September 15, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Montgomery County Planning Board

VIA: Glenn Kreger, Acting Chief

Vision/Community-Based Planning Division

Sue Edwards, Team Leader, North Central Transit Corridor Team

Vision/Community-Based Planning Division

FROM: Vanessa N. Francis, Senior Planner (301-495-4509)

North Central Transit Corridor Team

Vision/Community-Based Planning Division

SUBJECT: Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan Implementation:

Appointment of Advisory Committee Members

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approve membership of the Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan Implementation Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND

The GSSC Master Plan was approved by the County Council on May 4, 2010. County Council resolution #16-1325 approving the Master Plan states the following regarding establishment of an advisory committee:

The Planning Board must establish an advisory committee of property owners, residents, and interested groups (including adjacent neighborhoods in Gaithersburg and Rockville), with representation from the Executive Branch, the City of Rockville, and the City of Gaithersburg that are stakeholders in the redevelopment of the Plan area – to evaluate the assumptions made regarding congestion levels, transit use, and parking. The committee's responsibilities should include monitoring the Plan recommendations, monitoring the CIP and Growth Policy, and recommending action by the Planning Board and County Council to address issues that may arise, including, but not limited to, community impacts and design, and the status and location of public facilities and open space.

On July 22, 2010, Planning staff gave the Planning Board a status report regarding our efforts to begin monitoring and outreach for the Great Seneca Science Corridor (GSSC) Master Plan, as required by the Council Resolution.

OUTREACH

The Planning Board directed Planning staff to contact residents, homeowners, and civic associations as well as commercial property owners for expressions of interest in serving on the GSSC Master Plan Implementation Advisory Committee. In June 2010, staff solicited nominations for expressions of interest in serving on the committee from approximately 85 individuals, property owners and civic leaders who were involved in the Plan development. The Executive Branch was also asked to submit nominees. The deadline for submitting expressions of interest was August 13, 2010.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Planning Board received 12 nominations for the GSSC advisory committee. We recommend that all the applicants be approved by the Planning Board for two-year appointments to the Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan Implementation Advisory Committee. The Executive Branch has also requested three members on the advisory committee; they are also listed below. This brings the total membership to 15.

NAME	AFFILIATION
Lynne Rose	Mission Hills Community
Dr. Stewart Edelstein	Universities at Shady Grove
Marilyn Balcombe	Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce
Larry Diamond	Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc.
Morgan (Mick) Doolittle, III	Foulger-Pratt Companies
Lauren Pruss	City of Gaithersburg
Manisha Tewari	City of Rockville
David Levy (Alternate)	
Dr. Jim Kramer	BioReliance Corporation
Tim Newell	Representative of Roland Banks, Beulah Banks Newell,
	former owners of Belward Farm
Brian Dembeck	Johns Hopkins Real Estate
Donna Baron	The Gaithersburg - North Potomac - Rockville Coalition
	and the Westleigh Homeowners Association
Larry E. Walker	Adventist HealthCare
Tina Benjamin	Montgomery County Department of Economic
	Development
Bob Simpson	Montgomery County Department of Transportation
Diane Schwartz-Jones	Office of the County Executive

NEXT STEPS

The first meeting of the advisory committee is tentatively scheduled during the week of October 18, 2010 (date and place to be determined). We expect the Planning staff to moderate the first meeting; however, the advisory committee will be asked to select their own chair at the second meeting. Staff will use electronic mail to notify committee members and other interested parties in the community regarding meeting agendas.

CONCLUSION

Membership of the GSSC Implementation Advisory Committee needs to reflect a balance of interests and a commitment to implementing the approved and adopted Master Plan. The Planning staff recommends approval of the Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan Implementation Advisory Committee with the membership listed above.

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