

MVBA Newsletter | August 2021



## No General Meeting in August

As a reminder, there is no general meeting in August. Join us on **Tuesday, September 21st at 7:30pm** for our next MVBA General Meeting. The September 21st meeting will be held remotely via Zoom; more details on this meeting will be provided in next month's newsletter.

As always, our general meetings are free and open to the public, members and non-members alike. Please join us to discuss important issues and events related to our Mount Vernon community.

Please reach out to us with any questions. The email directory is available at the bottom of the newsletter.



## MVBA Membership Renewals Due

**As a reminder, annual MVBA membership renewals are due by September 1st.** Be certain to ensure that your membership is current along with your contact (and other) information in Wild Apricot.

Folks, encourage your neighbors and other businesses in Mount Vernon to become members of MVBA. It is only \$20 for Individuals and \$50 for Businesses, per year, to become a member. We welcome all residents and businesses in the neighborhood to join MVBA by clicking [HERE](#).

Also, if you're membership expired, it's not too late to rejoin!

If you have any questions on membership, please reach out to our Membership Committee at [membership@mvba.org](mailto:membership@mvba.org).



### Accepting Candidate Nominations for Election

With the November 16th MVBA Election approaching, we are currently accepting nominations for serving on the MVBA Board. The four (4) board positions including President, Vice President and Directors (2) are up for election:

#### **President** *(serving 2-year term)*

*Michele Richter, Current President*

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Association.

Additional Responsibilities include:

- *The President shall preside at all Board and General Membership meetings of the Association.*
- *The President shall have general management and direction of the activities of the Association and all powers ordinarily exercised by the President of an organization.*
- *The President shall prepare the agenda for all meetings of Directors and the general membership, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors and shall call special meetings of the members and directors, consistent with the bylaws.*
- *The President shall sign all contracts and agreements in the name of the Association following a resolution of the Board of Directors.*
- *If the amount or scope exceeds approved budgets, the President shall sign all notices, checks, drafts, warrants, or other orders for the payment of money which are drawn, and also signed by the Treasurer.*
- *The President shall serve as the representative of the Association at meetings and in discussions with public and private agencies, unless the Directors authorize a special committee or individual to represent the Association.*
- *The President shall have such other powers and duties as may, from time to time, be assigned by the Board of Directors.*

Time Commitment for Position: 30+ hours per week

#### **Vice President** *(serving 2-year term)*

*Wesley Stuckey, Current Vice President*

The Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, perform all duties and have all the powers of the President.

Additional Responsibilities include:

- *The Vice President shall also have such additional powers and duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors.*

Time Commitment for Position: *20+ hours per week*

*Note: Officers shall be a property owner, business owner, and/or tenant within the boundaries of the Association who have demonstrated a longstanding commitment of at least two (2) years to the community through an existing track record of service on the Board or on Committees, unless waived by two-thirds (⅔) of the board members eligible to vote. No officer may hold more than one office concurrently.*

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#### **Director** (2 positions serving 3-year term)

*Jack Danna and Scott Ponemone, Current Directors*

The purpose and function of the Board of Directors of the Association shall be to provide advice and consent to the President in the day-to-day management of the Association's affairs.

Additional Responsibilities include:

- *Meeting and acting as a board and adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of meetings and management of the Association as are deemed proper, not inconsistent with the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Association.*
- *Participate in the planning of the meetings of the Association and to prepare recommendations for the membership.*
- *Approve the expenditures funds by the officers of the Association and to approve and adopt a budget for the Association each year.*
- *Receive an annual statement of income and expense and provide for its audit.*
- *Act on behalf of the issue(s) at a general meeting of the full membership.*
- *Execute such additional duties as may be required by the bylaws, as amended from time to time.*

Time Commitment for Position: *10+ hours per week*

Elected board members must be members in good standing who are eligible to vote and shall be a property owner, business owner, and/or tenant within the boundaries of the Association who have demonstrated a longstanding commitment to the community through an existing track record of service on Committees, by volunteering, and/or by improvement of properties in the community.

All board members are expected to act as a Chair/Co-Chair of a MVBA Committee. Additionally, all board members must disclose potential and real conflicts of interest to the Board and recuse themselves, if appropriate.

