



# City of Seat Pleasant

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Mayor Eugene W. Grant Releases Proposed Balanced Fiscal Year 2013 Budget for City of Seat Pleasant Without Raising Tax Rate**

**Seat Pleasant, MD** – Yesterday Mayor **Eugene W. Grant** presented his proposal for the City of Seat Pleasant: A City of Excellences' Fiscal Year 2013 budget to city council members for approval. The budget plots the course of the City for the coming year, and within the budget the following key strategies will be pursued by the City of Seat Pleasant: 1) Manage City resources in an open, transparent and fiscally sound manner 2) Enhance public safety to reduce crime and improve the perception of the community 3) Improve educational outcomes by partnering with local schools 4) Increase focus on economic development to attract and retain quality businesses and community organizations 5) Remain a sustainable "City of Excellence" and promote Seat Pleasant as a safe and green community and 6) Strengthen and improve community programs that will educate our residents.

"As the City moves into its 82<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary, I am pleased to present a budget that plots the course of the City moving us forward for the coming year," stated Mayor Eugene W. Grant who also added "Given the challenging economic times we are in, this proposed budget takes great pains to provide our City residents with the services they expect and deserve from a "City of Excellence." The national recession has had an impact on the City's budget, Property Tax revenues, which make up the second largest part of the City's current budget are at 32%, and are expected to generate approximately 16.4% less than last year. Therefore, the City had to make reductions in operations in order to present a balanced budget.

"The good news is this proposed budget has no increase in the City's tax rate for the Fiscal Year 2013 budget," stated Mayor Grant, "We have worked very hard to present a balanced and fair budget that moves our City forward and meets the needs of our residents, I am proud of this proposed budget and I expect it will pass without any opposition. The important thing is we did not raise taxes on our residents, while still providing a level of service they have come to expect from a "City of Excellence" concluded Mayor Grant.

The City of Seat Pleasants Fiscal Year 2013 expenditure budget totals \$3,505,093, which is a decrease of \$326,615 when compared to Fiscal Year 2012 of \$3,831,708. This represents an 8.5% decrease in the City's General Fund Budget.

**Seat Pleasant:** "A City of Excellence" is one of Maryland's 157 municipalities with a population of 4,582 residents, 100 businesses, 13 houses of faith, and 20 non-profit organizations. The Seat Pleasant government has a mayor, seven member city council and 35 government employees operating a \$3.8 million dollar budget.

**Eugene W. Grant**, elected in 2004, is currently serving his 8th year as Mayor of Seat Pleasant: A City of Excellence. During his 8 years as mayor, he has successfully tripled the size of the Police Department, reduced crime by 33%, improved the infrastructure of the city, ended each year with a surplus, brought 14 new businesses into the City of Seat Pleasant and raised thousands of dollars for the local elementary

school. Mayor Grant serves as the Chairman of the Board for Health Empowerment Network of Maryland, Inc., President of the Maryland Black Mayor's Community Development Corporation, Inc., Chief Executive Officer for Global Developmental Services for Youth, Inc. and a member of numerous other organizations both domestically and internationally. You can follow Mayor Grant on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

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