



MAYOR AND COUNCIL

**Meeting No. 12-25
Monday, May 5, 2025 - 7:00 PM**

AGENDA

Agenda item times are estimates only. Items may be considered at times other than those indicated.

Any person who requires assistance in order to attend a City meeting should call the ADA Coordinator at 240-314-8108.

Translation Assistance

Individuals who wish to participate in-person at Mayor and Council meetings during Community Forum or Public Hearings and who may need assistance with translation service other than English, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280, 3 business days prior to the meeting date (the Wednesday before the Monday meeting) or email at cityclerk@rockvillemd.gov, or by using this form: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/FormCenter/City-Clerk-11/Sign-Up-for-Translation-Assistance-at-Co-368>

Note: In-Person Speakers will be called upon to speak before those who have signed up to speak virtually for Community Forum and Public Hearings.

In-Person Attendance

Community members attending in-person who wish to speak during Community Forum, or a Public Hearing, should sign up using the form at the entrance to the Mayor and Council Chamber. In-person speakers will be called upon in the order they are signed to speak and before virtual speakers.

Viewing Mayor and Council Meetings

The Mayor and Council are conducting hybrid meetings. The virtual meetings can be viewed on Rockville 11, Comcast, Verizon cable channel 11, livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11, and available a day after each meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand.

Participating in Community Forum & Public Hearings:

If you wish to submit comments in writing for Community Forum or Public Hearings:

- Please email the comments to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov no later than 10:00 am on the date of the meeting.

If you wish to participate virtually in Community Forum or Public Hearings during the live Mayor and Council meeting:

1. Send your Name, Phone number, For Community Forum and Expected Method of Joining the Meeting (computer or phone) to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov no later than 10:00 am on the day of the meeting. Each speaker will receive 3 minutes.
2. Send your Name, Phone number, the Public Hearing Topic and Expected Method of Joining the Meeting (computer or phone) to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov no later than 10:00 am on the day of the meeting.
3. On the day of the meeting, you will receive a confirmation email with further details, and two Webex invitations: 1) Optional Webex Orientation Question and Answer Session and 2) Mayor & Council Meeting Invitation.
4. Plan to join the meeting no later than approximately 20 minutes before the actual meeting start time.
5. Read for <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/38725/Public-Meetings-on-Webex> meeting tips and instructions on joining a Webex meeting (either by computer or phone).
6. If joining by computer, Conduct a WebEx test: <https://www.webex.com/test-meeting.html> prior to signing up to join the meeting to ensure your equipment will work as expected.

Participating in Mayor and Council Drop-In (Mayor Ashton and Councilmember Shaw)

The next scheduled Drop-In Session will be held by phone or in-person on Monday, May 19 from 5:15-6:15 pm with Mayor Ashton and Councilmember Shaw. Please sign up by 10 am on the meeting day using the form at:

<https://www.rockvillemd.gov/formcenter/city-clerk-11/sign-up-for-dropin-meetings-227>

1. **Convene - 7:00 PM**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Proclamation and Recognition - NONE**
4. **Agenda Review - 7:05 PM**
5. **City Manager's Report - 7:10 PM**
6. **Boards and Commissions Appointments and Reappointments - NONE**
7. **Community Forum - 7:15 PM**
8. **Special Presentations - NONE**
9. **Consent Agenda - 7:35 PM**

- A. Resolution - Amending Master Fees for Community Planning and Development Services (CPDS)

- B. Adoption of a Resolution to Close Completed Capital Improvements Program Projects
- C. Adoption of a Resolution to Establish the Equivalent Residential Unit Rate to be Used in Calculating the Stormwater Management Utility Fee Pursuant to Chapter 19 Entitled "Sediment Control and Stormwater Management" of the Rockville City Code; and to Establish a Fee for Application for a Credit Against the Stormwater Management Utility Fee for Private Stormwater Management Facilities
- D. Adoption of a Resolution to Establish the Service Charge Rate for Municipal Refuse Collection and to Establish a Charge for Unreturned Refuse and Recycling Carts Pursuant to Section 20-6 of the Rockville City Code
- E. Adoption of a Resolution to Declare the Official Intent of the Mayor and Council to Reimburse Expenditures for Certain Projects from the Proceeds of Tax Exempt Obligations under U.S. Treasury Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2

10. Public Hearing - NONE

11. Action Items - 7:40 PM

- A. Mayor and Council Briefing on Project Plan Amendment PJT2025-00021, an Application to Amend the Planned Development for Rockville Center, Inc. to Permit a Change of use from Office to Residential and/or Commercial, with up to 550 Dwelling Units at 255 Rockville Pike in the PD-RCI (Planned Development - Rockville Center, Inc.) Zone; 255 Rockville Pike LLC, Applicants.
- B. Adoption of an Ordinance to Appropriate Funds and Levy Taxes for Fiscal Year 2026

12. Worksession - 8:10 PM

- A. Work Session No. 3 on the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite (ZOR): New zones, including Town Center; Revisions to Existing Zone Standards; Height Transitions; and Comprehensive Map Amendment (Part 2)

13. Mock Agenda - 9:10 PM

- A. Mock Agenda

14. Old / New Business - 9:15 PM

15. Adjournment - 9:30 PM



MAYOR AND COUNCIL Meeting Date: May 5, 2025

Agenda Item Type: CONSENT

Department: COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (CPDS)

Responsible Staff: CHRIS DEMPWOLF

Subject

Resolution – Amending Master Fees for Community Planning and Development Services (CPDS)

Department

Community Planning and Development Services (CPDS)

Recommendation

Staff recommends Mayor and Council adopt the proposed amendments to the Master Fee Resolution (See Attachment – Resolution to revise the schedule of various user and regulatory fees for the City of Rockville).

Discussion

Staff is proposing a minor inflationary increase in the fee schedule related to building permitting and inspections for Fiscal Year 2026. An approximate 2.5% increase to most fees is recommended, in line with the average Consumer Price Index (CPI) for calendar year 2024. Additional minor changes are proposed, mostly to align fee amounts for comparable services.

The Master Fee Resolution, which was first established in June 2011, combines various user and regulatory fees into one resolution. The City of Rockville Mayor and Council adopted Resolution No. 18-11 to revise, reorganize, and establish various user and regulatory fees based on the User Fee Analysis Report prepared by Matrix Consulting Group. One of the key recommendations of the report included guidelines on “User Fee Cost Recovery Goals” which recommends that fees are reviewed and updated on an ongoing basis to ensure that they keep pace with inflation.

Since its initial adoption, the Master Fee Resolution has been revised several times. Building fees consist mainly of building and trade-related permits, non-business licenses, fire safety permits and life safety reviews on new commercial buildings, additions, and alterations, as well as occupancy permits.

Fees administered by CPDS and Public Works have not undergone a comprehensive fee study since 2011. A Request for Proposal for a comprehensive fee study has been issued and a

consultant should begin the study in the next several months. This study will be used to inform future adjustments to the Master Fee Resolution in FY 2027. The adjustments recommended for FY 2026 align with CPI inflationary adjustments and help promote the sustainability of the city's permitting, inspection, and plan review programs

Mayor and Council History

The city's Master Fee Resolution was comprehensively revised in June 2011. At that time, many fees were revised based on cost recovery goals as presented in Rockville's adopted financial management policies. Permitting and inspection fees were updated in July 2018. Fee increases that staff were proposing for FY 2021 were not pursued, at the direction of the Mayor and Council, due to the pandemic. Permitting and inspection fees were updated for a 2.5% inflationary increase in February 2022. An internal fee study was conducted by staff leading up to FY 2024, which resulted in some changes to the structure of fees along with moderate increases to many fees. Permitting and inspection fees were updated for a 4% inflationary increase in July 2024.

Public Notification and Engagement

Staff will email proposed fees to all identified stakeholders, including developers, engineering firms and land use attorneys, among others. Staff will also provide this information to all homeowner associations and civic groups and publish a notice on the ISD website. Staff will also leverage the MyGovernmentOnline (MGO) platform to provide this information to all permit applicants.

Fiscal Impact

The fee adjustments in the enclosed resolution are consistent with the fee summary that was shared during the FY 2026 budget process. The fee increases will generate additional General Fund revenue estimated at approximately \$70,290 for FY 2026.

Next Steps

Once adopted, staff will implement a comprehensive public outreach effort to notify our customers of the new fee schedule, which will take effect on July 1, 2025.

Attachments

Resolution To Revise the Schedule of Various User and Regulatory Fees for the City of Rockville_FY26

Resolution No. _____

RESOLUTION: To revise the schedule of various user and regulatory fees for the City of Rockville

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 3 “Animal Control,” Chapter 5 “Buildings and Building Regulations,” Chapter 10 “Floodplain Management,” Chapter 10.5, “Forest and Tree Preservation,” Chapter 12 “Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations,” Chapter 18 “Rental Facilities and Landlord Tenant Relations,” Chapter 19 “Sediment Control and Stormwater Management,” Chapter 20 “Solid Waste,” Chapter 21 “Streets and Public Improvements,” Chapter 23, “Traffic,” Chapter 24, “Water, Sewer and Sewage Disposal,” Chapter 25 “Zoning” of the Rockville City Code, the Mayor and Council are authorized to establish certain fees for the administration of those chapters; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No 10-09, the Mayor and Council established a fee schedule for licensing of rental units within the City; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 13-07, the Mayor and Council established a fee schedule for the administration of the City’s Forest and Tree Preservation Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 7-06, the Mayor and Council established a fee schedule for licenses, permits, capital contributions for water and sewer service, inspection and certifications required by Chapter 5 (Buildings and Building Regulations) including building, plumbing, electrical and mechanical permits, licenses and inspections, and other related fees; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 8-08 the Mayor and Council established a fee schedule for certain permits and approvals issued by the Department of Public Works and authorized the Mayor and Council to enter into agreements that establish an alternate schedule of fees for projects involving the entire City; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 17-02, the Mayor and Council established a schedule of fees for the issuance of sediment control permits and stormwater management permits by the Department of Public Works and for related plan review and inspections; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 1-09, the Mayor and Council established a fee schedule for zoning and development applications and permits and other related fees, including but not limited to fees for street closing and abandonment, permit parking, comprehensive transportation review (CTR) and oversized vehicle permit; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 18-91, the Mayor and Council established a fee schedule for the licensing, registration and testing of dogs; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 20-79, the Mayor and Council established refuse license fees; and

WHEREAS, during Fiscal Year 2011, the Mayor and Council (or City) engaged a consultant to study the City's user and regulatory fees and associated costs in order to make recommendations so as to more fully recoup the costs associated with those fees; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 18-11 adopted June 20, 2011, the Mayor and Council adopted a resolution revising, reorganizing and establishing various user and regulatory fees; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 22-11, the Mayor and Council revised the fee schedule so as to clarify the application of certain fees established by Resolution No. 18-11; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 5-13, the Mayor and Council revised the fee schedule so as to revise and update certain fees; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 1(a)-14, the Mayor and Council revised the fee schedule to provide a fee for inspections required pursuant to Chapter 5; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 19-14, the Mayor and Council revised the fee schedule to provide for water and sewer capital contribution charges, pursuant to Chapter 5, effective July 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 8-15, the Mayor and Council revised the fee schedule to provide for fees established pursuant to Chapter 3 “Animal Control”; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council adopted Resolution No. 9-18 which revised and updated certain permit and inspection fees established pursuant to Chapter 5 of the City Code and revised and updated the water system and sewer system capacity analysis fee established pursuant to Chapter 24 of the City Code; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council adopted Resolution No. 2-19 which established certain fees pursuant to Chapter 21 of the City Code related to the installation and maintenance of small wireless facilities located in the City right of way; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council adopted Resolution No. 9C-19 on June 3, 2019 which revised the fee schedule to establish a fee pursuant to Chapter 7.5 of the City Code to accompany the filing of a petition for the City to enter into a Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council adopted Resolution 17A-21 on December 6, 2021, to revise the schedule of various user and regulatory fees, effective February 7, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council adopted Resolution 03A-23 on May 8, 2023, to revise the schedule of various user and regulatory fees, effective July 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council adopted Resolution 07A-24 on May 6, 2024, to revise the schedule of various user and regulatory fees, effective July 1, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council wants to further revise the Fee Schedule so as to revise and update certain fees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE, that pursuant to Chapters 3 “Animal Control,” Chapter 5 “Buildings and Building Regulations,” Chapter 7.5, “Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreements,” Chapter 10 “Floodplain Management,” Chapter 10.5, “Forest and Tree Preservation,” Chapter 12 “Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous Business Regulations,” Chapter 18 “Rental Facilities and Landlord Tenant Relations,” Chapter 19 “Sediment Control and Stormwater Management,” Chapter 20 “Solid Waste,” Chapter 21 “Streets and Public Improvements,” Chapter 23, “Traffic,” Chapter 24, “Water, Sewer and Sewage Disposal,” Chapter 25 “Zoning” of the Rockville City Code, the following schedule of fees is hereby adopted:

SECTION 1. Chapter 3 - Animal Control

Male and female – unaltered Dog, cat or ferret	\$2.00 per month
Male and female – altered Dog, cat or ferret	1.00 per month

Owned by a Senior Citizen or

Handicapped individual or

Individual on public assistance:

Male and female unaltered \$ 2.00 per month

Dog, cat or ferret

Male and female altered 0.50 per month

Dog, cat or ferret

Permit for chickens \$25.00 per year

Late Fees:

Late fee: \$ 3.00

(Late fees are charged in addition to the regular registration fee or any other applicable fees).

Lost tag replacement (charged at any time): \$ 1.00

Potentially dangerous dog registration fee (charged at

Any time): \$10.00

Potentially dangerous dog sign fee: \$ 5.00

Off leash permit (valid for twelve months) \$ 5.00

SECTION 2. Chapter 5 - Buildings and Building Regulations

BUILDING RELATED FEES

A. Building Permit Fees

1. Residential: Single-Family Detached and Townhouses

- a. New Construction/Addition - \$0.28 per square foot including basement, each floor, garage, and roof.
- b. Alteration/Repair - \$0.28 per square foot of affected area.
- d. Minimum Permit Fee (excludes solar panel permits) - \$142.00
- e. Filing Fee - \$142.00
- f. Filing Fee, Single Family Dwelling (SFD permits)-\$278.75 per dwelling
- g. Automation Fee: 10.25% of all application and permit fees
- h. Solar panels (includes electrical work) - \$120.00
 - i. Fast-track permit issuance (Solar Panels, in addition to permit fee) - \$30.00

2. Multi-family Residential, and all Non-residential

- a. New Construction - \$0.41 per square foot including basement, each floor, and roof, or 1.54% of the total construction costs as estimated by the Building Official, whichever is greater.
- b. Alteration - \$0.36 per square foot of affected area or 1.49% of the total construction costs as estimated by the Building Official, whichever is greater
- c. Fire Code Review of plans when required: 12.3% of building permit fee, in addition to building permit fee, minimum \$65.25
- d. Minimum Permit Fee - \$170.00
- e. Filing Fee - \$170.00, in addition to all permit fees
- f. Automation Fee: 10.25% of all application and permit fees

3. Other Structures

- a. Structures subject to permit but not provided for herein - \$0.33 per square foot including basement, each floor and roof – Minimum fee \$170.00
- b. Fences and small accessory structures - \$40.00
- c. Swimming pool -
 - i. Residential inground and all commercial - \$590.25
 - ii. Residential aboveground - \$142.00
- d. Automation Fee: 10.25% of all application and permit fees

4. Demolition – Existing Buildings

- a. If condemned by City and hearings have been held - \$590.25 plus \$0.06 per cubic foot
- b. If voluntarily demolished - \$590.25

5. Miscellaneous (paid in addition to permit fees)

- a. Authorized request to commence commercial interior fit-up construction prior to permit approval - \$241.00 (quick start)
- b. Foundation-only permit - \$547.00
- c. Demolition, Interior ONLY permit - \$170.00

B. Fire Protection Permit Fees – The following fees apply to the installation of fire protection systems and license inspections for fire safety. Unless otherwise provided a \$169.15 minimum fee applies.

1. Filing Fee - \$169.00, in addition to all permit fees. Does not apply to Walk-thru permits or License Inspection Fees.

2. Fire Alarm & Detection System:

- a. Fire alarm devices – More than 3 devices (with or without main control panel): \$169.15 first four (4) devices, plus \$20.25 per device above four (4)
- b. Permit required for three (3) devices or less (Walk-thru permit) - \$89.75

3. Gaseous Extinguishing System - \$169.15, plus \$1.79 per pound.
Includes controls, alarms, detection, etc.

4. Fire Sprinkler Systems and Standpipe Systems:

- a. Sprinkler, foam, combined standpipe and water mist systems, (10 or more heads) - \$169.15, plus \$5.90/ head

- b. New Standpipe (not combined with sprinkler system) - \$235.75 per riser
 - c. Add new Fire Hose Valve to existing system - \$59.00 per FHV
 - d. Permit required for nine (9) heads or less (Walk-thru permit) – \$89.75
5. Fire Pump - \$300.00 per pump (except limited service pump for NFPA 13D systems)
6. Smoke Control System - \$590.00 per system
7. Wet or Dry Chemical Fire Suppression System:
- a. New or replacement system - \$235.75 per system
8. License Inspection Fees:
- a. Family or Group Day Care - \$59.00
 - b. Nursery or Day Care Center - \$118.00
 - c. Board & Care, up to 16 residents - \$118.00
 - d. Board & Care, more than 16 residents - \$236.00
 - e. Private Educational - \$236.00
 - f. Fireworks/Pyrotechnics Inspection Fee:
 - i. 30 or more days' notice (from the event): \$470.00
 - ii. Less than 30 days' notice (from the event): \$590.00
 - g. Other Licenses - \$118.00
9. Investigation of working without a permit: \$395.00
10. Issuance of a fire watch order in accordance with Chapter 9, Section 9-14: \$235.75
11. Automation fee: 10.25% of all application and permit fees – does not apply to License Inspection Fees

PLUMBING AND MECHANICAL PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE

A. Master Plumber's and Master Gasfitter's licenses

- 1. \$235.75 for 2 year license – prorated annually

NOTE: A plumber must be licensed in the City of Rockville to secure a permit for plumbing work.

B. Plumbing and Gas Fees

1. The Capital Contribution charges for new services (based on domestic water meter size) is hereby established as follows:

Meter Size*	Water Capital Contribution Charge	Sewer Capital Contribution Charge	Total Capital Contribution Charge
1"	\$4,100	\$8,050	\$12,150
1 ½"	\$8,200	\$16,100	\$24,300
2"	\$13,200	\$25,760	\$38,960
3"	\$26,400	\$51,520	\$77,920
4"	\$41,200	\$80,500	\$121,700
6"	\$82,400	\$161,000	\$243,400
8"	\$131,800	\$257,600	\$389,400
10"	\$189,500	\$370,300	\$559,800

*The minimum meter size for new residential and commercial construction is 1-inch.

2. Water meter fees

Fees for water meters, water meter parts, remote readers, and maintenance costs shall be established from time to time in writing by the City Manager.

3. Permit fees

- a. Plumbing and gas fixtures - \$65.25 for first, \$17.75 for each additional.
- b. Replacement - \$65.25 for each water or sewer replacement on private property.
- c. Abandonment - \$65.25 for each water or sewer cap on private property (notify Water Dept. to retrieve their meter).
- d. Tap inspections - \$112.00 for each water, sewer or fire tap.
- e. Automation fee: 10.25% of all application and permit fees

C. Mechanical Fees

1. Permit fees (except multi-family apartments, condominiums and cooperatives)
 - a. First mechanical unit – \$65.25
 - b. Each additional unit - \$17.75
2. Permit fees for multi-family apartments, condominiums, cooperatives, and other similar multi-story buildings

Each dwelling/sleeping unit - \$130.25

3. Automation fee: 10.25% of all application and permit fees

4. A unit of mechanical equipment is defined as follows:

- a. Heating equipment - each 100,000 BTU or fraction thereof.
- b. Cooling and refrigeration equipment - each 60,000 BTU or fraction thereof.
- c. Ducts and diffusers - each 20 diffusers, registers and grilles or fraction thereof.
- d. Fuel tanks - each 500 gallons of capacity or fraction thereof.
- e. Wood stove/insert or prefab fireplace - each appliance.
- f. Other equipment not specifically covered - each appliance.
- g. Grease Ducts: Each 10 feet of ductwork or fraction thereof.

ELECTRICAL FEE SCHEDULE

A. Electrical Fees

1. Rough wiring – switches and receptacles
 - a. 1 to 20 outlets - \$65.25
 - b. Each additional 20 outlets or fraction thereof - \$17.75
2. Fixtures
 - a. 1 to 20 fixtures - \$65.25
 - b. Each additional 20 fixtures or fraction thereof - \$17.75

3. Dedicated Circuits (HVAC, Ranges, Motors, Welders, Cable Heat, etc.)
 - a. First unit - \$65.25
 - b. Each additional unit - \$17.25
5. Service (meter equipment, feeders and sub-panels).
 - a. Not over 225 amp - \$ 65.25
 - b. Over 225 amp to 400 amp - \$83.00
 - c. Over 400 amp to 1000 amp - \$100.50
 - d. Over 1000 amp - \$130.25
 - e. Pole construction service - \$65.25
6. Primary Transformers - Vaults, Enclosures & substations (each bank of transformers).
1 kw or 1 kva. = 1 hp
 - a. Not over 200 kva - \$65.25
 - b. Over 200 to 500 kva - \$83.00
 - c. Over 500 kva - \$100.50
7. Other equipment
 - a. Signs - \$65.25
 - b. Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms - \$1.15 per alarm.
 - c. Low voltage wiring - \$65.25 first 25 units
 - d. Low voltage wiring-each additional 25 units or fraction thereof - \$17.75
8. New construction
 - a. Multi-family apartments, condominiums, cooperatives, and other similar multi-story buildings - \$206.50 per dwelling/sleeping unit.
 - b. Swimming pool – (for all electrical equipment including motors, switches, lights, and receptacles for the pool only) - \$142.00

9. Minimum Fee – (unless otherwise provided)(excludes EV charging fixtures/outlets) - \$65.25

10. Electrical Vehicle (EV) Charging (per fixture/outlet) - \$31.00

11. Automation fee: 10.25% of all application and permit fees (Excludes EV charging fixtures/outlets)

OTHER FEES- APPLICABLE TO ALL PERMIT TYPES in this Section 2.

- A. Inspector Call Back - \$123.00 (unless otherwise provided herein)
- B. Investigation of working without any required permit (unless otherwise provided herein):
 - (i) Owner performing work on residential property - \$197.50
 - (ii) For all others - \$395.00
 - (iii) Occupancy without required permit - \$395.00
- C. Permit/plan revision:
 - a. Residential, per revision - \$90.25
 - b. Multi-Family/Commercial- 50% of original permit fee - \$2,360.00 maximum, \$170.00 minimum
- D. Inspections outside of normal business hours (8a.m.-5p.m. Monday thru Friday, except holidays): \$258.50 per inspection/per inspector. (\$65.75 per hour or fraction thereof in excess of 4 hours/per inspector)
- E. Code Requirement Modification Request: \$197.00 per request
- F. Permit Extension Request: per project request
 - (i) for an unexpired permit: \$67.25
 - (ii) for expired permits, within 12 months of date of expiration: 50% of original permit fee or minimum permit cost or \$67.25, whichever is greater (maximum \$2,360.00)
- G. For all other inspections required by Chapter 5 for which an inspection fee has not been specifically set forth herein: \$118.25
- H. Automation Fee: 10.25% of all application and permit fees

SECTION 2.5. CHAPTER 7.5 – DEVELOPMENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AGREEMENTS

Petition for a Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreement: \$5,000

SECTION 3. Chapter 10 - Floodplain Management

- A. Floodplain study: \$1,460.00
- B. Application for floodplain variance: \$615.00
- G. Floodplain variance extension: \$138.00

SECTION 4. Chapter 10.5 - Forest and Tree Preservation

Forest Stand Delineation	
For single residential lot less than five acres, including single family residential lots being subdivided where no additional buildable lots are being created:	\$ 256.00
All others:	\$1025.00 plus \$154.00 per acre or fraction thereof
Forest Conservation Plan:	
For Single family residential lot being subdivided up to 7 lots-per lot:	\$ 294.00
For all other sites:	\$2,101.00 plus \$158.00 per acre or fraction thereof
Preliminary Forest Conservation Plan:	
Up to 2 acres:	525.00
Greater than 2 acres but less than 5 acres;	\$ 788.00
Five acres or more:	\$1,050.00
Amended Forest Conservation Plan	
For sites with a previously approved FCP (applies only to minor amendments as determined by City Forester)	\$1,050.00 plus \$158.00 per acre or fraction thereof
Individual Tree Removal Permit Application	
	\$5.00 per tree – maximum fee of \$25.00

Resubmittal Fee

For third and all subsequent
submissions
when corrections are
required: \$525.00

**Site reinspections that do not
comply with Chapter 10.5**

For third and all subsequent
inspections for
non-compliance: \$262.00

Forestry Permit Fee

Single Family Residential Lots: \$262.00
All others: \$788.00 plus \$262.00 per
acre
or fraction thereof

**SECTION 5. Chapter 12 - Licenses, Permits and Miscellaneous
Business Regulations.**

Pool or Billiard Table \$60.00 per year per table

Bowling Alleys \$75.00 per establishment per year

Amusement Machine and
Amusement Game Machine \$75.00 per machine per year

Pet Shops and Kennels \$100.00 per establishment per year

Public Event License

(a) For a block party \$ 50.00

(b) For a parade, or
other event which interferes with
the use, by the general public, of
a street, sidewalk or other public
way \$ 75.00

(c) for a marathon run \$ 100.00

Hawkers and Peddlers \$250.00

Solicitors	\$250.00
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Carnivals

(a) Permit Application fee	\$175.00
(b) Daily Operation fee	\$100.00

SECTION 6. Chapter 18 - Rental Facilities and Landlord Tenant Relations

1. Innkeepers' License fee - \$51.00 per year per dwelling unit;
2. Multiple Unit Dwelling License fee - \$154.00 per year per dwelling unit.
3. Single Unit Dwelling Rental -

a. license fee: \$235.00 every two years per dwelling unit. This fee includes the initial license inspection and one reinspection for code compliance.

b. Reinspection Fee: \$52.00 for each additional reinspection required for code compliance prior to license issuance.

