



## Commissioner Town Hall Advance Questions #19322625 (Popes Creek Property)

**From** Julie Losh <LoshJ@charlescountymd.gov>  
**Date** Tue 6/24/2025 10:55 AM  
**To** sjjbivens@yahoo.com <sjjbivens@yahoo.com>

Good morning, Ms. Bivens,

Thank you for submitting your question in advance of this evening's Commissioner Town Hall regarding the properties at Popes Creek.

Since we're able to provide a response ahead of time, we will forgo reading your question aloud during the Town Hall in order to manage time constraints. However, both your question and the response will be included in the agenda under "Responses to Advance Town Hall Questions" for the public record.

Please see the question and response below, which was also logged in our [SeeClickReport](#) platform for record:

**Question:** Please provide a current status of the waterfront property purchased in Popes Creek and a link to any official planning documents.

**Response:** The properties at Popes Creek are active projects in the preliminary design review stages. The waterfront parcel was recently funded a project through the Charles County Resilience Authority for the design of the shoreline restoration.

<https://www.charlescountymd.gov/Home/Components/News/News/5225/> . The rail trail portion is also in the design review stage with the state for the construction of 1.5 mile trail on the old popes creek railway. There is additional planning work exploring design to connect the two parcels across Popes Creek. The full Master Plan can be found online

<https://www.charlescountyparks.com/home/showpublisheddocument/16160/638242571661530000> .

Kindest regards,



**Julie A. Losh, MPH, CAP**

Citizen Response & Communications Coordinator

Charles County Government

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**Sent:** Tuesday, June 24, 2025 8:29 AM  
**To:** Julie Losh <[LoshJ@charlescountymd.gov](mailto:LoshJ@charlescountymd.gov)>  
**Subject:** Commissioner Town Hall Advance Questions #19322625 has been assigned to you

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## Commissioner Town Hall Advance Questions #19322625



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Open  
Normal Priority  
Assigned to Julie Losh  
Due 06/30/2025

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**Fw: Commissioner Town Hall Advance Questions #19313440 (Billingsley Road)**

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**From** Julie Losh <LoshJ@charlescountymd.gov>  
**Date** Tue 7/1/2025 12:49 PM  
**To** DainMcG@gmail.com <DainMcG@gmail.com>

Good afternoon, Dain,

Thank you for submitting your question in advance of the postponed Commissioner Joint Town Hall originally scheduled for June 24, 2025, regarding the Billingsley Road study.

Since we're able to provide a response ahead of time, we will forgo reading your question aloud during the Town Hall ([once rescheduled](#)) in order to manage time constraints. However, both your question and the response will be included in the agenda under "*Responses to Advance Town Hall Questions*" for the public record.

Please see the question and response below, which has also been logged in our [SeeClickReport](#) platform for recordkeeping:

**Question:**

On March 29, 2023, a presentation was held regarding a study to determine the way forward for Billingsley Road. Could you please share which alternative we are leaning towards, the timeline, and how the state budget cuts will impact upgrades and reconstruction of our roads?

**Response:**

The feasibility study recommended Alternative 3, which included all recommended safety improvements along existing Billingsley Road, as well as construction of a new pedestrian/bicycle shared-use path along the Cross County Connector right-of-way. However, funding for the shared-use path has not been presented or approved in the budget at this time.

At a minimum, the County will be performing the necessary safety upgrades along (existing) Billingsley Road between MD 227 and Middletown Rd, including addition of turn lanes, traffic calming measures, an shoulders at key locations, and a roadway realignment from Prince Edward Drive to Pearl Street. The timeline for the roadway realignment from Prince Edward Drive to Pearl Street follows the approved Capital Improvement Program budget, which shows design completion through FY27 (Summer 2027) and construction beginning as early as FY28 (Fall 2027). State budget cuts are not expected to impact these upgrades since the project is 100% County funded at this time.

