

Meanwhile, the Annapolis Renewable Energy Park is in the development phase and when completed, will be the largest solar project identified by the Environmental Protection Agency to be exclusively installed on a closed landfill in the United States. This Energy Park will turn a large plot of unused land into a revenue generator and a job creator. We expect the solar portion to be operational by the end of 2016, and anticipate that it will generate more than \$5 million in revenue to the city over the course of the 20-year lease term.

Last year I pledged to augment our partnership with Anne Arundel County to make government more efficient and to benefit taxpayers. In September of 2015, the City and County entered into Memorandum of Understanding regarding Economic Development. This MOU outlined significant resource sharing with the Anne Arundel County Economic Development Corporation (AACEDC) and highlights the city's creation of an Economic Development Division within the Department of Planning and Zoning, the hiring of a city Economic Development Manager, and merging our Small and Minority Business Enterprise program into a larger economic development effort. As a result of our first ever formal agreement, the city and county have made historic and unprecedented progress.

The city and its residents are also benefiting from the city/county partnership involving land use, public utilities and transportation. This is an example of taking a common sense approach to meet our mutual government objectives, while accommodating the need for efficient citizen services.

Over the past two years we: balanced two budgets without raising the real estate tax rate, froze city hiring, implemented a new budgeting system that creates a more open and transparent process, streamlined city government by consolidating economic development, considering an Adequate Facilities Ordinance now before City Council, continue to watch over the proposed Crystal Spring development but not yet approved footprint, kept the library in its current location.

We have accomplished so many significant things over this past year. They include:

- Opened or expanded 236 businesses which included 33 ribbon cutting ceremonies
- Achieved a violent crime rate reduction of five percent
- Hired 11 new police officers, including five African Americans, two Asians, and two females
- Filled 4,109 potholes
- Replaced or reset 23,384 bricks
- Replaced 43,185 square feet of concrete sidewalk, 8,384 square feet of brick sidewalk and 6,345 linear feet of curb
- Streamlined the permit process by eliminating the need for permits on projects less than \$500, while also eliminating the need for any permits for non-structural projects
- Completed the Forest Drive Corridor Study
- Completed the West Annapolis Sector Study
- Developed APF schools legislation
- Closed out the Police HQ construction cases through mediation, which resulted in a recovery for the City in excess of \$420,000, originally expected to only result in \$25,000
- Implemented the "Start the Adventure in Reading" Program (STAIR) at the Stanton Center. This is a reading program for second graders where students are given 1on1 tutoring two times per week during the school year
- Implemented the Summit School "Literacy Counts" Program at the Stanton Center. This is a reading program for first graders where students are given 1on1 tutoring two times per week during the school year
- Chaired 48 City Council meetings, held 49 meetings with elected officials, and conducted 18 meetings with the United States Naval Academy officials
- Changed our EMS Billing Company and Quality Assurance policy and increased revenues by \$700,000
- Achieved a Cardiac Arrest Save Rate of 25% which is well above the National Average of between 10% and 13%