4. Attached Accessory Dwelling Unit (approved as a conditional use and meeting the requirements of Chapter 25, the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Rockville). This fee applies only when the accessory dwelling unit is a rental unit:

a. License fee: \$235.00 every two years. This fee includes the initial license inspection and one reinspection for code compliance. Pursuant to Section 18-114, of the Rockville City Code both the attached accessory dwelling unit and the main structure to which it is attached may be inspected, as appropriate.

b. Reinspection fee: \$52.00 for each additional inspection required for code compliance prior to license issuance.

c. Certification fee: \$30.00 for annual inspection of accessory apartment and main dwelling, when neither unit is rented.

5. Applications to renew a rental unit license submitted after the license expiration date shall be subject to an additional \$50.00 application fee.
6. Short Term Rental License fee - \$468.00 every year, per unit.

SECTION 7. Chapter 19 - Sediment Control and Stormwater Management

A. For single comprehensive sediment control or stormwater management permits covering rough grading through fine grading (may include building construction) supported by plans showing existing and final conditions of the development and all associated sediment control and stormwater management measures:

- (1) Sediment Control Aspects
 - (a) Preliminary Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Review Fee: \$103.00 each.
 - (b) Sediment Control Application and Plan Review Fee, which is based on amount of disturbed area, to be paid at the time of the application for a Sediment Control Permit and to cover the review of the sediment control aspects of the Sediment Control Plan:

\$0.031 per square foot of disturbed area. Minimum \$205.00
 - (c) Permit/Inspection Stage – Sediment Control Permit (SCP) Fee to be paid at the time a permit is issued and to cover inspections of sediment control measures:
 - (i) For land disturbing activities: An amount equal to \$0.051 per square foot. Minimum \$256.00
 - (ii) Sediment Control Permit Extension: 10% of original permit fee; \$256.00 minimum

- (d) Technical revision to Sediment Control Plan and Permit Revision (no increase in disturbed area) after Sediment Control permit has been issued – \$436.00 each
 - (e) Sediment Control Plan resubmission review fee: (4th and subsequent submissions): \$461.00
- (2) Stormwater Management Aspects*
 - (a) SWM Concept Fee (based on the site area that is subject to provision of stormwater management) to be paid at the time of stormwater management concept application:
 - (i) SWM Pre-Application Fee:
 - a. Less than 2 acres: \$1,025.00
 - b. 2-5 acres: \$2,460.00
 - c. Greater than 5 acres: \$2,460.00 plus \$103.00 for each additional acre or portion thereof. \$4510.00 Maximum
 - (ii) Development SWM Concept Fee
 - a. Less than 2 acres: \$1,640.00
 - b. 2-5 acres: \$3,380.00
 - c. More than 5 acres: \$3,380.00 plus \$128.00 for each additional acre or portion thereof. \$5,950.00 Maximum
 - (b) SWM Engineering Plan Review and Inspection Fee (i) SWM Application and Plan Review fee to be paid at the time of application for the permit and to cover the review and administration of the stormwater management activities: Six percent (6%) of the cost of the project as estimated by the City Engineer – Minimum \$256.00
 - (ii) SWM Permit Fee to be paid at the time the permit is issued to cover the inspection of stormwater management facilities: ten percent (10%) of the cost of the project as estimated by the City Engineer - \$256.00 minimum.

(iii) No SWM permit fee is required for permits that require only monetary contribution payment.

- (c) Stormwater Management Permit Revision: 16% of estimated cost of work - \$256.00 minimum
- (d) Stormwater Management Permit Extension: 10% of original cost of SWM Permit Fee - \$256.00 minimum
- (e) SWM Plan Resubmission Review Fee (4th and subsequent submissions) \$461.00

*Note that the SWM Concept Fee is in addition to any SWM monetary contribution required to satisfy SWM alternative monetary contribution

B. For a sediment control permit covering rough grading only: those fees set forth in section A(1) above.

C. For a sediment control or stormwater management permit issued subsequent to rough grading and covering fine grading (may include utility/roadway installation and/or building construction):

(1) Sediment Control Aspects:

(a) 100% of the standard review fee set forth in section A(1)(a) above, and, where no new disturbed area is proposed, 50% of the standard permit/inspection fee set forth in section A(1)(b) above.

(b) 100% of the standard review and permit/inspection fees set forth in Section A(1)(a) and (b) above will be charged for any new disturbed area shown on the supporting plans.

(2) Stormwater Management Aspects: 100% of the standard fees set forth in section A(2) above.

D. For a sediment control or stormwater management permit issued for building construction only:

(1) Sediment Control Aspects -

(a) no additional plan review fee

(b) permit/inspection fee: \$200 per house or building

(2) Stormwater Management Aspect - 100% of the standard permit/inspection fee set forth in section A(2) above for any stormwater management required for this permit for which a permit/inspection fee has not previously been paid.

(3) Where residential lots are graded and sold to builders or other developers for construction of houses, a new sediment control permit shall be issued to each entity constructing the houses. The permit shall be issued and fee charged for each

permit regardless of whether housing construction was included on plans supporting earlier sediment control permits.

SECTION 8. Chapter 20 - “Solid Waste”

Refuse license fees:	\$75.00
Per truck:	\$25.00

SECTION 9. Chapter 21. “Streets and Public Improvements”

- A. Public improvement Application and Plan Review Fee to be paid at the time of application for the permit and to cover the review and administration of the public improvements design within a public right of way or easement: Five Percent (5%) of estimated cost of work; \$256.00 Minimum.
- B. Permit/Inspection Stage – Public Works Permit (PWK) Fee to be paid at the time the permit is issued for inspection of public improvement construction within a public right-of-way or easement: Ten percent (10%) of the cost of the project as estimated by the City Engineer - \$256.00 minimum.
- C. Right of way protection permit fee to be paid at the time the permit is issued for the review and inspection of construction activity within a public right of way or easement: \$205.00
- D. Utility Plan Review and Permit Fee:
 - (a) for utility installation as specified below (\$277.00 minimum):
 - (i) Excavation in asphalt, concrete sidewalks and grass: \$5.38 per linear foot –
 - (ii) Boring asphalt, concrete sidewalks and grass: \$5.13 per linear foot
 - (iii) Pole replacement or installation: \$103.00 per pole
 - (iv) Installation of overhead wire or pulling cable through existing conduit without excavation:: \$0.092 per foot

(v) Keyhole-excavation in asphalt or concrete sidewalks:
\$25.63 per hole.

(b) Plan resubmission fee (3rd and subsequent submissions: \$461.00

(c) Permit extension fee: 10% of original utility permit fee: \$256.00

E. Public Improvement Plan revision and Permit revision (after permit issued): Fifteen percent (15%) of estimated cost of new work- \$256.00 minimum.

F. Permit extension: 10% of original PWK permit fee - \$256.00

minimum.

G. Public Improvement Plan resubmission (starts with resubmission No. 4): \$461.00

H. Notwithstanding the fees set forth above in this SECTION 9, the Mayor and Council may enter into agreements that provide for an alternate fee schedule for projects involving the entire City.

I. Street Closing / Public Way Abandonment

- a. Where street or other area to be abandoned is located within a single dwelling unit detached residential zone: \$ 513.00
- b. Where street or other area to be abandoned is located within any other zone: \$4,610.00

J. Application and Permit Fees for Installation of Small Wireless Facilities in the Public Rights-of-Way:

- a. Installation of up to five (5) small wireless facilities (a collocation) \$500.00
Each additional small wireless facility beyond five (5) per application \$100.00
- b. Installation of a new pole to support one or more small wireless facilities (not a collocation) \$1,000.00
- c. Annual right-of-way access fee for each small wireless

facility \$ 270.00

K. Fire Hydrant Flow Test Fee: \$650.00 each

SECTION 10 – Chapter 23 -Traffic

Parking Permit Fees:

\$5.00 for every year or part thereof for which the permit is issued

Temporary Parking Permit Fee:

\$1.00 per calendar month or part thereof for which the permit is issued

Oversized vehicle permit:

a.	Application	\$150.00
b.	Permit	\$ 40.00

SECTION 11 . Chapter 24 Water, Sewer and Sewage Disposal

a.	Water and Sewer Authorization Application Fee:	\$250.00
b.	Water System Desk-top Hydraulic Analysis Review Fee:	\$550.00
c.	Sewer System Desk-top Hydraulic Analysis Review Fee:	\$600.00
d.	Backflow Assembly Testing Fee	\$42.00

SECTION 12. Chapter 25 - Zoning

1. Local Map Amendment (Zoning) Applications*:	\$2,300 plus \$103.00 per acre or part thereof, no limit
2. Text Amendment Applications:	\$3,150.00
3. Special Exception Applications*:	
Minor Modification:	Half of the initial Special Exception fee

* Notification sign fee is required.

Major Modification:

Same as the initial Special
Exception feeTIER 1 Special Exception:

All others (listed below)	\$2,563.00
Swimming pool (non-accessory)	
Home based business – major	
Taxicab service	
Charitable and philanthropic institutions	
Veterinarian office	
Bed and breakfast lodging	
Child care center – 9 to 12 children	

TIER 2 Special Exception

\$5,125.00

Adult Day Care
 Personal living quarters
 Pawnbroker
 Child care center – more than 12 children
 Group home – large

Housing for senior adults & persons with
 disabilities
 Life care facility
 Nursing home
 Outdoor recreational establishment, commercial,
 except shooting gallery or range
 Recreational establishment, indoor, commercial,
 except shooting gallery or range
 Restaurant in the I-L Zone
 Shooting gallery or range
 Sports facility, multi-purpose, indoor commercial
 Private club
 Animal hospital

TIER 3 Special Exception:

\$5,125.00

Automobile filling station (Class I and II)
 Educational institutions, private
 Hospital
 Hotel
 Public utility buildings and structure
 Restaurant
 with drive-through
 Wireless communication freestanding ground mounted
 antenna support structure

TIER 4 Special Exception \$15,750.00

Adult oriented establishments

4. Variance and Appeals Applications*:

- | | |
|--|------------|
| a. Properties improved with a single dwelling unit detached, attached, semi-detached, or a townhouse in which the applicant resides: | \$ 368.00 |
| b. All other properties: | \$2,630.00 |
| c. Sign variance: | \$ 300.00 |

5. Site Plan (Level 1 and 2) / Amendment*:

- | | |
|------------|--|
| a. Level 1 | \$2,630.00 plus \$21.00 for each 1,000 sq. ft. of GFA of non-residential use or portion thereof & \$21.00 for each dwelling unit for residential uses |
| b. Level 2 | \$3,150.00 plus \$21.00 for each 1,000 sq. ft. of GFA of non-residential use or portion thereof and \$21.00 for each dwelling unit for residential use |

* Notification sign fee is required.

c. Amendments to any approved site plan	
Major Amendment	Same as Site plan fee
Minor Amendment	\$1,580.00
(i) For mobile uses	\$ 315.00
(ii) For renewal of mobile uses at same location	\$ 315.00
Minor Amendment for Commercial Redevelopment	\$2,630.00 plus \$21.00 for each 1,000 sq ft GFA or portion thereof
6. <u>Project Plan/Amendment*</u>	
a. Project Plan Application	\$10,500 plus \$20.50 for each 1,000 sq ft. of non-residential and \$21.00 for each dwelling unit
b. Modification of Project Plan Application	
Major Amendment	Same as initial application
fee	
Minor Amendment	\$2,311.00
7. <u>Preliminary Plan/Final Record Plat/Ownership Plat*</u>	
a. Preliminary Plan - All Zones:	\$2,311.00 plus \$52.50 per lot
b. Final Record Plat: recordation of an existing single unit detached residential lot	\$210.00
c. Final Record Plat - All others	\$810.00 plus \$53.00 per lot
d. Ownership Plat	\$3,470.00 per plan plus \$ 116.00 per Ownership lot
8. <u>Annexation Petition</u>	\$1,500 per lot for Single Family Residential Lots

\$10,500.00 plus \$ 210.00 per
acre, or part thereof, no limit
for all others

9. Time Extensions

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a. For single dwelling unit
residential properties within a
residential zone | \$52.50 |
| b. For all other properties | \$315.00 |

10. Sign Permits

- | | |
|---|----------|
| a. All signs: | \$103.00 |
| b. Investigation of erection of a sign
without a permit: | |
| In a single unit detached residential zone: | \$180.00 |
| In all other zones: | \$358.75 |

11. Pre-Application meeting

Where required (non-refundable)	\$525.00
---------------------------------	----------

12. Non-Conforming alteration*

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| a. For Chief of Planning review | \$769.00 |
| b. For Planning Commission review | \$1,538.00 |

13. Administrative adjustment*

\$769.00

14. Notification sign

- | | |
|--|---------|
| a. Where written notification is
responsibility of the City | \$52.50 |
|--|---------|

* Notification sign fee is required

- b. Where written notification is responsibility of the applicant \$262.00
STP (level 1 and 2),
PJT, SPX applications

15. Historic District Certificate of Approval:

No charge.

16. Temporary Permit Fees:

- a. Fees for temporary permits under Chapter 25 of the Rockville City Code \$165.00 per six (6) month permit period
- b. A cash bond in the amount of \$1,000.00 shall be required before issuance of a temporary permit described in 18.a.above, except for Portable Storage Units, which require a cash bond of \$250.00.

17. Occupancy permit:

- a. Single dwelling unit detached, attached semi-detached, or townhouse \$ 120.00
- b. All other uses: \$ 165.00 per 5,000 sq. ft. or fraction thereof
- c. There shall be an additional fee of \$123.00 for each additional inspection required because of failure to comply with the various ordinance requirements before the occupancy.
- d. Investigation of occupancy without required permit: \$395.00 plus permit fee

18. Other Fees:

- a. Comprehensive Transportation Review (CTR)

Scoping Application Fee	\$ 200.00
On site only (less than 30 peak hour trips)	\$ 1,000.00

Up to 5 intersections	\$ 2,000.00
6-10 intersections:	\$ 7,000.00
More than 10 intersections:	\$20,000.00

b. Engineering Review and Inspection Fees

For all applications requiring performance guarantees for private improvements: Supplemental fee, which is based on the cost of the improvements as estimated by the City Engineer

1. Private Improvement Application and Plan Review Fee to be paid at the time of application for the permit and to cover the review and administration of the private improvements design: Five percent (5%) of estimated Cost of work: \$250.00 minimum

2. Permit/Inspection Stage Permit Fee to be paid at the time the permit is issued for inspection of private improvement construction: Ten percent (10%) of the cost of the project as estimated by the City Engineer - \$250 minimum

c. Zoning compliance verification letter: \$ 315.00

For research involved in verifying compliance status of properties within the City.

d. Application Resubmission Fee:

For third and subsequent application submissions of same plan to address review comments \$ 525.00

For resubmission of a Project Plan Application (third and subsequent resubmission of same Project Plan Application to address review comments) \$ 2,100.00

e. Zoning Ordinance Waiver Request \$ 525.00

f. Alternative Compliance (Design Guidelines) \$350.00

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there shall be no fee for a rental license for a multiple unit dwelling or single unit dwelling which is owned and operated by a non-profit organization or corporation or under any program financed by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Manager is authorized to approve the reduction or waiver of the fees established herein, when the City Manager determines, based upon a written justification from the applicant, that such reduction or waiver is necessary to address unintended circumstances or is in the interest of public good;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all fees shall be paid, including fees applicable to all governmental agencies and non-profit entities, unless otherwise provided by this Resolution, the City Manager, State, Federal or City law;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Manager is authorized to establish fees for services not otherwise provided for by resolution; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Recreation and Parks is authorized to establish fees for Recreation and Parks facilities and programs; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the fees and charges established by this resolution shall take effect on _____ July 1, 2025_____.

* * * * *

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council at its meeting of _____, 2025.

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director
Of Council Operations



MAYOR AND COUNCIL Meeting Date: May 5, 2025
Agenda Item Type: CONSENT
Department: FINANCE
Responsible Staff: MARY SUE MARTIN

Subject

Adoption of a Resolution to Close Completed Capital Improvements Program Projects

Department

Finance

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council adopt the resolution to close completed Capital Improvements Program (CIP) project accounts.

Discussion

In accordance with the city's adopted Financial Management Policies, each year the Mayor and Council must formally authorize staff to close completed CIP projects. This authorization is given through adoption of a resolution (Attachment 1).

Attachment 2 provides a brief summary of the four projects to be closed at the end of Fiscal Year (FY) 2025, including the project name, number, program area, brief description, original and current project budget, and unspent funds as of April 15, 2025. These projects are funded by the Capital Projects and Water funds. Of these four projects, two had unobligated appropriations greater than \$10,000 as of April 15, 2025; however, staff does not anticipate significant savings at the close of the Water Treatment Plant Electrical, Roof, and HVAC Upgrades (UA17) project. At the end of FY 2025, any unspent appropriations from the closed projects will be returned to the fund from which the appropriations were made, unless the project was funded from an outside source. Please note, the amount of the unobligated funds currently shown for all projects may be reduced due to final payments in FY 2025.

Mayor and Council History

The Mayor and Council adopt a resolution to close completed CIP projects once per fiscal year.

Fiscal Impact

As of June 30, 2025, any unspent appropriations from the closed projects will be returned to the fund from which the appropriations were made, unless the project was funded from an outside source.

Next Steps

Finance staff will close the CIP project accounts as of June 30, 2025.

Attachments

Attach1_FY25_CIP_ClosureResolution, Attach2_FY25_CIP_ClosureList

Resolution No. ____

RESOLUTION: To Close Completed Capital
Improvements Program Project
Accounts

WHEREAS, in accordance with the City's financial management policies, balances in capital project accounts should be closed periodically and unexpended appropriations should be returned to the fund from which the allocations were made; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council to close certain capital improvement project accounts that have been completed;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND that the Chief Financial Officer be hereby authorized to close the following capital improvement projects as of June 30, 2025:

Project Title	Project Number	Fund(s)
King Farm Farmstead Horse Barn	RA18	420
Promenade Park Elevator Replacement	RD21	420
SCADA Cybersecurity	UA23	210
Water Treatment Plant Electrical, Roof, and HVAC Upgrades	UA17	210

* * * * *

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council at its meeting of

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations

Detail of Closed CIP Projects for FY 2025 Year-End

Project Title	Program Area	Brief Description	First Appeared	Original Budget	Current Budget	Encumbered and Spent	Unobligated 4/15/25 ¹
<i>Capital Projects Fund (420)</i>							
King Farm Farmstead Horse Barn (RA18)	Rec & Parks	This project funds the salvaging of historic material for reuse, demolition of existing structure and foundation, and reconstruction to maintain the overall character of the Horse Barn. Temporary shoring was completed in 2019. This project will not make the Horse Barn ready for occupancy nor will it be fit out for any specific use, but it will create a weathertight building shell.	2018	-	55,356	55,356	-
Promenade Park Elevator Replacement (RD21)	Rec & Parks	Promenade Park serves as a major thoroughfare connecting the Rockville Metro Station and Town Center. This project designs and reconstructs the Promenade Park Elevator. The elevator provides ADA access to Monroe Street from the Promenade and the Rockville Metro Station.	2021	213,000	577,622	574,896	2,726
Total Capital Projects Fund (420)				\$ 213,000	\$ 632,978	\$ 630,252	\$ 2,726
<i>Water Fund (210)</i>							
SCADA Cybersecurity (UA23)	Utilities	This project implements defense-in-depth cybersecurity network tools to protect the System Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system from internal and external threats. SCADA refers to a system that collects data from various sensors at the WTP, water, and wastewater systems, which is then sent to a central location to coordinate, manage, and control the systems.	2022	300,000	850,000	829,128	20,872
Water Treatment Plant Electrical, Roof, and HVAC Upgrades (UA17) ²	Utilities	This project designs and constructs upgrades for the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) electrical, roof, and HVAC systems, and second floor renovations. Major electrical system components are original (1958) and at or near the end of their useful life. Electrical system components and associated control systems will be replaced, rehabilitated, and relocated to improve electrical system reliability, safety, and capacity.	2017	5,250,000	10,683,000	10,410,341	272,659
Total Water Fund (210)				\$ 5,550,000	\$ 11,533,000	\$ 11,239,469	\$ 293,531
Total ALL FUNDS				\$ 5,763,000	\$ 12,165,978	\$ 11,869,721	\$ 296,257

¹ May be reduced due to final payments in FY 2025.

² Staff does not anticipate any significant funding remaining at the close of this project.



MAYOR AND COUNCIL Meeting Date: May 5, 2025
Agenda Item Type: CONSENT
Department: FINANCE
Responsible Staff: KIM FRANCISCO

Subject

Adoption of a Resolution to Establish the Equivalent Residential Unit Rate to be Used in Calculating the Stormwater Management Utility Fee Pursuant to Chapter 19 Entitled "Sediment Control and Stormwater Management" of the Rockville City Code; and to Establish a Fee for Application for a Credit Against the Stormwater Management Utility Fee for Private Stormwater Management Facilities

Department

Finance

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council adopt the Resolution to Establish the Equivalent Residential Unit Rate to be Used in Calculating the Stormwater Management Utility Fee Pursuant to Chapter 19 Entitled "Sediment Control and Stormwater Management" of the Rockville City Code; and to Establish a Fee for Application for a Credit Against the Stormwater Management Utility Fee for Private Stormwater Management Facilities.

Change in Law or Policy

Setting the stormwater management fee for FY 2026 requires the passage of the attached resolution.

Discussion

The City's stormwater management utility fee, which was established by ordinance in FY 2008, funds Rockville's stormwater, storm drainage, and water quality programs. This ordinance enables the City to charge an annual fee per Equivalent Residential Unit ("ERU").

All residential and commercial properties in the city are set to pay \$159 per ERU per year, which is a \$7 increase over the FY 2025 rate. Customers pay the stormwater management fee on their annual real property tax bill that comes from Montgomery County.

The Stormwater Management (SWM) Fund makes up 4 percent of the total operating budget, and supports 23.8 regular FTEs, all operating costs of the program, and 11 capital projects. The Fund supports the budgets for the Public Works Department and Non-Departmental. The SWM Fund's current debt will be retired in FY 2042. No bond issues are planned for FY 2026 or for the CIP planning period.

Forecasted operating and capital budgets are consistent with the requirements of the National Pollution Discharge and Elimination System (NPDES) general permit for Phase II Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) that was issued in 2018.

Mayor and Council History

Date	Action Item
October 28, 2024	Public Hearing #1
March 17, 2025	Public Hearing #2 Introduction of Budget Ordinance M&C Worksession #1 - Strategic Initiatives, Reorganization, Revenues
March 24, 2025	Public Hearing #3 Budget Worksession #2 - Operating Expenditures, Grants, Fund Balance
April 7, 2025	Budget Worksession #3 - Operating Expenditures, CIP, Grants, Debt Review, and Final Balancing

Public Notification and Engagement

The FY 2026 budget public record closed on April 7, 2025. The final public hearing was held on March 24, 2025.

The FY 2026 budget process included multiple opportunities for public input, including “Propose-A-Project” submissions, three budget public hearings, and offering written testimony to be included in the budget public record.

The Rockville community also submitted an online budget survey to communicate their budget priorities for FY 2026. This form was available in 3 languages (English, Spanish, and Simplified (Mandarin) Chinese) and was posted through April 7, 2025. The final community budget priorities survey report is attached with the materials for budget adoption.

Fiscal Impact

The adopted FY 2026 operating budget for the Stormwater Management Fund equals \$7,625,700 and the FY 2026 CIP budget equals \$19,619,853. The adopted budget is based on a SWM rate of \$159 per equivalent residential unit.

Next Steps

The FY 2026 adopted budget will begin July 1, 2025, and continue through June 30, 2026. The FY 2026 budget book will be posted to www.rockvillemd.gov/budget in July 2025.

