County Council Newsletter

6 th District - Bear/Glasgow and Route 40 Area

Councilman Chris Roberts

"A Proven Track Record Of Positive Community Service"

A Few Highlighted Accomplishments Of Chris Roberts:

NEW COMMUNITY FACILITIES



Chris was responsible for the land donation for the new Bear Library opening this November



Chris negotiated land for the new elementary schools on Church Road in Bear, and at Brennan Estates on Route 896

Chris was responsible for the land acquisition to build:



Glasgow Paramedic Station



Christiana Fire Station on Salem Church Road



Route 40 Boys and Girls Club

NEW LAWS PASSED

- Sponsored sweeping land use reform to stop suburban sprawl
- Sponsor of the County's "Clean Hands" ordinance which holds builders accountable for shoddy workmanship
- Sponsor of changes to the development code to mandate stricter environmental standards for building

ROBERTS' CONSERVATIVE FINANCE VOICE ON COUNCIL

- Sponsored tax cut to lowincome seniors
- Sponsored restructuring of County government from 12 departments to 5 for better, more efficient distribution of workload and constituent services with no tax increase
- Consistently voted against any new tax or sewer service increase

COUNTY PROPOSES BAN ON ROADSIDE ADVERTISING

An amendment to the County's new land use code proposes canning all unofficial signs, displays or devices in public right-of-ways,

Sponsored by Councilman Roberts this amendment, supported by the Planning Board and Land Use Department was passed at Council's meeting of September 2, 1998. "Advertising along the roadside for developments all over the County has turned every corner and right-of-way into a developer's sign farm,"

'I believe it is essential to maintain safe clear zones in the right-of-way. Advertising along the roadside for developments all over the County has turned every corner and right-of-way into a developer's sign farm," Roberts said.

Governmental directional, warning and traffic control signs would still be allowed. To express your comments on the amendment, please call Councilman Roberts at 571-7526.

ROBERTS BEGINS HOMEOWNER SURVEY

Councilman Roberts has begun a survey of new homeowners to look for weak areas in the County's building code and enforcement strategies. "New" home construction is defined as construction which is less than 15 years old.

Survey participants are voluntary, remain anonymous and are asked

about their experiences in dealing with the builder of their home and the County after new home construction. For a survey form, or for form information, call Councilman Roberts at 57I-7526.

BEAR/GLASGOW REGIONAL PARK UPDATE

In the 1999 County Budget, County Council approved a one million-dollar appropriation of money toward the new Bear/Glasgow Regional Park.

The County's intention is to use the money toward the purchase of equipment and playing field construction. The new park is envisioned as rivaling the Delcastle Recreational Center in size and level of activity. Councilmembers have been approached by coordinators of soccer and baseball leagues for years, lamenting the lack of playing fields in the Route 40 corridor.

Recently, the County finished an inventory of County property in the Route 40 corridor in an attempt to locate property that is already County-owned. "A million dollars will go a long way to equip our park for ball leagues, walking paths, and public facilities. It won't go so far if we have to use it to purchase new land," said Councilman Chris Roberts.

UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT CODE REPLACES OLD ZONING CODE

On December 31, 1997, County Council unanimously approved an overhaul of the County's land use code. This new way of restricting development (the Unified Development Code - UDC) was put in force specifically to curb suburban sprawl. Some of the measures included in the UDC are:

- A requirement that the schools and roadways have capacity to handle new residents.
- A restriction which limits monotony of building styles within new subdivisions.
- Complete redesignation of zoning categories throughout the County to redirect growth (please see the zoning maps at the Southern New Castle County Police HQ or the Land Use Department in Corporate Commons).

ENDORSEMENT

Councilman Roberts has received the endorsement of the PAC of the Bear/Glasgow Council of Civic Organizations, which represents 20,000+ Bear/Glasgow area Residents

