

# City of Hyattsville

Hyattsville Municipal Building  
4310 Gallatin Street, 3rd Floor  
Hyattsville, MD 20781  
(301) 985-5000  
[www.hyattsville.org](http://www.hyattsville.org)



## Summary Regular Meeting

**Monday, May 19, 2025**

**7:00 PM**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_aiLnXxq0RviwBWk\\_5CKXaA](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_aiLnXxq0RviwBWk_5CKXaA)

### City Council

**Robert S. Croslin, Mayor**  
**Joseph Solomon, Council President, Ward 5**  
**Joanne Waszczak, Council Vice President, Ward 1**  
**Sam Denes, Ward 1**  
**Danny Schaible, Ward 2**  
**Emily Strab, Ward 2**  
**Kareem Redmond, Ward 3**  
**Edouard Haba, Ward 4**  
**Michelle Lee, Ward 4**  
**Rommel Sandino, Ward 5**

### **ADMINISTRATION**

**Tracey E. Douglas, City Administrator**  
**Nate Groenendyk, City Clerk, 301-985-5001, [cityclerk@hyattsville.org](mailto:cityclerk@hyattsville.org)**

**WELCOME TO THE CITY OF HYATTSVILLE CITY COUNCIL MEETING!**  
**Your participation at this public meeting is valued and appreciated.**

**AGENDA/PACKET:** The Agenda/Packet is available for review at the Hyattsville Municipal Building and online at [www.hyattsville.org](http://www.hyattsville.org) prior to the scheduled meeting (generally available no later than the Friday prior to the scheduled Monday meeting). Please note, times given for agenda items are estimates only. Matters other than those indicated on the agenda may also be considered at Council discretion.

**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITY ACT:** In compliance with the ADA, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting or other services in conjunction with this meeting, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (301) 985-5001. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

**AUDIBLE DEVICES:** Please ensure all audible devices are turned off or otherwise not audible when the City Council is in session. Thank you.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** If you wish to address the Council during the Public Comment period, please use the "Raise Hand" feature in the virtual meeting interface. Participants may also submit statements electronically via email to [cityclerk@hyattsville.org](mailto:cityclerk@hyattsville.org) no later than two (2) hours prior to the start of the meeting. Submitted electronic statements will be sent to Councilmembers prior to the meeting and will not be read aloud. All participants shall remain respectful in their contributions and associated functions of the virtual meeting interface are not intended for public dialogue or discussion.

**WAYS TO WATCH THE MEETING LIVE:** City Council meetings are broadcast live on cable television channel 71 (Comcast) and channel 12 (Verizon). You may also view meetings live online at [hyattsville-md.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?camera\\_id=2](http://hyattsville-md.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?camera_id=2)

**REPLAY SCHEDULE:** The meetings will be re-broadcast on cable television, channel 71 (Comcast) and channel 12 (Verizon) daily at 7:00 a.m., 1 p.m., and 8 p.m. Meetings are also able for replay online at [www.hyattsville.org/meetings](http://www.hyattsville.org/meetings).

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**INCLEMENT WEATHER:** In the event of inclement weather, please call 301-985-5000 to confirm the status of the Council meeting.

**Meeting Notice:**

The Hyattsville City Council will hold its meeting on Monday, May 19, 2025 remotely via video conference. The Council meeting will be conducted entirely remotely; there will be no in-person meeting attendance.

The meeting will be broadcast live on cable television channel 71 (Comcast), channel 12 (Verizon), and available via live stream at [www.hyattsville.org/meetings](http://www.hyattsville.org/meetings).

**LANGUAGE TRANSLATION AND CLOSED CAPTIONING:** The City of Hyattsville offers translation and closed captioning in over 50 languages for City Council Meetings via the Wordly platform.

Follow the directions below to access the service:

-Go to: <https://attend.wordly.ai/join/RAVY-6886>

-Ensure the Session ID RAVY-6886 is displayed.

-Select Your Choice of Language and click on the "Attend" button.

-You can now read the captions on your device and/or listen to the translation of the City Council meeting.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact [info@hyattsville.org](mailto:info@hyattsville.org).

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

If you wish to address the Council during the Public Comment period, please use the "Raise Hand" feature in the virtual meeting interface. Participants may also submit statements electronically via email to [cityclerk@hyattsville.org](mailto:cityclerk@hyattsville.org) no later than two (2) hours prior to the start of the meeting. Submitted electronic statements will be sent to Councilmembers prior to the meeting and included in the official meeting record. Electronically submitted statements will not be read aloud. All participants shall remain respectful in their contributions and associated functions of the virtual meeting interface are not intended for public dialogue or discussion.

Members of the public who wish to comment during the virtual Council meeting must register in advance using the link below.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_aiLnXxq0RviwBWk\\_5CKXaA](https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_aiLnXxq0RviwBWk_5CKXaA)

1. **Call to Order and Council Roll Call** **The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM.**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
3. **Approval of Agenda** **Clerk Groenendyk submitted an amendment to remove agenda item 8.b (Appointment of Janet Nackoney to the Hyattsville Environment Committee).**

**CM Haba made a motion, that was seconded by CM Denes, that agenda item 9.a. be moved to the Action Agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**The amended agenda was Approved, Unanimously.**

4. Public Comment (7:10 p.m. – 7:20 p.m.) Complete Speaker Card, Limit 2 minutes per speaker.

**Comments submitted electronically can be found at the end of this summary.**

5. City Administrator Update (7:20 p.m - 7:40 p.m.)

6. Presentations (7:40 p.m. - 8:10 p.m.)

- 6.a. Mt. Hermon Lodge Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 4-24033

[HCC-334-FY25](#)

Presentation Only

**Sponsors:** City Administrator

**Department:** Community & Economic Development

**Attachments:** [Consolidation Letter-4-24033](#)  
[CIVP-4-24033](#)  
[A-SOJ-4-24033](#)  
[2025-05-19\\_Mt\\_Hermon\\_Lodge\\_PPS\\_4-24036\\_Memo.ju.pdf](#)

7. Proclamations **Approved, Unanimously.**

- 7.a. Proclamation of National Public Works Week

[HCC-323-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council adopt a proclamation recognizing the week of May 18 through May 24, 2025, to be Public Works Week in the City of Hyattsville.