Kindest regards,

**Julie A. Losh, MPH, CAP**

Citizen Response &amp; Communications Coordinator

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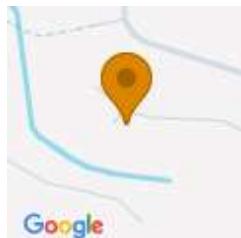
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**Sent:** Monday, June 23, 2025 10:11 AM  
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Outlook

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## Fw: Commissioner Town Hall Advance Questions - Gilroy Road in Nanjemoy

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**From** Julie Losh <LoshJ@charlescountymd.gov>

**Date** Mon 7/7/2025 9:50 AM

**To** John Adelodun <AdeloduJ@charlescountymd.gov>

John, please add this to the agenda advance questions.

Thanks,

Julie

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**From:** Julie Losh <LoshJ@charlescountymd.gov>

**Sent:** Monday, July 7, 2025 9:47 AM

**To:** berry.gilroy@yahoo.com <berry.gilroy@yahoo.com>

**Subject:** Commissioner Town Hall Advance Questions - Gilroy Road in Nanjemoy

Good morning, Mr. Gilroy,

Thank you for submitting your question in advance of the Commissioner Joint Town Hall on July 8th regarding tar and gravel on Gilroy Road in Nanjemoy.

Since we're able to provide a response ahead of time, we will forgo reading your question aloud during the Town Hall in order to manage time constraints. However, both your question and the response will be included in the agenda under "Responses to Advance Town Hall Questions" for the public record.

Please see the question and response below, which was also logged in our [SeeClickReport](#) platform for record:

**Question:** Tar and gravel on Gilroy road in Nanjemoy, MD. I was born and raised on Gilroy rd., and have seen this crap road repair for years. I think they put less gravel than in the past so the tar and gravel coated the tires on my truck and anyone else that drove on the road on 6/26/25. It took several miles of driving and hearing gravel fling all over my truck. This was very disheartening as I keep my vehicle meticulously clean. They also replaced a culvert pipe and the paving job over the pipe definitely doesn't match the elevation of the existing road. (a huge bump when driving over it)

**Response:** Our Roads Surface Treatment Project Manager provided the following response regarding the Modified Seal that was applied to this roadway:

"I've rode this road several times after completed and it is a normal application which I think came out very good after all the prep work prior to it. Sometimes if a vehicle comes through in the middle of the base stone and the top stone going down the base stone will pick up a little on tires since the finer fill in stone hasn't been placed yet but does come off once they leave off the road. we are planning on sweepir

any excess stone off all modified roads next week if temperatures allow. The bump I believe he is talking about was a french drain we had to install because of a spring in the road and the patch. All the modified roads came out well."

Kindest regards,



**Julie A. Losh, MPH, CAP**

Citizen Response & Communications Coordinator

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**Sent:** Monday, July 7, 2025 9:36 AM  
**To:** Julie Losh <[LoshJ@charlescountymd.gov](mailto:LoshJ@charlescountymd.gov)>  
**Subject:** Commissioner Town Hall Advance Questions #19424774 has been assigned to you

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## Commissioner Town Hall Advance Questions - Derrick Terry

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**From** Julie Losh <LoshJ@charlescountymd.gov>

**Date** Tue 7/8/2025 2:40 PM

**To** Derrick Terry <terrydn@gmail.com>

Good afternoon, Mr. Terry:

Thank you for submitting your questions in advance of the Commissioner Joint Town Hall.

Since we're able to provide a response ahead of time, we will forgo reading your questions aloud during the Town Hall in order to help manage time and maintain the three-minute speaking window. However, both your questions and the responses will be included in the agenda under "[Responses to Advance Town Hall Questions](#)" for the public record.

Please see the questions and responses below, which has also been logged in our [SeeClickReport](#) platform for recordkeeping:

### **Question or Comment:**

I will away on vacation during this town hall, but I have some lingering questions and concerns about issues tied directly to County roles as an elected officials and/or county employee. Before I get to those, let me offer a friendly reminder to Commissioner Stewart—and for those who may not have attended the last Town Hall.

