

Committee: Directly to Council Committee Review: N/A

Staff: Pamela Dunn, Sr. Legislative Analyst

**Purpose:** Receive briefing and have discussion – no vote

expected

**Keywords:** Planning, Parks, Semi-Annual

# SUBJECT

The Semi-Annual Report of the Planning Board to the Council, which outlines accomplishments and current work program items.

**AGENDA ITEM 8** 

April 23, 2020

Discussion

#### **EXPECTED ATTENDEES**

Casey Anderson, Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board Gwen Wright, Director, Planning Department Mike Riley, Director, Parks Department

#### **COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Review Planning Department and Department of Parks accomplishments and work program, providing any input on work program items.

# **DESCRIPTION/ISSUE**

The Semi-Annual Report of the Planning Board to the Council typically occurs in the spring and fall each year. It is an opportunity for the Board to brief the Council on the accomplishments of the Parks and Planning Departments and provide an update on work program items. In past years, the Semi-Annual Report was transmitted to the Council as a multi-page booklet with photographs and descriptions of the Departments' major achievements. Due to the abbreviated time for preparation and the Council's unique budget schedule this spring, the Semi-Annual Report will be provided to the Council in the form of a presentation.

#### **SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS**

- The Semi-Annual Report also includes an update of the master plans and studies in progress, and any proposed changes to their delivery (attached on © 2 update, © 3 approved).
- The General Plan Update and the I-270 Transit Corridor Plan remain on schedule, and the Complete Streets Design Guidelines shows only a three-month delay.
- Other changes from the FY20 approved work program chart<sup>1</sup> include:
  - o Delays of five to 11 month for several work program items.
  - The Shady Grove Minor Master Plan Amendment shows the greatest delay of 11 months.

<sup>1</sup> And the Planning Board approved work program schedule as transmitted with the Proposed FY21 Annual Budget

- The Ashton Minor Master Plan Amendment, Silver Spring Master Plan and the Rustic Roads Functional Master Plan, all show an eight-month delay.
- Much of the master plan delay is related to the impact of COVID-19. Master plan efforts such as community engagement, traffic studies, and retail/market studies will not operate as normal for at least the next few months.
- Two new master plans, a Takoma Park Minor Master Plan Amendment and a Fairland/Briggs Chaney Minor Master Plan Amendment, both show a delay in delivery since the Planning Board approval of the FY21 Annual Budget.
- Since these plans are not yet approved, a delay is meaningless; however, the proposed delivery
  dates for both minor amendments conflict with the Council's ability to approve zoning changes
  in an election year. The delivery dates for these plans should be adjusted such that one Council
  reviews the plans for adoption.

#### **This report contains:**

Outline of Presentation	© 1
Updated Work Program Chart	© 2
Work Program as submitted in the Proposed FY21 Annual Budget	© 3

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# Outline for MNCPPC's Spring 2020 Semi-Annual Report

### **Planning Department:**

Keeping Montgomery Planning work moving during COVID-19

- -DRC Virtual Meetings
- -Planning Board Virtual Meetings
- -Virtual Collaboration with Internal and External Stakeholders

Planning's role in supporting economic activity and helping the recovery effort

- -Research and Special Projects think tank of the County
- -International Retail Study
- -Housing Needs Assessment
- -Purple Line Walkshed/Job shed analysis with PLCC
- -Advancing the Pike District
- -Thrive Montgomery 2050
- -Subdivision Staging Policy
- -Corridor Forward Plan
- -Silver Spring Master Plan
- -Fairland/Briggs Chaney Plan
- -Takoma Park MMA

## **Parks Department:**

- The COVID-19 current reality in our parks
- Communication tools & strategies for residents on safe use of parks
- Opening parkways to people
- How to explore parks from home
- Trail & Vision Zero accomplishments
- Capital Improvements Program project highlights
- Volunteer & accessibility achievements
- Park activation & planning for the future

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# FY21 Proposed Master Plan and Major Projects Schedule October 2019