Attachments

Attach1_SWMUtilityFee_May2025

Resolution No. _____

RESOLUTION: To establish the equivalent residential unit rate to be used in calculating the Stormwater Management Utility Fee pursuant to Chapter 19 entitled “Sediment Control and Stormwater Management” of the Rockville City Code; and to establish a fee for Application for a credit against the Stormwater Management Utility fee for private stormwater management facilities

WHEREAS, City Code Section 19-5(a)(3) requires the Mayor and Council to establish, by resolution, the equivalent residential unit rate to be used for calculating the Stormwater Management Utility Fee to support the City’s stormwater management, storm drainage, and related water quality programs; and

WHEREAS, City Code Section 19-118 provides for the adoption of regulations establishing a system of credits against the Stormwater Management Utility Fee for private stormwater management facilities owned and maintained by the property owner; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Code Section 19-5(a)(4), the Mayor and Council approved regulations establishing such a system of credits and which provided for the establishment of a fee for applications for credits against the Stormwater Management Utility Fee; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 04-24 adopted on May 6, 2024, the Mayor and Council amended the equivalent residential unit rate to be used for calculating the Stormwater Management Utility Fee and the fee for application for a credit against the Stormwater Management Utility Fee for private stormwater management facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desires to amend the rate per equivalent residential unit to be used for calculating the Stormwater Management Utility Fee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND, that pursuant to Chapter 19 entitled “Sediment Control and Stormwater Management,” the regulations adopted pursuant thereto, the following rate and fee are hereby established:

1. The equivalent residential unit rate to be used for calculating the Stormwater Management Utility Fee is hereby established as follows:

FY 2026
\$159.00

2. The fee for an application for a credit against the Stormwater Management Utility Fee for private stormwater management facilities owned and maintained by the property owner is hereby established at \$165.00 for each application.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Stormwater Management Utility Fee shall be levied and collected in all respects in the same manner as regular taxes are collected, and unpaid stormwater management utility fees shall be a lien on the property served.

* * * * *

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of Rockville at its meeting of

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations



MAYOR AND COUNCIL Meeting Date: May 5, 2025
Agenda Item Type: CONSENT
Department: FINANCE
Responsible Staff: KIM FRANCISCO

Subject

Adoption of a Resolution to Establish the Service Charge Rate for Municipal Refuse Collection and to Establish a Charge for Unreturned Refuse and Recycling Carts Pursuant to Section 20-6 of the Rockville City Code

Department

Finance

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council adopt the Resolution to establish the service charge rate for Municipal Refuse Collection, and to establish a charge for unreturned refuse and recycling carts pursuant to Section 20-6 of the Rockville City Code.

Change in Law or Policy

Setting the refuse rate for FY 2026 requires the adoption of the attached resolution.

Discussion

The Refuse Fund accounts for the financial activity associated with the collection and disposal of residential recycling, refuse, and yard waste. The City currently operates a once-per-week refuse pickup and a single-stream recycling program. For FY 2026, the rate is set to increase by 5.6 percent, or \$30 per year, to \$565 per single-family residence. Customers pay for recycling and refuse services on their annual real property tax bill that comes from Montgomery County.

The Refuse Fund makes up 5 percent of the total operating budget, supports 37.2 regular FTEs, one capital project, and all operating costs of the program. The Fund supports the budgets for the Public Works Department and Non-Departmental. The Refuse Fund's current debt will be retired in FY 2026. No additional bond issues are planned at this time.

There is \$719,618 appropriated in the CIP for the installation of a new recycling transfer enclosure at the Gude Drive Maintenance Facility. The recycling transfer enclosure will allow City trucks to transfer recycling to trailers for haul-off. This enclosure moves the transfer work under cover, provides fire suppression, stops windblown material on the maintenance yard and surrounding properties, and expands recycling program efficiency. This project was originally fully supported by the Refuse Fund, but the Mayor and Council decided to allocate a portion of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to support this initiative.

Mayor and Council History

Date	Action Item
October 28, 2024	Public Hearing #1
March 17, 2025	Public Hearing #2 Introduction of Budget Ordinance M&C Worksession #1 - Strategic Initiatives, Reorganization, Revenues
March 24, 2025	Public Hearing #3 Budget Worksession #2 - Operating Expenditures, Grants, Fund Balance
April 7, 2025	Budget Worksession #3 - Operating Expenditures, CIP, Grants, Debt Review, and Final Balancing

Public Notification and Engagement

The FY 2026 budget public record closed on April 7, 2025. The final public hearing was held on March 24, 2025.

The FY 2026 budget process included multiple opportunities for public input, including “Propose-A-Project” submissions, three budget public hearings, and offering written testimony to be included in the budget public record.

The Rockville community also submitted an online budget survey to communicate their budget priorities for FY 2026. This form was available in 3 languages (English, Spanish, and Simplified (Mandarin) Chinese) and was posted through April 7, 2025. The final community budget priorities survey report is attached with the materials for budget adoption.

Fiscal Impact

The adopted FY 2026 operating budget for the Refuse Fund equals \$8,759,240 and the FY 2026 CIP budget equals \$719,618. The adopted budget is based on a refuse rate of \$565 per year.

Next Steps

The FY 2026 adopted budget will begin July 1, 2025, and continue through June 30, 2026. The FY 2026 budget book will be posted to www.rockvillemd.gov/budget in July 2025.

Attachments

Attach1_Refuse_May2025

Resolution No. _____

RESOLUTION: To Establish the Service Charge Rate - Municipal Refuse Collection and to establish a charge for unreturned refuse and recycling carts

WHEREAS, City Code Section 20-6 requires the Mayor and Council to establish, by resolution, the service charge rate for municipal refuse collection service; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 05-24 adopted on May 6, 2024, the Mayor and Council amended the service charge rate for municipal refuse collection service; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desires to amend the service charge rate for municipal refuse collection service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND, that in accordance with Section 20 entitled "Solid Waste," the regulations adopted pursuant thereto, the following service charge rate for municipal refuse collection service is hereby established for each single-family residence:

FY 2026
\$565.00

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said amount shall be levied and collected in all respects in the same manner as regular taxes are collected, and unpaid refuse service charges shall be a lien on the property served;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said service charge may not be reduced or suspended for reason of property vacancy or for any other reason;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with regulations approved pursuant to City Code Section 20-7, the following charges are hereby established for refuse and recycling carts that are not available for the City to pick up after a residence has been vacated:

Resolution No. _____

-2-

35 gallon cart	\$38.94
45 gallon cart	\$45.90
65 gallon cart	\$46.41
95 gallon cart	\$52.01

* * * * *

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of Rockville at its meeting of

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations



MAYOR AND COUNCIL Meeting Date: May 5, 2025
Agenda Item Type: CONSENT
Department: FINANCE
Responsible Staff: KIM FRANCISCO

Subject

Adoption of a Resolution to Declare the Official Intent of the Mayor and Council to Reimburse Expenditures for Certain Projects from the Proceeds of Tax Exempt Obligations under U.S. Treasury Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2

Department

Finance

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council adopt the attached resolution to declare the official intent of the Mayor and Council to reimburse expenditures for certain projects from the proceeds of tax-exempt obligations under U.S. Treasury Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2.

Discussion

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Capital Improvements Program anticipates the support of tax-exempt debt in FY 2026 for project expenditures in the Water and Sewer funds. Federal tax law requires that the City declare its official intent to finance specific projects with bond proceeds prior to incurring expenditures that will later be reimbursed.

The proposed resolution accomplishes this declaration. The projects proposed for financing are listed in Exhibit A of the attached resolution.

Adopting this resolution does not mean the City must issue bonds for all of the projects or amounts that are listed. It simply means that if the Mayor and Council decide to issue bonds for any or all of the projects listed, the City will be able to reimburse prior expenditures with the proceeds from the sale of the bonds.

Mayor and Council History

The Mayor and Council adopted a similar resolution on May 6, 2024, for projects to be funded with bond proceeds in FY 2025.

Fiscal Impact

Adoption of the resolution will allow the City to be reimbursed for expenditures on specified capital projects from tax-exempt bond proceeds. This resolution allows the City to borrow up to a maximum of \$16,487,344 million for the projects identified.

Next Steps

Staff currently anticipates its next bond issue for FY 2027 and will be working with the Office of the City Attorney, and the City's bond counsel and financial advisor on these plans.

Attachments

Attach1_FY2026BondFundedProjects_NoticeofIntentResolution

Resolution No. _____

Resolution: To declare the official intent of The Mayor and Council of Rockville to reimburse expenditures for certain projects from the proceeds of tax-exempt obligations under U.S. Treasury Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2

RECITALS

WHEREAS, The Mayor and Council of Rockville (the “**Mayor and Council**”) intends to issue debt to finance the acquisition, construction and equipping of certain facilities and equipment described on Exhibit A attached hereto (collectively, the “**Projects**”) for use in the governmental functions of the City of Rockville, Maryland (the “**City**”); and

WHEREAS, the Projects are expected to cost approximately \$16,487,344 in the aggregate and the City expects to make expenditures (“**original expenditures**”) for the Projects before such debt is issued; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Treasury Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 requires that in order to assure the eligibility of an original expenditure made by the City for reimbursement from the proceeds of tax-exempt obligations, the Mayor and Council generally must adopt an official intent in compliance with such regulation within 60 days after payment of the original expenditure; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council desires to declare its official intent to reimburse the original expenditures to pay costs of the Projects with the proceeds of the City’s debt in order to comply with the requirements of U.S. Treasury Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 and thereby assure the eligibility of the original expenditures for such reimbursement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE, as follows:

1. The City intends to acquire, construct and equip the Projects.
2. The City reasonably expects that (i) it will issue debt in the form of tax-exempt bonds or other obligations to finance all or a portion of the costs of the Projects, and (ii) it may pay original expenditures for the Projects prior to the issuance of such bonds or other obligations and reimburse such expenditures from the proceeds of such bonds or other obligations.
3. The maximum principal amount of tax-exempt bonds or other obligations that the City expects to issue for the Projects is \$16,487,344.
4. This Resolution shall constitute the declaration by the Mayor and Council of its official intent to reimburse the City’s original expenditures to pay the costs of the Projects with the proceeds of the City’s debt for purposes of complying with the requirements of U.S. Treasury Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 and thereby assure the eligibility of the original expenditures for such reimbursement.

Resolution No. _____

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy
of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council at its
meeting of

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations

EXHIBIT A

**Listing of Potential Debt Amounts for City Projects
FY 2026 Bond Funded Projects**

Sewer Fund Projects	Debt Amount	Issue Fiscal Year	Maturity
Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment (UA26)	4,726,022	2027	20 Years
Sewer Fund Subtotal	\$4,726,022		
Water Fund Projects	Debt Amount	Issue Fiscal Year	Maturity
Water Infrastructure and Water Treatment Plant Projects	11,761,322	2027	20 Years
Water Fund Subtotal	\$11,761,322		
GRAND TOTAL	\$16,487,344		

ASSUMES ALL LEVEL PRINCIPAL SCHEDULES



MAYOR AND COUNCIL Meeting Date: May 5, 2025

Agenda Item Type: BRIEFING

Department: CPDS - DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

Responsible Staff: KIMIA ZOLFAGHARIAN

Subject

Mayor and Council Briefing on Project Plan Amendment PJT2025-00021, an Application to Amend the Planned Development for Rockville Center, Inc. to Permit a Change of use from Office to Residential and/or Commercial, with up to 550 Dwelling Units at 255 Rockville Pike in the PD-RCI (Planned Development - Rockville Center, Inc.) Zone; 255 Rockville Pike LLC, Applicants.

Department

CPDS - Development Review

Recommendation

Hold the briefing and allow the Applicant the opportunity to present the proposed development project. Mayor and Council may ask questions of the Applicant.

Discussion

Case: 255 Rockville Pike – Project Plan PJT2025-00021 and Level 2 Site Plan
STP2025-00505

Location: 255 Rockville Pike

Staff: Kimia Zolfagharian, Principal Planner
Community Planning and Development Services
240.314.8224
kzolfagharian@rockvillemd.gov

Applicant: 255 Rockville Pike LLC

Filing Date: March 11, 2025

**Briefing
Date:** May 5, 2025

255 Rockville Pike LLC (the “Applicant”) has filed Project Plan and Level 2 Site Plan applications to convert an existing office building into a multi-family residential building with up to 550 units. As of the date of this staff report, the applicant is also proposing a potential commercial component on the subject property. To allow this project as proposed, an amendment to the Rockville Center, Inc. Planned Development (“PD”) is required pursuant to Section 25.14.07 of the Zoning Ordinance. The PD was initially established by the Mayor and Council on April 27, 1994, with approval of Preliminary Development Plan (“PDP”) PDP94-00001 for Rockville Center Inc., and allowed redevelopment of the former Rockville Mall property into a phased, multiple building, mixed-use development known as Rockville Center on 5 record lots (originally subdivided as Parcel 2-F, 2-G, 2-H, 2-J and 2-K within the Rockville Town Center subdivision), located at the southwest corner of Rockville Pike (MD355) and East Middle Lane intersection. This PDP includes 255 Rockville Pike, 199/198/196 East Montgomery Avenue, and 41 Maryland Avenue. The subject property is a record lot, Lot 2-F of the Rockville Town Center subdivision.

The PDP as originally approved included a mixed-use structure containing 493,825 square feet of office and retail, with a maximum building height ranging from 158 feet to 217 feet (see page 55 of Resolution 10-05 for PDP1994-00001). Subsequent amendments to the PDP changed land uses and densities within the five blocks, with the density of Block 1, Lot 2-F reduced to a total of 430,961 square feet (394,261 square feet of office, 36,700 square feet of retail/restaurant). The changes as approved in the latest amendment of the original PDP did not include residential.

PD amendments require the filing of a Project Plan application, and the application may be approved only if the Mayor and Council find that approval of the application will not:

- a. Adversely affect the health or safety of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the proposed project;
- b. Be in conflict with the Plan;
- c. Overburden existing and programmed public facilities as set forth in Article 20 of the Zoning Ordinance and as provided in the adopted Adequate Public Facilities Standards (APFS);
- d. Constitute a violation of any provision of the Zoning Ordinance or other applicable law;
or
- e. Adversely affect the natural resources or environment of the City or surrounding areas.

In accordance with Section 25.07.07 of the Zoning Ordinance, the Mayor, Council, and Planning Commission are required to be briefed on Project Plan applications. The purpose of this briefing is for the Applicant to inform officials about the proposal, including a project overview and review schedule. The Planning Commission will have an opportunity to make a recommendation on the application at a future meeting. Should the Mayor and Council ultimately approve the amendment to the PD and Project Plan, the Planning Commission will consider a site plan, which has been submitted by the Applicant for the project at a future meeting.

Site Description

Location: 255 Rockville Pike

Planning Area: Planning Area 1 – Town Center

Land Use

Designation: OCRM – Office, Commercial and Residential Mix

Zoning District: PD-RCI (Planned Development – Rockville Center, Inc.) with MXTD (Mixed-Use Transit District) Equivalent Zone

Existing Use: Office Building (144, 609 square feet)

Proposed Use: Multi-Family Residential Building (up to 550 units) and/or Commercial

Site Area: 2.5 acres (109,107 square feet)

Building Height: 217 feet max.

Surrounding Land Use and Zoning

	Zoning	Planned Land Use	Existing Use
North	PD-MC (Planned Development – Metro Center)	O (Office)	Commercial
East	MXTD (Mixed-Use Transit District)	OCRM (Office Commercial Residential Mix)	Commercial
South	MXTD (Mixed-Use Transit District)	O (Office) P (Public Park)	Commercial
West	PD-RCI (Planned Development – Rockville Center, Inc.)	CRM (Commercial and Residential Mix)	Residential/Commercial

The Project Plan site is identified as Parcel 2-F of the Rockville Town Center and is approximately 2.5 acres (109,107 square feet). The property is generally trapezoidal in shape and is bounded by East Middle Lane to the north, Monroe Street to the west, Truck Street to the south and Rockville Pike (MD-355) to the east. The site is relatively flat with a slightly downward slope occurring from East Montgomery Avenue towards East Middle Lane. The property is improved with an office building and a parking garage. At the street level, the building is surrounded by sidewalks, street

trees, and furniture. The property is within the PD-RCI (Planned Development – Rockville Center, Inc.) Zone, and has an equivalent zone of MXTD (Mixed-Use Transit District), and is subject to the Rockville Center, Inc. PD governing documents.

The subject property has a direct connection to the Rockville Metrorail/MARC/Amtrak station via the Rockville Pike pedestrian bridge. A portion of the walkway to the metro pedestrian bridge (south of the subject property) includes a public access easement on the subject site. The land use designation for the Plaza is Public Park (P).

Project Description

The applicant is proposing to amend the PDP by allowing the phased redevelopment of the subject property for residential and/or commercial use. See attached the “Project Plan” and “Project Plan Narrative” for more information. The first phase of the proposed Project Plan Amendment would include up to 300 multifamily units in a building approximately 83 feet in height, constituting an adaptive reuse of and vertical addition to the existing structured parking garage. A possible second phase of development would replace a portion of the building proposed in the first phase with a new residential tower, increasing the total proposed units up to 550 dwelling units. The maximum building height of the second phase would be a maximum of 217 feet in accordance with the approved PDP and the 2014 Resolution.

The concurrent Level 2 Site plan application includes the first phase of the Project Plan Amendment proposal. The Applicant has indicated that the first phase involves demolishing the office levels in the subject property’s existing commercial structure, modifying columns, footings, and the podium slab to permit the adaptive reuse of the existing parking garage, and constructing a new multi-family residential building with a maximum height of 83 feet. The Applicant also indicates that the first phase improvements will include a lobby entrance from Rockville Pike, offer ground floor dwelling units with direct pedestrian access to and from Monroe Street, integrate new enhanced public spaces (including the portion of Promenade Park on the Property), and contain private amenities for tenant use. The Site Plan also proposes that the building will maintain the three existing access points from Rockville Pike. The proposed first phase would include a wide range of apartment homes (junior one-bedroom units, one-bedroom units, one-bedroom units with a den, two-bedroom units, and three-bedroom units).

After filing the original application, the applicant has modified the request to include commercial uses in the Project Plan amendment application. This would allow for renovation of the existing vacant office building for a variety of possible commercial uses as an option to the residential redevelopment, including adaptive reuse of the existing parking structure. As of the date of this staff report, the staff is awaiting additional information regarding a commercial use proposal for the property. Additional information will be provided at or prior to the Mayor and Council at the meeting.

Comprehensive Planning

The subject property is located within Planning Area 1 (Town Center) of the City of Rockville's Comprehensive Plan, Rockville 2040 and the Land Use designation applied to the site is OCRM (Office, Commercial and Residential Mix). The subject property is identified by the Comprehensive Plan as a Focus Area and is also directly adjacent to two identified Projects – Rockville Metro station re-design (including the pedestrian bridge) and the re-design of Promenade Park. It also forwards the general policy recommendation for the planning area to “Increase the number of residents and housing density in Town Center, to provide additional housing options for residents across the full range of income levels and to provide additional demand for the commercial uses in this mixed-use environment.” - page 263. The proposal is also consistent with many of the broader objectives and goals within the housing element of the Comprehensive Plan. In addition, as the BRT system continues to move forward with MCDOT, it will be important to have discussions with the property owner on the design of the proposed station nearby.

On January 27, 2025, the Mayor and Council adopted the 2025 *Rockville Town Center Master Plan* as an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan, adopted in August 2021. Adoption of this updated plan repeals and replaces the Planning Area 1 chapter of the Plan and the 2001 *Town Center Master Plan*. Apart from several specific properties, the 2025 *Town Center Master Plan* retains the existing land use policy established in the Plan for most properties in the Town Center.

255 Rockville Pike is identified as a Focus Area within the Plan. Specifically, the Plan says the following about the property, "These properties are desired for high-intensity, mixed-use development and have a land use designation of office commercial residential mix. Require new buildings and, in the case of adaptive reuse, encourage existing buildings, to activate Promenade Park by incorporating ample fenestration, exterior lighting, building entrance(s), wayfinding signage, egress, elevator(s), and/or building amenity spaces on their property fronting Promenade Park to complement the public amenity space (see Action 9.1.1)." - page 36.

Additionally, the Plan references the property in Action 9.1.1 of the Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities chapter, saying, "Redesign Promenade Park as a pleasant and inspiring public space and connection between the Town Center core and the pedestrian bridge to the Rockville Metro Station. Partner with WMATA, SHA, Maryland Transit Administration, MCDOT, and surrounding property owners, and consult with all stakeholders to redesign the park. If redevelopment occurs at either 51 Monroe Street or 255 Rockville Pike, developers should provide any required open space for the project adjacent to Promenade Park in order to expand the area and make it a higher-quality amenity. If redevelopment does not occur at either 51 Monroe Street or 255 Rockville Pike, work with building ownership to improve access and provide increased connections from their buildings to Promenade Park." - page 70.

Additionally, the proposed application is consistent with several other goals, policies, and actions outlined in the Town Center Master Plan, including:

- Goal 1, Land Use: “Target appropriate areas for higher density residential developments to reach 3,000 new residential units by 2040. Provide a variety of development types to adapt to marketplace demands and to address missing middle housing.” - page 41.
- Housing Chapter: “The city encourages the development of a wide variety of unit types - this refers to different housing typologies (such as townhomes and multifamily apartment buildings) but also provides a mix of units within those typologies (studios, 1-bedroom units, 2-bedroom units, etc.). The city encourages unit mixes in development projects to contain the full range of unit types that the market can support of different sizes and layouts to accommodate the greatest variety of households.” - page 60.
- Policy 12.1, Sustainability: “Encourage the adaptive reuse of buildings and coordinate with property owners to increase efficiency within existing buildings.” - page 91
- Action 12.1.1, Sustainability: "Encourage and allow flexibility for the adaptive reuse or rehabilitation of commercial properties as market demand changes over time. Work with property owners to find creative solutions to meet the city’s regulatory requirements when adaptive reuse projects are proposed." - page 92.

Public Notification and Engagement

Notifications of the Project Plan application and this Planning Commission briefing were made consistent with City Code requirements. In addition, the Applicant held a virtual pre-application area meeting on October 29, 2024. The Applicant also held a virtual post-application area meeting on March 18, 2025.

As of the date of this report, staff has received one email from the public providing comments of support on the proposed project (See “Public Testimony” attachment).

Boards and Commissions Review

The Planning Commission received a briefing on this project at their April 9, 2025, meeting. At the briefing, the Planning Commission was able to ask questions and provide comments on the development proposal, including the more recent request to include commercial uses in the Project Plan request. The Commission’s feedback was generally positive about the application.

Next Steps

Following the Mayor and Council briefing, the applicant is encouraged to make any revisions to the proposal as needed, pursuant to comments received at the briefing sessions. Such plan revisions will be made before the request is scheduled for consideration by the Planning Commission at a regularly scheduled meeting. The Planning Commission must review the Project Plan application, as revised, at a public meeting and provide an opportunity for public comment. After its review, the Commission shall prepare and transmit its comments and recommendations

on the application to the Mayor and Council. Following the Commission review, the Project Plan application will be scheduled for a public hearing by the Mayor and Council. At this stage, the applicant is encouraged to revise plans based on comments and recommendations received from the Planning Commission.

If directed by the Mayor and Council, the applicant must hold another area meeting and receive comments on the proposed plan. Upon hearing all such evidence from the public hearing and area meeting, the Mayor and Council will render a final decision on the proposed Project Plan as an amendment to the Planned Development via the adoption of a resolution, incorporating the findings as required by Section 25.07.01.b.2 of the Zoning Ordinance. If the application is approved, the Mayor and Council will establish a time in which construction of the development approved by the Project Plan must commence. Following Project Plan approval, the Planning Commission would then review and consider a Level 2 Site Plan application for the project.

Attachments

Aerial Map, Land Use Map, Zoning District Map, Project Plan Application, Project Plan Narrative, Project Plan, Public Testimony





Application for

Project Plan Application/Amendment

PJT

10/23

City of Rockville

Department of Community Planning and Development Services

111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850

Phone: 240-314-8200 • Fax: 240-314-8210 • E-mail: cpds@rockvillemd.gov • Web site: www.rockvillemd.gov

Type of Application:

☐ Project Plan ☐ Project Plan Amendment (major) ☐ Project Plan Amendment (minor)

Please Fully Complete

Property Address information _____

Subdivision _____ Lot (S) _____ Block _____

Zoning _____ Tax Account (S) _____ , _____ , _____

Applicant Information:

Please supply Name, Address, Phone Number and E-mail Address

Applicant _____

Property Owner _____

Architect _____

Engineer _____

Attorney _____

Project Name _____

Project Description _____

STAFF USE ONLY

Application Acceptance:

Application # PJT2025-00021

Application Intake:

Date Received March 11, 2025

Reviewed by Fee: \$21,781.00

Application Information:**Level of review and project impact:**

This information will be used to determine your projects impact, per section 25.07.02 of the Zoning Ordinance for Project Plan and Site Plan applications only.

Tract Size _____ acres, # Dwelling Units Total _____ Square Footage of Non-Residential _____

Residential Area Impact _____ %

Traffic/ Impact/trips _____

Proposed Development:

Retail _____ Sq. Footage Detached Unit _____ Parking Spaces _____

Office _____ Sq. Footage Duplex _____ Handicapped _____

Restaurant _____ Sq. Footage Townhouse _____ # of Long Term _____

Other _____ Sq. Footage Attached _____ # of Short Term _____

Multi-Family _____

Live _____

MPDU _____

Existing Site Use(s) (to include office, industrial, residential, commercial, medical etc.) _____

Estimated Points Total:

To complete the table below, use the information that you provided above to calculate your total points from the chart below.

Points/Elements	1	2	3	4	Points
Tract size - Acres	1 or fewer	1.1 to 2.5	2.6 to 5	5.1 or greater	
Dwelling Units	5 or fewer	6 to 50	51 to 150	151 or greater	
Square Footage of Non-Residential Space	5,000 or fewer square feet	5,001 to 10,000 square feet	10,001 to 50,000 square feet	50,001 or greater square feet	
Residential Area Impact	No residential development in a residential zone within 1/4 mile of the project	35% of area within 1/4 mile of the project area is comprised of single-unit detached residential units	65% of area within 1/4 mile of the project area is comprised of single-unit detached residential units	Development is within single-unit detached unit area.	
Traffic Impact - Net new peak hour trips	Fewer than 30 trips	30-74 trips	75-149 trips	150 or more trips	Net reduction of 27 trips
Points Total* The total of the points determine the level of notification and the approving authority .					