Commissioner Stewart has chosen to personally criticize me for asking legitimate questions she continues to avoid answering while clearly violating the Charles County Code of Civility, A. Conduct of Public Body Members, Bullet 8:

Members of the Board and the public shall not use abusive, obscene, or slanderous language, including profanity, insults or other disparaging and inappropriate remarks or gestures

I urge the Commissioner President as the chair, to maintain order and members of the Board and the public to honor the chair's role.

### **Commissioner Bowling/Stewart:**

#### **Question 1:**

The County is currently facing financial challenges, yet the two of you accounted for approximately 80%—or \$628,000—of the \$787,480 increase added to the FY26 Operating Budget. This funding was approved

without any public input. Why was the public not given an opportunity to weigh in on this significant budget change?

Link:

[https://legistarweb-production.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/attachment/pdf/3347968/0A\\_FY2026\\_General\\_Fund\\_Commissioner\\_Changes\\_Recap.pdf](https://legistarweb-production.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/attachment/pdf/3347968/0A_FY2026_General_Fund_Commissioner_Changes_Recap.pdf)

**Response:** Thank you for your feedback. We appreciate your engagement in the County's budget process and will take your comments—and those from other residents—into consideration as we begin planning for the Fiscal Year 2027 budget.

Charles County residents were provided multiple opportunities to participate in the development of the FY2026 Operating Budget, including:

- **Budget Survey:**

*In early 2025, the County launched an online public survey to gather resident feedback on budget priorities. The survey remained open through March 26, 2025, and invited input on key areas such as public safety, education, infrastructure, and taxation.*

- **Public Hearing – May 7, 2025:**

*A formal public hearing was held to give residents the opportunity to provide in-person, virtual, or written testimony on the proposed FY2026 budget prior to its adoption. The hearing was advertised in advance and open to all community members.*

- **Board of County Commissioners Meetings:**

*Budget presentations and discussions were held during regularly scheduled, publicly broadcasted Commissioner meetings throughout the spring. These meetings are accessible to the public in real-time and archived for on-demand viewing. In addition, anyone can come before the Board of County Commissioners when a Commissioners' Public Comment Session is scheduled to express their views on the budget.*

- **Let's Get Fiscal Podcast Series:**

*The County launched the Let's Get Fiscal podcast and video series to keep residents informed about the budget process and broader fiscal topics. This series helps explain government spending in accessible terms and encourages continued community involvement.*

*With regard to the FY2026 budget additions: While the initiatives in question were introduced by two Commissioners, it is important to clarify that all five Commissioners reviewed and collectively approved the final budget, including these additions, during open session. When the FY2026 budget additions were introduced in open session on May 13th, the Commissioner Meeting minutes reflect that consensus was given by all the present Commissioners to include these additions in the FY2026 final budget. This includes funding to support the Mediation Center which was introduced by both Commissioner Stewart and Commissioner Coates. It's also worth noting that funding for the Commissioner Cares Scholarship program has been proposed in previous fiscal years—including Commissioner Patterson in FY2024—demonstrating that this type of support has been a shared interest of the Board.*

**Commissioner Stewart:****Question 2:**

Commissioner Stewart publicly stated she had no knowledge that her spouse was a 2025 grant recipient—from what was formerly known as Christmas in April, now Rebuilding Charles County—receiving \$30,000 from the Charles County Charitable Trust. However, Commissioner Stewart either currently sits or previously sat on the board of this same nonprofit organization, alongside her spouse. Given this context, is this considered a conflict of interest—yes or no?

Links:

<https://www.charlesnonprofits.org/fy25-grant-award-list/>

<https://www.rtcharlescounty.org/board/>

<https://msa.maryland.gov/msa/mdmanual/36loc/ch/leg/html/msa16982.html>

**Response:** *I voluntarily stepped down from the board in 2014 when I made the decision to run for County Commissioner, specifically to avoid any conflict of interest. Since that time, I have not held any role or participated in board activities for that organization.*

**Commissioner Bowling:****Question 3:**

You operate at least three Facebook pages, two of which you label as personal. However, these so-called personal pages regularly feature government-related content—including public announcements, legislative updates, constituent interactions, and information about county programs. These posts are clearly made in your capacity as an elected official, raising questions about transparency and appropriate use of public communication channels. Do you believe it is appropriate to advertise the sale of your personal residence and market your private farm business on social media pages that you use to conduct official government business?