**Sponsors:** City Administrator

**Department:** City Clerk

**Attachments:** [CM 0519 National Public Works Week 2025](#)

8. Appointments **Approved. Yes: 9/No: 1/Abstain: 1**

- 8.a. Appointment to the Audit Committee

[HCC-338-FY25](#)

I move the Mayor and Council approve the appointments of Daniel Lange (Ward 2), Stanislaw Rzeznik (Ward 2), Nancy Hammond (Ward 2), and Glenn Robelen (Ward 2) to the Audit Committee for a term of two years to expire on May 19, 2027, and appoint Councilmember Emily Strab (Ward 2) and Councilmember Kareem Redmond (Ward 3) as Council Liaisons to the Audit Committee.

**Sponsors:** Strab and Redmond

**Attachments:** [Applications\\_Redacted.pdf](#)



**8.b. Appointment to the Hyattsville Environment Committee Removed. [HCC-342-FY25](#)**

I move that the Mayor and Council approve the re-appointment of Janet Nackoney (Ward 2) to the Hyattsville Environment Committee for a term of two (2) years to expire May 19, 2027.

**Sponsors:** Haba and Schaible

**Department:** City Clerk

**Attachments:** [Janet Nackoney W2 reappoint 5.19.25 redac \(1\)](#)

**9. Consent Items (8:10 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.) Approved, Unanimously.**

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine in nature, and are approved in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless the Mayor/Council request specific items be removed from the Consent agenda for separate action.

**9.a. FY25 Budget Amendment - Accept SFY25 BJAG White Paper Proposal Grant [Award](#) Moved to the Action Agenda in the Approval of the Agenda. Approved Unanimously. [HCC-331-FY25](#)**

I move the Mayor and Council amend the FY25 budget to accept and appropriate the SFY25 BJAG White Paper Proposal Grant Award from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) in the amount of \$12,798.00 for the purchase of six (6) chairs in the new Communications Department of the Police and Public Safety Building.

**Sponsors:** City Administrator

**Department:** Police Department

**9.b. Amendment to Audit Committee Worksheet**[HCC-332-FY25](#)

I move the Mayor and Council amend the Audit Committee Worksheet to add two additional seats on the committee, with a maximum committee membership of seven.

**Sponsors:** Strab, Redmond and Solomon

**Department:** City Clerk

**Attachments:** [Committee Worksheet\\_Audit Committee\\_Amended.pdf](#)

**9.c. Traffic Calming Petition Recommendations for 4000 Block Nicholson Street** [HCC-335-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council accept the staff recommendation to designate the 4000 block of Nicholson Street as a yield street.

**Sponsors:** City Administrator

**Department:** Public Works

**Attachments:** [Traffic Calming Petition - Nicholson Staff Recommendation UPDATE 20250507](#)  
[230908 - Final - Hyattsville Multimodal Toolkit - Yield Street p47-48](#)

**9.d. FY25 Budget Amendment: Special Revenues Budget and Appropriations of Unencumbered FY24 Grant Funds** [HCC-340-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council amend the FY25 Special Revenues Budget to appropriate prior year unencumbered DOJ/COPS Community Policing Development (CPD) Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT) grant funds in the amount of \$230,000 to support the Hyattsville Police Department Joint CIT Mobile Crisis Program.

**Sponsors:** City Administrator

**Department:** Finance

**9.e. Acceptance of the Certified Results for the 2025 Biennial Election** [HCC-341-FY25](#)

I move that the Mayor and Council accept the certified election results from the Board of Supervisors of Elections for the 2025 Biennial Election held on Tuesday, May 13, 2025. This certification is provided for under Section C4-11 of the Hyattsville City Charter.

**Sponsors:** City Administrator

**Department:** City Clerk

**Attachments:** [Certified Return Sheet\\_2025\\_.pdf](#)

**9.f. Council Meeting Schedule Change** [HCC-345-FY25](#)

I move the Mayor and Council approve the rescheduling of the July Council Meeting from July 14, 2025 to July 21, 2025.

**Sponsors:** City Administrator

**Department:** City Clerk

**10. Action Items (8:15 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.)**

**10.a. Hyattsville Ordinance 2025-02: Parking Violation Fine Increase (Introduction and First Reading) [HCC-337-FY25](#) **Approved, Unanimously.****

I move the Mayor and Council introduce Hyattsville Ordinance 2025-02, an ordinance whereby the City Council amends the City Code to increase the fine for parking unlawfully in a handicapped parking space (INTRODUCTION & FIRST READING).

**Sponsors:** Denes, Haba and Waszczak

**Department:** Legislative

**Attachments:** [2025-02 Handicapped Parking Fine Increase Ordinance Draft 5.1.25 4916-2205-3949 v.3](#)

**10.b. Proclamation Recognizing Jewish American Heritage Month [HCC-344-FY25](#)**

I move that Mayor and Council adopt a proclamation to declare May 2025 as Jewish American Heritage Month in the City of Hyattsville.

**A motion was made by CM Schaible, and seconded by Council President Solomon, to remove the last "Whereas" statement. Yes: 9/No:1/Abstain 0**

**A motion was made by CM Schaible, and seconded by CM Strab, to add a definition of antisemitism to the proclamation. Approved, Unanimously.**

**A motion was made by Council President Solomon to add a "Therefore Be It Resolved" statement to the proclamation. Approved, Unanimously.**

**The amended motion was Approved, Unanimously.**

**The amended proclamation can be found at the end of this summary.**

**Sponsors:** Solomon, Waszczak, Strab, Schaible and Haba

**Department:** City Clerk

**Attachments:** [CM 0505 Jewish-American Heritage\\_2025 - Revised](#)

**10.c. Purchase of Two (2) Command Vehicles and One (1) Vehicle for CIT Grant [HCC-333-FY25](#) **Approved, Unanimous.****

I move the Mayor and Council authorize the purchase of three (3) vehicles from Apple Ford not to exceed a total amount of \$144,627.

**Sponsors:** City Administrator

**Department:** Police Department

**Attachments:** [Ford Explorer Request Memo- CIT Grant \(Council\)](#)  
[Ford Explorer Request Memo- Command \(Council\)](#)

- 10.d. **Hyattsville Ordinance 2025-03: Fiscal Year 2026 Budget (Introduction & First Reading)** **Approved, Unanimous.** [HCC-339-FY25](#)

I move the Mayor and Council introduce Hyattsville Ordinance 2025-03, an ordinance adopting an annual budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, for the general purpose, fixing the tax rates for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2025; authorizing collection of taxes herein levied, and appropriating funds for the fiscal year (INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING).

