

For the Finance Committee Members' Discussion
19 April 2021

MAYOR

The most significant accomplishment of the Mayor and Mayor's staff for this last year is leadership through a pandemic. As the virus impact became more and more serious the Mayor worked with State, County and City management to make Annapolis as safe as possible while at the same time creating a statewide example of providing ways for businesses to survive. As the employees of the City reorganized to enable telecommuting, the Mayor supported and thanked the Administration and staff for the work they were doing every day or every week. As the City had first amendment marches on Black Lives Matter the Mayor marched with every group and supported the Police Chief and officers at the same time resulting in no broken windows and spotlighting our professional first responders. As the pandemic exposed inequities in low income and minority communities, the Mayor built programs to respond. It was and is a year like no other requiring work for the Mayor, the City, and the Mayor's staff like no other year. The big picture was demanding every day and framed by the nationwide pandemic.

At the beginning of the Covid war, the City created "Incident Objectives" and "Core Priorities" for the City government. Very quickly events and resident needs brought the City back to trying to provide full services and responses no matter what the difficulty. The Mayor initiated a conversation with the County resulting in County Cares money coming to the City providing funding to pay for virus related expenses. Even in the most normal years, the Mayor and his staff are often a rapid response team when a service is needed, a community needs attention, or citizens need help. If a citizen or business from any ward of the City reaches out and asks for help, wants to tell the City there is a problem, has a question or needs information, the Mayor and/or his staff respond. This year has been the same. The Mayor was out in the City, encouraging solutions and working with City staff, residents and businesses to move the City through this pandemic. The Mayor and staff took tasks and assignments to get the job done. The Mayor and some staff were in the office every day to support the leadership role.

Providing Leadership

The whole list of activities accomplished by the Mayor is too long for this report. Some Highlights follow:

- **Communications:** Michelle Stephenson, Julien Jacques, and Mark Hildebrand assisted by intern Siani Butler advanced the communication in the City and with residents forging an inclusive vs. exclusive approach to outreach, creating materials and videos for the Small Business Recovery Task Force and the streets following County and City guidelines, recognizing Black History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, Women's History Month with social media campaigns to honor the heritage and history in our community; developed COVID-19 campaigns for pandemic protocols including mask campaigns and info graphics for social media, banners and signage and created materials for the same; implemented secure methods for our virtual meeting for City Council, Committees and Commissions; enhanced bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, including information about connectivity on the City website and social media pages; produced all City citations and proclamations; created flyers for the Hispanic Outreach Team for education events, job fairs and literacy events; created resource guide for HACA residents; hosted many press events; produced Town Halls; worked with County Health Department on vaccination plan rollout and communications plan; created content and hosted town halls for Seniors, Youth, Race Equity, COVID and others; and helped re-design the City website.
- **Community Outreach:** Laura Gutierrez and Adetola Ajayi, Take Care Teams, and Katy Edwards, LEAD Manager, moved the City response into low income communities, person to person in full PPE, to provide accurate information about the COVID virus and services available such as meeting food needs and now vaccines; Tola Ajayi created the LEAD grant hiring Katy Edwards, recruited Community Partners support such as Street Angel Project for Narcan availability and Light of the World Ministries, and Feed Arundel for food support, coordinated the African American Community Take Care Annapolis team, created the NO HARM VIP program for violence interruption, held African American business leader brunch series, provided One Annapolis pop up drone and e-gaming camps, coordinates the N.A.M. anti-dope move(meant) and supported homicide victim families and communities often identifying next of kin; Laura Gutierrez designed and implemented Take Care Annapolis to provide health equity to reach underserved communities in Annapolis and is seeking grants to continue the program, launched a Spanish texting platform that has 850 families subscribed, established a biweekly stakeholders meeting "Juntos" for leadership in the city and county working on Hispanic affairs to come together to address gaps in service and urgencies afflicting City Hispanic communities,

published end of the year report on data of work in Latino community including a needs assessment, hosts Hispanic business owners breakfasts, established and chairs Mid Atlantic Latino Vaccine Equity Coalition and is coordinating Annapolis Community Clinic effort for black and brown communities with Luminis Health and the County Health Department. The Mayor also brought together the staff in different City departments as the 150% group—all staff working community up. Community outreach emphasis is asking community to say what they need, not just creating programs for communities without their involvement. The Mayor continues to have a team that promotes inclusiveness.

