





Bethesda Downtown Plan Design Guidelines, Planning Board Briefing

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Description

SUMMARY

This briefing will provide an overview of the Bethesda Downtown Plan Design Guidelines concepts. Planning Board feedback and direction will inform the development of the working draft of the Design Guidelines.

SCHEDULE

Building on design input received throughout the Sector Plan process, staff began conducting stakeholder working groups in May to discuss the Design Guidelines. Staff will release a working draft of the Design Guidelines in early July for discussion and refinement during work sessions with the Planning Board.

- **May 2017 - Ongoing:** Stakeholder Working Groups
- **June 1, 2017:** Planning Board Briefing
- **July 2017:** Release of the Working Draft
- **July 13 and 27, 2017:** Planning Board Work Sessions

DISCUSSION

The Bethesda Downtown Sector Plan highlights design excellence as an important tool in achieving the vision of a truly sustainable downtown with strengthened centers of activity. This focus is part of the Planning Department's broader effort to raise the quality of design as building density is increasing in Montgomery County's centers like Downtown Bethesda. This growth requires careful consideration of how to create an inviting and livable downtown environment.

The Design Guidelines will be organized into areawide guidelines, applicable to all properties and public spaces within the sector plan area, and site-specific guidelines for key sites.

ATTACHMENT

- A. Bethesda Downtown Plan Design Guidelines Planning Board Briefing Presentation
- B. Bethesda Downtown Plan Design Guidelines Stakeholder Meeting Notes