**Sponsors:** City Administrator

**Department:** Finance

**Attachments:** [2025.05.19 Hyattsville Ordinance 2025-03 Fiscal Year 2026 Budget University Town Center Special Tax Report \(2025\).pdf](#)

11. **Discussion Items (9:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.)**

- 11.a. **Acquisition of Property from Werrlein WSSC, LLC: Lower Lot, Suffrage Point** [HCC-343-FY25](#)

Council Discussion

**Sponsors:** City Administrator

**Department:** City Administrator

**Attachments:** [Werrlein Agreement of Sale Presentation\\_FINAL](#)

12. **Council Dialogue (10:00 p.m. - 10:10 p.m.)**

13. **Motion to Adjourn** **Approved, Unanimous.**  
**The meeting adjourned at 11:31 PM.**

**Attest: May 21, 2025**



Nate Groenendyk, City Clerk

**From:** Lisa Buckholtz [REDACTED]  
**Date:** May 13, 2025 at 4:53:48 PM EDT  
**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject: IMPORTANT: Agenda for 5/19/25 City Council Meeting**

Good Afternoon,

I hope this message finds you well.

Please find the attached letter that I respectfully request be added to the agenda for the upcoming City Council meeting scheduled for May 19, 2025. The contents of the letter pertain to the recent proposal to cut current retiree and long-term employees' spouses and dependents health benefits, and we warrant the Council's consideration and discussion.

If any additional steps or documentation are required to facilitate this request, please let me know. I appreciate your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Joseph Buckholtz,

Current 29 Year DPW Employee, City of Hyattsville

Lisa Buckholtz

Mark Roski,

Current Retired Hyattsville Police Officer

May 13, 2025

The City of Hyattsville

4310 Gallatin Street

Hyattsville, MD 20781

Good evening, Mayor and Council Members,

We want to speak clearly and respectfully on the issue of cutting city employee benefits. Our employees are not just numbers on a budget line. They are the men and women who keep our city running every single day, whether it's public works, sanitation, public safety, or administrative support, these employees show up — often in difficult conditions — to serve the community competently, with loyalty and the utmost professionalism.

While reducing their benefits *might* offer short-term financial relief, the long-term consequences are far more costly: higher turnover, lower morale, difficulty recruiting qualified staff, and a decline in the quality service our residents have come to expect and deserve. These aren't just 'benefits;' they are part of a fair compensation package in exchange for the tireless and often thankless work they continuously provide.

If you expect commitment and excellence from your workforce, then you must extend the same commitment, respect, and loyalty to them.

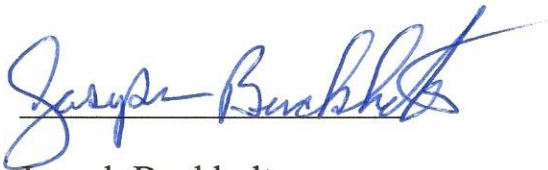
With regard to the retirees, experiencing such a significant change, when they have likely become accustomed to an already drastically reduced salary will have extremely detrimental financial consequences for many. The proposed alternatives are not only unaffordable but also not even feasible for many. Medicare is not an option for those under 65 – there are many in that situation. The “Affordable Care Act” is a misnomer. It is not at all affordable, and it is also one of the policies at risk to be eliminated by the current White House Administration. What then? It was mentioned in passing that federal retirees are not offered health insurance for their spouses. That is incorrect. They are not only allowed benefits on the federal retiree's policy, but if they were not part of the policy at the time of retirement, the

spouse can be added later if they lose their own health insurance. This is a typical benefit for most state, and local government agencies as well as private industry.

We urge the council to consider the broader impact that will result from this change, not only for the staff and retirees, but also on the residents of the City.

We respectfully request that you stand in support of those who dedicate(d) their careers to serving this city.

Very truly yours,



Joseph Buckholtz,

Current DPW 29 Year Employee



Lisa Buckholtz



Mark Roski,

Retired Hyattsville Police Officer



Tracy Roski





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## 10.c. Purchase of Two (2) Command Vehicles and One (1) Vehicle for CIT Grant - Council meeting – May 19, 2025

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From Tatjana Hrubik-Vulanovic [REDACTED]

Date Mon 5/19/2025 8:38 AM

To cityclerk [REDACTED]

Cc Tatjana Hrubik-Vulanovic [REDACTED]

Dear Council,

Under item 10.c., there are two purchase requests, both of which utilize State Contract to negotiate the lowest price for the vehicles. The state does not provide any funding.

In the “Request to Purchase Two Ford Explorers—State Contract”, **the city fund designated for the purchase is not identified**, making the request incomplete. The council should vote **No on incomplete requests**.

In contrast, the request titled 'Request to Purchase One 2025 Ford Explorer – DOJ COPS CPD Crisis Intervention Team Grant' identifies the funding source as Grant Fund #15JCOPS-21-GG-02326-SPPS, making this request complete and ready for approval.

**To ensure financial accountability and transparency, the council should approve only complete and well-justified purchase requests.**

The general guidance: “In municipal governance, transparency and fiscal accountability are critical. A typical purchase request should clearly identify:

- The item or service being purchased
- The total cost
- The specific fund or budget line item that will cover the expense

Disclosing the funding source helps council members evaluate whether the purchase aligns with the budget, complies with policy, and fits within financial constraints. Without that information, it becomes difficult for the council to make an informed decision, and it could raise concerns about oversight or budgeting discipline.

If a request omits the funding source, it's usually considered incomplete and may be delayed or rejected until the necessary financial details are provided.”

If you have any questions, please contact me through email: tatjana.hrubik.vulanovic at gmail.com

Best regards,  
Tatjana Hrubik-Vulanovic

PS. Full financial disclosure also serves the city’s best interests, as it reflects fundamental principles of sound accounting and fiscal responsibility.





## 10.d. Hyattsville Ordinance 2025-03: Fiscal Year 2026 Budget (Introduction & First Reading)– May 19, 2025

From Tatjana Hrubik-Vulanovic [REDACTED]

Date Mon 5/19/2025 3:04 PM

To cityclerk [REDACTED]

Cc Tatjana Hrubik-Vulanovic [REDACTED]

Dear Council,

The FY26 report forecasts an **increase in the cost of city services from \$25 million this year to \$33 million in FY26 —a 32% jump**. The **\$8 million increase is particularly puzzling given the city's recent efforts to reduce service costs in 2026**.

