



**FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT**  
**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE-ELECT**

# *News Release*

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CONTACT: [Vivian Laxton](#)  
Communications Director, 301-600-1315

## **Fitzwater Announces Transition Co-Chairs, Opportunities for Public Engagement**

FREDERICK, Md. – Frederick County Executive-Elect Jessica Fitzwater today announced that Toni Bowie and Rick Weldon will serve as co-chairs of her transition team.

“We have an historic opportunity to build an inclusive County where everyone has the chance to meet their full potential and thrive,” Fitzwater said. “I am grateful to County Executive Jan Gardner for her partnership during this transition, and I am confident that Toni Bowie and Rick Weldon will lead a transition that focuses on inclusion, sustainability, and accountability.”

Toni Bowie is the Founder and Managing Partner of MaxLife, a Frederick-based firm that assists businesses and organizations in continuously developing and advancing their workforce, culture and environment to create and maintain a workplace where every individual has the opportunity to give their absolute best and their absolute best is accepted and valued.

Rick Weldon is the President & CEO of the Frederick County Chamber of Commerce. He previously served as a public administrator in the City of Frederick and the City of Brunswick, as a member of the Board of Frederick County Commissioners, and as a member of the Maryland House of Delegates representing southern Frederick County and southeastern Washington County. He also served a tour of duty in the US Navy Submarine service.

Fitzwater also announced she will hold five budget listening sessions, one in each council district. The first two will be held before the end of the year, and the final three will be in early 2023. The details for all five listening sessions will be announced next week.

“As a candidate, I promised to give our residents a greater voice in our budget process,” Fitzwater said. “As County Executive, I will honor that commitment by holding one listening session in each council district over the next two months so our residents are heard at the beginning of the budget process.”

Jessica Fitzwater was declared the winner of the County Executive’s race on November 18 and will be sworn into office on December 5. She is finishing her second term on the Frederick County Council. She taught at Oakdale Elementary School for 17 years and served on the Board of the Frederick County Teachers Association. A widow, she lives in Frederick with her two children.

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