

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

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**NEW MONTGOMERY SHOPPING CENTER DIRECTORY OFFERS  
DATA AND INDUSTRY TRENDS**

**SILVER SPRING, MD** – Montgomery County has a total of 20.5 million square feet of retail space either in use or available in its 144 large shopping centers, according to a study just released by The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) that examined commercial centers in the county.

“The Montgomery County Shopping Center Directory” offers a listing of the major characteristics of 144 existing large shopping centers and looks at retail industry trends such as “lifestyle centers” combining shopping and ambiance that may shape county retailing.

Using a wide range of public and private data sources, researchers compiled an extensive inventory of shopping centers of 30,000 square feet or larger. This inventory includes a description of each center’s features, such as its name, address, size in square feet of space and in acres of land, the year built, zoning category and leasing company information.

“Commercial and residential real estate professionals, business leaders, government decision makers, planners and many others will find this detailed information invaluable for future planning, evaluating retail competition in the marketplace and assessing redevelopment opportunities,” said Derick P. Berlage, M-NCPPC Chairman.

The 144 large shopping centers profiled total 20.5 million square feet of retail space on 1,546 acres of land. According to Urban Land Institute definitions the report includes 81 neighborhood centers, 48 community centers, nine regional shopping centers, four super regional centers and two power centers.

Westfield Shoppingtown Montgomery in Bethesda, one of four super regional centers, is the largest shopping center with 1.2 million square feet of space. Other super regional centers are White Flint Mall in Rockville, Westfield Shoppingtown in Wheaton and Lakeforest Mall in Gaithersburg. These centers average 886,659 square feet of retail.

Montgomery County's two power centers, 270 Center and Milestone, are located in the Gaithersburg Vicinity planning area.

Although most of the shopping centers were built in the 1970s, the largest share of retail space (5.5 million square feet) was constructed in the 1990s.

Distribution of shopping centers has followed residential development patterns, thus a majority of them are found in the southern and eastern areas along major transportation routes and in the Rockville area.

"The Montgomery County Shopping Center Directory" is now available free at M-NCPPC's information and publications section, 8787 Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring, and online at [www.mcparkandplanning.org/research](http://www.mcparkandplanning.org/research). For more information on the report, contact M-NCPPC's Research and Technology Center, 301/495-4700.

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