**There is also a high reserve of 31 million, but the city proposes to raise another long-term debt for 5 million (agenda item 11).**

**This, and the fact that some essential information in the report is either missing or wrong, raises doubts about the city's financial reporting.**

I strongly believe that there is time to significantly improve the FY26 budget report by providing complete and clear financial information. That will establish trust with the council and residents.

The FY26 Budget Report lacks transparency, as it **does not disclose the total number of employees over the last 5 years** —even though **payroll costs account for 74% of revenue** (about 22.3 million).

The city's debt and the funds remaining from the bond sale are not disclosed, although they are important considerations when budgeting and were promised to be posted online in March 2025.

Error when reporting total amount for CIPs: on **page 11 CIPs are 21.3 million** while on **page 219 CIPs add to almost 24 million**.

When CIP line items from the report are added, the sum is **20.3 million** (see Appendix 1). This number needs to be entered on Page 11. Graphs on page 219 must have a total of 20.3 million as well. Right now, page 219 appears to include some double charges and that is why CIPs add to 24 million.

The following errors need to be corrected in the budget report:

- **Percentage error on page 12: Payroll percentage is a ratio of total payroll expenses and revenue.** The FY26 projected revenue is 30.070.000, and payroll expenses are 22,345.045  
The ratio is  $22.345.045 / 30.070.000 = 74.3\%$ , not 68% as stated on Page 12. Update page 12.
- **Audit report 2024 deadline error on page 11:** As Mr. Brooks mentioned in one council meeting, the **audited report for FY24 will be ready by July 2025**, not by the end of calendar 2026 as indicated on page 11. Update page 11.
- **Audit report 2025 deadline error on page 11:** Typically, mid-sized cities generate an audit report in 2-4 weeks, but Maryland legislators **allow 3 months**. The deadline for FY25 is **October 1, 2025**. The FY25 report should be done by the deadline, and that should be indicated on page 11 (not the end of calendar 2026). Update page 11.
- **All charts should include totals on pages 217 and 218** – that is a standard practice and an omission that is easy to fix.

- The table on page 11 (shown below) should indicate that CIPs must receive grant money for some projects (7.3 million is expected). Add text “(Includes grants)”.

PROPOSED BUDGET	
<b>General Fund</b>	
General Fund Revenues	\$30.07M
General Fund Expenditures (includes debt service)	\$31.7M
Transfer from General Fund Reserve Balance	\$1.6M
<b>Total (Revenues – Expenditures)</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Other Funds</b>	
Special Revenue Funds	\$1.5M
ARPA	\$2.3M
Capital Improvement Funds <i>(includes grants)</i>	<del>\$2.3M</del> <b>\$ 20.3M</b>
<b>Total All Funds</b>	<b>\$56.8M</b>

Please let me know if you have any questions by email [REDACTED]

Best regards,  
Tatjana Hrubik-Vulanovic

#### Appendix 1:

The table below should replace the list of projects on page 173 of the FY26 budget report. That will provide detailed information and summaries at a glance. The Fund # for CIPs should be known as the fund # must be known for any expenditure.

In FY26, Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs) request about 13 million in cash from the city and 7.3 million from grants.									
The table is based on the proposed FY26 budget as of 2025_04_02.									
Fund#	Source	Total for years: 26-30	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
	<b>Total: City funds + Grant money</b>	41,769,500	20,304,500	5,497,000	5,270,000	5,307,000	5,385,000		
	<b>City funds: Total</b>	34,439,678	12,974,678	5,497,000	5,270,000	5,307,000	5,385,000		
??	Admin stuff with no police or public works	Cash	50,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000		
	Public works - Total		29,598,500	11,193,500	4,760,000	4,515,000	4,515,000	4,615,000	
??	Public works - admin bldg	cash		650,000	250,000	165,000	165,000	165,000	
??	Public works - Public Works Facility	cash		400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	
??	Public works - Teen center - Exterior	cash		50,000	0	0	0	0	
??	Public works - Lighting Improvement	cash		750,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
??	Public works - Residential signage	cash		80,000	80,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	
??	Public works - Seasonal decorations	cash		20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	
??	Public works - Trolley Trailhead Park: Phase 2	cash		361,500	0	0	0	0	both cash and grant
??	Public works - Park Improvements	cash		1,922,000	0	0	0	0	both cash and grant
??	Public works - Citywide stormwater mitigation	cash		1,170,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	both cash and grant
??	Public works - West Hyattsville Green Alley	cash		950,000	0	0	0	0	both cash and grant
??	Public works - Sidewalks	cash		120,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
??	Public works - W. Hattsville road reconstruction	cash		2,600,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	
??	Public works - Roadway Improvement	cash		350,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	
??	Public works - Recycling and Trash Program	cash		80,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	
??	Public works - DPW Replacement Vehicles	lease financing		1,500,000	900,000	800,000	800,000	900,000	
??	Public works - Trash Cart standard. And Modern	lease and cash		190,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	
Fund#	<b>Parking Compliance - Total</b>		134,000	107,000	0	0	12,000	15,000	
??	Parking Compliance - Meater head maintenance	cash		12,000	0	0	12,000	0	No complete information
??	Parking Compliance - Parking Impr. UIP Garage	cash		15,000	0	0	0	15,000	
??	Parking Compliance - Technology system Revita	cash		75,000	0	0	0	0	
??	Parking Compliance - Vehicle Repurposing			5,000	0	0	0	0	

