

**THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
PRESS RELEASE**

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**CIVIC FORUM OF BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS KICKS OFF UPDATE
TO THE GERMANTOWN MASTER PLAN**

SILVER SPRING, MD – To begin updating the 1989 Germantown Master Plan, the Montgomery County Department of Planning invites the public to participate in a civic forum on **Wednesday, May 31 from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.** with discussion by community and business leaders. The forum will take place at the Black Rock Center for the Arts, 12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown.

Montgomery County Councilmember Michael Knapp (District 2, Upcounty) will moderate the discussion on the future of the employment corridor identified in the 1989 Germantown Master Plan. Panel participants include:

- Allison Bryant, Ph.D., Montgomery County Planning Board
- Royce Hanson, former Planning Board Chairman for the 1974 Germantown Master Plan
- Steve Poteat, former Upcounty Regional Services Center Director
- John Carter, Chief, Community-Based Planning Division.

The panel will discuss the past, present and future of the area along the I-270 High Technology Employment Corridor in Germantown. Participants will explore the relationship between transportation infrastructure and land use planning in a community where residential and retail elements are nearly built out.

By 2030, The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's Research and Technology Center projects that Germantown will achieve 57 percent of the employment capacity planned in the 1989 Master Plan. At that point in time, 93 percent of the housing capacity would be reached.

The May 31 civic forum will also provide input to a panel of land developers from the Urban Land Institute of Washington, DC. The Urban Land Institute worksession on June 26-30, 2006 is sponsored by the Germantown-Gaithersburg Chamber of Commerce, 301-840-1400, and various property owners.

More information, including the current Germantown Master Plan, is available online at http://www.mc-mncppc.org/community/plan_areas/I270_corridor/master_plans/germantownmp0789/germanto_wn0789.shtm.

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