



MARYLAND MAYORS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue I September 2016

MMA
*Helping its members
to better serve their
municipalities*

2017 Legislative Priorities for MML



MMA needs to take an active role in deciding on the legislative priorities of the Maryland Municipal League. The Fall Conference is the place to do just that.

Here are the priorities that came out of the MML Legislative Committee.

The 2016-17 Legislative Committee has selected three priorities and two strategic initiatives to be considered for adoption by the MML membership at the Fall Conference, October 14, during the Business Meeting.

Legislative Priorities:

1. Restoration of highway user revenues to municipal governments
2. Mandating that all governmental entities pay the municipal storm water fee on all governmental properties and facilities located w/in municipal boundaries
3. Ensuring better communication and coordination in scheduling/undertaking projects by public utilities and other governmental agencies in municipal rights of way

Strategic Initiatives:

- (1) developing protocols for the use of police body cameras and the dissemination of body camera video footage under the Maryland Public Information Act
- (2) dealing with foreclosed properties that lead to blight in municipalities

MMA Officers 2016-2017

President

John Miller, Middletown

1st Vice President

Bruce Morrison,
Pocomoke City

2nd Vice President

Vacant

Treasurer

Jeffrey Slavin, Somerset

Secretary

Marnitta King,
Capitol Heights

Upcoming Date for MMA:

- **MML Fall Conference and MMA meeting**
At Solomons Oct. 12-15
- **MMA winter conference** in
In Annapolis February 2-3

Next issue:

Main Street Maryland—Why should your town be a Main Street Community?
Meet Mayor Willey of Easton



MMA CHAPTER CAPTAINS



Chapter Captain is a position to help keep MD Mayors informed and aware of what is happening in their local MML chapter as well as member communities, if need be. And, share information from the MMA to the local MML chapter. This would require a short 3-5 minute sharing of this information at our 3 meetings.

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Mayor of the Month Malinda Miles



Malinda Miles is the Mayor of Mount Rainier in Prince Georges County. In 1987, she turned her attention to the city council of Mount Rainier following terms on the Democratic Central Committee and as District 3 representative to the school board. Malinda became the first Black female to represent the citizens in Ward 2 – a position she held successfully for three additional terms ('93-'95, '95-'97 and '03-05). Malinda Miles has been the Mayor of Mt. Rainier since May 2005.

Here are 5 questions for Mayor Miles:

What do you like the most about your job as Mayor? - Interaction with the students at the two elementary schools and finding solutions to problems in the City.

What current issues are you confronting in your town or city? Economic development continues to be an issue even though we have four major development projects underway. There is a need for the City to get rid of blight on its own properties and there seems to be no funding available for doing that.

What is your "other" job or what did you do before you became Mayor? Prior to becoming mayor, I served as a councilmember, executive director of two organizations (Prisoners Aid Association of Maryland, and Family Crisis Center of Prince George's County), and employment manager for the National Education Association (retired from here).

What would you like other Mayors to know about you? Being the mayor is a thankless job on one hand, and the most important job in the City on the other hand. The work is never done and there is always room for improvement. Serving in capacities outside of being the mayor such as MML committees help to broaden your horizon, and improve your leadership skills.

Share a unique/unusual/funny experience you have had as Mayor. Getting ticketed by my police officers while attending a meeting in the police station with my chief of police.

Also, what is a favorite destination in or near your town? Joe's Movement Emporium

Advantages of Membership in MMA:

1. Network with other mayors to discuss ideas and experiences that could benefit your municipality. This holds true for "new" mayors as well as "seasoned" ones and larger municipalities as well as smaller ones.
2. Gain important information/education of new and proposed laws relative to municipalities
3. Exposed to national trends that may have an impact on what we do in our jobs as mayors
4. Assisting others with problems or concerns; honing our leadership and communication skills through the mentoring of colleagues
5. Acquiring and providing access to contact information for other mayors and/or their staff