Based on The Impact Total Your Project will be:

- ☐ Project Plan Amendment
- ☐ Project Plan Amendment (major)
- ☐ Project Plan Amendment (Minor)

Waiver of Equivalent Zone Development Standards

The Approving Authority for a Project Plan being reviewed with a floating zone map amendment application may waive one (1) or more of the development standards of the designated equivalent zone.

Are you applying for a waiver of equivalent zone development standards?

- ☐ Yes (If yes, continue below)
- ☐ No (If no, continue to next section "Previous Approvals")

Such waiver request must provide a statement of justification demonstrating good cause for waiving the equivalent zone development standards based on the following criteria:

- Whether the waiver of the development standard of the equivalent zone permits the application to meet the intent of the Plan
- Whether the waiver of the development standard results in development that is compatible with development on adjacent properties;
- Whether applying the development standard of the equivalent zone is consistent with good planning and design principles;
- Such other factors as the Approving Authority reasonably deems appropriate.

Previous Approvals: (if any)		
Application Number	Date	Action Taken

A letter of authorization from the owner must be submitted if this application is filed by anyone other than the owner. I hereby certify that I have the authority to make this application, that the application is complete and correct and that I have read and understand all procedures for filing this application.



March 6, 2025

Please sign and date

Application Checklist:

The following items are to be furnished as part of this application:

- ☐ Completed Application
- ☐ Filing Fee (to include Sign Fee)
- ☐ Pre-Application Meeting Number _____ and Documentation (Development Review Committee Mtg. notes)
- ☐ Proposed Area Meeting Date _____ including location _____
- ☐ Concept Site development plan, prepared and certified by a professional engineer. (Twelve (12) copies - Fifteen (15) if on a state highway: (size 24 x 36)(folded to 8 1/2 X 11)
- ☐ Approved NRI/FSD (Natural Resources Inventory/Forest Stand Delineation Plan)
- ☐ Conceptual Building Elevations & Floor Plan (3 copies)
- ☐ CTR (Comprehensive Transportation Review) Report –with fee acceptable to Public Works (copy to CPDS).
- ☐ Concept Landscape Plan (6 copies) (size 24" X 36") (folded to 8 1/2" X 11").
- ☐ Preliminary Forest Conservation Plan (FCP)
- ☐ Pre-Application Storm Water Management Concept Package with Fee via Separate Check (Unless Previously Submitted with the Pre-application Materials)
- ☐ Water and Sewer Authorization Application
- ☐ Project narrative to include statement of justification that addresses compliance with all relevant Sections of the Zoning Ordinance, including but not limited to:
 - Comprehensive Master Plan and other plan regulations
 - Master Plan other Plans and Regulations
 - Mixed Use Development Standards, including Layback slope and shadow study (Section 25.13)
 - Landscape, Screening and Lighting Manual
 - Adequate Public Facilities (Section 25.20)
 - Parking (Section 25.16)
 - Signs (Section 25.18)
 - Public use space (Section 25.17)
- ☐ Additional information as requested by staff
- ☐ Electronic Version of all materials (pdf format acceptable)
- ☐ Fire protection site plan
- ☐ Statement addressing criteria for waiver of equivalent zone development standards (if applicable)

Comments on Submittal: (For Staff Use Only)

DRAFT

April ___, 2025

Scott C. Wallace

swallace@milesstockbridge.com

301.517.4813

Mayor Monique Ashton and
Councilmembers of the Rockville City Council

Chair Jaime Espinosa and
Commissioners of the Rockville Planning Commission

111 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Re: 255 Rockville Pike - Project Plan Amendment and Level 2 Site Plan Applications

Dear Mayor Ashton and Councilmembers of the Rockville City Council and Chair Espinosa and Commissioners of the Rockville Planning Commission:

Our firm represents 255 Rockville Pike LLC (the “Applicant”), which owns 255 Rockville Pike (the “Property”) in the City of Rockville (the “City”). Applicant is requesting approval of the referenced Project Plan Amendment application to allow for: (i) a broader approval for renovation vacant office building on the Property with commercial uses and (ii) as an alternative to new commercial uses in the existing building, the phased residential redevelopment of the Property with a maximum of approximately 550 multifamily units in one or more new buildings, including adaptive reuse of the existing parking structure. Both redevelopment options are discussed in detail below. Conceptual approval of commercial and residential uses on the Property as requested in the Project Plan Amendment will allow the Applicant to quickly respond to market conditions and thereby facilitate the transformation of the Property’s vacant office building into an assets for the Town Center.

The Applicant is also submitting, for concurrent review with the Project Plan Amendment, a Level 2 site plan application for the first phase of residential redevelopment with approximately 285 multifamily units (the “Site Plan,” and collectively with the Project Plan Amendments, the “Applications”).

As discussed in greater detail below, the Applications comply with the relevant provisions of Chapter 25 of the City Code (the “Zoning Ordinance”).

Background

The Property

The Property is generally bounded by E. Middle Lane to the north, Rockville Pike (Maryland Route 355) to the east, Truck Street to the south, and Monroe Street to the west. The Property is addressed 255 Rockville Pike and is more specifically known as Parcel 2-F, Rockville Town Center subdivision as shown on a plat of resubdivision recorded among the Land Records for Montgomery County as Plat No. 19531 on October 18, 1994. According to publicly available information from the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation, the Property has a property land area of 109,107 square feet (2.50474 acres) and is improved with a 144,609 square-foot office building. The City’s zoning map depicts the Property as classified in the PD-RCI (Planned Development-Rockville Center, Inc.) zone. The recommended equivalent zone for PD-RCI is Mixed Use Transit District (MXTD). The Property is subject to the recommendations of

the 2025 Rockville Town Center Master Plan Update approved in January, 2025 (the “2025 Town Center Plan”).

The Property is located within the core of Rockville Town Center and along the Rockville Pike commercial corridor. It is convenient to a wide array of uses, including residences, offices, retail, restaurants, public facilities, and Rockville Town Square. The Project has a direct connection to the Rockville Metrorail/MARC/Amtrak station via the Rockville Pike pedestrian bridge. This includes what is commonly known as Promenade Park, a portion of which is located on the Property (and therefore privately owned by Applicant) where public access is provided by easement. The balance of Promenade Park is controlled by the City as part of the right-of-way dedication for Truck Street. The Rockville transit station offers heavy rail service between Shady Grove and Glenmont (Metrorail Red Line), Washington, DC and Martinsburg, WV/Frederick, MD (Brunswick Line), and Washington, DC and Chicago, IL (Capitol Limited), as well as bus service on several Metrobus lines (Routes T2, Q1, Q2, Q4, Q5, and Q6) and RideOn lines (Routes 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 52, 54, 55, 56, 59, 63, 81, 101, 301 and FLEX). The Property also has direct access to Rockville Pike, which serves as the prominent commercial corridor between Bethesda and Gaithersburg.

An aerial image of the Property outlined in red from MC Atlas is shown below:



The Property is the last remaining vestige of the Rockville Mall, which was constructed in the early 1970s as part of a federally supported urban renewal program that closed within a decade of opening. The Property was thereafter redeveloped in the 1980s as the Commons at Courthouse Square and then Rockville Metro Center. A significant portion of the Rockville Mall structure

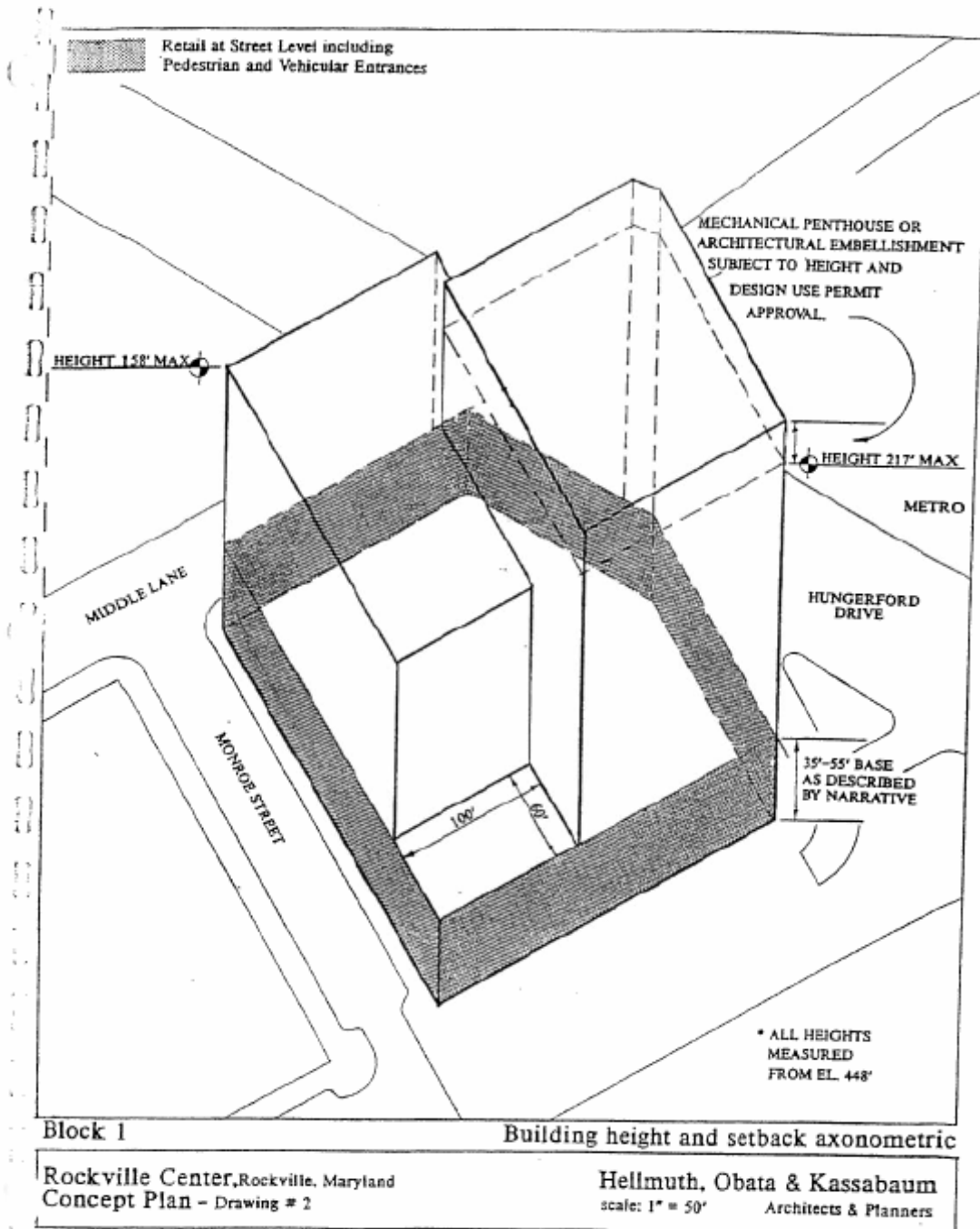
was demolished by 1996 and redeveloped with the Rockville Center, Inc. (RCI) project starting in the late 1990s and with the Rockville Town Square project in 2007. The Property's improvements, however, remained and were used by Montgomery County government as office space. Montgomery County eventually relocated these offices to other locations and the Property has been vacant since 2021. Applicant purchased the Property at auction in 2024.

Prior Development Approvals

As the Property is zoned in one of the City's planned development zones, it is regulated by certain governing documents with specific terms for how development will proceed. § 25.14.07.d.1 of the Zoning Ordinance. Specifically, the Property's PD-RCI zoning is regulated in accordance with the amended preliminary development plan approved by the Mayor and Council by Resolution No. 10-05 on May 2, 2005 (the "2005 Resolution"). The 2005 Resolution constitutes an approved amendment to Preliminary Development Plan PDP94-0001 (the "PDP"). The PDP, as initially approved, permitted redeveloping the Property (identified therein as Parcel 2-F) as one of five blocks in the Rockville Town Center subdivision (identified therein as Block 1) with a mixed-use structure containing 493,825 square feet of office and retail and a maximum building height of 217 feet:

Resolution No. 10-05

-55-



A subsequent 1996 PDP amendment (PDP94-0001A) shifted land uses and densities among the five blocks, with the density of Block 1 reduced to a total of 430,961 square feet:

BLOCK	LAND USES	GROSS FLOOR AREA
1	Office	403,461 SF
	Retail	<u>27,500</u> SF
	Subtotal	430,961 SF

A March 7, 2001 amendment to the PDP (PDP94-001C) reduced the approved amount of office uses to permit 9,200 square feet of restaurant uses while maintaining the overall amount density:

BLOCK	LAND USES	GROSS FLOOR AREA (PREVIOUSLY APPROVED)	APPROVED GROSS FLOOR AREA
1	Office	403,461 SF	394,261 SF
	Retail	27,500 SF	27,500 SF
	Retail (Restaurant)		9,200 SF
	Subtotal	430,961 SF	430,961 SF
2	Office	430,961 SF	

These uses and densities for Block 1 were then reaffirmed in the 2005 Resolution:

Block	Land Uses	Prior Approved Gross Floor Area	Approved Gross Floor Area/DU
1	Office	394,261 SF	394,261 SF
2-F	Retail / Restaurant	36,700 SF	36,700 SF
	Subtotal	430,961 SF	430,961 SF

The City thereafter approved an amendment to the PDP on December 8, 2014 by adopting a Resolution No. 21-14 for granting a project plan amendment (the “2014 Resolution”), which once again affirmed the uses and densities for Block 1:

Block	Land Uses	Approved Gross Floor Area/DU
1	Office	394,261 SF
2-F	Retail / Restaurant	36,700 SF
	Subtotal	430,961 SF

City staff have confirmed the PDP has not been amended since the approval of the 2014 Resolution.

The Applications

The Project Plan Amendment seeks to amend the PDP to allow two alternate development scenarios described below.

Commercial Redevelopment of the Existing Building

Since acquiring the Property, the Applicant has been approached by multiple parties seeking to renovate the interior of the existing building (which is approximately 150,000 square feet of floor area) to accommodate a variety of commercial uses including a grocery store with a food hall, large format retailers and an auto dealership (without service). In this regard, the building’s large parking garage, high visibility along Rockville Pike, and direct access to Metro

make it a very appealing location for certain types of commercial tenants. These parties have shown interest in a portion or all of the building for these uses and have proposed a range of options for exterior improvements.

However, as noted above, the PDP governing documents currently permit the Property's redevelopment with 394,261 square feet of office uses and 36,700 square feet of retail/restaurant uses (for a combined total of 430,961 square feet). In this regard, there is not sufficient flexibility in the existing approvals to allow the Applicant to quickly respond to market conditions and accommodate the needs of prospective tenants. In particular, the current approvals do not allow the entire area of the existing building renovation for retail and/or restaurant uses.

Accordingly, the Project Plan Amendment requests that the entire area of the existing building (approximately 145,000 square feet) be approved for commercial uses, including, but not limited to, auto sales (without service), grocery, retail, and restaurant. For example, if the Project Plan Amendment is approved as submitted, the Applicant could locate up to approximately 145,000 square feet of retail/restaurant uses in the existing building.

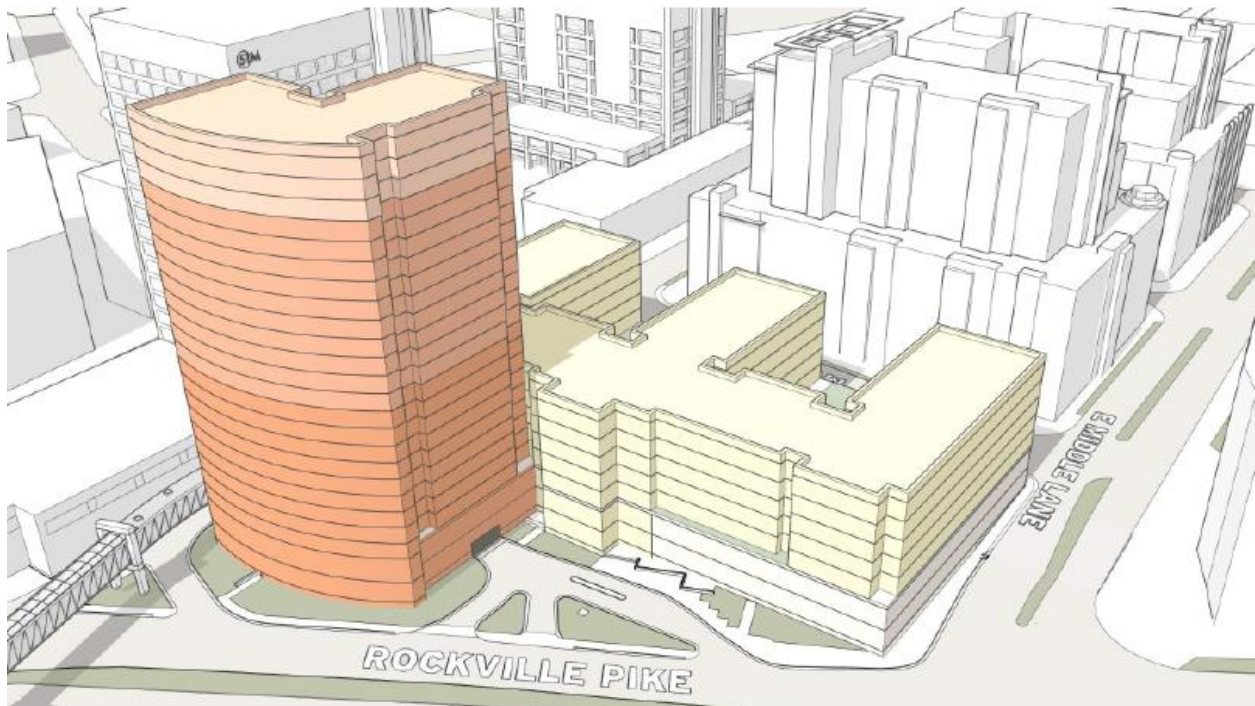
If the Applicant proceeds with renovation of the existing building for new commercial uses, the required development and permit approval process will be determined by the scope of the renovations and the nature of the proposed use.

Phased Multifamily Redevelopment Including Adaptive Reuse of a Portion of the Existing Building and New Construction

As an alternative to commercial redevelopment, the Project Plan Amendment also requests approval of the phased redevelopment of the Property with entirely residential uses. Multi-family development is permitted in the PDP and the MXTD Zone, which is the equivalent zone under the PD-RCI. However, a Project Plan Amendment is necessary because the PDP shows the use of the Property as office/retail/restaurant as noted above.

If the Applicant proceeds with this phased residential redevelopment option (and subject to Site Plan approval discussed below), the initial phase is expected to contain approximately 300 multifamily units in an apartment building approximately 83 feet in height with adaptive reuse of the Property's existing structured parking facilities ("Residential Phase 1"). A potential second phase of residential redevelopment would replace a portion of the first phase apartment building with a new apartment tower for a net increase of approximately 250 multifamily units, for a total redevelopment of approximately 550 dwelling units ("Residential Phase 2," and collectively with Residential Phase 1, the "Residential Project"). The maximum building height of the Residential Project's potential second phase will be a minimum of 217 feet as currently permitted under the PDP and the 2014 Resolution, with potential height increases allowed by the final adopted version of the future Rockville Town Center Master Plan and implementing sectional map/zoning text

amendments.¹ The Property's redevelopment with both the initial phase (shown in yellow) and the potential second phase (shown in peach) is illustrated in the following image:



The procedure for amending the PDP's governing documents to accommodate the Residential Project requires filing the Project Plan Amendment. § 25.14.07.e.2 of the Zoning Ordinance.

¹ The 2025 Town Center Plan recommends building heights of 235 feet in the Corridor Character Area (which includes the Property), with a bonus height program that permits 100 additional feet of height for providing 5% additional affordable housing and an additional 15 feet for providing an additional 5% open space/public use space with climate resilience features (for a combined total bonus height of 50 feet, thereby permitting a maximum building height of 250 feet in the Town Center core). This bonus height program would be implemented through the adoption of sectional map/zoning text amendments subsequent to the approval of the Town Center Master Plan.

The Site Plan comprises Residential Phase 1 anticipated in the Project Plan Amendment. As noted above, Residential Phase 1 involves demolishing the office levels in the Property's existing commercial structure, modifying columns, footings, and the podium slab to permit the adaptive reuse of the Property's existing structure parking facilities, and constructing a new apartment building with a maximum height of 83 feet. As shown in the materials shown in the Site Plan application, the Residential Project's Residential Phase 1 apartment building will include a prominent lobby entrance from Rockville Pike, offer ground floor dwelling units with direct pedestrian access to and from Monroe Street, integrate new enhanced public spaces (including the portion of Promenade Park on the Property), and contain private amenities for tenant use. The Site Plan also proposes Residential Phase 1 will maintain the three existing access points from Rockville Pike to permit safe and efficient circulation for a variety of users (tenants, visitors, package/food deliveries). (The Applicant is in discussion with the County Department of Transportation and City Public Works staff to possibly accommodate a stormwater management facility on the Property's Rockville Pike frontage needed for the County's proposed Bus Rapid Transit stations along the Pike. Included in the Application is an alternate plan for the entrance driveways that close one existing curb cut to allow for a stormwater management facility. The County would be responsible for implementing this alternate design, including obtaining any necessary approvals from the City.) The preliminary building elevations and floor plans included with the Site Plan illustrate Residential Phase 1 will serve as an attractive and engaging gateway to Town Center along Rockville Pike, encourage pedestrian connections between Town Center and the Rockville transit station, convey a modern architectural style harmonious with the BLVD

Ansel apartment building across Monroe Street, and include a wide range of apartment homes (junior one-bedroom units, one-bedroom units, one-bedroom units with a den, two-bedroom units, and three-bedroom units).

The Residential Project's potential Residential Phase 2 included in the Project Plan Amendment will be the subject of a future Level 2 site plan application for review and approval by the Planning Commission. As part of such Site Plan, additional details about the building architecture and design will be provided, and compliance with applicable development standards and requirements will be demonstrated as part of the review of such Site Plan application.

Required Findings

The Zoning Ordinance contains the findings the Mayor and Council and Planning Commission must make prior to approving the Applications. §§ 25.07.01.b.2 & 25.07.01.a.3(a) of the Zoning Ordinance. The following section demonstrates how the Applications comply with these required findings.

Project Plan Amendment

- 1. The Project Plan Amendment will not adversely affect the health or safety of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the proposed project;*

Either of the redevelopment options proposed in the Project Plan Amendment will enhance the health and safety of those persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the proposed Residential Project. By expanding the uses allowed in the Property, the Project Plan Amendment

will facilitate the reuse (if commercial redevelopment is pursued) or replacement (if residential redevelopment is pursued) of an outmoded, vacant, and prominently visible structure. Both redevelopment options will provide new patrons for Town Center businesses and take advantage of the Property's location by offering convenient access to robust public transportation facilities, such as Metrorail, Metrobus, RideOn, and MARC. Redevelopment of the Property, either with new commercial uses in the existing building or residential development, will also significantly enhance the existing built environment with improved public spaces, including the portion of Promenade Park on the Property. The redevelopment will also revitalize the public realm around the Property with uses (store fronts or residential units) along Monroe Street that activate the street. Additionally, the Project Plan aims to facilitate connections between the core of Town Center and the Rockville transit station.

2. The Project Plan Amendment will not be in conflict with the Plan;

The Project Plan Amendment is also consistent with the recommendations for the Rockville Town Center planning area from the City's Comprehensive Plan Rockville 2040 (the "Comprehensive Plan"). The Residential Project is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan's recognition that once Montgomery County relocates their offices and the building and its parking garage becomes vacant (as has since come to pass), "it may be considered for major redevelopment." Comprehensive Plan, pg. 258. The Residential Project, if pursued, will "[i]ncrease the number of residents and housing density in Town Center, to provide additional housing options for residents across the full range of income levels and to provide additional

demand for the commercial uses in this mixed-use environment.” *Id.* at 263. The Residential Project’s improvements to the existing public realm and expanded open spaces within the Property’s boundaries will also advance the recommendation of the Comprehensive Plan to “[r]edesign Promenade Park as a pleasant and inspiring public space and connection between the Town Center core and an expanded pedestrian bridge to the Rockville Transit Station.” *Id.* at 260.

Additionally, either redevelopment option, combined with the Property’s location within the core of Town Center and along the Rockville Pike corridor, are harmonious with the Comprehensive Plan’s Land Use Policy Map designation of OCRM (Office, Commercial and Residential Mix), which is described as “the most flexible category, allowing a wide choice in mixing office, commercial, and residential uses,” will strengthen the horizontal mix of uses in the surrounding area. *Id.* at 20, 257. Furthermore, substituting approved but unbuilt commercial uses with new residential uses will advance the housing element of the Comprehensive Plan, which “recommends continued housing development in Rockville’s urbanizing areas” given the high cost of housing in the City, as well as implement the policies of promoting diversity in housing supply to meet market demand. *Id.* at 192, 198.

