

CITY COUNCIL

BRENCIS D. SMITH
At-Large

JAMES KOLE
First Ward

ADRIAN G. SIMMONS
First Ward

KYLA M. CLARK
Second Ward

JEFFREY W. MILLS
Second Ward

Council meets second and fourth
Mondays of each month.



KEITH R. SYDNOR
Mayor

CHRISTIAN L. PULLEY, CPM
City Administrator

NEKESA MATLOCK
Deputy City Administrator

STEPHANIE P. ANDERSON
City Solicitor

SARA A. GREEN, CPM, MMC
City Clerk

(301) 725-5300

www.cityoflaurel.org

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF LAUREL

8103 Sandy Spring Road
Laurel, Maryland 20707-2502

Special Work Session

Monday, March 23, 2026

****5:30 PM**** (Note special time)

Agenda

In-Person Meeting

Watch the meeting on Laurel TV streaming live in your web browser at <https://laurelty.org/watch-live> or locally Laurel TV can be found on Comcast Channel 996 (HD), 71 (SD) or Verizon FiOS Channel 12.

1. Call to Order – Brencis D. Smith, Council President
2. Resolution No. 3-2026- A Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Laurel, Maryland In Support of HB 1142 Establishing the Task Force to Modernize County and Municipal Revenue Sources
3. Adjournment



CITY OF LAUREL, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION NO. 3-2026

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAUREL, MARYLAND IN SUPPORT OF HB 1142 ESTABLISHING THE TASK FORCE TO MODERNIZE COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL REVENUE SOURCES

Sponsored by the Council President

WHEREAS, the City of Laurel provides essential frontline services to our residents, including a full-service police department, a full-service department of public works, a full-service department of parks and recreation, a full-service planning, zoning, and economic development department and a full-service permit, inspections, code enforcement and fire marshal department all of which rely on stable and diversified revenue streams; and

WHEREAS, municipal governments are facing unprecedented inflationary pressures on construction materials, fuel, and labor, alongside increasing state-mandated costs, making the need for modern and flexible revenue sources more urgent than ever; and

WHEREAS, Maryland’s municipalities are primary drivers of economic activity and tourism in the State, yet the current tax structure fails to reinvest a fair share of the wealth generated within municipal borders back into the local infrastructure that supports that very growth; and

WHEREAS, Maryland is one of only six states that fails to share tax revenue from the sale of goods or services with local governments or allow those governments to collect it themselves, creating an over-reliance on property taxes; and

WHEREAS, the current local revenue structure in Maryland has not been comprehensively updated in decades and does not reflect the modern shift toward a service and digital based economy; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Task Force would provide a data-driven, non-partisan forum to study these inequities and recommend solutions that ensure municipal governments can remain fiscally resilient without overburdening local property owners; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and City Council of Laurel, Maryland that the City of Laurel formally supports the passage of HB 1142 and urges the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee to issue a Favorable Report.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to:

- Speaker of the House Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk, District 21
- Senator James C. Rosapepe, District 21
- Delegate Ben Barnes, District 21

- Delegate Mary A. Lehman, District 21
- Staff at the Maryland Municipal League

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

SARA A. GREEN, CPM, MMC
City Clerk

BRENCIS D. SMITH
President of the City Council

APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2026.

KEITH R. SYDNOR
Mayor