**If you are interested in any of the above positions and are an active MVBA member who qualifies, please complete a short questionnaire [here](#) and upload a resume with your experience demonstrating how you would be a good candidate for that given position. Be sure to identify what position(s) you are interested in. You'll hear from the Nominations Committee before September regarding your interest as well as any follow-up questions.**

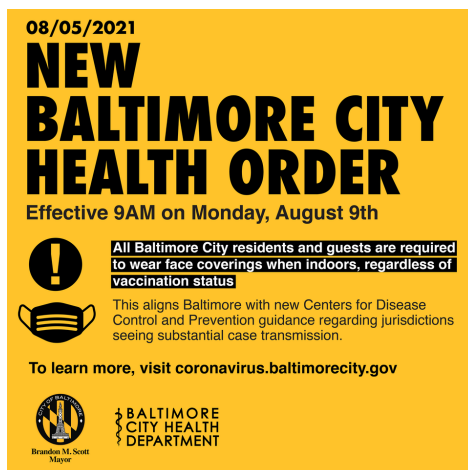
*All potential candidates on the Board's slate for the elected positions will be picked by **September 14th**. These candidates will be given a few minutes to speak and present themselves at the September 21st General Membership Meeting as well as at the November 16th General Membership Meeting before the election. **Please note that the September 14th and 21st dates above are updated from the July 2021 Newsletter.***

*Be sure to mark your calendars for the November General Election taking place on*

Be sure to mark your calendars for the November General Election taking place on

Tuesday, November 16th starting at 7:30pm.

## Baltimore City Indoor Mask Mandate



Keeping Midtown Clean, Green & Safe

## Midtown Baltimore | Information to Know!

### Surcharge Bills Arriving This Month

Midtown Baltimore's clean, green and safe services are paid for through an annual special benefits surcharge. The surcharge is in addition to property taxes and based upon a property's assessed value. Surcharge bills were mailed in early July. If you did not receive your paper statement, visit <https://cityservices.baltimorecity.gov/SpecialBenefits/> to determine the amount owed for your property, which can be paid online.

Visit <https://www.midtownbaltimore.org/surcharge> for additional information.

### Corner Trash Cans are for Pedestrian Litter Only

As a reminder, corner cans are not for household or business trash. These cans are for pedestrian litter only. If you see corner cans being used incorrectly, report it to 311 before notifying Midtown. This holds code enforcement accountable for issuing citations and logs the instance so it can be tracked and metrics are generated. You may submit a 311 request online at <https://balt311.baltimorecity.gov> and then email a copy of the SR number to [service@midtowncommunity.org](mailto:service@midtowncommunity.org).

### It's Time to Clean Up those Tree Wells and Weeds

Property owners are responsible for keeping tree wells and sidewalks free of weeds per Baltimore City Code. Constituents who have removed weeds can submit a service request at <https://www.midtownbaltimore.org/request-services> for Midtown to collect this green debris and a member of our team can make sure weeds are properly disposed of. By pulling the weeds along the sidewalk and the tree wells, it helps keep the district looking great, and makes it much easier for our crews to get trash when we are cleaning. By working together, we can keep our sidewalks and tree wells looking their very best!

### Keep Up on What's Happening in Midtown

Learn more about what's happening in Midtown by signing up for our newsletter at <http://eepurl.com/gzLb7H> or follow us on <https://www.facebook.com/midtownbaltimore/> for the most-up-to-date information.

### Reporting Private Property Graffiti | Midtown

Help Midtown Baltimore report graffiti on personal property in Midtown!

In partnership with the Bolton Hill, Charles North, Madison Park, and Mount Vernon community associations, [Midtown Baltimore](#) is creating a comprehensive list of graffiti on PRIVATE PROPERTIES in the district. Your submissions will be shared with the Baltimore City Police Department and the State's Attorney's office.

>>>> To submit an incident visit: <https://buff.ly/3fJxK2N>

✓ This form is intended for reporting incidents of graffiti on PRIVATE PROPERTY ONLY. Please report each instance as a separate submission so that we have a thorough list of every occurrence.

✓ Instances of graffiti on public property should be submitted directly to 311 for remediation. You can file a report online or by calling 311.

✓ Please note, Midtown DOES NOT DO graffiti removal.

