

Information about Richard Israel Tenure as Alderman  
by Richard Israel

1. I have attended every regular and special council meeting.
2. I have had my vote recorded on every roll call vote. and have never abstained.
3. Since the beginning of my term, I have chaired the Rules and City Government Committee.
4. For one year, 2007, I also chaired the Economic Matters Committee.
5. With very few exceptions I have been at 49 West Coffeeshop every Saturday morning before the twice-monthly Monday evening Council meetings.
6. I have been timely and responsive in responding to a variety of constituent requests.
7. I am an active participant in Council meetings.
8. I have been the principal sponsor or co-sponsor on the following measures:
  - City Manager Charter Amendment CA-4-0S (Failed on a 4-5 vote.)
  - Blue Ribbon Commission on City's Finances. R-31-0S (Passed)
  - Lowering cap on increases in assessments from 10% to 5%, 0- 31-0S (Failed on a 4-5 vote)
  - Comprehensive parking legislation, which included establishment of Parking Advisory Commission, 0-55-06 (Passed)
9. At the request of sponsor, re-drafted resolution expressing profound regret for city government's role in supporting slavery.R-17 -07 (passed)
10. Successfully opposed 0-23-07 which would have lifted cap on 2AM alcoholic beverage licenses.
11. Favors initiative by local vendors to sublease Market House from Market House Ventures. Alternative would be to sell Market House subject to covenants.
12. Favors promoting entire maritime heritage of city, including but not limited to National Sailing Hall of Fame. Explore possibility of linking sites by water conveyance.
13. Recognize that public housing is not Federal property. Therefore, it is subject to all State and local laws, which should be enforced uniformly and fairly. Where city government has role in approving public-private redevelopment projects, public housing officials must testify on the record about re-location, etc. and be held accountable.
14. At the request of the Mayor I chaired the Southgate Fountain Restoration Committee.
15. I also sponsored the resolution establishing the Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, R-61-07, and chaired that Commission.
16. I also sponsored resolution to honor Mary and Marion Warren, R-14-07, and Barbara Neustadt, R-02-09
17. Because of its unique attractions, residents of Annapolis must be prepared to share the city with visitors. However, visitors and those who would bring visitors here must recognize that Annapolis is not a museum. There are people living here.
18. The comprehensive plan should reiterate that city dock is the pre-eminent public space for civic purposes. It should also reiterate that those who travel by motor vehicle to Annapolis and do not need their vehicle during the day should park at a satellite lot and take the shuttle into town. Finally, to take pressure off the Historic District, another part of the city must be designated for mixed use redevelopment to accommodate the need for new buildings which are suited to modern business and can offer business and employment opportunities.

19. The civic treasure of Annapolis is the Historic District. Many cities have a few historic buildings. However, Annapolis is unusual in having a collection of old buildings. It is imperative that the Historic District Ordinance be enforced uniformly and fairly. However, it must be remembered that this ordinance applies only to the exterior, not to the interior.
20. In reconciling historic preservation interests and environmental considerations, the city government must lead by example. A good place to start would be city hall.
21. For biographical information, see 2005 brochure.