Fund#	Police - Total		4,651,178	1,664,178	727,000	745,000	770,000	745,000		
??	Police - laptop (PD ADMIN STAFF)	cash		9,500	0	0	0	0		
??	Police - Ammunition	cash		15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000		
??	Police - Ballistic shields	cash		20,000	0	0	0	0		
??	Police - Body Armor Replacement	cash		22,500	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000		
??	Police - Canine Acquisition	cash		9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000		
??	Police - Canine bite suit	cash		3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000		
??	Police - Criminal Livescan System	cash		31,000	0	0	31,000	3,000		
??	Police - Drone as first response	cash		80,000	0	0	0	0		
??	Police - HVL LRP with Mount Rainier	cash		28,178	0	0	0	0	both cash and grant	
??	Police - Lidar Units	cash		12,000	0	12,000	12,000	12,000		
??	Police - Motorola handheld Radios	cash		565,000	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500		
??	Police - Motorola Mobile/in-car radios	cash		60,000	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500		
??	Police - Property Label Printer Replacement	cash		6,000	0	6,000	0	6,000		
??	Police - Shotspotter:Gunshot detection system	cash		110,000	0	0	0	0		
??	Police - Weapons (Rifles & Shotguns)	cash		13,000	0	0	0	0		
??	Police - vehicle replacement	Lease financing		680,000	680,000	680,000	680,000	680,000		
	Grants - Total		7,329,822	7,329,822	0	0	0	0		
	Police - Police - HVL LRP with Mount Rainier	state grant		221,822	0	0	0	0	both cash and grant	
	Police - grant total		221,822	221,822	0	0	0	0		
	Public works - Environmental Depot	Federal Grant		4,900,000	0	0	0	0		
	Public works - Trolley Trailhead Park: Phase 2	state grant		750,000	0	0	0	0	both cash and grant	
	Public works - Park improvements	state grant		338,000	0	0	0	0	both cash and grant	
	Public works - Citywide stormwater mitigation	federal grant		870,000	0	0	0	0	both cash and grant	
	Public works - West Hyattsville Green Alley	state grant		350,000	0	0	0	0	both cash and grant	
	Public works - Grant total		7,108,000	7,108,000	0	0	0	0		

Lindsay Myers

[REDACTED]

Hyattsville, MD 20781

May 19, 2025

Hyattsville City Council

4310 Gallatin St,

Hyattsville, MD 20781

Dear Hyattsville City Council and Mayor:

My name is Lindsay Myers, and I am the owner of the residence at [REDACTED], situated at the corner of [REDACTED]. I write to you today regarding a proposal to eliminate the parking lot on the corner of Farragut and 43rd Street in order to build 5 townhomes. I wish to express my concerns, and strong opposition to this plan, which I believe will negatively impact parking, traffic congestion, and pedestrian safety in our neighborhood.

Our neighborhood currently suffers considerable parking stress. There is very limited street parking, and a rapidly growing population that wishes to use it. This stress has increased in recent years due to the recently reopened family park, the two elementary schools, a new children's art center opening in the former WeWork, the yoga studio, the record and bookstore. It will be further stressed by the new residents and businesses that will come because of the proposed conversion of the Mt. Hermon Lodge.

In discussions of the ability of our neighborhood to accommodate additional vehicular traffic, I have often heard arguments about Vigilante Coffee and the Pyramid Atlantic building. I do not think either comparison is helpful in this case. Pyramid Atlantic is not a high traffic business. And Vigilante is already having parking issues. The city was just recently forced to act to correct problematic parking in front of the coffee shop. The only reason Vigilante feels sustainable at the moment is because patrons park in the St. Jerome Church private parking lot up the street. The church has historically not strictly enforced parking in its private lot but may be forced to do so as local business patrons take up spots intended for teachers and staff of the school. At present, because church spots are often taken by Vigilante customers, school-and church-affiliated drivers have been forced to park

on residential streets which has, in turn, caused *many* problems with the residents who rely on those spots for their own vehicles.

Beyond the immediate issue of parking scarcity, the elimination of the Lodge's dedicated lot and replacement with additional residences will inevitably increase vehicular traffic. As more drivers circulate through the neighborhood searching for limited parking, congestion will worsen. This directly contravenes the pedestrian-friendly character that our community values and has actively cultivated. The increase in circulating traffic poses a particular threat to pedestrian safety. This concern is especially acute given the proximity of two elementary schools to Gallatin Street. The safety of students and other pedestrians navigating streets with increased, often frustrated, vehicular traffic would be unacceptably compromised.

The unique character, livability, and pedestrian friendly nature of our neighborhood have been key to its revitalization. The plan to remove essential parking in favor of denser residential construction disregards these fundamental considerations. I would hate to see what everyone loves become what everyone is trying to avoid simply because it better suits the bottom line. I urge you to act to preserve the character, safety, and usability of our neighborhood

Respectfully,

Lindsay Myers



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## Mt. Hermon Lodge - No To Development Of Parking Lot

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From Jerry Busher [REDACTED]

Date Mon 5/19/2025 11:07 AM

To [REDACTED]

Hello,

My name is Arthur Busher.

I am a resident of Hyattsville and the owner of historic home The Burgess House on 42nd Place.

On behalf of my wife Martina and myself we are voicing our opposition to the proposed townhouse development of the parking lot behind the Masonic lodge. (Mt Hermon Lodge Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 4-24033)

We are happy for the development of the lodge building itself.

We are opposed to the development of the much needed parking space behind it.

The developer is presenting the redevelopment seemingly in stages masking the overall plan to develop the parking lot.

Thank you for your time.

Best,

Arthur Busher & Martina Fornace



## Mt. Herman Lodge

From Dan James [REDACTED]

Date Sun 5/18/2025 7:18 PM

To [REDACTED]

Mayor and Council members ,

I am a property owner across from the lodge. I have been here 40 years. I am allowed one parking space on my U+O permit , but already it is sometimes hard to find.

Some of my neighbors who also park on the street in front of their residences are elderly like me . The prospect of carrying groceries a block or two from a pay lot is not something everyone can or wants to have to do.

Restaurants do much of their business on the weekends . Hyattsville, as far as I know, does not have parking enforcement then ,or at least I have never seen it, because all variety of vehicles have parked in front of the park where it is marked residential parking only and in the 2 hour zone across the street on weekends with no enforcement applied.

The proposed main entrance to the planned restaurant and residential units is in front of the building . The lodge has no legal parking in front of the building and the park next to it has 2-3 spaces marked residential only. There is 2 hour parking across the street. Human nature being what it is , most people will try to park as close to the main entrance as possible. Even if there was more parking enforcement , or the entrance was moved to the side of the building there will still be a problem with the proposed increase in traffic to this area.

Franklins is in a strictly commercial area and has a large lot next door which can handle the traffic. When the Lodge was built it had a parking lot appropriate for the size of the building. Because they sold a parcel behind the building a few years ago much of the lot disappeared. Now the small lot with approximately 10 spaces is not adequate for the buildings needs.

Because of the mixed usage in this block of Gallatin a developer has been legally able to propose a usage not appropriate for the nature of the neighborhood. It has always been residences, schools , churches , lodges and small businesses here. Even If retaining the small lot was made a necessary condition for the Lodge development to go foreword there would still be a problem with overloading a residential area with commercial traffic and too many residential units in an area with inadequate parking spaces.

