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## MBCA Announcement

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Mon, May 12, 2025 at 12:01 PM



### Upcoming Official Community Events

#### 1) General Membership Meeting

June 3rd, 8:00pm at the MBCA Clubhouse

#### 2) Environmental Committee Meetings

May 15, June 19, Sept 18, Oct 16. 7:00pm at the clubhouse.

### Announcements & Updates

#### 1) Operation Clearwater

MBCA has renewed our yearly water testing with the county. The AACC Environmental Center provides weekly monitoring of the microbial water quality on Dividing Creek which allows our members to have a better sense of water quality each week. They monitor enterococci, bacteria that are indicators of fecal contamination by mammals or some birds. For further information about monitoring enterococci, maps and data tables, go to <https://sites.google.com/view/aaccoperationclearwater>. You can also [Download the Swim Guide App](#)

#### 2) AA County Proposed Bill 32-25

At our General Meeting on May 6th, a community member asked what our position was on bill 32-25 which will be voted on May 19th. We discussed it briefly and agreed to provide more details. After thorough research of the bill, its predecessor bill 100-24, and several articles written about the changes, we have confirmed our intent to oppose the bill. We will be sending in a statement of opposition to the bill's sponsor, Ms. Lisa Rodvien of the Anne Arundel County Council.

As many of you are aware, a bill has been introduced by the County Council that would impact how Special Community Benefit Districts (SCBDs) like ours operate. While the MBCA Board recognizes the good intent behind the proposal and has always been committed to transparency, it holds concerns about certain aspects of the bill, including the drastic increases in administrative fees and the blurring of lines between community associations and the county government in terms of mandatory training and potential county control of community budgets.

For over 50 years, the Manhattan Beach Civic Association has proudly operated with openness and transparency. All of our regular meetings and board meetings are open to the community, and we have worked hard to make sure members have access to information and opportunities to participate. With the exception of one ongoing legal matter—where, on the advice of legal counsel, the Board met privately to preserve attorney-client privilege—our commitment to openness has never wavered.

### **Direct impacts to the MBCA**

1. 235% increase in administrative costs from \$2,000 per year to \$4,700 per year.
2. We must allow members of the general public including the press, attorneys, and anyone a member would like to invite to attend.
3. An Officer of the MBCA would be required to attend training on the requirements of the Maryland Open Meetings Act.
4. Penalties for non-compliance:
  - a. County can reject our budget submission for the coming year
  - b. County can withhold any funds for the district.
  - c. County can prohibit the use of funds by the association
  - d. The MBCA could be required to reimburse any funds that have been improperly expended.
  - e. If MBCA does not comply with requirements within 2 years of notice of non-compliance, the MBCA SCBD may be dissolved.

### **3) Lawsuit Updates**

We will provide updates on any significant developments when we can under the advice of the attorneys for MBCA. At this time there are no updates since our May 6th meeting. I will mention that the Plaintiffs have unfortunately chosen to again create conflict by offering maps on their front yard that incorrectly highlight "Water Access" paths within our community. The highlighted property was owned by the county and purchased by homeowners 20 years ago through legal means. They are actual deeded properties that in the 1950's served as a way for the fire department to get to the water. They forgot to highlight the Gordon paper road which is owned by the community and that they are currently blocking access to.

Thank you for subscribing to notifications from MBCA. This list is for residents of Manhattan Beach only and provides insight into upcoming events, membership meetings, and other community business. Please bookmark the following link on your mobile phone for quick access to the News section of our website for the latest updates throughout the month: <https://mbcaweb.org/blog>