An official or employee may not intentionally use the prestige of office or public position for the private gain of that official or employee or the private gain of another.

Link:

<https://ecode360.com/26905367#27214259>

**Response:** *This question has been reviewed and addressed by the Ethics Commission. Commissioner Bowling appreciates the continued interest on this matter and affirms that his position is consistent with the Ethics Commission's findings.*

**County Attorney Adams****Question 4:**

The Charles County Delegation withdrew the term-limits bill, citing Commissioner Collins' refusal to support it or respond. However, if the Delegation vetted the bill through Legislative Counsel and it was deemed constitutional, how is it now suddenly being labeled possibly unconstitutional?

**Response:** *I cannot comment on what the Delegation did or did not do as I was not included in their process. The opinion that was provided to the Commissioners outlines the potential constitutional legal challenges that were researched by the County Attorney's office regarding the retroactive application of term limits.*

### **Commissioner Collins/County Attorney Adams**

#### **Question 5:**

Is there anything legally preventing County Administrator Mark Belton from returning to work, considering he has been on paid administrative leave since January 2023, has received over \$700,000 during that time and has reportedly been working another job in St. Mary's County?

Link:

<https://throwe-environmental.com/partners>

**Response:** *Any questions regarding Mr. Belton's employment status are confidential personnel matters. The opinion from the Appellate Court of Maryland resolved the question of Commissioner Coates' ability to be involved in any personnel discussions regarding Mr. Belton's employment, however that ruling can still potentially be appealed. As was stated by Judge Green, the remaining 4 members of the Board have always had the ability to make any decisions as a Board regarding Mr. Belton's employment.*

#### **Question 6:**

On May 20, 2025, Ms. Angela Childress made personal attacks towards me and two other county residents during a public meeting. This was a clear violation of the Charles County Code of Civility, B. Conduct of the General Public Attending Open Meetings, Bullet 3:

All remarks from audience members shall be respectful and courteous, free of name-calling and personal attacks. Profanity, combative and other inappropriate language will not be tolerated.

Ms. Childress' remarks were inappropriate and arguably defamatory. Despite this, neither the Chair, the County Attorney, nor the Parliamentarian addressed her conduct at the time or responded to the formal complaint I submitted on May 21st. Why not?

**Response:** *The submission has been responded to.*

### **Commissioner Patterson/Acting County Administrator Hall**

#### **Question 7:**

A disparity study on procurement revealed that minority-owned businesses are underrepresented in county contracts. Aside from women-owned businesses, how many other minority-owned companies have you contracted with to address this disparity?

**Response:** Between 2015–2019, the County contracted with 11 minority-owned construction firms (not including women-owned), representing African American, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American businesses.

**Question 8:**

What are the demographic profiles of the businesses currently holding open-ended contracts?

**Response:** The study showed there's a strong pool of MWBE vendors in the market, but actual contract awards didn't reflect that. The new MWBE legislation aims to change this by giving small and minority-owned businesses bid preferences, setting annual goals, and requiring more outreach and tracking—so we should see progress moving forward.

**Question 9:**

What are the demographic profiles of Charles County Government?

**Response:** The county's employee demographic can be found in our transparency page. The link to the page and the link to the most recent EEO Utilization report are below. This is a bi-annual report and the most recent data available.

<https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/transparency>

<https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/human-resources/eeo-4-reporting-data>

Thank you for allowing me to address this for you.

Kindest regards,



**Julie A. Losh, MPH, CAP**

Citizen Response & Communications Coordinator

Charles County Government

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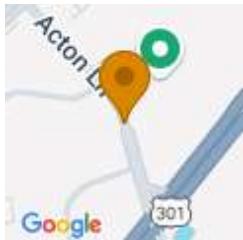
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**Sent:** Tuesday, July 8, 2025 2:27 PM  
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## Commissioner Town Hall Advance Questions #19440615



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*Advance Public Questions Submitted for the July 2025 Charles County Commissioners Town Hall by Resident Derrick Terry*

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