



**ONE HUNDRED
DAYS OF IMPACT**
at M-NCPPC under
the leadership of
**CHAIRMAN
DARRYL
BARNES**

Amplify and Elevate



LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

In just 100 days, we’ve built momentum that people can see and feel.

On July 8, 2025, when I was appointed to this role by Prince George’s County Executive Aisha Braveboy, I made one promise — to connect vision to action. From community centers and parks to town halls, we’ve elevated not only our goals but our presence.

Leadership, after all, is not just what happens behind closed doors — it’s how we show up for the people we serve.

Every meeting, ribbon cutting, and community event over my first 100 days has carried one theme: visibility as service. It’s not about just being seen; it’s about letting residents see the work. Because when people see progress, they can believe in the process.

Inside this report, you’ll find more than metrics — you’ll find movement. A new culture of openness. A workforce united by purpose. And a community ready to build a future, together. To make Prince George’s County, A Destination for the Nation...

—Chairman Darryl Barnes

Executive Summary:

Visibility Has Impact

The Power of Presence

Leadership, in its best form, is visible. Not because it seeks a spotlight—but because people deserve to see the work being done on their behalf.

In just 100 days, Chairman Darryl Barnes has led the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) with a contagious passion that could be felt in every corner of Prince George’s County. Attending more than **seventy-five public meetings and events**—ribbon cuttings, town halls, business forums, youth gatherings, community celebrations — he has brought a new rhythm and new energy to the Commission.

His mantra, ***Amplify and Elevate***, guides each policy decision. Building on County Executive Aisha Braveboy’s Elevate Prince George’s – One County United vision, the leadership of Chairman Barnes embodies a shared commitment to unity, progress, and collective empowerment across the county.

The message is consistent: **government should not be a mystery; it should be a mirror**—reflecting the hopes, challenges, and aspirations of the people it serves.

In just 100 days, Chairman Barnes turned visibility into a leadership tool.

He met residents face-to-face, strengthened internal morale, and created alignment across agencies. From the Peace Cross Centennial to the Procurement 360 Summit, from the SHE the People Summer Camp to the Town of Eagle Harbor Day, from budget forums to neighborhood clean-ups, Chairman Barnes has shown that connecting to the people of Prince George’s reinforces transparency; and each handshake builds trust.

In just 100 days, Chairman Barnes and the Commission have begun:

- **Connecting** with thousands of residents through 75+ events and listening sessions.

- **Amplifying** employee engagement via open-door communication and recognition.
- **Elevating** transparency through modernized data systems and process reforms.
- **Streamlining** development reviews and procurement pathways.
- **Spearheading** the active inclusion of senior bi-county leaders in finance, legal, IT, and administration to the forefront under the Chairman’s leadership, driving collaboration, innovation, and a bold new way of making decisions.
- **Building trust** by transforming the Commission into a partner the community can see and feel.
- **Enhancing intergovernmental coordination** with the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement; the County Executive’s Office; the County Council; and municipal partners to align priorities.
- **Creating new communications channels**, including a monthly Chairman’s newsletter, public feedback opportunities and an employees’ suggestion inbox that gets reviewed and acted upon.



Meet the Chairman: Leadership in Action



- **Veteran leader** of both the U.S. Navy and U.S. Army, bringing discipline and mission-driven focus to public service
- **Technology entrepreneur**, founder of Barnes International Ltd., delivering workforce and digital-transformation projects for government and private clients
- **Academic grounding** in Computer Information Systems (Cal State Long Beach) with a Project Management certification from The George Washington University
- **Nine years in the Maryland House of Delegates** — Assistant Speaker Pro Tem, Deputy Majority Whip, and Chair of the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland
- **Legislative record** advancing small-business growth, criminal-justice reform, and equitable procurement for minority and veteran-owned firms
- **Dual executive roles** as the Chairman of the Prince George's County Planning Board and The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, driving unified vision and accountability
- **Fiscal steward** as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Commission's Employees' Retirement System, overseeing \$1 billion+ in assets
- **Blends legislative insight with entrepreneurial precision** to move ideas from plan to performance

Since his appointment in July, Barnes' calendar reads like a map of civic **connection**.

