

7:30 a.m. Economic Development Commission Executive Committee – Room 105  
8 a.m. Plumbing Advisory Board, Baugher's Country Restaurant, 289 W. Main St., Westminster  
9 a.m. Design and Architectural Review Committee – Room 205  
10 a.m. Roundtable discussion with Cabinet and allied agencies – Room 003  
11 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

County offices closed in observance of Columbus



Day. (Landfill will be open.)

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14

1 p.m. Carroll County Farm Museum Board of Governors – George Grier Meeting Room, Carroll County Farm Museum, 500 S Center St., Westminster  
4 p.m. Behavioral Health and Addictions Council – Room 153, Carroll County Health Department, 290 S Center St., Westminster  
6:30 p.m. Environmental Advisory Council – Room 003

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15

7:30 a.m. Industrial Development Authority – Room 105

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16

9:30 a.m. Open community discussion with Commissioners – Room 311  
10 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 20

1:30 p.m. Circle of Caring/Homeless Board Governance Committee – Human Services Programs Conference Room, 10 Distillery Drive, Westminster

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21

8 a.m. Department of Social Services Board, DSS

Conference Room, 10 Distillery Drive, Westminster  
9 a.m. Planning and Zoning Commission – Room 003

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22

1 p.m. Recreation & Parks Advisory Board – Piney Run Nature Center, 30 Martz Road, Sykesville

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23

8 a.m. Economic Development Commission – Room 105  
10 a.m. Roundtable discussion with Cabinet and allied agencies – Room 003  
11 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311  
12:30 p.m. Electrical Advisory Board. A portion of the meeting will be closed for the exam and grading of the exam. – Room 124C

## MONDAY, OCTOBER 27

9 a.m. Technical Review Committee – Room 003  
6 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission – Room 003

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

9:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals – Room 003  
6 p.m. Planning and Zoning Commission – Room 003

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29

9:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals – Room 003

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

9:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Appeals – Room 003  
9:30 a.m. Open community discussion with Commissioners – Room 311  
10 a.m. Board of County Commissioners – Room 311

## Substance abuse awareness program set for Nov. 6

The Board of County Commissioners and Junction Inc. are cosponsoring a substance abuse awareness program, "What Are They Thinking? Connecting With Your Teen," on Thursday, Nov. 6.

The program will feature two speakers. David McDuff, M.D., will talk about the developing adolescent brain, reasons why teens make decisions, teen addiction, and communicating with your teen. Lenny Moore, a Baltimore Colts Hall of Famer, will share some practical tips and insights he has gathered while working with troubled teens.

The event will be held at the Portico of St. John at 43 Monroe St., Westminster. Doors will open at 6 p.m.

Junction Inc. provides substance abuse prevention and treatment services. For more information, call 410-848-6100 or 410-876-1788.

## Vision

Carroll County offers a safe environment in which all its residents may live, work, and play. The rural character of our county is preserved through measures that protect our natural and cultural resources, minimize future residential sprawl, and save farmland. Carroll County is enriched by sustainable agriculture and agribusiness as well as responsible, productive business and industry that offer family-wage jobs and employ the county's skilled workforce.

## Mission statement

The mission of Carroll County Government is to provide excellent, efficient service to our residents in a courteous, friendly manner. We conduct business openly. We encourage each resident to play a role in keeping Carroll County a great place to live, to work, and to play.



**CARROLL COUNTY**

*a great place to live, a great place to work, a great place to play*