



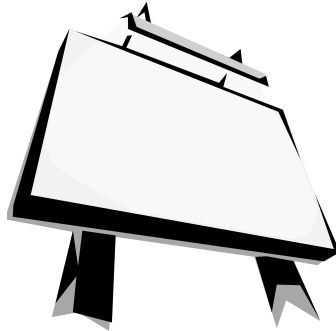
The FREEDOM INFORMER

www.freedomareacitizens.org

August 2003

A Publication of FACC / Freedom Area Citizens' Council

Billboards



The Freedom Area Citizens' Council (FACC) heartily supports the County's recent limitations and restrictions on any newly proposed billboards. The FACC is categorically opposed to the proliferation of billboards and would further endorse any proposal that would seek to place a permanent ban on any new billboards in both our Freedom District and the entire County. It is FACC's opinion that billboards are an intrusive and distracting form of advertising that lessens the aesthetic quality of our roads

and neighborhoods. Other counties have long ago concluded that restrictions on billboards are necessary in order to protect the quality of life in their counties. Plain and simple, Carroll County does not need any more billboards, as we already have likely more billboards per capita than any other county in Maryland. In fact, the total number of billboards in Carroll County lags only Baltimore and Prince Georges County, yet we have less than one third of their population. Maybe most importantly, the proliferation of billboards has cheapened the look of our gateways and detracted from the visual appeal of our county as a potential destination for business and economic development. As such, FACC welcomes the reconstitution of a "Gateways Committee", which we hope

would propose the creation of further restrictions on existing billboards.

Our recommendations for some goals of these restrictions would include, but would not be limited to: the ultimate reduction in the number of billboards through a cooperative effort between the County and billboard companies; tighter control over advertising and enhanced maintenance restrictions on billboards; and finally, the enactment of an annual fee on billboards whose funds would be designated for the aesthetic improvement of existing gateways. We applaud the Commissioners' public hearing about billboards and to let us have an important say about their future. ☒

The above is excerpted from a letter FACC delivered to the County Commissioners on August 5th at the public hearing about billboards.

August Meeting

Carroll County Sheriff Kenneth Tregoning and Major Michael Fischer of the Maryland State Police will answer your questions and

address your concerns about law enforcement in Carroll County at FACC's August meeting. The meeting will be August 19th at 7:30 p.m.

in the Community Room at Carrolltown Center. The FACC Board meeting immediately preceding is open to the public. ☒

Don't Miss the next FACC General Membership Meeting!

The meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 19th, at 7:30 pm in the Community Room at Carrolltown Center.

Guest Speakers will be County Sheriff Ken Tregoning and Major Michael Fischer of the Maryland State Police.

The Freedom Informer

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Road Work

Plan your travels. The following road construction will be taking place this month in the Freedom area. Storm Drain Work will begin in the Irongate Subdivision, on all streets. Reconstruction of Ridge Road, MD 26 to Gemini Drive will continue. This construction is scheduled to be complete before the first day of school. The Maryland Department of Transportation's State Highway Administration (SHA) recently began

a safety and intersection improvement project along MD 27 (Ridge Road) in Carroll County.

The SHA will close a portion of Sam's Creek Road west of MD 27 due to reduced sight

distance along Sam's Creek Road caused by temporary traffic barrier along north-bound MD 27. The closed portion of Sam's Creek Road west of MD 27 will reopen to traffic in early September, weather permitting. ☒



Help Wanted

If you have an idea for an Informer article or would like to write one, contact the editor at editor@freedomareacitizens.org

Home Owner's Associations are encouraged to share their issues. Some residents of MacBeth Way did not know about the planned connection until it was shared in the Informer!

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**Don't miss our next meeting:
Bring your neighbors!
Tuesday, August 19, 2003**