MCPB Date: 09/20/2007 Roundtable Agenda Item #13 G.

DATE:

September 14, 2007

TO:

Montgomery County Planning Board

VIA:

Mary Bradford, Director of Parks

FROM:

Michael F. Riley, Acting Deputy Director of Parks

SUBJECT:

Semi-annual Report: Discussion of Parks Topics

RECOMMENDATION:

Presentation, discussion, and feedback on Parks content for the semi-annual report to the County Council, presently scheduled for October 16, 2007.

SUGGESTED TOPICS:

- 1) Implementation of New Organizational Structure: Provide current Parks organizational chart showing incumbents in all senior positions. Report results of recruitment and hiring efforts and current vacancy rate. Advise about likely supplemental appropriation if vacancies continue to trend below budgeted lapse of 7.5%.
- 2) Status of Enterprise Fund Review: Describe status of our analysis, what recommendations are being considered, and timetable to return to the Council with recommendations. Report any good news on revenue and results of marketing.
- 3) Stewardship of Natural and Cultural Resources: Highlight our challenges, opportunities, and initiatives with archaeological and historical site management.
- 4) Capital Improvements Program: Highlight status of projects of particular interest.
- 5) Fund for Capital Renewal / Lifecycle Replacement: Describe the options we are considering to create a sinking fund to pre-fund lifecycle replacement of park facilities.

- 6) **Urban Parks**: Discuss potential new sub-program to focus on Urban Parks, and the relationship of the zoning ordinance pending before the Council.
- 7) Infrastructure Condition Assessment Project: Describe this project and its status. Convey what we have learned thus far and how we are using the data. Describe relationship to SMARTPARKS.
- 8) Functional Plan for Park Activity Centers: Provide status, describe planned public outreach efforts and timetable.
- 9) **SilverPlace**: Advise of the status and timetable for SilverPlace, particularly the strategy for public outreach and community review.
- 10) Wisconsin Place Community Center: Brief the Council on the coordination between Parks, the Recreation Department, and the developer of Wisconsin Place to complete and open the community center. Advise of a future request for funding.
- 11) **Managing Use on Athletic Fields**: Update the Council on our efforts to manage use on park athletic fields and the results thus far. Describe problems faced, recommendations being considered, and next steps.
- 12) **Inter County Connector**: Describe the consolidated efforts between Parks and Planning to review and monitor this project. Highlight the work effort required to respond to the community stewardship and environmental mitigation projects.
- 13) **Public / Private Partnerships**: Provide a listing of all partnerships that are underway or under consideration, stressing the continued increase in the number of unsolicited proposals. Inform the Council of the newly adopted policy for partnerships.
- 14) **Athletic Field Maintenance**: Remind the Council that they only funded maintenance of the 79 school sites / 172 athletic fields that Parks maintains at MCPS elementary and middle schools for half a year, and that we are working with MCPS to identify the funding for the remainder of the year.

In the narrative portion of the report, staff proposes to focus on what we have done to accomplish objectives that the Council asked us to achieve when they reviewed and approved the FY 08 operating budget. We would highlight the top 5 or 6 areas of focus for the next six months.