The size and scope of the project is too large for this area and will disrupt the quality of life here. I believe this type of project should be in a strictly commercial area , not here. I oppose the entire project. But if it does go forward I would like to see the residences limited to half the proposed number and the residents there not allowed typical on street parking ,only parking in their own lot . Also the main entrance should be moved to the 49th Ave. side of the building closer to their own parking lot to limit the parking impact on Gallatin St. residents.

Dan James







Outlook

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**Concerns: Mt. Hermon Lodge Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 4-24033**

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**From** Karla Pirner [REDACTED]**Date** Mon 5/19/2025 12:05 PM**To** [REDACTED]**Cc** Topher McLarty [REDACTED]

Good Afternoon -

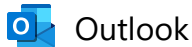
In anticipation of this evening's City Council meeting, as a resident of Gallatin Street, I wanted to express my concerns for the proposed building of (5) Four Story townhomes behind the Mt. Hermon Lodge.

I am excited for Mt. Hermon Lodge to be repurposed into commercial space, in addition to (8) residential units. I love that the being is being revitalized and the history is being preserved. What I am beyond concerned about, is how Kayleigh Kulp is proposing to remove any and all parking from the property. There is not enough parking as is on Gallatin street and the surrounding areas. Try coming through here when school starts or is being let out, and it is a complete traffic jam. On top of that, there are already businesses in play that have access to limited parking. Add additional commercial space and with units, there just isn't enough parking. The traffic is already tough to navigate and I would hate to see it exasperated because there wasn't enough planning done. I am here for the updates and changes to Mt. Hermon Lodge, but the townhomes in the parking lot and losing all parking options just isn't feasible.

I strongly oppose the (5) townhomes behind the lodge as part of Kayleigh Kulp's plan. Parking is already at a premium, with traffic continuing to increase. As a homeowner at [REDACTED] this proposed change has a huge impact on how my family and I will be able to function appropriately in this area. Not providing parking is just dangerous to the community. With a public park and new kids activity center being created, increased car traffic in this area is already a concern, but no parking, it just isn't safe.

Thank you for taking the time to hear out a concerned neighbor (while excited for the upcoming change to the Lodge itself).

Karla Pirner



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**Re: Concerns: Mt. Hermon Lodge Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 4-24033**

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**From** Topher McLarty [REDACTED]

**Date** Mon 5/19/2025 1:56 PM

**Cc** [REDACTED]

Good Afternoon -

In anticipation of this evening's City Council meeting, as a resident of Gallatin Street, I wanted to express my concerns for the proposed building of (5) Four Story townhomes behind the Mt. Hermon Lodge.

I am excited for Mt. Hermon Lodge to be repurposed into commercial space, in addition to (8) residential units. I love that the being is being revitalized and the history is being preserved. What I am beyond concerned about, is how Kayleigh Kulp is proposing to remove any and all parking from the property. There is not enough parking as is on Gallatin street and the surrounding areas. Try coming through here when school starts or is being let out, and it is a complete traffic jam. On top of that, there are already businesses in play that have access to limited parking. Add additional commercial space and with units, there just isn't enough parking. The traffic is already tough to navigate and I would hate to see it exasperated because there wasn't enough planning done. I am here for the updates and changes to Mt. Hermon Lodge, but the townhomes in the parking lot and losing all parking options just isn't feasible.

I strongly oppose the (5) townhomes behind the lodge as part of Kayleigh Kulp's plan. Parking is already at a premium, with traffic continuing to increase. As a homeowner at [REDACTED], this proposed change has a huge impact on how my family and I will be able to function appropriately in this area. Not providing parking is just dangerous to the community. With a public park and new kids activity center being created, increased car traffic in this area is already a concern, but no parking, it just isn't safe.

Thank you for taking the time to hear out a concerned neighbor (while excited for the upcoming change to the Lodge itself).

Topher McLarty

**From:** Lisa Walker [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Monday, May 19, 2025 11:46 AM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Mt. Hermon Lodge Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 4-24033

Dear Mayor and Council,

I write in reference to an item on the Council agenda relating to the Mt. Hermon Lodge for development into 8 one and two bedroom units with retain in the bottom floor.

I live at [REDACTED] in the Hyattsville Historic district, roughly one block from the proposed development and in the first residential area developed in the city of Hyattsville. This area brings many visitors to the City, e.g. yesterday's Historic House Tour. I am pleased that Mt. Hermon lodge is being developed to encompass a second useful life and look forward to seeing this happen.

However, I am very concerned about the proposal to develop part of the parking lot into another use, likely town homes bringing more residents and greater need for parking. The developer is leaving discussion of that development until a later time but you, as our elected representatives cannot turn a blind eye to the fact that much of the current parking lot will not be used for the occupants of the 8 units or the retail which will be developed on the ground floor.

Our area already struggles for parking: the 5100 and the 5200 blocks of 42nd Avenue only have parking on one side. Much of the 4200 block of Gallatin parking is filled by homeowners - and the 4300 block already has a very popular tot and family park, a yoga studio, two elementary schools, a new children's art center opening in the former WeWork, the record and book store, and this new business in the Lodge.

Furthermore, this area of Gallatin as well as 42nd Avenue are used as cut-through paths going both east and west with lots of cars, not mindful of the residents or the fact that some of the streets are one-way or that there is only parking on one side. Add to this the number of small children walking/riding to and from school, the park and friends' houses further along 42nd and on Farragut make the possible lack of parking crowded, frustrated search by residents and customers alike.

The developer has said that people needing to park can use the city lots on Route 1 and further down on Gallatin, or simply walk and not need cars which seems to me to be missing the point. This is a quiet residential neighborhood with lots of little children. It is not an urban streetscape like that on Route 1.

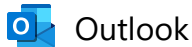
I urge you to question this proposal closely - the planning committee raised questions about it and the Council simply cannot approve it, leaving the development of the parking lot parcel for "the next time." Either the Council should approve the Lodge development with the whole parking lot to be used by the lodge unit residents and customers of the retail - or you must not approve the development of the Lodge to go forward.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Lisa Walker  
[REDACTED]

Hyattsville





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## Mt. Hermon Lodge Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 4-24033, Item 6 on Monday's City Council Agenda for 5/19/2025

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From Douglas Thompson [REDACTED]

Date Sun 5/18/2025 5:47 PM

To [REDACTED]

My name is Douglas Thompson, a Hyattsville resident who has lived in my house on 42nd Avenue since 1976. I am also owner of Yoga Space, a yoga and Pilates studio at 4206 Gallatin Street, across from the children's park.

