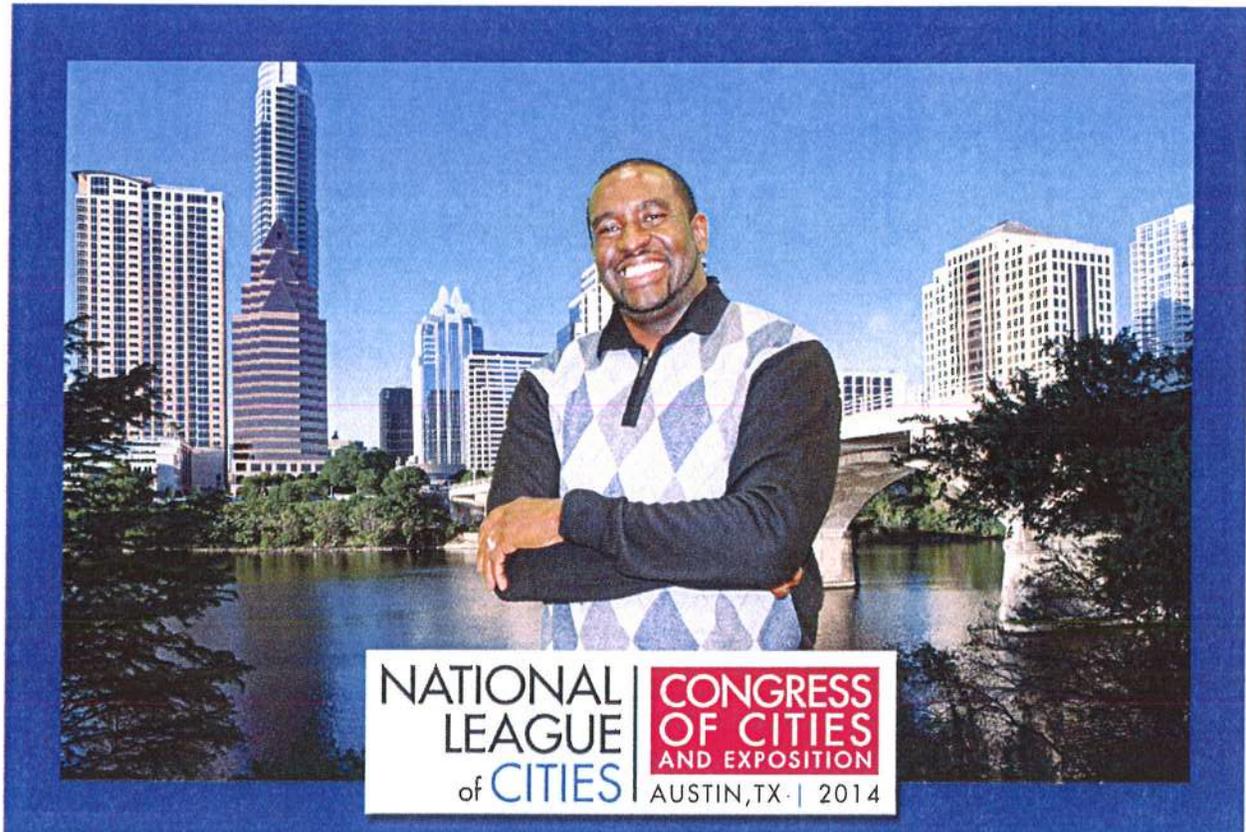


# THE MAYOR'S REPORT

*"What's Happening Servant Leader?"*



*Mayor Walter Lee James, Jr representing the Bladensburg community at the NLC Conference in Austin, Texas*

**08 December 2014**

**"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"**

**"Valuing People Over Position" – Walter Lee James, Jr.**

## **Vision Statement**

“The Town of Bladensburg is a destination that offers top-notch services and opportunities to our residents and the community at-large in a clean and safe environment.” – Mayor Walter Lee James, Jr.

## **BEYOND Restaurant Community meeting**

### **Purpose**

To hear concerns and comments from members of the Port Towns community regarding the development of a new state of the art restaurant in our community at the former CrossRoads site in Bladensburg.

Topics covered:

- Parking
- Types of entertainment at proposed facility
- The name “BEYOND” for the facility
- The need for the development to be a family style facility
- Ensuring that the intent of what is presented becomes and remains the reality (*residents don't want to see it begin as a state of the art facility and evolve into a nightclub*)
- BEYOND's investment in our community (*jobs and relationship with Bladensburg High School Culinary Arts program*)
- Traffic Congestion
- Whether or not the facility will be given a Church nonprofit status?
- Whether or not the facility will be a LEED certified building? It will be a GREEN building not LEED certified

## **National League of Cities Conference Austin, Texas**

### **Purpose**

As a member community, our participation is vital to the growth and development of our community at-large and we as elected officials. The conference gives us the opportunity to learn and network with other leaders from around the Country and to gain insight to challenges that we are facing and to share many of our accomplishments. This was the second year in a row where I was asked specifically to speak regarding what we are doing around First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move Initiative.

### **Let's Move Initiative**

Discussed the partnership with Kaiser Permanente

Discussed the development and partnership of our Urban Farms

Discussed the youth involvement in the development of the Urban Farm

**Benefit to our community**

There is a **21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant** that we could apply for as a municipality that would allow us to offer healthy choices to our community.

**Community Marketing and Branding**

Rule: The community's website is not for the residents of your community

**Community Transportation**

As we have discussion with the Maryland State Highway Administration we need to consider the use of service roads. Service roads are a huge part of the development in the Austin, Texas. It is a concept that allows both vehicular and pedestrian traffic to exist in harmony.

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**Community Collaborative Opportunities**

- The Bladensburg Community Clean-Up Days we will resume this upcoming Spring 2015. You will be notified by way of our community-wide notification system. However, if there is trash you see when you are out and about in our community do pick it up and dispose of it properly.
- **Bike Ride with the Mayor** This is a part of our Healthy Eating Active Living Initiative. We are called the Bladensburg Trailblazers. We meet at 8:00am at the Bladensburg Town Hall located at 4229 Edmonston Road, Bladensburg, MD 20710. If you are interested in riding please contact me at (301) 452-7560 on Friday by 5:00pm.
- **BEYOND Restaurant hearings/meeting.** The community will receive upcoming meeting dates through our community-wide notifications.