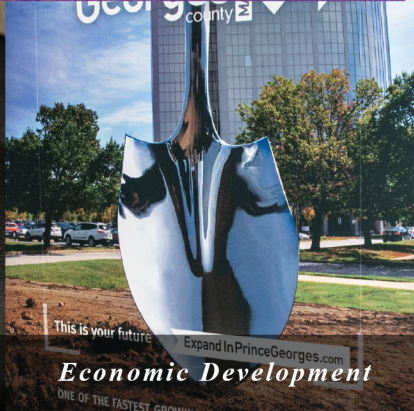




Education



Economic Development



County Beautification



Senior-Based Initiatives



Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive

2020

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES Maryland General Assembly

EDUCATION

Article VIII of the Maryland Constitution provides that the General Assembly shall, by law, create a thorough and efficient system of free public schools. The State is also required to maintain those schools. The State has fallen behind on these obligations to children in Prince George's County and around the State of Maryland. We expect this legislative session to bring transformative measures and change to Maryland's public school system via the Kirwan Commission's recommendations.

The Kirwan Commission has been working hard for the past several years to design recommendations that are intended to catapult Maryland's children to the "head of the class," when compared to school districts around the country. Although I intend to support the Commission's recommendations, we must ensure that we develop an equitable, long-term and responsible way to fund Kirwan that will ensure access to a quality education for every child. Education opens doors, instills confidence and allows children to reach for their dreams. None of that should be dictated by the county or city a child lives in. All of Maryland's children deserve our best, and I will work hard to make that happen.

The fate of our State and the opportunities education brings for our children and grandchildren depend on the effectiveness and equal access to Pre-K through 12th grade education in every zip code across the State. Prince George's County will provide high-quality educational services in safe learning environments that will not only ensure that our students are college and career ready, but are also well-rounded and globally competitive citizens.

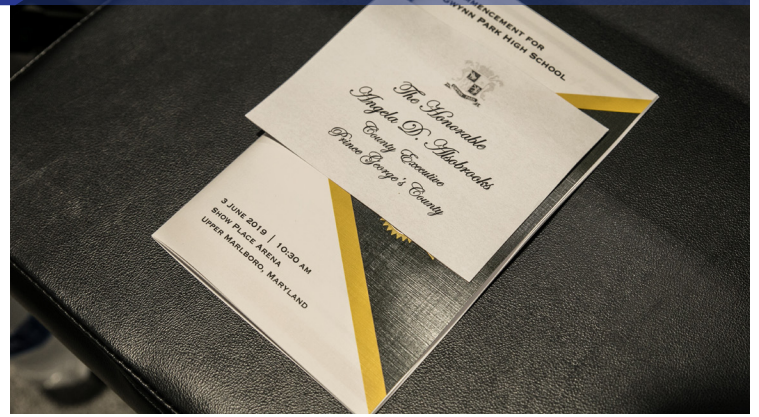
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

I will seek to ensure that residents, businesses, and institutions in Prince George's County are competitive across the State and region.

During the 2020 Legislative Session, Prince George's County will advocate for opportunities to bring economic growth and stimulation to our County.

I will also fight to ensure Prince George's County has economic development opportunities that allow us to widen our commercial tax base, a top priority for our Administration.

Legislative Priorities



Last year, I advocated for several pieces of priority legislation that benefited our public school children, including the passage of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future and education legislation that brought \$53 million in Kirwan funding to the County. This funding increased teacher pay and expanded Pre-K offerings, which is the first step towards universal Pre-K. Even with these successes, we must still work to improve the state of our school facilities. Too many of our buildings are outdated and overcrowded and do not deliver the quality educational experience that our students deserve.

Our success in passing legislation to allow Prince George's County to establish a Public-Private Partnership Fund and to enter a public-private partnership (P3) agreement to construct or renovate public school facilities in the County can only be furthered with additional funding. The State plays a key role in funding new facilities as well as renovating existing school facilities, so I will continue to advocate for increased State aid, to build schools more efficiently.

Legislative Priorities



Legislative Priorities



We will continue to promote, enhance and preserve the physical and mental health, and overall well-being, of Prince Georgians.

COUNTY BEAUTIFICATION

As part of my broader goal of fostering healthy communities, my legislative focus on County beautification aims to instill a greater sense of pride in our County among our residents. During the 2019 Legislative Session, our County was successful in getting legislation passed that targets the illegal dumping of bulky items that have plagued our County's communities.

This year, my County beautification efforts will include support for environmentally-focused legislation that furthers our County's progress towards realizing a more beautiful Prince George's; an experience that should be enjoyed by residents in every community across our County.

Therefore, I intend to support legislative efforts to minimize consumer access to single-use items and help educate our community on the importance of reducing the use of items that cannot be recycled.

Legislative Priorities



Our senior citizens are the bedrock of our communities. Prince George's County has one of the fastest growing senior populations in the region, and it is vitally important that we protect our seniors from those who wish to prey on them or bring them harm.

SENIOR-BASED INITIATIVES

Currently, Maryland is in the minority of states that does not have a centralized and confidential elder abuse registry.

During the 2020 Legislative Session, I will be supporting legislation to create a centralized, confidential database that is aimed at putting an end to the physical abuse suffered by seniors at the hands of their caregivers.

The creation of a centralized and confidential elder abuse registry will provide the following benefits:

- Protection for possible future victims
- Court notification of an individual's registry status, which will provide protections in guardianship and adoption cases
- Increased accountability for perpetrators
- Deterrent to keep perpetrators from abusing
- Enable employers to make more informed decisions when hiring individuals to work with our seniors

This legislation is extremely important and will benefit countless members of our County.

~ We Are Prince George's *Proud* ~

Prince George's County had a great year in 2019 because the Prince George's County leaders locked arms with one another and our friends around the State to bring resources back to the County. During the 2020 Legislative Session, we will build on that success and deliver legislative victories that will enhance the lives of the more than 900,000 residents who call Prince George's County home.

I understand and believe in the power of true collaboration, which inevitably leads to securing a level of common good, better quality of life and an expansion of opportunity for more people. Last Legislative Session, I was not only proud of our delegation's tremendous work done on behalf of Prince Georgians, but also of the legislative leadership demonstrated by lawmakers across the State. In many cases our Administration enthusiastically supported legislation offered by House and Senate members designed to fundamentally improve the lives of all Marylanders.

As we move forward together, we understand that the education of our children, care for our seniors, stewardship of our environment, support for our families and protection of our most vulnerable neighbors are objectives we all share. We look forward to continuing in partnership to advance vital and equitable progress for all.



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