The Project Plan Amendment is also in conformance with the 2025 Town Center Plan. Redevelopment of the Property under either option is consistent with the identification of the Property as a “focus area” with the ability for transformational redevelopment that serves as a catalyst for Town Center.” 2025 Town Center Plan, pg. 36. Improvements to and expansion of

open spaces will also activate the portion of Promenade Park on the Property, as well as surrounding areas. *Id.* at 34, 37, 69.

The Residential Project would also help realize the 2025 Town Center Plan’s goal of 2,000 new units in the Town Center neighborhood without any accompanying requirement for ground floor retail. *Id.* at 41-42. Adaptive reuse of the building and/or the existing structured parking promotes the 2025 Town Center Plan’s policy of “[e]ncourag[ing] and allow[ing] flexibility for the adaptive reuse or rehabilitation of commercial properties as market demand changes over time[.]” *Id.* at 88. Amending the PDP as approved in the 2014 Resolution also implements the 2025 Town Center Plan’s recommendation “to create a flexible regulatory environment that allows Town Center to thrive by enabling development and allowing the market to dictate the ‘highest and best’ land uses over the next two decades.” *Id.* at 5; *see also id.* at 41 (“Modify zoning regulations within Town Center to allow and encourage innovative and creative development and remove unnecessary regulatory barriers to redevelopment.”).

3. *The Project Plan Amendment will not overburden existing and programmed public facilities as set forth in Article 20 of this chapter and as provided in the adopted adequate public facilities standards;*

The Project Plan Amendment will also comply with the City’s Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance codified in Article 20 of the Zoning Ordinance (the “APFO”), as well as the implementing Adequate Public Facilities Standards (“APFS”). With respect to transportation, replacing the Property’s existing approximately 145,000 square feet of office uses with 550

proposed multifamily units will result in a net reduction in AM and PM peak hour vehicle trips. The Project Plan Amendment includes a transportation report that offers an examination of existing conditions and a site access and circulation analysis in accordance with the City's Comprehensive Transportation Review ("CTR"), as well as a scoping intake form detailing the trip generation, the general site access concept, and transportation features. This information demonstrates the Residential Project will be supported by adequate transportation facilities. APFS, pg. 7.

There will also be adequate projected public school capacity in five years to serve the students generated by the Residential Project, if pursued, per the APFS. Under the FY 2024-2025 Montgomery County Student Generation Rates published by the Montgomery County Planning Department, the Residential Project will generate 22 elementary school students, 9 middle school students, and 9 high school students.² The Residential Project will be served by Beall Elementary School, Julius West Middle School, and Richard Montgomery High School. The FY2025 School Utilization Report prepared by the Montgomery County Planning Department notes that in the 2029 test year (five years from now), there will be projected capacity at Beall Elementary School (66.4% utilization with excess capacity of 223 students), Julius West Middle School (98.0%

² Specifically, these projections are based on the current infill multi-family high-rise student generation rates (0.039 ES, 0.016 MS, and 0.018 HS): 22 elementary students (0.039 x 550, rounded up to the nearest whole number), 9 middle school students (0.016 x 550, rounded up to the nearest whole number), and 9 high school students (0.018 x 550). Town Center is located within an infill area. 2025 Town Center Plan, pg. 94

The 2025 Town Center Plan also states "[a]ssuming all 2,000 target units within the planning area are multifamily, there is more than ample capacity within the existing school cluster to serve students generated by this new development." *Id.* at 95.

utilization with excess capacity of 28 students), and Richard Montgomery High School (96.3% utilization with excess capacity of 83 students), all of which is considerably less than the 120% utilization and seat deficit standards under the APFS. APFS, pg. 9. As such, the Residential Project complies with the APFS' school capacity requirements.

There are also adequate water and sewer services for the Residential Project.³ The Property is located within the W-1/S-1 service categories and is currently served by public water and sewer facilities. The Applicant has included a Water and Sewer Authorization Application along with this application, which will be reviewed by DPW.

4. The Project Plan Amendment will not constitute a violation of any provision of this Code or other applicable law;

The Project Plan Amendment will comply with all applicable laws and regulations. The Zoning Ordinance provides that the designated equivalent zone for the Property's PD-RCI zoning is the Mixed-Use Transit District Zone (MXTD). § 25.14.29.b of the Zoning Ordinance. The MXTD Zone is appropriately "[i]ntended for use in areas near Metro stations, it allows for high-density development of retail, office, and residential uses consistent with the recommendations of the Plan." § 25.13.02 of the Zoning Ordinance. The uses proposed in the Project Plan Amendment

³ Pursuant to Section 24-12 of the City Code, water and sewer services are automatically deemed adequate for a change of use of the existing office building for other commercial uses.

(commercial, retail, restaurant, grocery, multifamily) are permitted by right in the MXTD zone and are consistent with the MXTD zone's intent. § 25.13.03 of the Zoning Ordinance.⁴

If the existing building is reused/renovated for commercial uses, the Applicant will process any required development plan approvals and demonstrate compliance with applicable development standards prior to issuance of any required permits. As shown on the plans submitted with the Project Plan Amendment, the Residential Project will provide a minimum open area of 15% (based on the inclusion of residential dwellings), with a minimum of 10% of the open area provided as public use space. § 25.13.05.b.1. The Residential Project will also meet the minimum 10-foot width at the front lot line and will not provide side or rear setbacks as permitted by MXTD development standards.⁵

With respect to building height for the Residential Project, the Project Plan Amendment proposes a maximum building height of at least 217 feet (as currently permitted by the PDP), with potentially additional height beyond the PDP limit as may permitted by the 2025 Town Center Plan and any associated sectional map/zoning text amendments. The maximum building height allowed in the MXTD zone is 120 feet, which may be increased to 150 feet by the Mayor and Council under certain conditions. §§ 25.13.05.b.1 & 25.13.05.b.2(a)(ii) of the Zoning Ordinance.

⁴ Under the nomenclature of the Zoning Ordinance, the Project's multifamily use is permitted by right as a "dwelling, multiple-unit" use, which includes apartment buildings. §§ 25.13.03 & 25.03.02 of the Zoning Ordinance.

⁵ To the extent the Property abuts any land, it would be considered "non-residential" under § 25.13.05.b.1 of the Zoning Ordinance.

Thus, and to the extent required, Applicant requests a waiver of the equivalent zone standards for building height based on good cause as to why the Residential Project should be able to exceed the MXTD zone's maximum building height standard.

The Residential Project will also provide at least 15% of the total number of dwelling units as MPDUs as required pursuant to § 13.5-5(e) of the City Code.

For the Residential Project, a combined Pre-Application Stormwater Management Concept and Site Development Stormwater Management Plan is being submitted to the Department of Public Works concurrently with this application. The land disturbance associated with this application is entirely replacement of existing impervious area, the majority of which is related to improvements in the public right-of-way. The disturbed areas are spread throughout the site and frontage, with no practicable area to provide stormwater management facilities. Therefore, the Residential Project will provide a monetary contribution for the 3,190 square feet of replaced impervious area on the site in the amount of \$3,731.00. In accordance with the City SWM regulations, the Residential Project will also provide SWM for the impervious area in the contiguous public right-of-way, proportional to the amount of on-site land disturbance. This is 2,316 square feet of impervious area, generating a monetary contribution of \$3,198.00.

Finally, as required by the City's Forest and Tree Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 10.5), a Preliminary Forest Conservation Plan (PFCP) for the Residential Project is being submitted

concurrently with these applications. The PFCP reflects replacement of the existing street trees on Monroe Street, and a fee in lieu for the 0.05-acre afforestation requirement. The projected fee in lieu is \$10,890.00.

If the existing building is reused/renovated for commercial uses, the Applicant will process any required development plan approvals and demonstrate compliance with any applicable stormwater management and forest conservation requirements prior to issuance of any required permits.

The Site Plan section below demonstrates how Residential Phase 1 of the Residential Project specifically complies with additional and applicable regulatory requirements. This includes how Residential Phase 1 will comply with the design guidelines applicable to all mixed-use zones, as well as the specific design guidelines for the MXTD zone (§§ 25.13.06 & 25.13.07.a of the Zoning Ordinance), how it will provide sufficient vehicular and bicycle parking facilities (Article 16 of the Zoning Ordinance), how all public use space will be accessible for use and enjoyment by the general public (§ 25.17.01 of the Zoning Ordinance), how all required landscaping and screening will be in accordance with applicable standards (§ 25.17.02 of the Zoning Ordinance), how utility equipment will be installed and placed with applicable standards (§ 25.17.03 of the Zoning Ordinance), how lighting will be provided with applicable standards (§ 25.17.04 of the Zoning Ordinance), how sidewalks will be incorporated with applicable

standards (§ 25.17.05 of the Zoning Ordinance), and how structures will comply with general regulations for shadows (§ 25.17.06.a of the Zoning Ordinance).

5. The Project Plan Amendment will not adversely affect the natural resources or environment of the City or surrounding areas.

The Project Plan Amendment will support the natural resources and environment of the City, as well as surrounding areas. If residential redevelopment is pursued, the Residential Project will replace an inefficient and long-vacant office building with new multifamily uses. This will serve as compact and infill development that also adaptively reuses existing building and/or structured parking facilities. The Residential Project's new apartment homes, some of which will have direct access to Monroe Street, will be located within convenient walking and rolling distance of robust public transportation services, as well as a range of jobs, retail, personal services, and community facilities. This proximity will promote transit-oriented living, encourage non-auto modes of transportation, facilitate connections between the core of Town Center and the Rockville transit station, and reduce reliance on single-occupancy vehicles. The Residential Project's new multifamily structure(s) will comply with the County's recently adopted Building Energy Performance Standards (BEPS) as applicable, in support of sustainable development strategies. New and improved open areas (both private and public) will integrate landscaped green spaces, while tree cover will be increased from existing conditions in accordance with the City's FTPO.

Site Plan for Phase 1 of the Residential Project

1. *The Site Plan will not adversely affect the health or safety of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the proposed development;*

Phase 1 of the Residential Project will improve the health and safety of those persons residing or working in the core of Town Center. Applicant adopts and incorporates the content applicable to the Residential Project provided above for the Project Plan Amendment that supports this finding as it relates to the Site Plan. In addition, the Site Plan will thoughtfully meet the demand for housing with an anticipated unit mix (with MPDUs) that offers junior one-bedroom units, one-bedroom units, one-bedroom units with den, two-bedroom units, and three-bedroom units for a wide variety of household types. The Site Plan also maintains the Property's existing access points from Rockville Pike to accommodate safe and adequate vehicular circulation for residents, guests, and package/food deliveries, while move-ins will be appropriately handled with loading dock access from Truck Street. Residents living in ground-floor units along Monroe Street will have direct access to and from the street, thereby encouraging new street-level activity in this specific portion of Town Center. Residential Phase 1 is specifically designed to serve as a new attractive gateway to Town Center, provide additional ground level activity in Town Center's core, and encourage improved connections between Town Center and the Rockville transit station along an improved segment of Promenade Park located on the Property.

2. *The Site Plan will not be detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to property or improvements in the neighborhood;*

The Site Plan will enhance the public welfare, as well as property or improvements in the Town Center neighborhood. Residential Phase 1 will transform an obsolete, vacant, and highly

visible office building with new residential uses along Rockville Pike, which is the City's most prominent commercial corridor. Residential Phase 1's multifamily apartments will help address the region's housing crisis and locate new homes (including affordable units) within close proximity to public transportation, employment, commercial uses, and community facilities. Residential Phase 1's new residents will enliven this area of Town Center, increase the existing sense of community, and provide needed customers for surrounding businesses, including restaurants, retail, and personal services. The Residential Project's proposed vehicular access points will accommodate safe, adequate, and efficient circulation patterns for drivers accessing the Residential Phase 1 building's parking facilities, making deliveries, and handling move-ins, while the Residential Phase 1 building's sidewalks will offer clear pathways for pedestrians, cyclists, and others.

The Residential Phase 1 building will enhance the existing built environment. The new apartment building will serve as a visually appealing landmark at a prominent entry point to Town Center. Residential Phase 1 will also improve the portion Promenade Park located within the Property, with welcoming landscaped and amenitized public spaces that will encourage walking and rolling connections between Town Center and the Rockville transit station. Private areas will be effectively incorporate for resident recreation and respite. Residential Phase 1's ground floor units along Monroe Street will have direct access to the street, thereby increasing opportunities for interaction. Residential Phase 1 will also incorporate an architectural design that is compatible

and harmonious with surrounding structures, especially the BLVD Ansel apartment building located at 33 Monroe Street across from the Property.

3. *The Site Plan will not overburden existing and programmed public facilities as set forth in Article 20 of this chapter and as provided in the adopted adequate public facilities standards;*

The Site Plan's Residential Phase 1 will be accommodated by adequate school capacity, transportation facilities, and water/sewer service. Applicant adopts and incorporates the content provided above for the Project Plan Amendment that supports this finding as it relates to the Site Plan. Additionally, Applicant notes that the Site Plan proposes approximately 300 multifamily dwelling units, which is within the maximum development envelope proposed for the Project Plan Amendment (550 multifamily dwelling units) and can be served by adequate public facilities in accordance with the City's APFO and APFS.

Specifically, sufficient projected capacity exists to accommodate the students generated by the Residential Phase 1 building (and the potential future Residential Phase 2 building) in five years' time at Beall Elementary School, Julius West Middle School, and Richard Montgomery High School.⁶ The Residential Phase 1 building (together with the potential future Residential Phase 2 building) will result in a net reduction in AM and PM peak hour vehicular trips when compared to the Property's existing 145,000 square-foot office building. Applicant has included a Water and Sewer authorization, which will confirm that there are adequate public water and

⁶ The Residential Phase 1 building is expected to generate 12 elementary school students, five middle school students, and six high school students.

sewer facilities to serve the Residential Phase 1 building (as well as the potential future Residential Phase 2 building).

4. The Site Plan will not adversely affect the natural resources or environment of the City or surrounding areas;

The Site Plan's Residential Phase 1 will improve the natural resources or environment of the City and surrounding areas. Applicant adopts and incorporates the applicable content provided above for the Project Plan Amendment that supports this finding as it relates to the Site Plan. This includes, among other things, placing new housing near transportation facilities, jobs, retail, and community facilities, offering infill, compact, and transit-oriented development within the core of Town Center and along the Rockville Pike corridor, adaptively reusing a portion of an existing structure, building a modern apartment with state-of-the-art sustainability features, and incorporating new landscaped areas within public spaces (including the portion of Promenade Park on the Property) and private amenities for residents.

5. The Site Plan will not be in conflict with the Plan;

The Site Plan is entirely consistent with the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan and the 2025 Town Center Plan. Applicant adopts and incorporates the content provided above for the Project Plan Amendment that supports this finding as it relates to Residential Phase 1. This includes, among other things, increasing housing density in Town Center, providing a variety of housing options at different ranges of affordability, recognizing the Property's redevelopment potential once the County vacated the premises, enhancing open areas accessible to the public (including the portion of Promenade Park on the Property), harnessing the Property's ability for

transformational redevelopment without requiring non-residential uses, and using flexibility in development review to respond to market conditions.

- 6. The Site Plan will not constitute a violation of any provision of this chapter or other applicable law;*

Residential Phase 1 will comply with all applicable regulatory requirements from the Zoning Ordinance and the City Code. Applicant adopts and incorporates the applicable content provided above for the Project Plan Amendment that supports this finding as it relates to the Site Plan.

- 7. The Site Plan will not be incompatible with the surrounding uses or properties.*

The Site Plan will be compatible with the surrounding uses and properties. The Site Plan's proposed residential use is consistent with nearby uses, including the recently constructed BLVD Ansel apartment buildings (confronting the Property at 33 Monroe Street). Phase I will strengthen the horizontal mix of uses within Town Center and along the Rockville Pike corridor by placing new housing near existing residences, offices, retail uses, personal services, and community facilities. The Site Plan constitutes infill, urban, and transit-oriented development, which is appropriate for the core of Town Center and along the Rockville Pike corridor. The Site Plan will also have a direct connection to the Rockville transit station, including Metrorail, Metrobus, RideOn, MARC, and Amtrak service), to promote alternatives to automobiles. Enhanced public spaces (including the portion of Promenade Park on the Property) and ground floor units with direct access to Monroe Street will support street-level activity and promote connections with surrounding uses, properties, and facilities. The Residential Phase 1 apartment building will also

Mayor and Council of Rockville
Rockville Planning Commission
April __, 2025
Page 28 of 28

convey a modern architectural style that will serve as a new landmark gateway at a prominent entry point to Town Center.

Conclusion

By transforming the Property's existing commercial structure with new infill, compact, and transit-oriented uses and enhanced public open spaces, the Applications will advance recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan, the recommendations of the 2025 Town Center Plan, and comply with the relevant requirements of the City Code.

Applicant looks forward to working with you and City staff during development review on this exciting development.

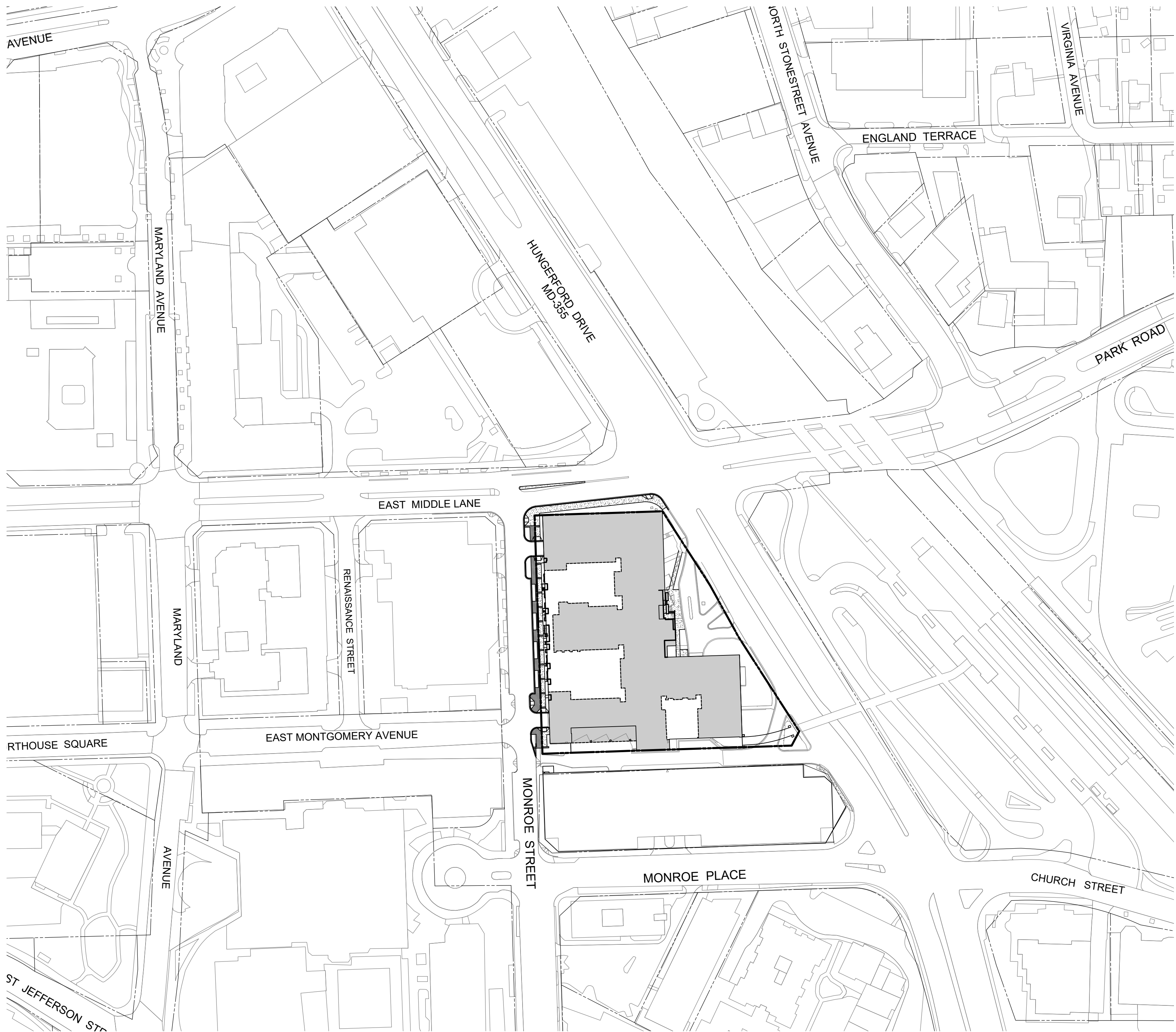
Sincerely,

MILES & STOCKBRIDGE P.C.

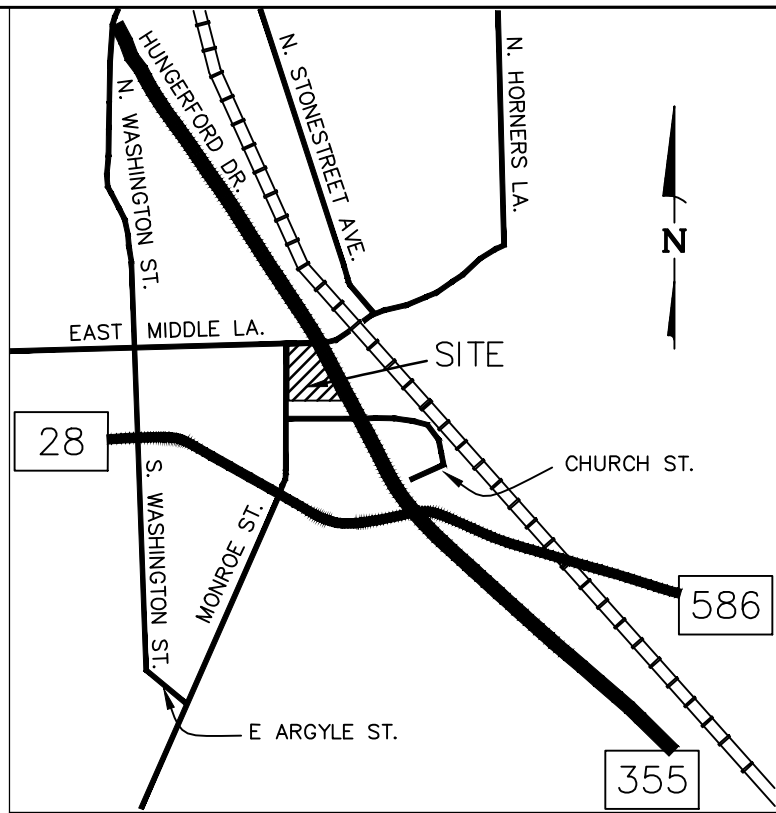
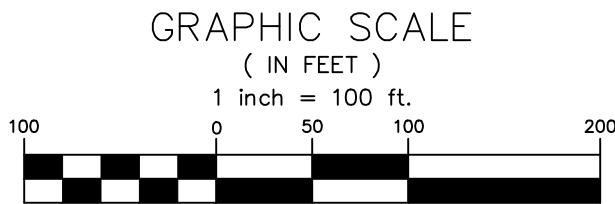
Scott C. Wallace

cc: Bob Elliott, 255 Rockville Pike LLC
Mike Alexander, 255 Rockville Pike LLC
Ricky Barker, City of Rockville
Jim Wasilak, City of Rockville
John Foreman, City of Rockville
Kimia Zolfagharian, City of Rockville

ROCKVILLE TOWN CENTER
PARCEL 2-F
255 ROCKVILLE PIKE
PJT#2025-XXXXX



SURROUNDING AREA MAP



VICINITY MAP
SCALE 1" = 2,000'

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- SITE
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PJ 1.01 EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN
PJ 2.01 PROJECT PLAN
PJ 2.11 PUBLIC USE SPACE EXHIBIT
PJ 2.12 OPEN AREA EXHIBIT
- LANDSCAPE
L0-1 LANDSCAPE PLAN - GROUND LEVEL
L0-2 LANDSCAPE PLAN - LEVEL 02
L0-3 LANDSCAPE DETAILS
- ARCHITECTURAL
A-1.01 EXISTING CONDITIONS PHOTOS
A-1.02 ADAPTIVE RE-USE STRATEGY
A-2.01 PHASE 1 - 3D VIEWS
A-2.02 PHASE 2 - 3D VIEWS
A-3.01 BUILDING SECTIONS
A-4.01 ADAPTIVE RE-USE CONCEPT & PHASING PLAN



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REVISIONS

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE

TAX MAP GR32

WSSC 218NW07

PLAT 19531

4TH ELECTION DISTRICT
CITY OF ROCKVILLE
MARYLAND

ROCKVILLE TOWN
CENTER
ROCKVILLE TOWN
CENTER PARCEL 2-F

PROJ. MGR PGL

DRAWN BY PGL

SCALE 1"= 100'

