



Maryland Department of Planning

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Press Release

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Former Harford County Executive Confirmed as Planning Secretary

David R. Craig's Experience Spans Local, County, State Government

BALTIMORE, MD –David R. Craig, 65, a lifelong resident of Harford County, where he served as county executive for close to 10 years, was confirmed as secretary of the Maryland Department of Planning today after being appointed by Governor Lawrence J. Hogan Jr. last month.

Craig brings experience at several levels of government to Maryland's top planner position. In his hometown of Havre de Grace, Craig served on the City Council and was twice elected mayor. In the 1990s, Craig was a state delegate, then was elected state senator, serving as chair of the Harford County Delegation in 1998 and 1999. In 2005, he was elected Harford County Executive.

As county executive, Craig confronted issues such as comprehensive rezoning, Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), improved public schools, and public safety. Craig proposed an aggressive school construction plan as well as strategic preparation for Harford's growth needs. He bolstered public safety, working with the sheriff, Harford County's state's attorney, and the Volunteer Fire and EMS Association to increase tools and training to meet the county's growing demand for emergency services. Craig also pursued progressive stewardship of Harford County's agricultural heritage.

Along with his government posts, Craig worked for 34 years for the Harford County Public School System, starting as a middle school history teacher and ascending to middle school assistant principal.

Craig served as chair of the Baltimore Metropolitan Council Board of Directors and was president of the Maryland Association of Counties. As mayor, Craig served as president of the Maryland Municipal League. He also has served on the boards of a number of philanthropic and charitable organizations.

Craig received a bachelor's degree in history from Towson State College in 1971 and a master's degree, also in history, from Morgan State University in 1983. He is a graduate of the Maryland Leadership Academy and the National Leadership Academy.

Craig married his high school sweetheart, Melinda, in 1971. They have three adult children and eight grandchildren. All live in Havre de Grace, where the Craigs reside in a 175-year-old Greek Revival home that they restored 25 years ago.

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Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

David R. Craig, Secretary

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