

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY ARCHIVES**

**Guide to the Records of  
ROSE CRENCA  
1969-1990**

**Record Group 2: County Council**

**September 19, 1997  
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Updated 2018**

Montgomery County Archives  
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### **BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

Rose Crenca, a longtime resident of Silver Spring, has had an impressive history of public service in Montgomery County. After receiving a B.A. in Biology from American University in 1947, Ms. Crenca taught high school Science and English. In 1951, she was awarded an M.A. in Education from George Washington University and continued teaching until 1957. For the next twelve years, much of Ms. Crenca's time was occupied raising her two children.

Beginning in the late 1960's, Rose Crenca became active in numerous Montgomery County civic organizations. These organizations included the Sligo-Branview Citizens Association, League of Women Voters, Taxpayers League, Maryland Environmental Coalition, TESS Citizens Advisory Council, Citizens Planning Association, and the Allied Civic Federation. Ms. Crenca held influential offices in many of these organizations, including chair of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Transportation Planning Board as well as COG vice-president. It was her position as President of the Allied Civic Federation which led to her election to the Montgomery County Council in 1978. She was re-elected to the Council in 1982 and 1986 but was defeated in 1990.

As a member of the Montgomery County Council, Rose Crenca played an important role in shaping the course of County government in the 1980's. She served on a number of council committees including Planning, Housing & Economic Development, the Finance Committee, and the Health & Human Services Committee. In addition, Ms. Crenca sponsored and co-sponsored far-reaching county legislation which included fire sprinkler requirements in new homes, smoking regulations, restrictions on discrimination in public accommodations, housing, zoning, employment, and property tax credits.

Rose Crenca served as President of the Montgomery County Council from 1986 to 1987 and again as President *pro tempore* from 1989 to 1990. During her term as Council President, the County Council was involved in a controversial plan to develop downtown Silver Spring. Supporters of the plan, who included Council President Crenca, argued that development would revitalize the city and bring money into the County. Opponents thought the plan would create tremendous traffic congestion and lead to a deterioration of the general quality of life around Silver Spring.

### **EXTENT**

5 cubic feet: 5 records boxes.

### **SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The Rose Crenca papers cover the years 1969 to 1990, with the bulk encompassing the years in which she served on the Montgomery County Council, 1978 to 1990. The records primarily consist of correspondence, memoranda, reports, articles, and clippings. Topics include county development concerns, public works projects, education, budgetary matters, and zoning and housing issues. The collection has been arranged into three series:

Series I: Correspondence Files

Series II: Silver Spring Re-Development Files  
Series III: Subject Files.

### **SERIES DESCRIPTIONS**

#### **Series I: General Correspondence Files, 1978-1990** **(3 cubic feet)**

This series contains correspondence and memoranda. Most of the correspondence consists of incoming constituent comments and complaints regarding a variety of Council matters including transportation, public facilities, budget cuts, local development, and human relations. Folders are arranged chronologically.

#### **Series II: Silver Spring Re-Development Files, 1975-1990** **(1 cubic foot)**

These files contain incoming correspondence, memoranda, official statements, and public policy papers regarding the re-development of downtown Silver Spring. In addition, the series also contains architectural plans, maps, and various project proposals for commercial building in Silver Spring. Folders are arranged chronologically.

#### **Series III: Subject Files, 1969-1990** **(1 cubic foot)**

The subject files cover a vast array of Council topics including accessory apartments, re-use of closed schools, anti-discrimination legislation, fire sprinkler legislation, and minority and environmental issues. There are also miscellaneous files which contain an assortment of correspondence, memoranda, Council reports, articles and clippings. Especially well-documented are the liquor board scandal of 1980 to 1981, EPA's rejection of the County's bid to build a large sewage treatment plant at Dickerson, and the zoning loophole bill sponsored by Councilwoman Crenca. This series also contains a file of biographical material relating to her career. Folders are arranged alphabetically by subject.

### **CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS**

This collection is open for research.

### **LANGUAGE**

English.

### **PROVENANCE**

The bulk of the material was acquired in Accession #87-1, originally 13 cubic feet, with additional material from Accession #96-8, originally 1 cubic foot.

### **USING THESE RECORDS**

To request records listed in this finding aid, the following information should be given to the archivist:

Record Group 2, **Records of Rose Crenca**, Series Number and Name, Box Number and Folder Title(s).