DATE 03.05.2025

PROJECT PLAN
COVER SHEET

PJ0.01

PROJECT NO. 93.395.02

SHEET NO. 1 OF 1

PROJECT TEAM

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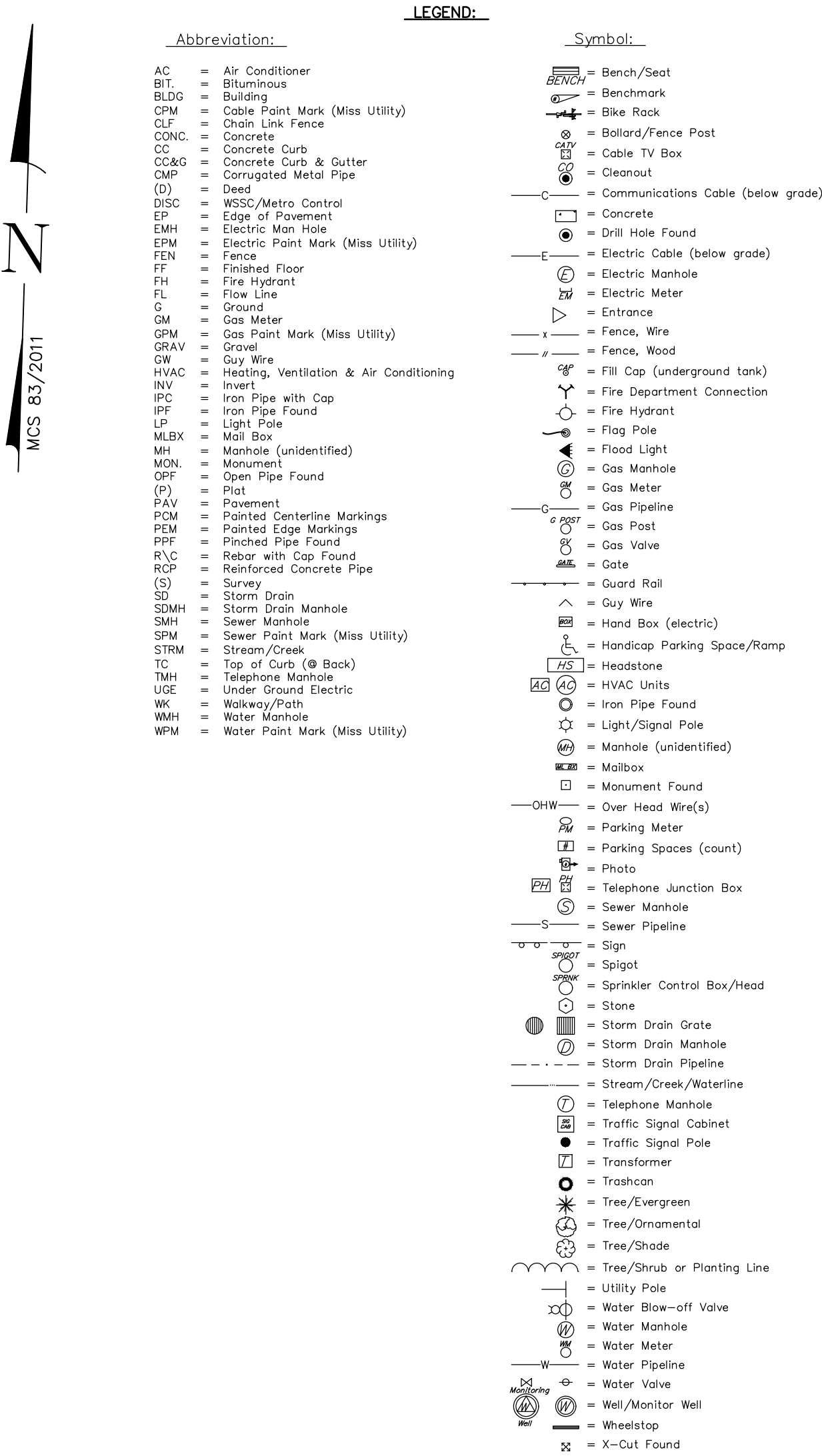
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CONTACT: F. NESLI DOGRUSOZ
JOANNE.NDOGRUSOZ@TORTIGALLAS.COM

Community Planning & Development Services
Received
March 11, 2025



NOTES:

1. Vertical Datum is based on NAVD 1984 NAVD 88, from W.S.S.C. plan # [Blank] Benchmarks used are No. [Blank] and No. [Blank]. The vertical datum on this plan is [Blank]. Aerial photography / Field survey methods by McKean/Snyder, Inc./MHC on [Month Day Year] meets National Map Accuracy Standards for a 30 scale topography. By showing the vertical datum at a larger scale does not change the accuracy standards of this datum. Any larger scale detail is for horizontal location clarification only.
2. Horizontal Datum is based on the Maryland Coordinate System NAD 83(2011) Datum as projected by NGS. SmartNet North America Vertical Reference Station System (VRS) was used to establish the horizontal control for this site on (DATE). The combined scale factor for this site is [Blank]. This survey meets the positional tolerance as specified by Title 9, Subtitle 13, Chapter 6, Sections .04 and .12 of the Minimum Standards of Practice for Land Surveys.
3. The Horizontal and Vertical Tolerances for this drawing meet or exceeds the National Map Standards for a xx scale map.
4. Aerial photogrammetric/Field survey methods were used in the compilation of the topographical data shown on this plan. The (aerial was performed by (Aerial Company) and based on aerial photography dated [Month Day Year] OR The field survey was performed by (MHC) on [Month Day Year].
5. The locations of existing underground utilities are shown in their approximate locations as per available records of land markings found in the field. The exact locations of all underground utilities should be verified by "MISS UTILITY" prior to excavation. MHC does not express or imply any guarantee or warranty as to the location or existence of any underground utility.
6. Subsurface and environmental conditions were not examined or considered as a part of this survey. No statement is made concerning the existence of underground or overhead structures or facilities that may affect the use or development of this site.
7. The property lines shown herein do not constitute a current boundary survey.
8. This map or plot and the survey on which it is based were prepared under the responsible charge of the undersigned and are in compliance with COMAR Regulations 09.13.06.04 and 09.13.06.12.
9. Certification Required – The use of this drawing constitutes a certification by a Professional Engineer or Surveyor in the practice of the profession an expression of professional opinion regarding those facts of findings which are the subject of the certification and does not constitute a warranty or guarantee, either expressed or implied.
10. This digital data has been generated for the exclusive use of the staff of MHC. MHC makes no guarantee or warranty either assumed or implied as to the accuracy of this data. Should this data be used for Construction or Construction Stakeout, the company or person using this data does so at their own risk. It is strongly recommended that you verify this information, to your own satisfaction, before using any of this data. Quality control of the drawings and data is the responsibility of the user.

REVISIONS		
NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE

TAX MAP GR32 WSSC 218NW07

PLAT 19531

4TH ELECTION DISTRICT
CITY OF ROCKVILLE
MARYLAND

ROCKVILLE TOWN
CENTER
ROCKVILLE TOWN
CENTER PARCEL 2-F

PROJ. MGR PGLDRAWN BY PGL

SCALE 1"= 30'

DATE 03.05.2025

EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN

PJ1.01

PROJECT NO. 93.395.02

SHEET NO. 1 OF 1



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LAND PLANNING

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ROCKVILLE, MD 20850
301-300-5600
BELLIOTT@LANTIANDEVELOPMENT.COM

REVISIONS

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE

TAX MAP GR32

WSSC 218NW07

PLAT 19531

4TH ELECTION DISTRICT
CITY OF ROCKVILLE
MARYLAND

ROCKVILLE TOWN
CENTER
ROCKVILLE TOWN
CENTER PARCEL 2-F

PROJ. MGR

PGL

DRAWN BY

PGL

SCALE

1"= 30'

DATE

03.05.2025

PROJECT PLAN

PJ2.01

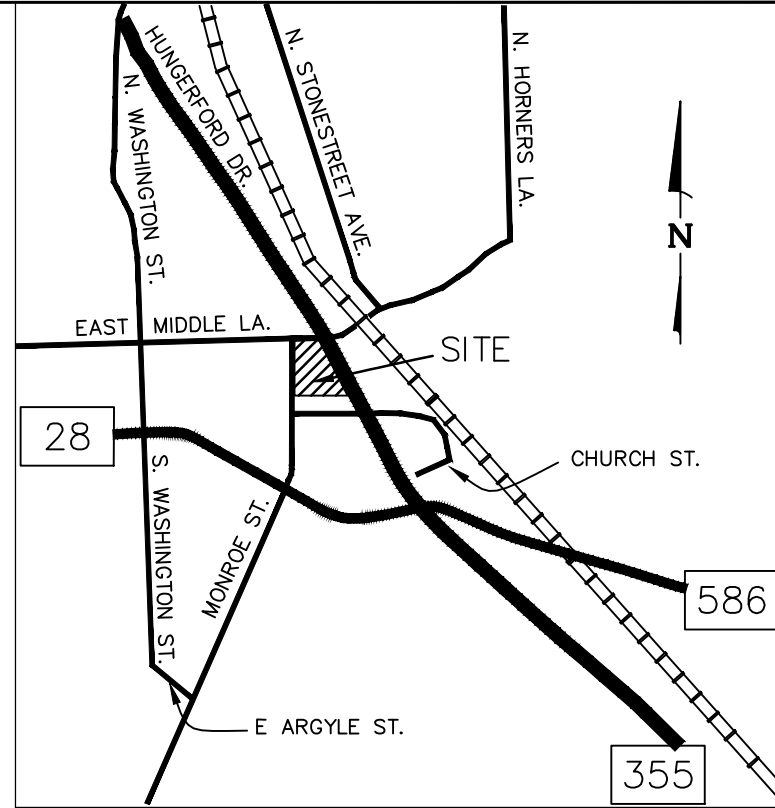
PROJECT NO.

93.395.02

SHEET NO.

1 OF 2

Community Planning & Development Services
Received
March 11, 2025



VICINITY MAP
SCALE 1" = 2,000'

SITE DATA	
SUBJECT PROPERTIES:	PARCEL 2-F ROCKVILLE TOWN CENTER PLAT 19531
PROPERTY ADDRESSES:	255 ROCKVILLE PIKE
TAX ID NUMBERS:	04-03084286
PROPERTY OWNER:	255 ROCKVILLE PIKE LLC 4341 MONTGOMERY AVENUE BETHESDA, MD 20814
EXISTING / PROPOSED SITE AREA:	109,107 SF (2.50 AC)
ZONING CLASSIFICATION:	PD-RCI (ROCKVILLE CENTER INC.) & TOWN CENTER PERFORMANCE OVERLAY
EXISTING USES:	OFFICE (145,000 SF)
PROPOSED USES:	MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (550 UNITS TOTAL)

GENERAL NOTES

- THE EXISTING CONDITIONS AND PROPERTY BOUNDARY SHOWN FOR PARCEL 2-F ARE TAKEN FROM TOPOGRAPHIC & BOUNDARY SURVEYS PREPARED BY MHG. LAST UPDATED IN OCTOBER OF 2024.
- EXISTING UTILITIES SHOWN ARE BASED ON VISIBLE SURVEYED APPURTENANCES, MARKINGS BY MISS UTILITY, ACCESSIBLE STRUCTURES AND PLANS OF RECORD.
- THE PROPERTY IS WITHIN THE ROCK CREEK WATERSHED.
- THE PROPERTY DOES NOT CONTAIN "WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES", WETLANDS, STREAMS, SEEPS, SPRINGS, FLOODPLAINS OR THEIR ASSOCIATED BUFFERS.
- THE PROPERTY IS NOT IDENTIFIED IN THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE'S HISTORIC BUILDINGS INDEX.
- A NATURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY / FOREST STAND DELINEATION (NR/FSO) FOR THIS PROPERTY WAS APPROVED UNDER 2025-14-NR.
- THE PROPERTY IS WITHIN THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE WATER AND SEWER SERVICE AREA.
- REFER TO FINAL SITE PLAN FOR GRADING, UTILITIES AND ADDITIONAL SITE DEVELOPMENT DETAILS.

DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS - PD-RCI/MXTD ZONE¹

	PERMITTED	REQUIRED	PROVIDED
MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT	25.13.05 (b)	217 FT ³	PHASE 1: 85 FT PHASE 2: 217 FT ⁴
MINIMUM OPEN AREA	25.13.05 (b)	15% (16,366 SF)	PHASE 1: 38% (41,485 SF) PHASE 2: 35% (38,118 SF)
MINIMUM PUBLIC USE SPACE	25.13.05 (b)	10% (10,911 SF)	PHASE 1: 13% (14,415 SF) PHASE 2: 13% (14,415 SF)
MINIMUM LOT WIDTH AT FRONT LOT LINE:	25.13.05 (b)	10 FT	395 FT (HUNGERFORD DR)
PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY ABUTTING SETBACK:	25.13.05 (b)	NONE REQ'D.	0 FT
MINIMUM SIDE YARD SETBACK:	25.13.05 (b)	N/A ²	N/A ²
MINIMUM REAR YARD SETBACK:	25.13.05 (b)	N/A ²	N/A ²
MINIMUM AUTO SPACES:	25.16.03	PHASE 1: 327 SPACES PHASE 2: 630 SPACES	PHASE 1: 436 SPACES PHASE 2: 416 SPACES ⁵
MINIMUM BICYCLE SPACES - SHORT TERM:	26.16.03	PHASE 1: 6 SPACES PHASE 2: 11 SPACES	PHASE 1: 12 SPACES PHASE 2: 12 SPACES
MINIMUM BICYCLE SPACES - LONG TERM:	26.16.03	PHASE 1: 95 SPACES PHASE 2: 184 SPACES	PHASE 1: 102 SPACES PHASE 2: 184 SPACES

FOOTNOTES

- DESIGNATED EQUIVALENT ZONE FOR PD-RCI IS THE MXTD ZONE.
- THE PROPERTY HAS PUBLIC STREET FRONTAGES ON ALL SIDES, THEREFORE IT HAS NO SIDE OR REAR YARDS.
- BUILDING HEIGHT OF UP TO 217 FEET WAS APPROVED BY PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN PDP94-0001.
- THE PERMITTED BUILDING HEIGHT FOR PHASE 2 IS THE APPLICABLE MAXIMUM ALLOWED BY THE ZONING ORDINANCE IN EFFECT AT THE TIME THE PHASE 2 SITE PLAN APPLICATION IS FILED. SUBJECT TO SATISFACTION OF ANY PROVISIONS FOR ADDITIONAL HEIGHT. THEREFORE, A PROJECT PLAN AMENDMENT IS NOT REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE ANY MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHT RECOMMENDED IN THE UPDATED TOWN CENTER MASTER PLAN AND/OR PERMITTED BY FUTURE AMENDMENTS TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND ZONING MAP AS MAY BE ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL PRIOR TO THE FILING OF THE PHASE 2 SITE PLAN APPLICATION.
- CONCURRENT WITH THIS APPLICATION, THE APPLICANT IS SUBMITTING A WAIVER REQUEST TO PURSUE FLEXIBLE PARKING STANDARDS FOR THE PHASE 2 EXPANSION, PURSUANT TO SECTION 25.16.03.h.1 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE.

PHASE 1 VEHICLE PARKING CALCULATIONS (MIN REQUIRED)

USE	DENSITY	METRIC	REQUIREMENT
RESIDENTIAL DWELLING, MULTIPLE UNIT (STUDIO)	0 UNITS	1.0/UNIT	0.0
RESIDENTIAL DWELLING, MULTIPLE UNIT (1BR)	202 UNITS	1.0/UNIT	202.0
RESIDENTIAL DWELLING, MULTIPLE UNIT (≥2BR)	83 UNITS	1.5/UNIT	124.5
TOTAL (ROUNDED)			327 SPACES

PHASE 1 BICYCLE PARKING CALCULATIONS - SHORT TERM (MIN)

USE	DENSITY	METRIC	REQUIREMENT
RESIDENTIAL DWELLING, MULTIPLE UNIT	285 UNITS	1.0/50 UNIT	5.7
TOTAL (ROUNDED)			6 SPACES

PHASE 1 BICYCLE PARKING CALCULATIONS - LONG TERM (MIN)

USE	DENSITY	METRIC	REQUIREMENT
RESIDENTIAL DWELLING, MULTIPLE UNIT	285 UNITS	1.0/3 UNIT	94.3
TOTAL (ROUNDED)			95 SPACES

PHASE 2 VEHICLE PARKING CALCULATIONS (MIN REQUIRED)

USE	DENSITY	METRIC	REQUIREMENT
RESIDENTIAL DWELLING, MULTIPLE UNIT (STUDIO)	0 UNITS	1.0/UNIT	0.0
RESIDENTIAL DWELLING, MULTIPLE UNIT (1BR)	390 UNITS	1.0/UNIT	390.0
RESIDENTIAL DWELLING, MULTIPLE UNIT (≥2BR)	160 UNITS	1.5/UNIT	240.0
TOTAL (ROUNDED)			630 SPACES

PHASE 2 BICYCLE PARKING CALCULATIONS - SHORT TERM (MIN)

USE	DENSITY	METRIC	REQUIREMENT
RESIDENTIAL DWELLING, MULTIPLE UNIT	550 UNITS	1.0/50 UNIT	11.0
TOTAL (ROUNDED)			11 SPACES

PHASE 2 BICYCLE PARKING CALCULATIONS - LONG TERM (MIN)

USE	DENSITY	METRIC	REQUIREMENT
RESIDENTIAL DWELLING, MULTIPLE UNIT	550 UNITS	1.0/3 UNIT	183.3
TOTAL (ROUNDED)			184 SPACES

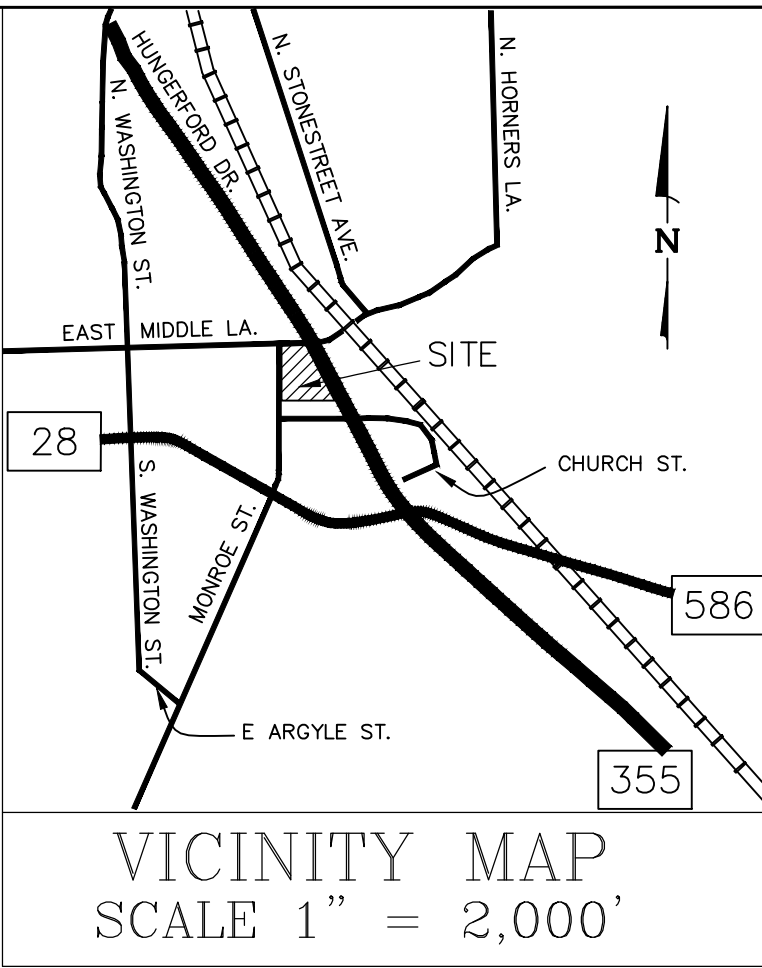
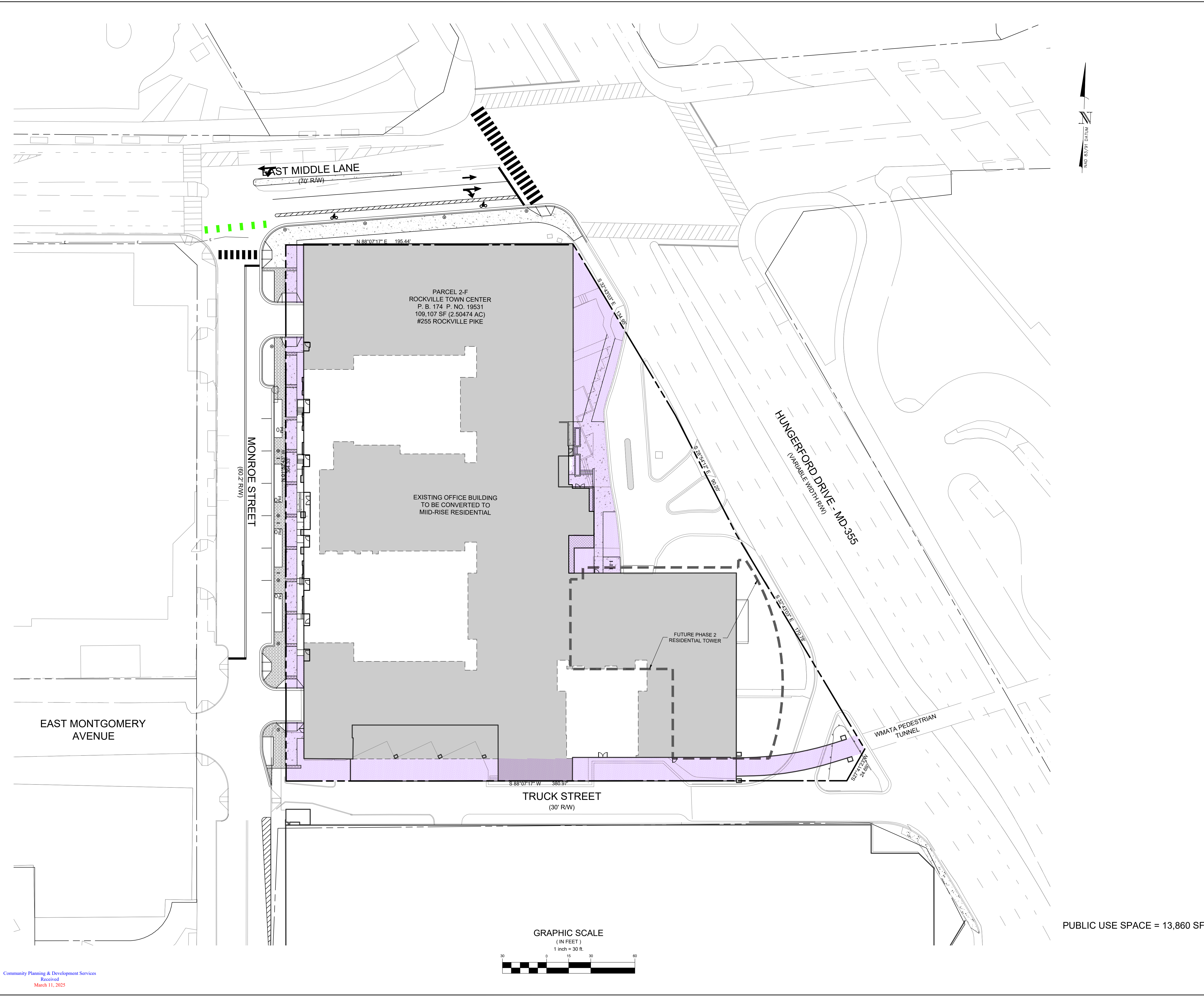
GRAPHIC SCALE

(IN FEET)

1 inch = 30 ft.



I:\3355\DWG\PJ_02_02.dwg P:02:11-PUBLIC USE SPACE, 3/6/2025 2:59:28 PM, lawaysa_ARCHD (24.00 x 36.00 Inches), Copyright © 2025 Macris, Hendricks & Glascock, P.A., Copyright © 2025 Macris, Hendricks & Glascock, P.A.





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REVISIONS		
NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE

TAX MAP GR32

WSSC 218NW07

PLAT 19531

4TH ELECTION DISTRICT
CITY OF ROCKVILLE
MARYLAND

ROCKVILLE TOWN CENTER ROCKVILLE TOWN CENTER PARCEL 2-F

PROJ. MGR	PGL
DRAWN BY	PGL
SCALE	1"= 30'
DATE	03.05.2025

PUBLIC USE SPACE EXHIBIT

PJ2.11

PROJECT NO.

93.395.02

SHEET NO.

