

Campaign contributions from active developers offend voters



The Council's decision on campaign contributions continues to upset voters.

The citizen uproar over the Council's recent decision to continue to accept campaign contributions from developers with business before the county is still ablaze.

One Facebook page that normally gets several hundred views has received over 30,000 views and likes about this topic. [An investigation by the Capital](#) revealed that members of the County Council, including two candidates for County Executive, have received over \$500,000 in campaign contributions from developers. GAN has also written about this in [a Capital op-ed](#).

Following their votes against, we heard some Council members trying to justify their vote. We heard that unions and environmental groups also donate to political campaigns. We heard complaints that the sponsor of the bill didn't share it with the Council in advance. We heard complaints that the bill was introduced to support the single candidate for County Executive who is running on the public campaign finance option. We heard concern that the county needs more housing. Careful analysis, however, reveals that these criticisms don't hold up to scrutiny, and, notably, none were raised during the Council meeting.

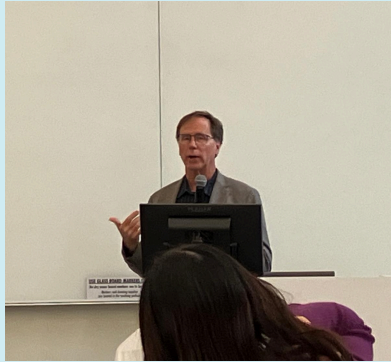
In the end the bill was shot down on first hearing, with not a discussion or comment or explanation from anyone except Councilwoman Rodvien who sponsored the bill and a "yes" vote from Councilwoman Fiedler. It seems that five of the Council members talk the talk, but don't walk the walk.

It is a David and Goliath fight here. Goliath won this first round. But we are not finished.

In our GAN questionnaire of candidates for County Executive, one of the 10 questions we ask all 5 candidates is for their positions on banning campaign contributions from developers with business before the county. We will publish their answers in our GAN newsletter, our GAN website, our social media channels, in news releases, and in paid advertising. We want the electorate to know exactly where these candidates stand on this issue. Related to it are questions on overdevelopment in the county, on the county's 28

year history of undercharging developers for the impact of their building on our infrastructure, on increasing the supply of affordable housing, on addressing the \$200M backlog in stormwater management maintenance, and on adding citizen voices to the review of land use legislation so that the Council can't sneak complex and confusing bills into law on first hearing and almost zero public input.

We hope to hear from all 5 candidates. Look for the results in mid May. Just in time to make up your mind for the upcoming election. There is still time for David to stand up with a big rock.



A successful Third Annual Community Association Summit

The third annual Community Association Summit was held on May 2.

The summit was sponsored by a partnership between GAN and the AACo Department of Community Engagement and Constituent Services. Beginning with an opening presentation by CE Pittman, there was a full lineup of speakers and activities. At the end of the day a sold-out tour of some stormwater projects similar to those in many HOAs was organized by GAN Board member and stormwater expert Steve Miller.

The summit is designed to provide help, support and just-in-time information for leaders of HOAs and community associations dealing with compliance issues, board management challenges, stormwater management, interfacing with the various departments in county government, and compliance with the latest requirements from the state. Visit <https://www.aacounty.org/casummit> to see the full agenda

Broadneck Council of Communities sponsors traffic management meeting and candidate forum

Meet County Candidates and Hear Summer Traffic Management Plans

Date: May 14th at 7pm

Location: Cape St Claire Clubhouse, located in the heart of Cape St. Claire

Address: 1223 River Bay Road, Annapolis, MD 21409

Parking: Free parking is available

May 14th Meeting: 12 Confirmed Candidates

State Senator District 30 - Candidates Haire & Henson

State Senator District 33 - Candidates Gile

Delegates Districts 30A - Candidates Behler & Jones
Delegates 33C - Candidates Bagnall
County Executive - Candidates Kitchin, Nembhard, Pickard, & Smith
County Council District 5 - Candidates Fielder & Ogilvie



County Executive Primary Candidate Forum
May 11th at 7 p.m.

AACC Health and Life Sciences Auditorium



Come hear the candidates' solutions on issues
affecting the Broadneck Peninsula
and Anne Arundel County

Hosted by : AACC Center for the Study of Local
Issues and Arnold Preservation Council

Arnold Preservation Council sponsors County Executive candidate forum

Next GAN Board meeting is May 27, All members are welcome to observe and comment. See calendar for link.

[Website](#) [About Us](#) [Join GAN](#) [Calendar](#) [Contact](#) [Blog](#)



Growth Action Network | 5545 Nicole Drive | Arnold, MD 21012 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)