

# BOONSBORO MAYOR AND COUNCIL

21 NORTH MAIN STREET  
BOONSBORO, MARYLAND 21713  
301-432-5141 301-432-4050 (f)  
*www.town.boonsboro.md.us*



HOWARD W. LONG  
MAYOR

March 6, 2017

Board of County Commissioners  
Washington County Administration Building  
100 West Washington Street  
Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

RE: Upcoming Commissioner Meeting In Boonsboro

Dear President Baker and Fellow Commissioners:

On behalf of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Boonsboro, we look forward to meeting with you on March 14th during the County Commission meeting held in the Town of Boonsboro.

We respectfully request your consideration of the below items for discussion during the meeting:

- Grant Funding Support – The Boonsboro Mayor and Council thank you for your continued support of the Town’s grant funding requests, including the Program Open Space (POS) Funding and Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) requests. Both sources of funds are instrumental in enabling the Town to address infrastructure and recreational needs of the south Washington County community.
- Debt Assistance – The Town of Boonsboro upgraded their wastewater treatment system, as required by the State, and more than tripled the burden of debt of the Town. With almost \$8 million owed on the loans and an annual debt service of \$500,000, this severely impacts the Town’s ability to maintain its quality level of service to its 3500 residents. We respectfully request for the Commissioners to consider assistance to the Town, whether in the form of restructuring the debt; property tax credits; or another form; we greatly appreciate your consideration and any assistance you can provide.
- County Inmate Program – Beginning May of last year, the County Inmate Work Detail program availability was reduced from 2 times a week to once a month. The Town of Boonsboro used the inmates from the Washington County detention center for grounds and facilities maintenance. Since the reduction last year, the Town of Boonsboro has hired an additional employee and a contractor to perform most of the tasks the inmates previously completed. Whereas previously the Town paid approximately \$200 to \$300 for inmate and guard services monthly, the Town now incurs approximately \$1100 a month to complete the needed maintenance work. We strongly support and respectfully request for the reimplementation of the twice weekly inmate program for Washington County municipalities.
- Stormwater Discharge (MS4) Permit – The Town of Boonsboro recently received notification that the Town will be receiving an individual NPDES Phase II General Permit. With the additional administration required to comply with the general permit requirements, the Town is requesting to “piggyback” with the County on some of the requirements, as suggested in the general permit. We respectfully request for the Commissioners to assist with the administration and the implementation of the permit in the Town of Boonsboro.
- Schools – Boonsboro is home to three highly ranked schools and has received many accolades for its success. We are very proud of Washington County’s success in leading education, however, the facilities are aging, overpopulated, and not adequately equipped for newer technology. We respectfully request building maintenance is given high priority to Boonsboro schools in order for the students to continue to thrive in a safe and comfortable environment.

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- Transportation – Washington County’s Transit Development Plan of 2010 included recommendations to establish County Commuter service in the Town of Boonsboro. The Town of Boonsboro is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest municipality and remains without this necessary service. Twenty-five percent of the Town’s residents are seniors and the Town continues to serve a growing population that could benefit from public transportation. We respectfully request the Commissioners consider expansion of public transportation that would include service to the Town of Boonsboro.
- Growth – The Town of Boonsboro continues to be the second largest municipality within Washington County and is continuing to grow. We appreciate your continued support of economic development within the Town and request high priority is given to road improvements; public safety; and school capacity in order to ensure adequate infrastructure is in place to serve the growing Boonsboro community.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and we look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

Howard W. Long  
Mayor