

**THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
ATTENTION CALENDAR EDITORS**

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**PLANNING BOARD SEEKS PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON PROPOSED
NEW FRAMEWORK FOR LONG-TERM COMMUNITY PLANNING**

SILVER SPRING, MD -- The Montgomery County Planning Board seeks public comment, **Thursday, November 17**, at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, on the working draft of a Planning Framework Report: Revitalizing Centers, Reshaping Boulevards, and Creating Great Public Spaces.

Highlighting key development trends, emerging land use and market changes, the report offers a new planning perspective that captures development potential through a focused pattern of sustainable growth that conserves land and energy. Offering a range of options, opportunities and a platform for further discussion, the report was originally presented to the Planning Board on October 27 and is available online at www.mcparkandplanning.org.

The Framework Report suggests that developing large tracts of land in the County is almost over and that most future growth will be in the form of redevelopment and infill. This strategy will require a shift to small area planning, more intensive community outreach and a greater emphasis on building great public spaces for community members to gather.

“Making sound and well-thought out decisions about the future of communities will take many years. We must begin to question ourselves, our public leaders and the residents who already call Montgomery County their home. We encourage all our residents, businesses and organizations to offer their comments and suggestions about this new way of thinking about planning for the future of Montgomery County,” said Planning Board Chairman Derick P. Berlage. “We’ll continue to do land use planning for the future of large master plan areas but focus more intensively on recommending improvements for smaller areas and neighborhoods.”

To sign up in advance to testify in person, those interested may call 301/495-4600. Written testimony may be sent to the Planning Board Chairman Derick Berlage at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, faxed to 301/495-1320 or emailed to mcp-chairman@mncppc-mc.org.

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