



MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Spring 2015 Semi-Annual Report Outline

Letter from the Planning Board Chair

Planning Director's Introduction - Discussion of the Planning Department's priorities from the Director

Planning Department Major goals and trends for the coming months:

- a. Supporting economic development by revamping the development review process to be more efficient.
- b. Supporting greater transparency by creating new web-based tools to make development review process and zoning information more available. (possible demo)
- c. Implementing the new Zoning Ordinance and training on how to use it.
- d. Continuing Subdivision Regulations Amendment Rewrite.
- e. Studying ways of preserving and increasing affordable housing through Rental Housing Study
- f. Studying new ideas in transportation and school capacity planning to address the impact of growth on adequate infrastructure.
- g. Strong focus on the Design Excellence Initiative through examination of design guidelines.
- h. Continuing innovative community outreach efforts such as those used for Bethesda Downtown Plan.
- i. Providing staff with many training opportunities, including core competency programs, to strengthen the department's knowledge base.

Master Planning Highlights and Major Projects Recap from the past six months

- a. Zoning Ordinance Rewrite – burying of the code October 30, 2014
- b. Development process improvements: new 120-day review schedule, concept plans, DRC revitalization, and record plat streamlining
- c. Silver Spring Placemaking Workshops (possible video)
- d. Sandy Spring Rural Village Plan
- e. Aspen Hill Minor Master Plan
- f. Bethesda Downtown Plan
- g. Westbard Plan – charrette (possible video)
- h. Greater Lyttonsville Sector Plan
- i. Montgomery Village – MV Matters
- j. Kick-off of Rental Housing Study and Colocation Study
- k. Greater outreach efforts through social media, happy hours, charrettes, etc. (possible demo)
- l. Design Excellence initiatives: photo contest and Nore Winter presentation/consulting
- m. Purple Line advocacy

New Master Planning Efforts, Studies, and Regulatory Initiatives in the next six months

- a. Work program schedule changes
- b. Subdivision Regulations Amendment Rewrite
- c. Bethesda Downtown Plan (continuing)
- d. Westbard Plan (continuing)
- e. Greater Lyttonsville Sector Plan (continuing)
- f. Montgomery Village Master Plan (continuing)
- g. White Flint II

- h. Aspen Hill
- i. Rental Housing Study(continuing) (continuing)
- j. Colocation of Public Facilities Study (continuing)
- k. Subdivision Staging (Growth Policy)
- l. Recreation Guidelines (continuing)
- m. Infrastructure Symposium – school capacity and transportation modelling tools

Regulatory Review Highlights

- a. Statistics on Development Activity
- b. Statistics on Historic Preservation Work Permits
- c. Streamlining Efforts
- d. ePlans

Community Outreach Efforts and Recognition

- a. Synopsis on Bethesda Downtown, Lyttonsville, Westbard, Montgomery Village, Silver Spring Placemaking
- b. Infrastructure Symposium
- c. Online tools: social media, Mindmixer, videos
- d. Winter Speakers Series with Royce Hanson
- e. Social Media increased traffic
- f. Film on Agricultural Reserve shown in February



SPRING 2015 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OUTLINE

- I.** Urban Parks
- II.** Athletic Fields
- III.** Trails
- IV.** Maintenance Service Backlog
- V.** Sustainability Initiatives
- VI.** Archeology and History Based Programming
- VII.** Corporate Sponsorship Program/Montgomery Parks Foundation
- VIII.** Community Gardens
- IX.** Security Software Databases
- X.** Deer Management
- XI.** CIP Implementation
- XII.** Graphic Design and Web Redevelopment
- XIII.** ActiveNet