This email is in regard to the **Mt. Hermon Lodge Preliminary Plan of Subdivision 4-24033** being presented to the Council on 5/19/2025.

The back side of the building that faces Farragut has a parking lot that was initially used for parking for the Lodge members and guests. Half of that parking lot was recently sold, and a single-family house was built. The remainder of that lot, however, is still a parking lot.

If that parking lot were designated for parking for the residents of the eight units being built there, as well as customers coming to whatever commercial venue will be on the first floor, that would help reduce the increased parking needs and congestion in the area, especially on Gallatin Street.

But phase 2 of the proposal is to convert the parking space into 5 townhouses. This means that the people living in the 8 residents of the Lodge, who will likely have at least one car each—potentially two—will now have their parking space taken away from them and need to find alternate parking in the neighborhood, competing with those that will then be living in the 5 townhouses, as well as the current competing parking needs. There is a maximum potential of 26 additional cars permanently needing parking space.

This is in a **single block** that already is home to a yoga studio, a record and book store, a private business, and an upcoming arts school. Then there is the children's park that abuts the Lodge. Then there is the Odd Fellows Lodge across from the Temple whose Lodge has been there since 1921 and currently has 18 active members who occasionally need parking. Then there are two schools in the immediate vicinity and two churches. Have I mentioned the private residents that also live on Gallatin? Lots and lots of children make Gallatin Street and the surrounding streets their home as they travel back and forth to school, to church, to the park, soon to the arts school, and back to their homes.

Parking is already becoming more and more of an issue, and with the increase in traffic, people are becoming more concerned for the safety of the children.

I strongly oppose phase 2 of the proposal. Either the entire parking lot behind the Temple is **permanently** designated as a parking lot for the residents of the rebuilt Temple and patrons of whatever commercial facility goes into the first floor, or I will also oppose the rebuilding of the building designated in Phase 1 of the proposal.

Sincerely,

*Douglas*

**Douglas R. Thompson, E-RYT**



[www.yoga-space.org](http://www.yoga-space.org)

When all else fails, sit quietly and breathe consciously.



Outlook

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**Petition to Retain Off-Street Parking Lot attached to Masonic Lodge**

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From Janet Griffin [REDACTED]

Date Mon 5/19/2025 4:25 PM

To [REDACTED]

Cc [REDACTED]

1 attachment (2 MB)

Signed Petition to Retain Masonic Lodge Parking Lot May 19 2025.pdf;

Dear Mayor and Council,

Like many of my neighbors, I am concerned about the increased traffic and parking congestion near Gallatin Street and 43rd Avenue. The Masonic Lodge conversion proposal, as the Lodge's parking lot at 4210 Farragut is being considered in some, yet to be determined, further proposal, challenges the many other Hyattsvillians who live in, visit, and do business in this small area.

In just over a day, we collected 50 signatures of residents who are concerned about the proposed removal of discreet, off-site parking for the Lodge and the possible construction of five multi-story town homes. This **petition is attached**, and we appeal to the Council to realize the seriousness of our reservations. Many signers have small children in one or the other of the two nearby schools; they use the newly opened King Park and they want to feel secure.

The developer's submission of planning proposals has not been straightforward. The applications were originally for two separate proposals, and then, if I can follow, the parking lot proposal was withdrawn with the idea of adding it on to the Lodge redevelopment once it is approved. I hope the City, as well as the County, will take care to consider all the implications at each step.

I was heartened to read: "The Planning Committee has concerns with the overall parking strategy and congestion of the area for the transition between Phase I and a potential Phase II. A larger solution is needed to determine how best to address parking and congestion for the lodge and commercial space in an area already tight on parking." Approving plans for the Masonic Lodge without mandating that the off-site parking lot be retained for its use seems the wrong direction toward developing this needed "larger solution."

Thank you for your careful work on behalf of Hyattsvillians. **Please refer to the petition regarding our concerns.**

Janet Griffin

**PETITION to retain the PARKING LOT for the Masonic Lodge and objecting to building five townhomes on this lot zoned for a single detached home**

Date: May 2025

We, the undersigned, respectfully request that the Mt. Hermon Masonic Lodge's Parking Lot (4210 Farragut St) be retained as off-street parking to continue serving the Masonic Building (4207 Gallatin St) proposed for renovation and development. This parking is needed for the proposed **eight residences** and the **2000+ sq foot commercial space**. Moreover, this parking lot should **NOT** be rezoned and developed into five four-story townhomes as suggested in site plans (4-24036 and DSP-24018). Otherwise, the plan for the Lodge (4-24033) should not be supported. The appropriate and productive use of the restored Mt. Hermon Lodge, a landmark in the Hyattsville Historic District, needs to keep its own parking lot in this busy area of homes, two schools, two churches, a city park, and other businesses.

NAME

ADDRESS

CONTACT INFO (Optional)

DAN JAMES

Hyattsville, Md.

CHRISTOPHER GRIFFIN

Douglas Thompson for  
Yoga Space

Karla Pirner

Hyattsville MD

Tosher McLarty

Hyattsville MD

Independent order  
of Oddfellows

Hyattsville MD

Susan Slotnick

Hyattsville MD.

JOHN SHERIDAN

HYATTSVILLE

Katie Sheridan

Hyattsville MD

Jannat Binte Harun

Hyattsville MD

Mehrab Hossen Siam

Hyattsville MD.

Laura APakkaluk

Hyattsville, MD

A. Fannus

Hyattsville MD

W. McKenna

Hyattsville, MD

C. Molieri

Hyattsville MD



**PETITION to retain the PARKING LOT for the Masonic Lodge and objecting to building five townhomes on this lot zoned for a single detached home**

Date: May 2025

We, the undersigned, respectfully request that the **Mt. Hermon Masonic Lodge's Parking Lot** (4210 Farragut St) be retained as off-street parking to continue serving the Masonic Building ( 4207 Gallatin St) proposed for renovation and development. This parking is needed for the proposed **eight residences** and the **2000+ sq foot commercial space**. Moreover, this parking lot should **NOT** be rezoned and developed into five four-story townhomes as suggested in site plans (4-24036 and DSP-24018). Otherwise, the plan for the Lodge (4-24033) should not be supported. The appropriate and productive use of the restored Mt. Hermon Lodge, a landmark in the Hyattsville Historic District, needs to keep its own parking lot in this busy area of homes, two schools, two churches, a city park, and other businesses.