- **Connectivity:** Brian Cahalan works on all of the elements of bike and pedestrian mobility including working with the Anne Arundel County Bicycle Advisory Commission, helping to coordinate the County, State and the U.S. Naval Academy feasibility study to bring the B&A Trail into the City and for funding for a collaborative study to connect the Poplar Trail to the South Shore Trail, working on right of entry easements in different locations in the city, coordinated with MORE (Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts) on installation of trails at Water Works Park, piecing connector parts to inner WEE, Poplar Trail, Outer WEE, St Johns, Forest Drive and Hilltop for overall bike/pedestrian throughout the City with all other City Departments; work also includes water mobility and connectivity, all with the purpose of alternative transportation; beginning to model a new program AAMP (Annapolis Alternative Mobility Program) to connect all means and locations of mobility including a EV ferry. Brian is also a first responder when needed particularly assisting in food distribution.
- **Volunteer Support and Citizen Response:** Hilary Raftovich as Ombudsman and Constituent Services staff provided a method for Boards and Commissions to continue meeting the Open Meetings requirements, managed the appointment of individuals to Boards and Commissions, recruiting members, collecting resumes, drafting appointment letters, and taking candidates through their confirmation process; kept 25 Boards and Commissions websites up to date; answered constituent calls, letters and emails addressing questions and concerns, organized meeting to solve problems that require multiple departments, assisted city staff with outreach to communities on City projects, and attended leadership meetings (citywide, business and parking as examples) to communicate resident concerns and questions; organized monthly trainings for board members creating a webpage for resources and links related to trainings, reached out to trainers setting up a permanent virtual training opportunities for Boards and Commissions on the City website

and established an ongoing monthly communication email to Boards and Commissions members to keep volunteers up to date on policy and training opportunities.

Hilary was a COVID first responder managing the Food Friday Program for the first 6 months of the state of emergency growing the program from 30 to 100 families, assisting OEM with 24 hour warm line and volunteer coordination for the first few months and assisted with Light of the World Food Giveaways.

- **Arts:** Brian Cahalan supports the Mayor's commitment to the Arts in a year where all artists have suffered reduced or elimination of income. Outdoor murals increased, growing the Annapolis reputation for outdoor art and now bringing Pearl Bailey, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Thurgood Marshall, Breonna Taylor, Carlester and Carrs Beach into view. The Brumidi Statue welcomes all interested in art to the City.

Mayor's Priorities Continue

Even though the Mayor's staff is one man down, the Mayor and staff work with the Administration to advance other issues such as environmental and resilience priorities. That includes making new parks such as the Water Works Park, Paddle Park, Robert Eades Park, and Hawkins Cove and other pocket parks places for residents to hike, bike, have water access, and be outdoors. A new model program just starting is green WPA (Green Work Program in Annapolis) that will hire high school students to do green community work projects and receive mini-certificates for the accomplishment. Always in the Mayor's effort is to move people from jobs into careers.

The next fiscal year will hopefully include turning our communications to what we know as more normal. The Mayor is expecting that there will be some transition on virtual expectations, but that the City will not try to sustain the expense of an all-virtual world. With the return of Will Rowel in the summer, the Civilian Review Board panel work will continue. The new State law will have a bearing on what will be recommended to the Council.

The One Annapolis efforts will continue to be a priority especially since the communities most impacted by the pandemic have been African American and Hispanic as well as low income communities. The Mayor is seeking grants to help continue health equity work and harm reduction work. If the City opens up completely, the Mayor will return to providing cultural opportunities and festivals. We were proud to fly the flags of many countries where African people

migrated and celebrate Hispanic country flags as well on Main Street. Those roots now live in Annapolis. And the City looks forward to the Pride parade in the Fall and will continue to be proud to fly Pride flags as well.

MAYOR BUCKLEY OPERATING BUDGET FY22

Anticipating another busy and maybe unpredictable year, the following is the outline of the Mayor's FY22 Budget.

Contractual Services (\$163,000)

- \$158,000 TV Studio Services
- \$5000 for contracts as needed

Supplies and Other (\$84,100)

- \$15,000 Office Supplies (Actual reduction because supplies are for more people)
- \$2,500 for copier
- \$8,500 for training and education
- \$17,100 for dues and memberships (NLC etc)
- \$41,000 for One Annapolis, Public Engagement and NAM

Breakout of One Annapolis, Public Engagement

- CRB Legislative Support (\$1000)

African American Initiatives (\$20,000)

- Naptown Antidope Move(meant) \$5000
- NO HARM \$5000
- Diaspora Festival \$2500

- Black Business Brunch Workshops \$2500
- Start Up Annapolis \$2500
- F.I.S.H. Tank \$2500

Hispanic Initiatives (\$20,000)

- Dia de los Muertos \$3,500
- Festival de law Flores \$4000
- Hispanic Heritage Month/Torneo de Futbol \$500
- Community Health Promoters \$4000
- Community Round Tables \$1500
- Adult Education \$3000
- Business Owner Breakfasts \$2500
- Personal Development \$1000

TOTAL 247,100

Grant Programs in the Mayors Office

- LEAD \$250,000
- Take Care \$100,000
- NO HARM VIP (Need to find funding for FY22)