

Hi, I'm Commissioner XXX. Thank you for inviting me here today to speak with you.

Non-Profits are Essential

- Our non-profits are vital partners as we work to provide for the needs of our community.
- Your organizations are more niche and focused on specific populations. You see many of our residents face-to-face as they come through your doors with their specific needs.
- You are specialized in areas and fields that require professionals to address.
- You help fill the gaps that our monetary confinements cannot always reach.
- *[Share any personal observations/interactions you've had with nonprofits you have met with recently].*

- We appreciate your efforts as you work closely with our community and especially appreciate your diligence as you have worked through the pandemic.
- The partnership between County Government, nonprofits, and the business community are unparalleled. It's important that we continue to build on these partnerships as we move forward together.

County's Diversity Increasing

- As the 2020 Census has revealed, our county is growing in population and diversity. It is important that we continue to provide for our evolving communities.
- The Board of County Commissioners is very aware of and committed to providing equitable resources and services to residents.

- This increases the need for County Government to redefine how to allocate resources, measure the outcomes, and where there is the most need.
- We determine these based on feedback from our constituents, public hearings, and interactions in the county and with partnering agencies.
- With the direction of the County Commissioners and collaboration with the Economic Development Department, there was a disparity study completed within the county.
- This study focused on evaluating and making recommendations for procurement policies and practices. It also assessed the equitable participation of Minority Business Enterprise businesses.
- Our Economic Development Department will dive deeper into these findings at their Fall Meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 2, which you can register for online.

- Furthermore, it is vital that as our community changes, our practices and policies change with it, so that we can serve with equity and inclusion of all of our residents and business partners.

Charitable Trust

- As you know, the Board of County Commissioners work in partnership with the Charitable Trust as they manage the county's annual nonprofit grants award program.
- In fiscal 2022, the Board of County Commissioners allocated more than \$800,000 to the Charitable Trust to award to non-profits and \$200,000 for administration of the Trust.
- During the pandemic, the County Commissioners further provided \$200,000 in fiscal year 2020 and \$700,000 in fiscal year 2021, in CARES Act funding to the Charles County Charitable Trust to assist non-profits that were experiencing revenue loss due to the impact

of the pandemic and/or incurring direct pandemic-related expenses for goods and services.

- It was great that our non-profits could receive additional funds that they could use to benefit and touch the community, especially during such a difficult time.

Effectiveness of Services

- Like all counties in Maryland and across the country, Charles County has physical infrastructure needs, such as stormwater drainage, roads, and transportation, to name just a few.
- We also understand the need to support our social infrastructure to keep up with the growing demand for services and to make strides in addressing our social infrastructure.
- We hear you. We understand the tremendous need to address the need for affordable housing, access to health service, and

transportation, among other areas. Rest assured, we are working to address these needs.

- On Oct. 20, our Board of Commissioners met with the Maryland Department of Transportation for their Consolidated Transportation Program Tour.
- This highlighted projects that preserve investments, enhance transportation services, and improve accessibility throughout the state.
- Regarding health care, during the pandemic, Medstar Medical Group constructed a new medical facility in Waldorf. This facility has three floors with primary care, medical specialties, and diagnostics all in the same location.
- We are continuing to work on affordability concerns. In September of this year, our Housing Authority Division opened its Housing Choice Voucher Program Waiting List.

- Charles County Government is always assessing how effective our resources and services are so we can responsibly use tax dollars in ways that touch the most residents when they need it the most.
- All of our county departments touch our community in a different way, from public safety to quality of life to housing assistance.
- We better understand our program and service effectiveness through assessing gathered analytics and feedback from residents and community partners.

Open Dialogue

- It is always important to continue an open dialogue between County Government and our non-profit partners in order to keep that relationship strong and purposeful.

- We share the common goal of working towards providing residents with the highest quality service possible in a timely, efficient, and courteous manner.
- We thank you for the feedback that you have provided so far and ask that you continue that dialogue in the years to come. This allows us to continue to work towards helping our residents collaboratively and moving forward together.
- Thank you for your time and for all you do for our community.