NAME	ADDRESS	CONTACT INFO (Optional)
Jamie Thompson	[REDACTED]	
Kori Jarmen	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Adrienne Rojas	[REDACTED]	
Melanie Bensch	[REDACTED]	
Shannon Waldridge	[REDACTED]	
Zuhayr Anead	[REDACTED]	
Lauren Robertson	[REDACTED]	
Kelly Hlasky	[REDACTED]	
Elena Rojas	[REDACTED]	
Colleen Kosko	[REDACTED]	
Tyler Forslund	[REDACTED]	
Glenn Edix-Thompson	[REDACTED]	
Randy Fletcher	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Wanda Radden	[REDACTED]	
Enka Nizbanski	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

**PETITION to retain the PARKING LOT for the Masonic Lodge and objecting to building five townhomes on this lot zoned for a single detached home**

Date: May 2025

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NAME	ADDRESS	CONTACT INFO (Optional)
Colleen Willis	[REDACTED]	Hyattsville, MD 20781
MARTINA FORNACE	[REDACTED]	Hyattsville, MD 20781
Arthur Busher	[REDACTED]	Hyattsville MD 20781
Genevieve M. Lee	[REDACTED]	Hyattsville MD 20781
Erica Thomas	[REDACTED]	Hyattsville, MD 20781
James Alexander	[REDACTED]	Hyattsville, MD 20781
April Downs	[REDACTED]	Hyattsville MD 20781
Sally Middlebrook	[REDACTED]	Hyattsville MD
Jessica Taylor	[REDACTED]	Hyattsville MD 20781
Lindsay Myers	[REDACTED]	Hyattsville, MD 20781

**PETITION to retain the PARKING LOT for the Masonic Lodge and objecting to building five townhomes on this lot zoned for a single detached home**

Date: May 2025

We, the undersigned, respectfully request that the **Mt. Hermon Masonic Lodge's Parking Lot** (4210 Farragut St) be retained as off-street parking to continue serving the Masonic Building ( 4207 Gallatin St) proposed for renovation and development. This parking is needed for the proposed **eight residences** and the **2000+ sq foot commercial space**. Moreover, this parking lot should **NOT** be rezoned and developed into five four-story townhomes as suggested in site plans (4-24036 and DSP-24018). Otherwise, the plan for the Lodge (4-24033) should not be supported. The appropriate and productive use of the restored Mt. Hermon Lodge, a landmark in the Hyattsville Historic District, needs to keep its own parking lot in this busy area of homes, two schools, two churches, a city park, and other businesses.

NAME	ADDRESS	CONTACT INFO (Optional)
Stephen Spencer		
Isia Walker		
Scott Hutchins		
Arlene Reinger		
Elizabeth Buehner		
JONATHAN + ANN BARRETT		
MELINDA PARKHURST		
William Parkhurst		
Heather Olsen		
JANET GRIFFIN		

# CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

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## PROCLAMATION

**PROCLAMATION: STANDING FIRM AGAINST ANTISEMITISM AND DECLARING THE CITY OF HYATTSVILLE'S UNEQUIVOCAL SUPPORT FOR ITS JEWISH RESIDENTS, AS WE HONOR NATIONAL JEWISH-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, May 2025 marks the 45th observance of Jewish American Heritage Month since its inception as Jewish American Heritage Week in 1980; and

**WHEREAS**, Jewish residents have been and continue to be an essential and vibrant part of the fabric of Hyattsville, enriching our city in countless ways; and

**WHEREAS**, we define antisemitism to mean: the expression of hatred against Jews for being Jews, whether by statement or symbol, anything that curtails their ability to gather, pray, and express themselves freely and openly, and the promulgation of ideas that threaten the direct security and peace of Jewish residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hyattsville chooses this occasion to issue an urgent and necessary proclamation addressing the alarming rise of antisemitism in our nation and affirming our commitment to protecting and supporting our Jewish residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hyattsville condemns antisemitism unequivocally, in all forms and expressions, affirms that no resident should live in fear because of their faith or heritage, and that antisemitism in any form is an attack on the entire community; and

**WHEREAS**, we are witnessing an unprecedented surge in antisemitic incidents across America, with the Federal Bureau of Investigation reporting a 63% increase in antisemitic hate crimes in 2023, reaching a record high of 1,832 reported incidents, making Jewish Americans the most targeted religious group in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, our own region has experienced disturbing manifestations of this hatred, including incidents of desecration within our own community, the vandalization of a kosher restaurant in Washington, D.C. on the anniversary of Kristallnacht, and hostile demonstrations targeting Jewish institutions, all of which have understandably caused anxiety among Jewish residents; and

# CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

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## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the Jewish residents of Hyattsville deserve to live openly, proudly, and safely in their neighborhoods, free from fear or the need to conceal their identity; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Hyattsville recognizes that the safety and security of our Jewish residents is fundamental to our values as a community, and that silence or equivocation in the face of antisemitism represents a moral failure that threatens the principles of equality and justice upon which our city stands; and

**WHEREAS**, we join our Jewish American residents in proclaiming “Never Again;” and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and City Council of Hyattsville hereby:

Remain unwavering in its commitment to inclusivity, dignity, and in fostering a community where all residents, including those of Jewish heritage, are welcomed, valued, and protected.

Proclaim our unequivocal condemnation of antisemitism in all its forms; and we acknowledge the deep unease currently felt by our Jewish residents and pledge our commitment to their protection and security; and

We establish that our Jewish residents' right to live openly and safely in Hyattsville is non-negotiable and will be championed and defended with appropriate resources;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we recognize Jewish American Heritage Month as both a time to honor Jewish contributions to our community and nation, and as a time to make a vital and timely proclamation, signaling our determination to ensure that Hyattsville remains a place where Jewish residents can live without fear, practice their faith openly, and know they have the full and unwavering support of their community and local government.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this proclamation be shared widely as a testament to Hyattsville's unwavering commitment to inclusivity, dignity, and moral clarity.



# CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

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## PROCLAMATION

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and City Council of Hyattsville proudly recognize the invaluable contributions of Jewish residents to our shared community life and declare May 2025 as Jewish American Heritage Month in the City of Hyattsville.



**Robert S. Croslin**

*Mayor, City of Hyattsville*

May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025

