

Mike Perrone

County Executive Election 2018

1.

Coming at it from the perspective that less legislation is often preferable to more, my priorities are much more administrative than legislative, and they cover a pretty broad spectrum. County Government shouldn't be throwing away money leasing over 100,000 square feet of office space when it can issue bonds to build, and pay far less in debt service. County Government needs to consider why there was a need to create a Fast Track permitting process for building projects and apply some of the efficiencies of the Fast Track process to the normal process. County Government should be seeking much more input from the Harford County Volunteer Fire & EMS Association regarding how the County assumes control of the EMS system.

2.

Friends of Harford has been advocating for responsible land use for over 20 years and weighs in on legislative matters thoroughly and objectively... advocacy groups like that should have easy access to County Government and receive timely responses to inquiries.

3.

Yes - I think the big piece that is missing from the DAC puzzle is easy public access to DAC Waivers. The Planning and Zoning Activity Tracker does a decent job of putting out information on projects that are going through DAC, but knowing what projects Planning and Zoning decided don't have to go through the DAC process is just as important as having information for the projects that do have to go through it.

Regarding the Zoning Board of Appeals, I would certainly lend the County Council and Zoning Hearing Examiner whatever technical/IT support they would need to enhance their notification processes.

4.

I wouldn't advocate for term limits for County Council Members, because I think at the local level where grassroots campaigns are relatively easy to pull off, competition can be an effective term limiter. In positions with more power (like the Office of County Executive), I think the benefits of mandating turnover in the office outweigh the risks that go along with having more lame duck terms and elected officials who won't have to face voters again. But at the same time, if a Council was ever elected that did pass term

limits for its members, I don't think it would be appropriate for the County Executive to stand in their way.

5.

I think the first step towards alleviating the County's traffic headaches would be to alter the Zoning Code to keep up with the generational shift in our sense of community. By that I mean that as the desire to live, work, and play in the same community seems to be growing, the Zoning Code needs to respond with more robust mixed use provisions and a more impact-focused and less use-focused approach to development. If people who prefer to get where they want to go on foot or on a bicycle are able to do so more often, then drivers also benefit from the automobile trips that are eliminated or shortened by walkers and bikers.

6.

Expansion of the development envelope should not be considered as long as there is so much capacity within it (and by capacity I mean so much underutilized and vacant land along Route 40). I wouldn't study or consider the 543 proposal or any other expansion. I do think that bringing Water & Sewer to Harford Community College should be an important capital priority, but the sensible way to go about this would be to come out the mile and a half or so from around Amyclae East on Route 22 and not the six or so miles up 543 from Belcamp.

7.

Yes.

8.

Lighting can certainly have adverse impacts on surrounding property owners and to that end, I think objective and measurable standards for light impacts make sense. I'm not convinced that we need more noise legislation though. We do have the noise ordinance in Sec. 193-8 of the Code, and while that ordinance doesn't apply to business or industrial operations, I think that noise generated by business or industrial operations tends to be more of an unavoidable consequence of those operations. Noise also can't be directed... whereas lighting can be.

9.

I think the matter of where GI zoning is placed needs to be a case by case review during the comprehensive rezoning process. Since the GI District allows for the most impact-heavy uses in the Code, its placement must be thoroughly scrutinized, but there are many factors that need to be taken into consideration, such as whether or not there are other GI districts nearby, whether the nearby residential districts are already developed, and whether or not the zoning is consistent with the intensity called for in the Land Use Plan.

10.

I don't think the frequency of inspections makes much of a difference when enforcement is selective. I think there are conscientious builders out there who make sure that as little disturbed soil as possible leaves their construction sites, and other builders who couldn't care less. First and foremost we need a culture of objective and non-political enforcement. If putting such a culture in place were to result in more compliant operations, I'd love to be able to save taxpayer money by scheduling less frequent inspections.