



**Planning Board Briefing for the Westbard Sector Plan, Plan Concepts**

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**Completed:** 4.23.15

**Description**

*Summary*

Staff will update the Planning Board on the developments of the major Plan Concepts since the Concept Framework Plan was presented to the Board on December 18, 2014. That Plan resulted from the community charrette held the week of November 10, 2014.

*Outreach*

Since December 18, 2014, staff has continued to engage in extensive outreach with the Westbard community. The table shown below documents the number and types of meetings. In addition, staff has met with or conducted teleconferences with numerous government agencies, including the County Department of Transportation (DOT), State Highway Administration (SHA), Army Corps of Engineers, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). Staff also met individually with many residents and representatives from the neighborhoods surrounding the Westbard Sector Plan boundaries to review the Concept Framework Plan and receive their input. Finally, staff met with more than 12 individual landowners to review Concept Framework Plan recommendations and will continue to meet with landowners as they prepare the Staff Draft Plan.

Meeting	When	Where
Plan briefing to the Kenwood Civic Association	Monday, December 15, 2014	Little Falls Library
Plan briefing to the Springfield Civic Association	Tuesday, January 27, 2015	Fourth Presbyterian Church
Plan briefing to the Town of Somerset	Wednesday, January 28, 2015	Somerset Town Hall
Meeting with Action Montgomery	Friday, February 13, 2015	Park and Planning Commission
Briefing to Kenwood Place condominiums	Thursday, March 26, 2015	Kenwood Place - Westbard
Tour with members of the CCCFH	Tuesday, April 14, 2015	Washington, DC and Alexandria
Briefing to the Women's Democratic Club	Tuesday, April 14, 2015	Lawton Center, Chevy Chase, MD
Presentation of Plan Concepts to Community	Wednesday, April 22, 2015	Walt Whitman HS, Bethesda, MD

### Update to Concept Framework Plan

After the presentation of the Concept Framework Plan to the community on November 18, 2014 and to the Planning Board on December 18, 2014, staff combined the extensive input received from all the major stakeholders and revised several areas of the Concept Framework Plan. Staff revised the proposed heights, land uses, open spaces, transportation and trail and bikeway connections. In addition, the Willett Branch area of renovation was revised and expanded to be better aligned with the existing environmental buffers and setbacks.

### Vision

As part of the Plan vision, staff has advanced the following goals to guide the Plan recommendations:

- Preserve a smaller scale.
- Appropriate density.
- A mix of uses.
- Diversity of housing.
- Affordability.
- Amenities.

Among the amenities that will improve the quality of life for existing and future residents of the Westbard area, staff is recommending the following:

#### Open Space

- Central Green Space – minimum ½ acre.
- Willett Branch renovation and green open space network.
- Placemaking signage reflecting history of Westbard.

#### Roads and Pedestrian Connections

- Boulevard on River Road.
- Upgrade Westbard Avenue.
- New road connecting Westbard Avenue and River Road.

- Network of trails and bikeways.

#### Civic Uses

- Public facility facing Central Green Space.
- Options for new school facilities.

#### *Next Steps*

The Westbard Sector Plan team is now in the process of incorporating the above mentioned revisions into the Staff Draft Plan that it will present to the Planning Board on July 16, 2015.