- 75+** public engagements
- 16** Leadership Team Planning Sessions
- 14** community and cultural events
- 9** policy and business forums
- 7** youth and education initiatives
- 5** media and faith-based appearances
- 4** employee town halls fostering two-way communication
- 3** Commission meetings as Chairman
- 3** inter-agency briefings aligning planning, parks, and recreation goals
- 2** regional conferences appearances representing Prince George's County
- 1** National Parks & Recreation Conference Accepting Finalist Award

100 DAYS *in motion*

Using Innovation to Support Momentum

In just 100 days, Chairman Barnes championed *momentum with purpose*—urging staff to modernize systems, simplify operations, think futuristically, and build public trust through measurable results.

Highlights

- Embedded **digital-literacy** and endorsed **A.I. training** across the agency
- Expanded use of **data tools** for faster, smarter decision-making
- Supported the **cloud-based Development Application Review Tracking System (DARTS)** for real-time project visibility
- Advanced **digital-permitting upgrades** to streamline public access
- Deployed **upgraded Park Police security drones** to enhance safety including search for missing persons
- Reinforced a culture of **transparency, collaboration, and results**

Efficiency and Alignment



A unified vision drives efficiency.

Through the “**Unified Prince George’s County**” initiative—spearheaded by County Executive Aisha Braveboy and embraced by Chairman Barnes—agencies for **Permitting, Planning, and Parks & Recreation** now coordinate decisions, share data, and strengthen accountability.

Highlights

- Advancing ongoing initiatives in real-time collaboration that saves both time and public funds
- Streamlining permitting with the Department of Permitting, Inspections & Enforcement (DPIE)
- Building stronger connections between ongoing projects and community needs
- Elevating visibility and impact through cross-departmental project tracking for transparency and on-time delivery
- Supporting critical projects to maintain momentum for digital submissions and routing to improve service quality
- Conducting workflow reviews to modernize administration and document management
- Championing regular leadership work sessions to sustain inter-agency progress
- Accelerating community engagement initiatives to strengthen local partnerships
- Enhancing public access and participation in new and established parks programs



Community Trust and Inclusion

In just 100 days, connection became the Commission’s calling card. Chairman Barnes turned listening into action—meeting civic groups, youth leaders, and residents across Prince George’s County. This renewed power of collaboration is redefining public trust—making government visible, responsive, and human.

Highlights

- **Engaged** residents through listening sessions, budget forums, and partnerships to extend dialogue countywide
- **Expanded** relationships with faith leaders, schools, non-profits, and community organizations
- **Attended** 75+ events, building trust and demonstrating hands-on commitment to residents
- **Fostered** inclusive programs ensuring parks, recreation, and planning initiatives serve all communities
- **Strengthened** connections between departments and neighborhoods to align projects with community priorities
- **Elevated** resident voices in decision-making, ensuring initiatives reflect the needs of those served
- **Hosted** the Municipal Planners Open House, boosting communication and collaboration
- **Launched** the Youth Advisory Council, giving 12- to 17-year-olds a meaningful seat at the table

“Our momentum isn’t just a moment—it’s a movement.”

—Chairman Darryl Barnes



Health, Wellness, and Award-Winning Performance

In just 100 days, the M-NCPPC Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George’s County advanced Chairman Barnes’s vision for safe, vibrant, and inclusive spaces reflecting the County’s diversity and spirit.

Working with Director Darius A. Stanton, the team strengthened stewardship across more than **29,000 acres**—restoring streams, replanting trees, and improving storm-water systems for sustainability and resilience. The department was named a **2025 NRPA Gold Medal finalist**, continuing its six-time championship legacy.

Highlights

- Recent completion of the WB&A Trail Patuxent River Bridge, linking almost 13 miles of continuous paths across Anne Arundel and Prince George’s counties
- Accelerating upgrades to recreation and aquatics centers, expanding access for residents of all ages
- Guided numerous cultural and civic events since mid-July, strengthening community engagement and connections
- Threw the ceremonial first pitch at the Negro League Legends Hall of Fame, Inc.’s Annual East/West Vintage Baseball Game! Invited the community and M-NCPPC staff to join in the festivities
- Promoted outdoor wellness programs blending fitness, community engagement, and mental-health awareness
- Elevated recreational programs and opportunities to serve diverse populations across the county
- Sustained CAPRA re-accreditation efforts, ensuring continued national standards of excellence



Employee Engagement and Culture

In just 100 days, Chairman Barnes made employee morale one of his key missions.