✓ All exterior work in CHAP Historic Districts and to City Landmarks require an Authorization to Proceed. Please follow these guidelines by CHAP on how to identify and remove instances. The guidelines and additional information can be found in Midtown's Graffiti Resource Guide, available online at: <https://buff.ly/3pbBNbc>.



**PARKING**  
OF BALTIMORE CITY  
**AUTHORITY**

### RPP Renewal Coming Soon!

#### Wait for your Regular Month to Renew

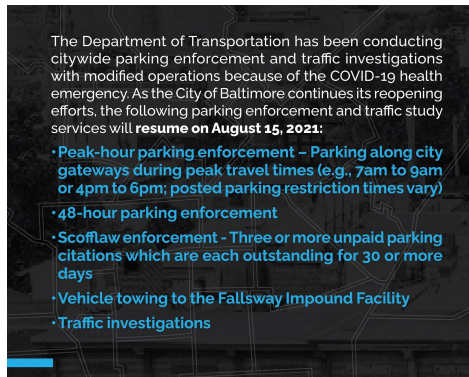
The Parking Authority will resume renewing Residential Parking Permits (RPP) soon. Residential parking permits for Mount Vernon (Area 28) will be renewed during **September**, the month our area usually renews. All permits that expired after March 1, 2020, will be honored until the end of

your renewal month in 2021/2022 per the Parking Authority. **Parking permits may be renewed online and mailed or renewed in person at the Parking Authority at 200 W. Lombard Street. There are no local Mount Vernon pick-up locations this year due to the pandemic.**

Area 13 (Tyson Street) permit holders will need to renew their permits during November 2021.

For more information, visit the Parking Authority via their [website](#). *If you have any questions about address eligibility, the online application, or their renewing procedures, please contact them at (443) 573-2800 or email [rpp@bcparking.com](mailto:rpp@bcparking.com).*

## DOT Parking Enforcement Activities Resume Sunday, August 15th



## Baltimore City Council Updates

- The next 2021 City Council Meeting is scheduled for **Monday, August 16th at 5pm**. Please note that all council hearings continue to be held virtually at this time. You can tune into the City Council meetings [online](#) or on CharmTV (Channel 25/1085HD). A list of [all of the hearings can be viewed here](#).
- For more information on the Baltimore City Council, please visit them [here](#).



## DPW Restarts Graffiti Removal Services

(Private Property Is Now Included)

As mentioned last month, the Department of Public Works (DPW) announced a restart of graffiti removal services for **private property**, both residential and commercial.

The service request (SR) number for graffiti has already been reactivated in the 311 system and as of **July 5, 2021**, 311 operators began inputting new private property requests into the queue for service.

Please be patient as DPW continues to work through the large backlog of requests. Also, please note that if you are a property owner and have received a Code Violation Notice and Order indicating you have 30 days to abate the violation, please reach out to your respective Councilmember (District 11 Councilman Eric Costello at [eric.costello@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:eric.costello@baltimorecity.gov) or District 12 Councilman Robert Stokes at [robert.stokes@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:robert.stokes@baltimorecity.gov)) to work with DHCD (Department of Housing & Community Development).

*More information will be provided as it becomes available.*



## Picking Up After Your Dog in the Community

Please pick up after your dog. It's a city requirement in which you can be fined --- and it's

common courtesy to your neighbors. Noone wants to step in dog mess. And did you know that rats are attracted to it and consume it?

Please be thoughtful to others in the community! MVBA thanks you in advance.



### Homelessness, Panhandling & Loitering

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Officials at the Mayor's Office of Human Services would like our help tracking incidents of homelessness, panhandling and/or loitering. By sending a quick email to the following email address:

**[homelessoutreach@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:homelessoutreach@baltimorecity.gov)** regarding your experiences with homelessness, panhandling and/or loitering, it gives officials an opportunity to track these incidents and begin outreach with the individuals, as necessary. Of course, please call 911 if there is an emergency.



### Reminder to all Mount Vernon Residents on Unpermitted Work

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Please photograph and report any unusual construction or demolition activity to [stewardship@mvba.org](mailto:stewardship@mvba.org) as soon as you witness it, and all reports will be kept confidential.





As shown below, vinyl window replacement is not permitted; wooden window replacement is required given that Mount Vernon is a historic district.



