



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

AGENDA ITEM 11

November 17, 2020

Discussion

SUBJECT

The Semi-Annual Report of the Planning Board to the Council which outlines accomplishments, current work program items, and both the Planning Department and Parks Department responses to COVID-19.

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

Casey Anderson, Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board
Natali Fani-Gonzalez, Vice Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board
Tina Patterson, Montgomery County Planning Board
Gerald Cichy, Montgomery County Planning Board
Partap Verma, Montgomery County Planning Board
Gwen Wright, Director, Planning Department
Mike Riley, Director, Parks Department
John Nissel, Deputy Director of Operations, Parks Department
Miti Figueredo, Deputy Director of Administration, Parks Department
Robert Kronenberg, Deputy Director, Planning Department
Tanya Stern, Deputy Director, Planning 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. The fall report is customarily provided to the Council in the form of a presentation. The spring Semi-Annual report will be accompanied by a booklet as well as a presentation.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- **PLANNING**

The Semi-Annual presentation will provide an update on the Department's recent move to their new Wheaton Headquarters. It will also include Planning's response to COVID-19 and their ongoing work related to racial equity and social justice. In addition, they will update the Council

on the schedule for Thrive Montgomery 2050 and provide an overview of a handful of regulatory projects in the County (outline attached on © 1).

The Semi-Annual presentation will also include an update of the master plans and studies in progress, and any proposed changes to their delivery (the Adopted Master Plan and Major Projects Schedule is attached on © 3).

- **PARKS**

The Parks portion of the Semi-Annual presentation will provide information on the reopening of Parks in response to COVID-19 closures, as well as other actions the Department is taking to adapt to the ongoing circumstances.

In addition, Parks will provide an update on several ongoing Parks projects and programs, including the Wheaton Regional Park Master Plan, the Maydale Nature Classroom, Pickleball, Dewey Local Park, and the Josiah Henson Museum. The Department will also provide an update on fields (outline attached on © 2).

This report contains:

Outline of Planning Department Presentation	© 1
Outline of Parks Department Presentation	© 2
Adopted Master Plan and Major Projects Schedule – Planning Department	© 3

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Planning

- 1. Wheaton HQ (Parks + Planning)**
 - a. New photos + videos + stats on the building
- 2. Response during COVID-19 (Parks + Planning)**
 - a. Planning Board meetings
 - b. Community engagement - virtual events
 - c. Regulatory work + traffic counts
 - d. Pandemic Adaptation Working Group
- 3. Equity Activities (Parks + Planning)**
 - a. Planning Board briefing
 - b. Staff training
 - c. Street + Parks Facilities Renaming Project
 - d. Vision Zero
- 4. Thrive Montgomery 2050**
 - a. Upcoming Schedule
- 5. SSP/County Growth Policy**
 - a. Next Steps
- 6. Regulatory Projects**
 - a. Bethesda projects
 - b. Westfield Montgomery
 - c. Wilgus
 - d. Solar Projects
- 7. Plans and Studies**
 - a. Complete Streets Design Guidelines
 - b. Corridor Forward: I-270 Transit Plan
 - c. Pedestrian Master Plan
 - d. Rustic Roads Functional Master Plan
 - e. Ashton Village Center Sector Plan
 - f. Shady Grove Minor Master Plan Amendment
 - g. Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities Plan
 - h. Takoma Park Minor Master Plan Amendment
 - i. GSSC Minor Master Plan Amendment
 - j. Fairland/Briggs Chaney Minor Master Plan Amendment
 - k. Advancing the Pike District Study
 - l. Mixed-Use Development Study
 - m. Retail in Diverse Communities Study
 - n. Urban Loading and Delivery Management Study
- 8. Upcoming Work Program Schedule FY22 Proposed**

Parks

COVID Response

1. Reopening –
 - a. Following county guidelines for safe reopening of playgrounds, facilities, fields
 - i.Safety/Signage
 - b. Community collaboration
 - i.Drive-thru testing at Pauline Betz Addie Tennis Center, tents, tables, and Wheaton Regional Park
 - ii.Testing at Wheaton Regional Park (not confirmed)
 - iii.Covid Corps Volunteers
 - iv.Community Gardens – Harvestshare food donations
 - v.Picnic in the Park
 1. Alcohol directive
 - c. Rent abatement for tenants and partners affected by closures
2. Adapting to COVID-19
 - a. Alternative programming
 - i.Parks from Home
 - ii.Stand-up weddings
 - iii.Enterprise – ice skating, tennis, etc.
 - iv.online programming
 1. Nature Centers
 2. Brookside Gardens
 - b. Discover Montgomery
 - c. Drive-In Movies
 - d. Themed 5k (October and November)
 - e. Open Streets Initiative
 - i.ADA accessible gates
 - ii.Continuation of initiative
 - f. Volunteerism – increase in Weed Warrior program
3. Updates/Looking Forward
 - a. Wheaton RP MP – outreach, timeline
 - b. Project Delivery
 - i.Wheaton HQ - highlight sustainability
 - ii.Maydale Nature Classroom
 - iii.Pickleball – temporary courts at East Norbeck and Longwood LP
 - iv.Dewey Local Park
 - v.Josiah Henson Museum
 - vi.Fields update:
 1. MLK #3
 2. goal mouth renovations on park fields
 3. MCPS renovations
 - c. Cabin John Trail improvements – sustainable v. unsustainable

FY21 Adopted Master Plan and Major Projects Schedule
Update October 2020

Master Plan & Major Projects	2020												2021												2022												2023												
	FY21												FY22												FY23																								
	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	
Germantown Plan for Town Sector Zone																																																	
Complete Streets Design Guide/Roadway Functional Class System																																																	
Shady Grove Sector Plan - Minor Master Plan Amendment																																																	
Ashton Village Center Sector Plan																																																	
Thrive Montgomery 2050 General Plan Update																																																	
Rustic Roads Functional Master Plan Update																																																	
Great Seneca Science Corridor Plan Amendment Phase 1																																																	
Corridor Forward: The I-270 Transit Plan																																																	
Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities Sector Plan																																																	
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Takoma Park Minor Master Plan Amendment																																																	
Fairland/Briggs Chaney Minor Master Plan Amendment																																																	
Subdivision Staging Policy Update																																																	
Preserving Community Value of Ethnically Diverse Retail Centers																																																	
Advancing the Pike District																																																	
Urban Loading and Delivery Management Study																																																	
Predictive Safety Analysis																																																	
Mixed Use Development: Current Status and Future Trends																																																	
Equity Opportunity Index																																																	

StaffPlanning Board

Planning Board DraftCE Review & Council Noticing PeriodHearing

Council ReviewCommission Adoption, SMAMontgomery County Elections