From making sure that the **American, Maryland, and Prince George’s County flags were flying high** at the Largo headquarters to expanding wellness programs for staff, he is demonstrating through word and action that pride, purpose and service starts from within.

Through programs and events to build morale and open communication, staff are seen, heard, and supported. Chairman Barnes is creating a new culture.



Highlights

- Expanded professional development opportunities, strengthening skills and career growth for employees
- Championed wellness and appreciation events, fostering a culture of recognition and support
- Personally overseeing the transition plan of 300 staff to Largo Headquarters, ensuring a smooth and collaborative move
- Directed the cafeteria renovation to improve employee amenities and workplace experience
- Extended fitness center hours, increasing access and promoting staff health and well-being
- Launched the Chairman’s “Perspectives” Newsletter, enhancing communication and connection
- Strengthened employee engagement by actively soliciting feedback and addressing staff priorities
- Fostered a culture of inclusion, encouraging cross-department collaboration and teamwork
- Celebrated the 21 individuals participating in the M-NCPPC Collegiate Internship Program with the Planning Department—the largest cohort in 30 years

Economic Opportunity and Procurement

In just 100 days, Chairman Barnes advanced an inclusive economic agenda built on small-business growth, supplier diversity, and local reinvestment. By aligning M-NCPPC with county and state equity goals, procurement has become a tool for opportunity—ensuring every public dollar strengthens Prince George’s County’s economy.

Highlights

- Leading vendor education and outreach sessions, such as the Procurement 360 event, strengthening partnerships and understanding of county processes
- Promoted the use of the digital vendor portal to streamline registration and increase transparency
- Directed staff to track contract equity and monitor performance metrics
- Aligned procurement practices with Maryland MBE standards, promoting fairness and compliance
- Advanced equitable procurement strategies, ensuring diverse vendors have meaningful access to county contracts
- Formed the Procurement Advisory Team to enhance oversight and ensure regulatory compliance
- Championed continuous improvement in procurement processes, reinforcing accountability and trust with the business community



Building a Destination for the Nation

In just 100 days, Chairman Barnes and M-NCPPC is creating and sharing a bold, inclusive vision: to make Prince George’s County a Destination for the Nation.

Chairman Barnes has a vision that Prince George’s County will be recognized as a premier destination for culture, innovation, and opportunity—a place where history, creativity, and economic vitality intersect. By leveraging its unique location, rich heritage, admirable parks and recreations facilities, and diverse talent, Prince George’s will create vibrant communities, attract national attention, and establish the County as a model for inclusive growth, sustainability, and world-class experiences.

Highlights

- **Committed** to inclusive, community-driven design to ensure all residents benefit
- **Promoting** the advancement of the “Missing Middle” housing initiative, addressing critical community housing needs. New housing types—duplexes, small multiplexes, and cottage courts—
- will expand attainable, market-rate options that fit neighborhood character and increase supply
- **Initiating** planning for Six Flags and Northwest Stadium redevelopment to drive economic growth
- **Connecting** development projects to job creation, tourism, and overall community vitality
- **Championing** strategic growth that balances economic opportunity with county priorities



Looking Ahead: Sustaining the Momentum

In just 100 days, Chairman Barnes has shown what focused, coordinated leadership can achieve.

Early wins across parks, recreation, planning, employee engagement, procurement, and development are setting a new standard for equity, efficiency, and community impact.

Building on this momentum, the next phase will sustain collaboration, deepen public engagement, and deliver lasting systems that ensure every resident benefits.

Prince George’s County is poised not just to lead locally, but to set the example regionally and nationally for inclusive, innovative, and results-driven governance.

Please join us, whether you are an employee, resident, business owner, non-profit service provider or visitor in making **Prince George’s County as a Destination for the Nation.** We welcome your ideas, suggestions and feedback.

Email us at suggestions@mncppc.org.





 **THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL
Park and Planning Commission**

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