### City's Plastic Bag Ban | Starts October 1st

The [Comprehensive Bag Reduction Act](#) was signed into law in January 2020, banning single-use plastic bags at the point of sale. The enforcement date changed due to the Pandemic, but now, beginning on **October 1st, 2021**, businesses will charge a minimum of \$0.05 for each alternative bag distributed to customers at checkout. In order to reduce waste and avoid the bag fee, Baltimore residents are encouraged to 'Plan for the Ban' and remember to **Bring Your Bag** when shopping!

Check out the full press release [here](#) and visit the [Baltimore Office of Sustainability's](#) website to learn more.

Water4All | New Water Billing Discount Program

Coming This Fall | Details Available Below

# WATER4ALL

## BALTIMORE

**What is Water4All?**

Water4All is a new water billing discount program designed to create more equitable access to water assistance for more Baltimore City residents.

**Who is eligible?**

Baltimore City residential households whose income is below 200% of the federal poverty level (FPL) may be eligible.

- For example, a 4-member household with an annual income of \$53,000 or less may qualify for this program.

A formula is used to calculate the maximum a household should pay for annual water and sewer services, based on a percentage of their annual income.

**What is the next step?**

- The Water4All application goes live in the Fall.
- Fill out an online interest form at [bit.ly/Water4AllEOI](https://bit.ly/Water4AllEOI) or call (410) 396-9500 to request a paper copy of the form.
- DPW will contact you when the program officially launches and it's time to apply.

Fill out the Water4All Expression of Interest (EOI) Form to get more information about this program



Coming Up in September

- MVBA General Meeting | September 21st

Enjoy the rest of your summer!



## CONTACTS 2021

### Officers

President	Michele Richter	<a href="mailto:president@mvba.org">president@mvba.org</a>
Vice President	Wesley Stuckey	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@mvba.org">vicepresident@mvba.org</a>
Treasurer	Angie Jackiewicz	<a href="mailto:treasurer@mvba.org">treasurer@mvba.org</a>
Development Officer	Steve Shen	<a href="mailto:development@mvba.org">development@mvba.org</a>
Secretary/Information Officer	Susan Warren	<a href="mailto:secretary@mvba.org">secretary@mvba.org</a>

### Directors

Marjil Casso
Jack Danna
Scott Ponemone
Lex Wiesand

### Committees

Architectural Review	Steve Shen	<a href="mailto:arc@mvba.org">arc@mvba.org</a>
Business	Onahlea Shimunek	<a href="mailto:business@mvba.org">business@mvba.org</a>
Children's Park	TBD	<a href="mailto:childrenspark@mvba.org">childrenspark@mvba.org</a>
Clean + Beautiful	Michele Richter	<a href="mailto:cleanandbeautiful@mvba.org">cleanandbeautiful@mvba.org</a>
Community Service + Engagement	Lex Wiesand	<a href="mailto:community@mvba.org">community@mvba.org</a>
Development	Steve Shen	<a href="mailto:development@mvba.org">development@mvba.org</a>
Dog Park	Marci Yankelov	<a href="mailto:dogpark@mvba.org">dogpark@mvba.org</a>
Grants	Jack Danna	<a href="mailto:grants@mvba.org">grants@mvba.org</a>
Liquor Review	Michele Richter	<a href="mailto:liquor@mvba.org">liquor@mvba.org</a>
Marketing + Promotions	Wesley Stuckey	<a href="mailto:marketing@mvba.org">marketing@mvba.org</a>
Membership	Susan Warren & Angie Jackiewicz	<a href="mailto:membership@mvba.org">membership@mvba.org</a>
Parking + Transportation	Steve Johnson	<a href="mailto:parking@mvba.org">parking@mvba.org</a>
Safety	Vicki Schassler	<a href="mailto:safety@mvba.org">safety@mvba.org</a>
Trees + Greening	MJ Dame	<a href="mailto:trees@mvba.org">trees@mvba.org</a>
Zoning	Steve Shen	<a href="mailto:zoning@mvba.org">zoning@mvba.org</a>

### Ex-Officio

Jason Curtis
Jack Danna
Steve Johnson
Brian Levy

To contact members by phone, call MVBA's main number 410-528-1919 and select the desired extension from the menu.—  
 Mount Vernon-Belvedere Association, 1 East Chase Street, Suite 2, Baltimore, MD 21202  
[Unsubscribe](#)