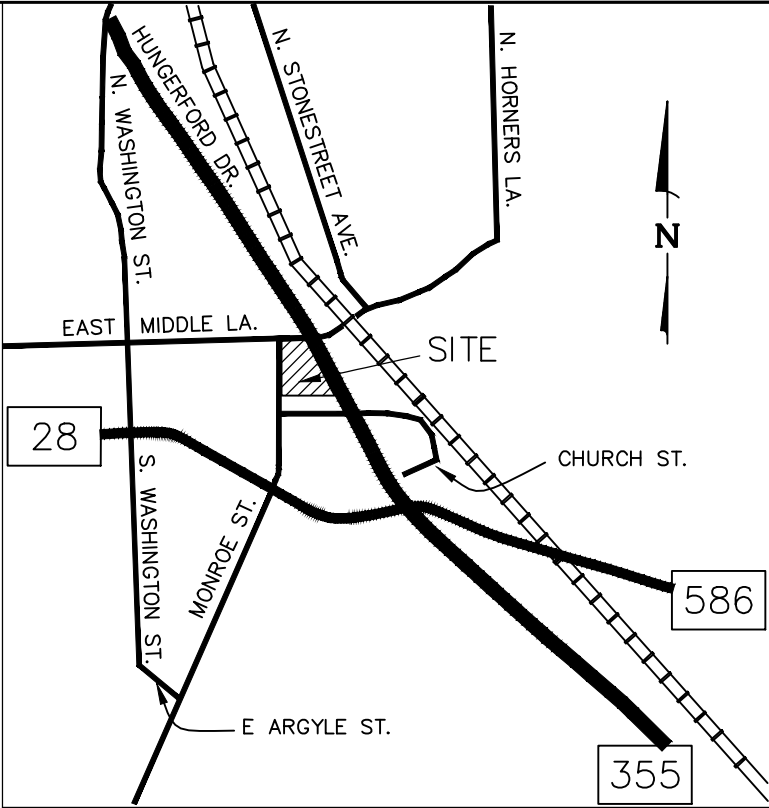
1 OF 1



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VICINITY MAP
SCALE 1" = 2,000'

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REVISIONS

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE

TAX MAP GR32 WSSC 218NW07

PLAT 19531

4TH ELECTION DISTRICT
CITY OF ROCKVILLE
MARYLAND

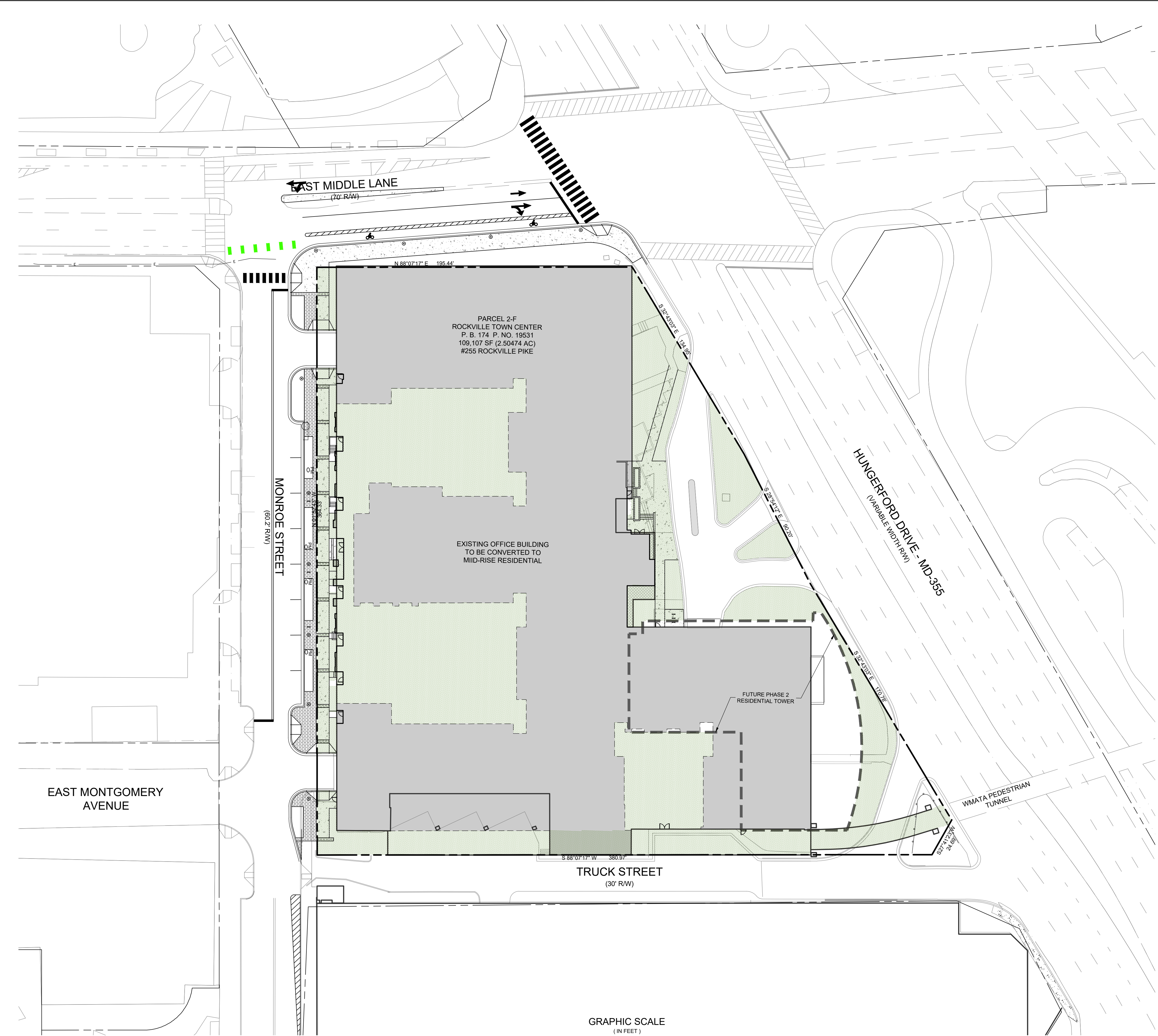
ROCKVILLE TOWN
CENTER
ROCKVILLE TOWN
CENTER PARCEL 2-F

PROJ. MGR	PGL
DRAWN BY	PGL
SCALE	1"= 30'
DATE	03.05.2025

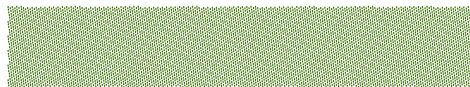
OPEN AREA EXHIBIT

PJ2.12

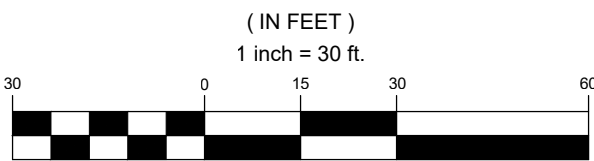
PROJECT NO.	93.395.02
SHEET NO.	1 OF 1



OPEN AREA = 38,118 SF



GRAPHIC SCALE



Kimia Zolfagharian

From: Lyla S. Fadali <lfadali@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 9:47 AM
To: Kimia Zolfagharian
Subject: Multi family development at 255 Rockville Pike

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Hi,

I strongly support this project, as long as it does not add parking. There is quite enough parking in Rockville town center and this is right next to the Metro station.

Thanks,
Lyla



MAYOR AND COUNCIL Meeting Date: May 5, 2025
Agenda Item Type: ADOPTION
Department: FINANCE
Responsible Staff: KIM FRANCISCO

Subject

Adoption of an Ordinance to Appropriate Funds and Levy Taxes for Fiscal Year 2026

Department

Finance

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council adopt the attached Ordinance to Appropriate Funds and Levy Taxes for Fiscal Year 2026 through the following actions: 1) motion to amend the ordinance as modified in Attachment 1, seconded, and passed; and 2) motion to adopt the amended ordinance, seconded, and passed.

Change in Law or Policy

Adoption of the Operating and Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budgets will require passage of the standard budget ordinance. This budget ordinance was introduced by the Mayor and Council on March 17, 2025.

Discussion

In accordance with the City Charter, the Mayor and Council adopt the budget at the fund level. The attached ordinance ([*Attachment 1*](#)) sets the FY 2026 property tax rates, FY 2026 operating budget, and FY 2026 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budget for each fund. The tax rates and budget figures presented in the ordinance are consistent with the Mayor and Council's direction throughout the FY 2026 budget process.

Community engagement is a core component of Rockville's budget process. The FY 2026 budget process included three budget public hearings, a community budget priorities survey, and community Propose-A-Project submissions. A summary of all public testimony, including Propose-A-Project submissions can be found in [*Attachment 2*](#). The final community budget priorities survey report can be found in [*Attachment 3*](#), with 767 responses in total.

Throughout the budget process, staff received questions from the Mayor and Council on the City Manager's proposed budget. The Budget Q&A document was maintained throughout the process and used to track questions received and staff responses. The final Budget Q&A can be found in [*Attachment 4*](#).

Final Budget Adjustments

The adjustments made to the FY 2026 budget include an increase to tax duplication revenue, administrative adjustments (including personnel updates), a reduction in the allocation to REDI, adjustments to several of the city's community services and enrichment grants, the addition of funding for a feasibility study for a park shelter with a restroom at Woottons Mill Park and for noise abatement studies along Gude Drive, and increases in the addition to reserves specifically for emergency assistance and Rainbow House Shelter. Tables showing General Fund revenue and expenditures changes by category are summarized below.

General Fund Revenue	FY 2026 Proposed	FY 2026 Adopted	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Property Taxes	\$51,610,000	\$51,610,000	\$0	0.0%
Other Gov't	\$37,281,560	\$37,754,960	\$473,400	1.3%
Fines/Forfeiture	\$2,234,100	\$2,234,100	\$0	0.0%
Use of Money/Property	\$2,130,730	\$2,130,730	\$0	0.0%
Charges for Services	\$8,967,140	\$8,967,140	\$0	0.0%
Licenses and Permits	\$5,069,070	\$5,069,070	\$0	0.0%
Other Revenue	\$9,321,900	\$9,321,900	\$0	0.0%
TOTAL	\$116,614,500	\$117,087,900	\$473,400	0.4%

General Fund Expenditures	FY 2026 Proposed	FY 2026 Adopted	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Personnel	\$70,372,340	\$70,298,240	(\$74,100)	(0.1%)
Operating	\$18,292,250	\$18,404,650	\$112,400	0.6%
Capital Outlay	\$4,546,430	\$4,546,430	\$0	0.0%
Other	\$7,890,070	\$7,807,170	\$82,900	(1.1%)
CIP Transfer	\$9,800,000	\$9,800,000	\$0	0.0%
Transfers Out	\$5,063,410	\$5,063,410	\$0	0.0%
TOTAL	\$115,964,500	\$115,919,900	(\$44,600)	(0.0%)

General Fund Tax Rates and Tax Credits

The Mayor and Council establish the tax rates each year in order to finance General Fund activities. For FY 2026, the City's real property tax rate is set to remain unchanged at \$0.292 per \$100 of assessed value (note: the City has not increased its real property tax rate since 1995). The personal property tax rate is set to remain unchanged at \$0.805 for every \$100 of assessed value. In FY 2026, total property taxes are estimated at \$51.6 million, or approximately 44 percent of the General Fund revenues.

Parking District Tax Rate

In order to support the debt service costs of the three City-owned garages in Town Square, the Town Center Parking District was formed in 2007. The Parking District is a special taxing district that levies a real property tax on the commercial properties within the Town Square boundaries. The FY 2026 Parking District tax rate is set to remain flat at \$0.33 per \$100 of assessed value.

FY 2026 Operating Budget

The total FY 2026 all funds operating budget of \$175.5 million increased by \$7.1 million, or 4.2 percent, from the FY 2025 adopted budget. The General Fund budget increased by \$8 million or 7.3 percent. The following chart shows the total operating appropriations by fund for FY 2025 and FY 2026:

Operating Fund	FY 2025 Adopted	FY 2026 Adopted	Dollar Change	Percent Change
General Fund	\$109,081,850	\$117,087,900	\$8,006,050	7.3%
Water Fund	\$15,827,850	\$16,314,940	\$487,090	3.1%
Sewer Fund	\$15,546,630	\$15,982,230	\$435,600	2.8%
Refuse Fund	\$8,902,760	\$8,759,240	(\$143,520)	-1.6%
Parking Fund	\$2,791,920	\$2,926,520	\$134,600	4.8%
Stormwater Mgt Fund	\$7,319,350	\$7,625,700	\$306,350	4.2%
Special Activities Fund	\$2,838,210	\$1,797,500	(\$1,040,710)	-36.7%
CDBG Fund	\$263,000	\$263,000	\$0	0.0%
Speed Camera Fund	\$1,305,930	\$1,380,080	\$74,150	5.7%
Debt Service Fund	\$4,455,600	\$3,342,000	(\$1,113,600)	-25.0%
TOTAL	\$168,333,100	\$175,479,110	\$7,146,010	4.2%

FY 2026 CIP Budget

The total FY 2026 CIP budget of \$120.7 million increased by \$1.2 million, or 1.1 percent, from the adopted FY 2025 budget. The CIP budget generally fluctuates from year-to-year, depending on the number and type of projects that are funded. The FY 2026 budget includes a \$9.8 million transfer from the General Fund. The following chart shows the total CIP appropriations by fund for FY 2025 and FY 2026:

Capital Fund	FY 2025 Adopted	FY 2026 Adopted	Dollar Change	Percent Change
Capital Projects Fund	\$63,912,767	\$54,536,325	(\$9,376,442)	-14.7%
Water Fund	\$22,094,904	\$29,218,055	\$7,123,151	32.2%
Sewer Fund	\$12,132,725	\$15,249,173	\$3,116,448	25.7%
Refuse Fund	\$741,022	\$719,618	(\$21,404)	-2.9%
Stormwater Mgt Fund	\$17,867,082	\$19,619,853	\$1,752,771	9.8%
Special Activities Fund	\$1,509,109	\$1,370,286	(\$138,823)	-9.2%
Speed Camera Fund	\$1,178,470	\$0	(\$1,178,470)	-100.0%
TOTAL	\$119,436,079	\$120,713,310	\$1,277,231	1.1%

Impact Statements

Equity

The city's budget development process requires that all operating and capital budget proposals provide equity impact statements. The FY 2026 budget includes funding for a number of items that are intended to promote more equitable outcomes for city residents. Such initiatives

include but are not limited to funding allocations for expanded housing assistance programs, the development of a Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) strategic plan, the addition of a 0.5 FTE ADA Coordinator, expanded access to free nature and swim programs for students attending Title 1 schools within Rockville, and the advancement of the development of the Talbott Street Park (RB25) project which is located in a park deficient area of the city.

Environment

The city's budget development process requires that all operating and capital budget proposals provide environmental impact statements. The FY 2026 budget includes funding for a number of items that are intended to promote improved climate resiliency for the city. Such initiatives include but are not limited to funding allocations for the purchase of electric landscaping equipment, the development of a Green Space Management Plan, and the addition of 10 hybrid/electric vehicles to the city's fleet.

Economy

The FY 2026 budget reflects the economic uncertainties that are facing the region. The city has historically maintained strong reserve levels which help to mitigate risks during periods with less predictable revenues. The FY 2026 General Fund budget includes a \$1.2 million addition to reserves (revenues exceeding expenditures) which may be utilized for major initiatives under consideration during FY 2026 and/or to address emerging needs from the community. Finance staff will closely monitor revenues during the fiscal year. If the city needs to implement mid-year budget adjustments in response to changing economic conditions, these will be brought forward with a formal budget amendment.

Mayor and Council History

Date	Action Item
October 28, 2024	Public Hearing #1
March 17, 2025	Public Hearing #2 Introduction of Budget Ordinance M&C Worksession #1 - Strategic Initiatives, Reorganization, Revenues
March 24, 2025	Public Hearing #3 Budget Worksession #2 - Operating Expenditures, Grants, Fund Balance
April 7, 2025	Budget Worksession #3 - Operating Expenditures, CIP, Grants, Debt Review, and Final Balancing

Public Notification and Engagement

The FY 2026 budget public record closed on April 7, 2025. The final public hearing was held on March 24, 2025.

The FY 2026 budget process included multiple opportunities for public input, including "Propose-A-Project" submissions, three budget public hearings, and offering written testimony to be included in the budget public record.

The Rockville community also submitted an online budget survey to communicate their budget priorities for FY 2026. This form was available in 3 languages (English, Spanish, and Simplified (Mandarin) Chinese) and was posted through April 7, 2025. The final community budget priorities survey report is attached with the materials for budget adoption.

Boards and Commissions Review

The Financial Advisory Board met on April 9, 2025, to discuss the proposed FY 2026 Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program (the budget). Over the course of several weeks, board members reviewed the budget and forwarded their questions and comments to staff. City staff responded in a satisfactory manner to the questions and met with the Board to discuss the budget document.

Consistent with its opinion in prior years, the Board believes that the proposed budget is clearly written and continues to serve as an effective policy document, financial plan, operations guide, and communications device. The Board recommends that the city continue to take a balanced approach in managing the finances of the city and intends to transmit a separate memorandum on the budget to the Mayor and Council.

Fiscal Impact

The proposed real and personal property tax rates and the appropriated amounts by fund for the FY 2026 operating budget and CIP are included in the attached ordinance (*Attachment 1*).

Next Steps

The FY 2026 adopted budget will begin July 1, 2025, and continue through June 30, 2026. The FY 2026 budget book will be posted to www.rockvillemd.gov/budget in July 2025.

Attachments

Attach1_BudgetOrdinance_May2025, Attach2_BudgetPublicTestimony,
Attach3_FinalBudgetSurveyReport, Attach4_FY26 Budget Questions

ORDINANCE NO. _____

ORDINANCE: To Appropriate Funds
and Levy Taxes for
Fiscal Year 2026.

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE,
MARYLAND** as follows:

SECTION I - ANNUAL OPERATING APPROPRIATIONS

There are hereby appropriated for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, out of the revenues accruing to the City for the purpose of operations, the several amounts hereinafter listed under the column designated "Amounts Appropriated":

FUNDS	AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED	
General Fund	[\$116,614,500]	<u>\$117,087,900</u>
Water Fund	[\$16,299,480]	<u>\$16,314,940</u>
Sewer Fund	\$15,982,230	
Refuse Fund	[\$8,670,430]	<u>\$8,759,240</u>
Parking Fund	\$2,926,520	
Stormwater Management Fund	[\$7,657,910]	<u>\$7,625,700</u>
Special Activities Fund	\$1,797,500	
Community Development Block Grant	\$263,000	
Speed Camera Fund	[\$1,377,000]	<u>\$1,380,080</u>
Debt Service Fund	\$3,342,000	
Town Center Management District Fund	\$0	

The "Amounts Appropriated" by this section totaling [\$174,930,570] \$175,479,110 shall be for the annual operating expenses of the departments and agencies of the City and shall be disbursed pursuant to the City Charter and the City Code, under the supervision of the City Manager.

SECTION II - CAPITAL PROJECTS APPROPRIATIONS

There is hereby appropriated out of the revenues accruing to the City for the purpose of capital improvements, the several amounts hereinafter listed under the column designated

"Amounts Appropriated":

FUNDS	AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED	
Capital Projects Fund	[\$61,035,311]	<u>\$54,536,325</u>
Water Fund	[\$29,596,420]	<u>\$29,218,055</u>
Sewer Fund	[\$15,989,094]	<u>\$15,249,173</u>
Refuse Fund	[\$741,022]	<u>\$719,618</u>
Stormwater Management Fund	[\$19,736,472]	<u>\$19,619,853</u>
Special Activities Fund	[\$1,378,271]	<u>\$1,370,286</u>
Speed Camera Fund	\$0	

The "Amounts Appropriated" by this section totaling [\$128,476,590] \$120,713,310 shall be for improvement projects and shall be disbursed pursuant to the City Charter and the City Code, under the supervision of the City Manager.

SECTION III - GENERAL LEVY

There is hereby levied against all assessable real property within the corporate limits of the City a tax at the rate of twenty-nine and two-tenths cents (\$0.292) on each \$100 of assessable value of said property. There is also hereby levied, against all assessable personal property within the corporate limits of the City, a tax at the rate of eighty and one-half cents (\$0.805) on each \$100 of assessable value of said property. These taxes are hereby levied in order, together

with other available revenues and funds of the City government, to provide funds for the "Amounts Appropriated" as set forth in the foregoing Section I. The tax levies herein provided in this section shall not apply to property in the City of Rockville to the extent that such property is not subject to taxes as provided in any valid and binding annexation agreement.

SECTION IV – TOWN SQUARE PARKING DISTRICT LEVY

There is hereby levied against all non-exempt real property within the Town Square Parking District a tax at the rate of thirty-three cents (\$0.33) on each \$100 of assessable value of said property. These taxes are hereby levied in order, together with other available revenues and funds of the City government, to provide funds for the "Parking Fund" as listed in the "Amounts Appropriated" in Section I.

SECTION V – TOWN SQUARE STREET AND AREA LIGHTING DISTRICT LEVY

There is hereby levied against all non-exempt real property within the Town Square Street and Area Lighting District a tax at the rate of zero cents (\$0.00) on each \$100 of assessable value of said property. These taxes are hereby levied in order, together with other available revenues and funds of the City government, to provide funds for the "Town Center Management District Fund" as listed in the "Amounts Appropriated" in Section I.

SECTION VI – TOWN SQUARE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT LEVY

There is hereby levied against all commercial real property within the Town

Square Commercial District a tax at the rate of zero cents (\$0.00) on each \$100 of assessable value of said property. These taxes are hereby levied in order, together with other available revenues and funds of the City government, to provide funds for the “Town Center Management District Fund” as listed in the “Amounts Appropriated” in Section I.

SECTION VII – RESERVES

There is hereby committed \$2,080,000 in General Fund unassigned fund balance to support the following operating budget items: \$750,000 for a subsidy to the Housing Opportunities Fund sub-account, \$280,000 for a Green Space Management Plan, \$250,000 for a contribution to the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department for the purchase of a new vehicle, and \$800,000 for a transfer to the Capital Projects Fund to fund the construction of the Senior Center Entrance (TA24) CIP project.

NOTE: [Brackets] indicate material deleted after introduction.
Underlining indicates material added after introduction.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted
by the Mayor and Council of Rockville at its meeting of

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations

Summary of Oral Testimony for the FY 2026 Budget Process

As of Close of Public Record (04/07/2025)

Date	Speaker	Individual/Organization	Comment/Request
10/28/24	Jake Jakubek	Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee (RBAC)	Advocating for (1) the continued expansion of Capital Bikeshare stations, (2) additional feasibility studies for Complete Streets projects, and (3) funding for youth cycling education
10/28/24	Mary van Balgooy	Twinbrook Community Association (TCA)	Advocating for (1) the construction of the Twinbrook Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge, and the allocation of funding for (2) feasible improvements identified in the Twinbrook Safe Routes to School and Transit Accessibility Study, (3) Twinbrook neighborhood welcome signs, and (4) a Twinbrook neighborhood splash pad
10/28/24	Margaret Magner	West End Civic Association (WECA)	Advocating for the development and implementation of a humane deer population management program
10/28/24	Shiela	Individual	Advocating for the following uses of the King Farm Farmstead buildings: an indoor swimming pool, fitness center, and/or social gathering space
3/17/25	Barbara Haupt	Individual	Advocating for a COLA for Rockville retirees
3/17/25	Jody Tick	Sunflower Bakers	Advocating for continued funding to Sunflower Bakers
3/17/25	Karen Askin	Cultural Arts Commission	Advocating for the development of a comprehensive plan for Arts in Rockville
3/17/25	David Hill	Rockville Sister Cities	Advocating for continued funding of the Rockville Sister Cities grant request, shifting funding from a rescheduled visit from the Mayor of Yilan to the Rockville Lantern Festival
3/17/25	Tricia Tice	Individual	Advocating for improving urban forests and removing non-native species from King Farm watershed
3/17/25	Robert Wright	Individual	Advocating for the construction of a covered park shelter in Woottons Mill park
3/17/25	Jeffrey	Individual	Advocating against bike lanes on Congressional Lane
3/17/25	Beryl Feinberg	Individual	advocating for continued funding of Sunflower Bakers
3/17/25	Angus Chen	Rockville Swim and Fitness Center Advisory Board	Advocating fo continued support to the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center
3/17/25	Eric Bernard	Rockville Volunteer Fire Dept	Advocating for continued funding of the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department
3/17/25	Drew Powell	Rockville Sister Cities	Advocating for continued support of Rockville Sister Cities
3/17/25	Jacob Goodman	Individual	Advocating for accessible, multimodal transportation
3/17/25	Thomas Kim	Individual	Advocating for humane deer population management
3/24/25	Jake Jakubek	Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee	Advocating for (1) a 0.5 FTE position for Bicycle Programs [cycling event/race, feasibility studies, etc.], (2) Complete Streets and Bicycle Safety Infrastructure, and (3) Bicycle Education programs
3/24/25	Christopher C. Cano	SEIU Local 500	Advocating for rent stabilization in line with Montgomery County
3/24/25	Andrea Kempner Wink	Community Reach of Rockville	Advocating for continued funding of Community Reach, specifically for home care services for seniors
3/24/25	Cecilia Rojas	Community Reach of Rockville	Advocating for continued funding of Community Reach, specifically for English-language classes for students and adults
3/24/25	Ali Robinson	Community Reach of Rockville	Advocating for continued funding of Community Reach, specifically for homeless services at the Rockland House and Jefferson House shelters.
3/24/25	Odeth Berlin	Community Reach of Rockville	Advocating for continued funding of Community Reach, specifically for their management of the Rockville Emergency Assistance Program (REAP) for rental, utilities, and medical cost assistance.
3/24/25	Carmen Lezama	Community Reach of Rockville	Advocating for continued funding of Community Reach, specifically for health services through the Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic.
3/24/25	Jessica Jackson	Meadow Hall Elementary School	Advocating for continued funding of Community Reach, specifically for English-language classes for students and adults
3/24/25	Jack Thirolf	Recreation and Parks Advisory Board	Advocating for increased support services for those facing hardship due to federal layoffs and economic uncertainty, and for greater long-term planning
3/24/25	Cristina Rechy	Meadow Hall Elementary School	Advocating for continued funding of Community Reach, specifically for English-language classes for students and adults
3/24/25	Shannon Brescher Shea	Individual	Advocating for funding for bicycle infrastructure and education
3/24/25	Miriam Bunow	Peerless Rockville	Advocating for continued funding of Peerless Rockville at the full amount of their grant request
3/24/25	Katherine Rogers	Peerless Rockville	Advocating for continued funding of Peerless Rockville at the full amount of their grant request
3/24/25	Nancy Pickard	Peerless Rockville	Advocating for continued funding of Peerless Rockville at the full amount of their grant request
3/24/25	Ulysses Santa Maria	Rockville Science Center	Advocating for continued funding of Rockville Science Center and Rockville Science Day
3/24/25	Tara Owens	Main Street Connect	Advocating for full funding of Main Street Connect
3/24/25	Mary Grace Sabol	Individual	Advocating for full funding of Peerless Rockville and Main Street Connect
3/24/25	Grant Sams	Individual	Advocating for rent stabilization in line with Montgomery County

