



MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

MCPB
Item # 3
1/28/09

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TO: Montgomery County Planning Board

FROM: John Carter, Chief (301) 495-4575 *JAC*
Urban Design and Preservation Division

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Development Review Division

SUBJECT: Graduate Student Presentation: Silver Spring and Kensington Projects
Urban Design Graduate Studio
School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation
University of Maryland

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Provide the opportunity for graduate urban design students from the University of Maryland to present to the Planning Board the results of a recent urban design studio.

DISCUSSION

The School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation of the University of Maryland, College Park offers a graduate urban design studio each semester. Representatives of the Planning Department often attend the review sessions. During the last semester, Matthew Bell, Professor of Architecture taught this studio. Each team of student architects selected one of four sites to provide conceptual urban design ideas. The following areas were included:

Silver Spring CBD - Urban Design Concepts for Three Areas

- South Silver Spring - Urban design concepts for an improved gateway to Silver Spring, a new street system, buildings, and open spaces for the area along both sides of Georgia Avenue.
- Fenton Street Village - Urban design ideas for the area incorporate concepts for new public spaces, a variety of housing types, and retail uses in conformance with the Sector Plan for the Silver Spring CBD.
- East West Highway - Concepts include urban design ideas for the area along both sides of East West Highway from Georgia Avenue to Blair Mill Road.

Kensington - Urban Design Concepts for Connecticut Avenue

The School of Architecture invited the Planning Department to participate in the review of the studio projects. Khalid Afzal, John Carter, Elza Hisel-McCoy, and John Marcolin attended the review sessions as representatives of the Planning Department.

The purpose of the Urban Design Studio is to provide the students from the School of Architecture with an opportunity to work on large-scale urban design projects. Presenting the design ideas to the Planning Board provides a unique opportunity for the students to be exposed to the hearing process in Montgomery County.

G: carter/Agenda - UMD