



OAKLAND MILLS 2023 CANDIDATE STATEMENTS



*Four candidates submitted applications for the **seven** open Oakland Mills Board of Directors seats. The Board race is non-contested, and all candidates for the Board are deemed elected to serve beginning May 1, 2023.*

Rebecca Bryant

For the past few years, I have been an active member of Yards Alive and HoCo Bike Corrals - two programs that are changing how our community lives sustainably. Through these initiatives, we aspire to nurture a greener and more united community.

The next year I am eager to collaborate with the Open Space Committee on the pilot program for appraising our tot lots as well as communicate with the CA Board to guarantee that all their decisions are transparent and rational.

My focus is enhancing alternative transportation, caring for open space and strengthening connections within our community.

Jonathan Edelson

I'm honored to serve as the Chairperson of the Oakland Mills Board and its Education Committee and to continue to advocate for our community. After years of hard work and collaboration, we opened the new Talbott Springs Elementary school this year and pushed to get renovations to Oakland Mills Middle and High schools planned over the next three years. The end of the long journey to develop the vacant lot at the Village Center is also near as plans for a 7-Eleven have passed the Village Board and are working their way through the county's approval process. We must continue to work to ensure progress continues in Oakland Mills. I have experience working with officials at many levels, including CA, Howard County government, state government, and the school system. I will continue to be a strong voice for our hOMe!

Bill McCormack

Experience Village Board— 13 years
Revitalization, Housing, Village Master Plan, Open Space Committees, Community Plan Task Force, Housing Opportunities Master Plan Task Force— 16 years

Accomplishments

- Met with owners of village apartment complexes to facilitate future redevelopment congruent

with OM Village Center Community Plan, Village Center Feasibility Study and HoCo Housing Opportunity Master Plan.

- Continued effort with elected officials to find financial solutions to HOA internal roadway issues including a pilot project in one HOA.
- Led OM Open Space Advisory Committee analysis of playground areas.
- Presented recommendations including pilot study to and approved by OM Board.
- Presented recommendations to CA Board which approved the pilot study.

Priorities/Objectives

- Advocate for financial solutions to HOA internal roadway issues.
- Advocate for safety improvements to Stevens Forest-Farewell Roads roundabout.
- Advocate for consultant led design of CA open space for next 50 years.
- Advocate for creation of "Public Nuisance" law.

Warren Wortman

I am a proud 37-year Oakland Mills resident. OM has great open spaces, paths, schools, pools, and community spirit. As a bicycle advocate, I believe a safe, walkable, and bikeable community is a priority. Whether you are a child walking to school, a bicyclist shopping at our farmer's market, or commuting across the pedestrian bridge, transportation is for everyone. As the OM Public Space Committee chair, I have:

- proposed a crosswalk connecting the Thunder Hill neighborhood to businesses across Rte 108;
- Requested the successful installation of ADA-compliant curbs at crosswalks on Thunder Hill, Log Chain, and Farewell Roads;
- Successfully advocated for safety improvements to Stevens Forest Rd (cars struck two people at Stevens Forest and Kilimanjaro one week apart). Howard now has improved pedestrian signaling to make this intersection must greater.
- organized bike lane cleanups in OM.

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COLUMBIA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATES

*Two candidates are running for **one** open Columbia Council Representative (Columbia Association Board) seat. This is a contested race.*

Karin Emery

I'm Running To...

- protect and conserve open spaces for the benefit of residents, including paths, streams, lakes and tot lots.
- keep outdoor pools open and accessible.
- ensure transparency, accountability, and civility within the Columbia Association Board.
- support seniors aging in place.
- vote against raising the cap on assessments.

Resident History

- I've lived in Columbia since 1970.
- I attended Thunder Hill Elementary, Oakland Mills Middle and High School, Class of 1983!
- I swam on winter and summer swim teams, and played recreational soccer.
- I worked for CA as a Lifeguard, Pool Manager, Swim Instructor and Neighborhood Swim League Coach.
- I coached SAC ages 6-14 until 2005.
- I've lived with my parents, who are proudly aging in place, since 2020.
- I worked with neighbors in Thunder Hill to retain our street parking in 2022.

Professional

- I'm an IT Program Manager working in the Financial Industry managing a multimillion-dollar budget.

Amy Brooks

Our OM village exemplifies the best of Columbia. I know this from personal experience as an OMHS teacher, former OMMS PTSA president, and co-founder of Oakland Mills Online (OMO). As the wife of an OMHS grad, and mother of three OMHS students, I am well aware of all the rewarding opportunities we have here. My teenagers continue to thrive because of our paths, ice rink, summer swim team, and various employment options. I am running for the CA Board of Directors to advocate for *everyone* in our village to ensure Columbia is the most vibrant, inclusive place to live in America. If elected, I will be transparent in my positions, ethical in my actions, and professional in my duties. I want everyone in our village to feel welcome in CA spaces and to achieve this, we must provide more outreach- both in communication and financial support. CA is for everyone!