DATE:

April 15, 2010

TO:

Montgomery County Planning Board

VIA:

Rose Krasnow, Chief Development Division

FROM:

Lois Villemaire, Project Manager, Zoning Code Rewrite

RE:

**Zoning Code Rewrite** 

The Zoning Code Rewrite Project continues, on schedule and on budget. An important milestone was achieved in February when we circulated the Draft Approach and Outline to stakeholders and others. The report has been on the web and many responses have been submitted.

Next week, our zoning consultant team will be visiting to confer with staff and to take part in several events. On April 20, 2010, they will be meeting with the full Council to engage in a discussion on the report direction. In addition to the public forums already held, two open houses are planned for the evening of April 20 here at our auditorium and another on Wednesday, April 21 at noon at the Rockville Library. There has been wide publicity for these meetings that are centered on interactive display stations demonstrating key elements of the rewrite. The consultants will also be reporting to the Zoning Advisory Panel at their monthly meeting.

The project is at an important juncture. Planning staff and the consultants are seeking Planning Board input on the direction of the Approach and Outline report. This is critical, as the drafting of the Code is scheduled to begin in May and we need to be certain we are headed in a direction in which Planning Board members are comfortable. Otherwise the schedule and project budget could fall behind if unnecessary drafting occurs.

At the April 22 Planning Board meeting, the consultant will report on the outcome of the events of the week and discuss the project schedule for the future drafting phase.