The preferred citation for materials from these records is:

Montgomery County Archives; Gaithersburg, Maryland. Record Group 2: County Council.  
Records Title: Records of Rose Crenca. Series number and series name. Subseries number  
and subseries name, if applicable. Box number and folder title, if appropriate.

### **PROCESSING PROCEDURES**

General processing procedures consisted of discarding duplicates, unnecessary binders, and routine transmittals. If records contained oversized documents and photographs, they were removed from the original location in their assigned series and placed in separate containers. Separation sheets would then be inserted in the original location within the folder to indicate the new location of any records placed elsewhere.

Preservation copying of newspaper clippings was performed whenever feasible. Records in folders were arranged, unless otherwise indicated, in forward chronological order, with undated records appearing at the end of the folder.

### **PROCESSING STAFF/FINDING AID AUTHOR**

MCA staff.

**BOX INVENTORY**

**Series I: General Correspondence Files**

**Box 1**

January - March, 1979  
April - August, 1979  
September - December, 1979  
January - September, 1980-1981  
January - March, 1982  
April - June, 1982  
July - December, 1982  
January - April, 1983  
May - August, 1983  
September - December, 1983  
January - February, 1984  
March - April, 1984  
May - June, 1984  
July - August, 1984  
September - October, 1984  
November - December, 1984  
January, 1985  
February - March, 1985  
April - May, 1985

**Box 2**

June - July, 1985  
August - October, 1985  
November, 1985  
December, 1985  
January - February, 1986  
March - April, 1986  
May - June, 1986  
July, 1986  
August, 1986  
September - October, 1986  
November - December, 1986  
January - February, 1987  
March - April, 1987  
May, 1987  
June, 1987  
July - August, 1987  
September - October, 1987  
November - December, 1987

**Box 3**

January, 1988  
February, 1988  
March, 1988  
April - May, 1988  
June, 1988  
July, 1988  
August, 1988  
September - October, 1988  
November - December, 1988  
January - February, 1989  
March - April, 1989  
May, 1989  
June, 1989  
July, 1989  
August, 1989  
September - October, 1989  
November - December, 1989  
January - February, 1990  
March - April, 1990  
May - June, 1990  
July - August, 1990

**Box 4**

September - November, 1990

**Series II: Silver Spring Re-Development**

***(Box 4, cont.)***

Project Proposals, 1975-1988  
Historic Preservation, 1985-1988  
Annual Growth Policy and APF Ordinance, 1987  
Bill 24-87: Transportation System Management, 1987  
Incoming Correspondence, 1987  
Montgomery County Opinion Surveys, 1987  
Testimonies Before the County Council, 1987  
Incoming Correspondence, 1987-1990  
Official Memos, 1988  
Road Abandonments, 1988  
Crenca's Public Position Statements, 1988-1989  
City Place Project Plan, 1988-1990  
Official Statements, 1988-1990

**Series III: Subject Files**

**Box 5**

[General], 1978-1981  
[General], 1982-1984  
[General], 1984-1986  
[General], 1985-1986  
[General], 1987-1990  
Accessory Apartments, 1982-1986  
Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Oversight, 1979-1983  
Bill 65-83: Anti-Discrimination in Public Accommodation. & Housing, 1983-1984  
Biographical Materials on Rose Crenca, 1989-1990  
Controversy over Hewitt's Appointment to Planning Commission, 1987  
Conversion of Blair Mansion, 1989-1990  
County Arborist, 1988-1990  
Dangers of Mercury Vapor Lamps and Radon, 1985-1989  
Environmental Assessments of Hiker-Biker Trail, 1984-1987  
Ethics Investigations, 1984-1985  
Fire Sprinklers for Back-to-Back Townhouses, 1985-1986  
Fire Sprinklers in Residential Construction, 1988-1989  
Home Occupation Text Amendment, 1985-1990  
Investigation of Fire at Harry Leet's Farmhouse, 1986  
Liquor Board Scandal, 1980-1981  
Minority/Black Issues, 1969-1982  
Office Phone Log, 1983-1984  
Parker Avenue Substation/Wheaton Substation, 1979-1982  
Phase-Out of Multi-Family Housing, Takoma Park, 1988  
Proposed Hiker-Biker Trail - Rock Creek Park, 1984-1988  
Re-Use of Closed Schools, 1980-1987  
Smoking in the Workplace, 1987-1990  
Transfer Development Rights, 1980 & 1987  
Water Supply, 1976-1980  
Zoning Loophole Bill, 1988-1989