

THE Charles Villager

Charles Village Civic Association

Baltimore, Maryland

Holiday 2019

3 School Traffic Calming, Placemaking Art Projects— Done



When residents of Harwood, Abell and Charles Village saw a problem in 2017—that cars zoomed through the neighborhood with barely a passing glance at pedestrians—they got together to figure out how to solve this critical safety problem. Every day, children walking to either Margaret Brent Elementary/Middle School or Barclay Elementary/Middle School confronted zooming traffic on E. 29th, N. Calvert and St. Paul Streets.

Their efforts have taken a few years, but this Fall, their good work came to fruition as the final phase of artwork and traffic calming measures was completed at the intersection of 29th and Barclay Street. The installation marks the end of the 2018 Traffic Calming and Placemaking art project that has added vibrant, student-inspired artwork and city improvements to intersections at 26th and St. Paul Street, 26th and Calvert Street—and now at 29th and Barclay Street.

The Friends of Margaret Brent and Friends of Barclay groups, coordinated by Live Baltimore, partnered with nearby neighborhood groups to apply for a grant from the Central Baltimore Partnership's Spruce-Up Program. The program supports neighborhood-driven, capital improvement projects in North Central Baltimore public spaces. After the funds were awarded, the groups worked through the City requirements, listening sessions, designs and installation process to complete the three intersection projects.

"It's really great to see what we can accomplish when everyone works together," said Kim Wiggins, Live Baltimore Program Manager. "We'd also like to give a special thanks to Jessica Pimentel from the Baltimore City Department of Transportation and Jay Bennett from the Baltimore Gas and Electric Co. for all of their hard work and guidance plus the 28th and 29th Street Traffic Calming Partnership of Charles Village, Harwood and Remington for ongoing efforts in the area."

Colorful crosswalks now border the St. Paul and N. Calvert sides of Margaret Brent School and the major crossing on 29th Street to Barclay School—shortening the distance pedestrians must travel to cross the street, explained public artist Graham Coreil-Allen, of Graham Projects LLC.

School Traffic Calming, continued on page 8