Summary of Written Testimony for the FY 2026 Budget Process

As of Close of Public Record (04/07/2025)

Exhibit	Name	Individual/ Organization	Issue(s)
1	Adam Long	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Wild/Native Plantings on City Curbs and Sidewalk Buffers
2	Chris Nelsen	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Marcia & Linthicum Green Infrastructure
3	Kevin Gabrielson	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Add Bridge Connecting Croydon Creek Trails to Rock Creek Trail
4	Stephen Chite	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Stop sign and crosswalk at Nelson and Kent
5	Clara Ni	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Speed bumps on Broadwood Drive
6	Robert Jones	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Sidewalk completion on Darnestown Road
7	Robert Jones	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Darnestown - Oak Knoll Crosswalk
8	Robert Jones	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Crosswalk improvement - Wootton Pkwy and Fallsmead Way
9	Michael Herndon	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Bicycle Path To Rockville Metro
10	Timothy Wojan	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: West End Capital Bikeshare Docking Station
11	Rick Bradley	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Pickleball Courts
12	Luci Roberts	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Crossing College Parkway safely
13	Art Stigile	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Fence Surrounding Restoration Area in Dawson Park
14	Gary Damone	Individual	Potomac
15	Janice Dunlap	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Beautification of Rockville
16	Faisal Khan	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Connecting Preserve Parkway with the Park Potomac neighborhood
17	Kevin McNerney	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Pedestrian/Biker Bridge from Preserve Parkway to Park Potomac
18	Susan Schindler	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Pedestrian Bridge
19	Jill Gould	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: pedestrian/biker bridge to connect Preserve Parkway with the Park Potomac neighborhood
20	Ilya Albert	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: traffic calming devices to improve public safety
21	Sebastian Kierschner	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Pedestrian Bridge between Tower Oaks/Preserve Parkway and Park Potomac
22	Jason Manijak	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Disc golf course
23	Andrew Chang	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Hungerfordtowne Traffic Calming
24	Jackie Gonzalez	Individual	Potomac
25	Jasna Rodulfa-Blemberg	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Make access to Redgate Park more walkable
26	Ravi Gupta	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Utilizing unused land for Pickleball courts
27	Emily Lincoln	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Dog Park at Elwood Smith Park
28	Emily Lincoln	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Traffic Improvements at Mt. Vernon Pl
29	Melissa Bourne	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Bridge in Glenora park
30	Christina Berube	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Improved crosswalk signage/lights at Route 28 and Grandin
31	Sam Darko	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Inline hockey rink
32	Georgina Roth	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Restrooms at playparks
33	yajie li	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: outdoor gym
34	Repeat of #33	Repeat of #33	Repeat of #33
35	Yvan Charpentier	Lincoln Park Civic Association	Propose-a-Project Submission: Soccer goals for Isreal Park
36	Stuart Fribush	North Farm Citizens' Association	Propose-a-Project Submission: Sidewalk Remediation in North Farm
37	Anonymous	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Security Improvements at City Hall
38	David Brewster	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Request for a sidewalk on Tall Grass Court in Rockville
39	Dominique Lorang	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Community composting site
40	Olga Benseghir	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Public Bathroom for Montrose Park
41	Linda Brennan	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Sidewalk Extension- Shady Grove Road
42	Tiffany Wheeler	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Digital/Electronic Community Bulletin Boards
43	Chris Nelsen	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Twinbrook Parkway Bike Lane
44	Jean Ekman	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Proposal for establishing mandates for Trimming or removing large trees in West End Neighborhoods
45	Emily Mitchell	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Special waste collections
46	Megan Clare Craig-Kuhn	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Traffic Improvement on W Edmonston Dr
47	Elaine Gebell	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Pave the 700 block of Carr Ave
48	Karen Anselmo	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Monument Park Tennis/Pickleball Court
49	Erin Mahony	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Install walkway in historic alley parallel to West Montgomery ave
50	David Fuller	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Remove Bike Lanes in Rockville Town Center
51	Margaret W Blair	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Make Twinbrook Parkway Safer
52	Mary A. van Balgooy	Twinbrook Community Association	Propose-a-Project Submission: Splash Pad
53	Mary A. van Balgooy	Twinbrook Community Association	Propose-a-Project Submission: "Welcome to Twinbrook" Signage
54	Andria Apostolou	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Install stools for children to wash hands in public places like the Rockville city swimming pool, libraries and other public buildings
55	David Stinchcomb	Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee and Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee	Propose-a-Project Submission: Lakewood Elementary School Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge Access
56	Doris Schraft and Jeffrey Hudgens	Individual	Propose-a-Project Submission: Install flashing devices in center island and along crosswalks on Beall Avenue at Gibbs Street and at Maryland Avenue

Exhibit	Name	Individual/ Organization	Issue(s)
57	Margaret Magner	West End Civic Association	Propose-a-Project Submission: Deer Population Management
58	Patricia G Tice	Ingleside at King Farm Green	
59	Mary van Balgooy	Team, Rockville MD	Propose-a-Project Submission: Rockville Retention Ponds Invasive Vine Removal
60	Sarah Looney	Individual	Commenting on the community budget survey and its usefulness
61	Bruce Plunkett	Individual	Opposing the use of city funding to cull the deer population in the West End neighborhood
62	Jeanne Omeara	Individual	Advocating for a deer population management program
63	Mary van Balgooy	Twinbrook Community Association	Advocating for (1) the construction of the Twinbrook Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge, and the allocation of funding for (2) feasible improvements identified in the Twinbrook Safe Routes to School and Transit Accessibility Study, (3) Twinbrook neighborhood welcome signs, and (4) a Twinbrook splash pad
64	Tricia Tice	Individual	Advocating for improving urban forests and removing non-native species from King Farm watershed
65	Robert Wright	Individual	Advocating for the construction of a covered park shelter with utility services in Woottons Mill park
66	Robert Wright	Individual	Advocating for the construction of a covered park shelter with utility services in Woottons Mill park
67	Karen Buglass	Individual	Advocating for fully funding Peerless Rockville's grant request
68	Mark Pierzchala	Individual	Advocating for responsible budgeting in the face of economic and regional uncertainty
69	Camille Battle	Individual	Advocating for fully funding Peerless Rockville's grant request
70	Theresa E. Maciejewski	Individual	Advocating for continued programming
71	Angus Chen	Rockville Swim and Fitness Center Advisory Board	Advocating for continued support to the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center
72	Gary Funkhauser	Individual	Advocating for fully funding Peerless Rockville's grant request
73	David Hill	Rockville Sister Cities	Advocating for continued support of Rockville Sister Cities
74	Repeat of #73	Repeat of #73	Repeat of #73
75	Alison Van Dyke	Individual	Advocating for rent stabilization
76	Kari Barrett	Individual	Advocating for the development of community gardens at RedGate Park
77	Error	Error	Error - part of #78
78	David Martinsen	Ingleside at King Farm - Green Team, Rockville MD	Advocating for improving urban forests and removing non-native species from King Farm watershed
79	Error	Error	Error - part of #80
80	Antonia Schierling	Resident Council of Ingleside at King Farm	Advocating for improving urban forests and removing non-native species from King Farm watershed
81	Tricia Tice	Ingleside at King Farm - Green Team, Rockville MD	Advocating for improving urban forests and removing non-native species from King Farm watershed
82	Error	Error	Error - part of #81
83	Odeth Berlin	Community Reach	Advocating for continued funding and support to the Rockville Emergency Assistance Program
84	Cecilia Rojas	Community Reach	Advocating for continued funding and support to the Language Outreach Program of Community Reach
85	Ricky Mui	Human Services Advisory Commission	Advocating for continued community support and aid
86	Carol Hannaford	Individual	Advocating for prioritization of housing needs and community support and aid
87	Deborah Moore	Individual	Advocating for funding to caregiver agencies
88	Lucinda Hall	Individual	Advocating for increasing the budget for the Rockville Senior Center
89	Tara Owens	Main Street	Advocating for continued full funding of Main Street's grant request
90	Andrea Kempner-Wink	Community Reach	Advocating for continued funding and support of Community Reach
91	Tom Gibney	The Gibney Alliance LLC	Proposal for redevelopment of the King Farm Farmstead
92	Gerald Cichy	Individual	Advocating for fully funding Peerless Rockville's grant request
93	Cecilia Rojas	Community Reach	Advocating for continued funding and support to the Language Outreach Program of Community Reach
94	Sandy Watson	Woodley Gardens Civic Association	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
95	Jeanine Gould-Kostka	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
96	Paul Gatons	Montgomery County Department of Transportation	Advocating for funding for the Rockville Bike Hub
97	Christine King	New Neighbors Interfaith Alliance	Advocating for funding for the Rockville Bike Hub
98	Maritza De La Vega	Montgomery County Commuter Services	Advocating for funding for the Rockville Bike Hub
99	Linda Brenner	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
100	Eileen McGuckian	Individual	Advocating for fully funding Peerless Rockville's grant request
101	Repeat of #100	Repeat of #100	Repeat of #100
102	Repeat of #95	Repeat of #95	Repeat of #95
103	Kathleen Cene	Individual	Advocating for rent stabilization
104	Karen Davis	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
105	Kristen Konopka	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
106	Martha S. Lo	Individual	Advocating for fully funding Peerless Rockville's grant request
107	Marcia Bond	Individual	Advocating for fully funding Peerless Rockville's grant request
108	Jim Reschovsky	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
109	Steven Pazan	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
110	Nick Durham	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive

Exhibit	Name	Individual/ Organization	Issue(s)
		Woodley Gardens Civic	
111	Rachael Plett	Association	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
112	Carolyn Inoa-Monje	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
113	Karen Friend	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
114	Terri Martinez	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive, and a dog park at the Senior Center or Woodley Park area
115	Amy McLaughlin	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
116	Judith Cline	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
117	Audrey Moog	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
118	Elizabeth Perkins	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
119	Margaret Magner	Individual	Advocating for fully funding Peerless Rockville's grant request
120	Anne-Marie Coakley	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
121	Bette Gould	Individual	Advocating for the addition of funds for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive
		Recreation and Parks Advisory	
122	Jack Thirolf	Board	Advocating for the city to focus on fiscal sustainability as well as providing aid to people in the region affected by federal reduction in force and economic uncertainty
123	Nancy Pickard	Peerless Rockville	Advocating for continued support and fully funding the grant application of Peerless Rockville

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #90061

Date Submitted: 5/1/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Adam Long

Contact Email*

skiajl6297@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Wild/Native Plantings on City Curbs and Sidewalk Buffers

Proposal Location*

City Neighborhoods

Describe Your Proposal*

Replace the tree and grass-only plantings existing between sidewalks and streets in neighborhoods throughout Rockville, e.g. College Gardens, Woodley Gardens, Linkin Park, West End, etc.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Greening Rockville with wildlife-friendly native plants, which encourages biodiversity and rewilding; promoting diversity of species, and to prevent the continuing losses of life due to development and human impact.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

All citizens of Rockville would benefit from the beauty and from the natural impacts

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No - all of the 'islands' are cite-maintained and currently planted with trees and grass in many instances - grass serves no purpose and requires constant maintenance; natural and native perennials do not require the same labor, do not require machines to mow and pollute, and make a better environment for wildlife.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Uncertain.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #90082

Date Submitted: 5/1/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Chris Nelsen

Contact Email*

nelsenc@utexas.edu

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Marcia & Linthicum Green Infrastructure

Proposal Location*

Corner of Marcia Lane & Linthicum St

Describe Your Proposal*

Create natural drainage pathway with green infrastructure to improve drain, reduce ponded water, and prevent pollution of Rock Creek by installing green infrastructure solution at corner of Marcia & Linthicum

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Ponding water, mosquitoes, native plants, improve community aesthetics, improve water quality

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Many - all users of Rock Creek that enter thr park at this corner and all residents of the neighborhood.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No, I think it is all public/park property.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Unknown

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90088****Date Submitted: 5/1/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Kevin Gabrielson

Contact Email*

KGabrielson26@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title***

Add Bridge Connecting Croydon Creek Trails to Rock Creek Trail

Proposal Location*

Croydon Creek Park & Rock Creek Trail

Describe Your Proposal*

Croydon Creek Park has a trail that approaches the Rock Creek Trail but stops short by about 100 yards and would need to cross the Rock Creek. These trails should be linked. It would provide better access to both and would be a relatively inexpensive.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

It makes Rockville easier to traverse while walking. It connects these 2 trails, eliminating a much longer route that goes along roadways. It also provides better access to Redgate park via the connector trail through Croydon Creek Park - currently there is no access to Redgate Park from the Rock Creek Trail, as Avery Road has no sidewalks between the two. Overall, it would bring more people to the Croydon Creek Park and Redgate Parks.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

100s

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No - it is all government owned land. It may be some combination of Rockville/county/state/federal land where the creek crossing occurs.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Not to my knowledge.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #90095

Date Submitted: 5/2/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Stephen Chite

Contact Email*

stephenchite@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Stop sign and crosswalk at Nelson and Kent

Proposal Location*

Intersection of Nelson St. and Kent St.

Describe Your Proposal*

Many cars, particularly those coming down the hill west on Nelson St from Mannakee toward College Pkwy drive quite fast with nothing slowing them down between those two intersections. This includes many large vehicles (e.g., Senior Center and MC buses). There are no crosswalks along Nelson St between Mannakee and College Pkwy, leaving many walkers jaywalking to cross Nelson St. This includes many families with young children and elderly neighbors who do not move as quickly.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Provide residents with safer means of crossing the street, and slow down car traffic on Nelson St.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Numerous -- Nelson St. is a very popular through street for both car and foot traffic.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

N/A

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

unsure

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90128****Date Submitted: 5/3/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Clara Ni

Contact Email*

Ni.clara.91@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)**Proposal Title***

Speed bumps on Broadwood Drive

Proposal Location*

Broadwood Drive between Veirs Mill and Baltimore Rd

Describe Your Proposal*

Speed bumps on Broadwood Drive

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Speeding from through traffic and many of these vehicles do not stop or even slow down at the stop signs

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

The Twinbrook neighborhood

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No?

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Unsure

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90129****Date Submitted: 5/3/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person***Contact Email*****Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*****Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title*****Proposal Location*****Describe Your Proposal***

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Pedestrians on Darnestown Road have no viable way to proceed between Dav Rd and W. Montgomery Ave. Most either walk on Darnestown Road which is unsafe due to the speed of vehicles, or they cross Darnestown to the opposite side, but there's no cross walk until you reach the intersection of Darnestown and W. Montgomery. So pedestrians are forced to play frogger to get to the other side. A sidewalk connecting the existing sidewalk which ends at Dav Rd to the intersection of Darnestown and W. Montgomery Ave solves this problem.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

100-150

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

Not to my knowledge.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Unknown.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90130****Date Submitted: 5/3/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person***Contact Email*****Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*****Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title*****Proposal Location*****Describe Your Proposal***

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

There are no crosswalks on Darnestown Rd between Glen Mill Rd. and W. Montgomery Ave, a distance of approximately 1.1 km. I've witnessed numerous pedestrians crossing Darnestown at this intersection as there's a concrete island already present to prevent traffic exiting Oak Knoll from turning left onto Darnestown due to the dangerousness of the intersection. It appears pedestrians are typically trying to access the Carl Henn Millennium trail which is immediately opposite Glenora Ln. Pedestrians risk dodging traffic because the nearest crosswalks are over half a km in either direction. This could also help calm traffic speeds on this section of road. Current speed limit is 40 mph, but as usual vehicles usually exceed that.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Est. 1500 (both neighborhoods on each side of the Darnestown intersection at this location).

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Unknown.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90131****Date Submitted: 5/3/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person***Contact Email*****Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?***☒ Self**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title*****Proposal Location*****Describe Your Proposal***

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Intersection / Crosswalk art has been proven to be significantly more effective than traditional crosswalk indicators (stripe paint pattern and signs) at alerting drivers to a caution area and having them obey. An additional improvement could be to extend the 25 mph zone past this intersection as it begins just to the west of the identified location.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

500 (both neighborhoods on each side of the intersection.)

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Unknown.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90159****Date Submitted: 5/4/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person***Contact Email*****Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*****Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title*****Proposal Location*****Describe Your Proposal***

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Currently, the bike trail crosses I-270, but then ends at Adclare. From there, it's a dangerous ride along W. Montgomery Ave, then either walking the bike over the bridge over Rockville Pike, or riding along E. Middle Lane. This extension of the current bike path would make getting from the west side, over 270, then to Rockville Town Center and Metro much safer and faster. It would encourage bike use, visits to Town Center, and address climate action, community connections, and healthy behaviors.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

All the residents and businesses who live and work west of I-270.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

Not if use of the streets is utilized.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Possibly TD21. But I'm not sure what projects are within that.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #90161

Date Submitted: 5/4/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Timothy Wojan

Contact Email*

anakcu@yahoo.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

West End Capital Bikeshare Docking Station

Proposal Location*

Peg Sante Park

Describe Your Proposal*

A Capital Bikeshare docking station in a residential neighborhood might not have been a priority but it is now the next logical step for making Rockville a more bike-centric community. Peg Sante Park as the location for such a station would provide a community focal point making it a notable neighborhood asset in contrast to a docking station on some random street corner. In addition to use for commuting to the Rockville Metro Station or to the Key West Ave. area CaBi clusters, the station would also promote more biking into Town Center for dining, shopping, or community events. Particularly as housing prices continue to rise and more households try to economize by eliminating their second car, a community asset enabling those strategies could be particularly appealing to potential residents. A Peg Sante Park docking station would provide an iconic symbol of Rockville's commitment to a more sustainable future and provide a pilot for testing a residential neighborhood bike sharing model.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

The proposed project would provide very low-cost transit options for community residents that are environmentally friendly and can contribute to public health. These options could in turn reduce the need for a second car for some households. The iconic nature of the project would address Rockville's interest as projecting itself as a community committed to a sustainable future. Rockville Town Center was described by the New York Times real estate section as a "Piazza for a Maryland Suburb." The town could now start working on the "A Bit of the Netherlands in the DMV" moniker.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

In addition to the more than 500 households within a 5-6 minute walk to Peg Sante Park, the docking station would also serve those going to the Unitarian Universalist or Seventh Day Adventist Church, and Beall Elementary School.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No direct impact. It may have some indirect effect on neighborhood housing values as a community asset that lowers monthly transportation expenses.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

It complements the current bicycle/pedestrian-related CIP projects.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90164****Date Submitted: 5/4/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Rick Bradley

Contact Email*

ricksquickfit@aol.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Group

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)**

Pickleball community

Proposal Title*

Pickleball Courts

Proposal Location*

City wide

Describe Your Proposal*

I propose budgeting funds to support the fastest growing sport in the country... Pickleball! Thousands of Rockville citizens are playing Pickleball now and have to wait to play because they are so few Pickleball courts in the city. I propose constructing dedicated Pickleball courts for the Rockville city residence as well as other county residence. They return on investment is huge! One comparison... \$.8 million spent for a skateboard park that maybe serves 100 kids... Wow thousands of adults as well as youth are waiting for courts to play Pickleball. If we want healthier communities, this is one way of getting them! My proposal is to convert existing tennis courts. There are under utilized into dedicated Pickleball courts . This will be a win-win situation for all!

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

The problem is they're a very few dedicated Pickleball courts in the city of Rockville. The solution would be convert under utilize tennis courts into dedicated Pickleball courts to serve Rockville residence as well as county residence. It's simple!

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Literally thousands!

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

The Pickleball community is 100% backing this proposal!

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Not sure

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #90177

Date Submitted: 5/5/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Luci Roberts

Contact Email*

Lr123g@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Crossing College Parkway safely

Proposal Location*

College Parkway at College Plaza

Describe Your Proposal*

Place a crosswalk and pedestrian warning signs across College Parkway near College Plaza.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Residents of the multi-family housing near College Plaza cross College Parkway just anywhere to reach the shopping center. There isn't a place to cross near the shopping center. There should be a safe place to cross along the walking route between Scarborough Square and the shopping center. I'm afraid someone will get hit.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Everyone who needs to walk across College Parkway to walk to the shopping center

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Yes. Crosswalks fit everywhere there are pedestrians.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90203****Date Submitted: 5/6/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Art Stigile

Contact Email*

artstigile@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)**

Art Stigile

Proposal Title*

Fence Surrounding Restoration Area in Dawson Park

Proposal Location*

Dawson

Describe Your Proposal*

Either replace the home-made fence surrounding the restoration are with a real fence or remove the existing fence. Personally, it seems the area has been restored, so I'm not sure why a fence continues to be needed, but if it is, let's install an attractive fence.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

The current fence is an ugly, hand-constructed fence using a variety of cheap materials, including bamboo, plastic fencing, and old logs positioned along the entire perimeter to keep out deer. The area has been fenced this way for at least 3 years. That seems a long enough time to have restored the area to natural vegetation, so I would think that the fence should be removed. But if there is an ongoing need for a fence, it shouldn't be an eye-sore as the current fence is.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

The entire neighborhood (Hungerford)

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

not to my knowledge

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

I couldn't find one in the Parks and Recreation section

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90229****Date Submitted: 5/6/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Gary Damone

Contact Email*

GJDAMONE@GMAIL.COM

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title***

Establishment of a Pedestrian Bridge Between Tower Oaks and Park Potomac

Proposal Location*

Over 270 Freeway Between Tower Oaks and Seven Locks (Park Potomac Shopping Area)

Describe Your Proposal*

I propose the City of Rockville build a pedestrian / bicycle bridge that goes over the 270 Freeway and is located halfway between the existing traffic bridges that are already located on Montrose Road and Wooten Parkway.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

The establishment of a pedestrian bridge in this area will connect the existing/planned communities, restaurants, shops and offices located on Tower Oaks and Preserve Parkway with the existing/planned communities, restaurants, shops and offices in the Potomac Park area. By establishing this pedestrian bridge, the city will greatly promote increased foot, bike and paw traffic between these two growing areas. This pedestrian bridge will allow all of these residents, shoppers and resident employees to forego their vehicles, while traversing between these thriving areas in a safe and environmentally friendly manner. This bridge will also allow increased usage of the new dog park the city just established on Preserve Parkway. The high-volume and fast-moving traffic found on Montrose Road and Wooten Parkway really discourages pedestrian traffic between the existing / planned communities, restaurants, shops and offices located on both sides of the freeway.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

While I am not aware of the exact number of residents in these locations, nor am I aware of the exact number of people that use these restaurants or shops on a daily basis, I suspect we are talking about several thousand residents, consumers and employees that could directly and repeatedly benefit from this pedestrian bridge.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

N/A

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

I believe the area where a pedestrian bridge can be erected is already City or County owned.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

I do not believe this proposal currently falls within any existing City or County project.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90234****Date Submitted: 5/6/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Janice Dunlap

Contact Email*

jsdunlap.email@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title***

Rockville

Proposal Location*

MD

Describe Your Proposal*

Beautification of our city. Two passes (or bridge supports) under the train tracks have dire need for repairs and painting: (1) the underpass on Park Road/East Middle Lane, and (2) the train/bridge underpass on First Street, just off of Rockville Pike. I propose that an art competition be held for ideas for some type of mural/painting of the walls under the train tracks. This project could be a point project with the owners of the bridge. This beautification project could be an example to be emulated by other cities that have unsightly train track under bridges.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Visual and beautifying need. Pedestrians walking under the bridge on Park Road/East Middle Lane towards the Rockville City Center are subjected to an ugly area. Certainly there must be some way to paint bold murals on both sides of the underpass, which could deter graffiti. Even walls full of colorful graffiti would be better than the ugly walls that currently exist. The same goes for the train underpass on First Street, which is full of rust, cracks, and ugly cement. Surely a great city like Rockville deserves such a beautification project. While on this subject, why do we not have a city of Rockville banner that would hang from the lamp posts along the Pike, and/or in the City Center? You could hold a banner art competition for that as well.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

All who drive and sit in traffic on First Street and the Park Road/East Middle Lane train underpasses, plus all the pedestrians who walk under the bridges and are subjected to the ugliness around them.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

No.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90245****Date Submitted: 5/7/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Faisal Khan

Contact Email*

irafsah@hotmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)**

Tower Oaks Community

Proposal Title*

Connecting Preserve Parkway with the Park Potomac neighborhood

Proposal Location*

Preserve Parkway and Tower Oaks Blvd

Describe Your Proposal*

Requesting a pedestrian/biker bridge to connect Preserve Parkway with the Park Potomac neighborhood that will greatly benefit all residents of our neighborhood (Tower Oaks), especially a significant population that are seniors. It will also make it easier for Park Potomac neighborhood residents to cross over easier and much more safely to Rockville. It will also help ease the congestion at Park Potomac that is caused by the need for everyone to get their using motor vehicles.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Easier and safer commute to access groceries, food, pharmacy and other daily needs.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Thousands

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

This request is made on behalf of self, but after informal discussions and encouragement by other neighbors who also are very much in favor.

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

Tower Oaks Community is mostly private properties and I am sure it benefits and many will be in favor.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Not sure.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #90247

Date Submitted: 5/7/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Kevin McNerney

Contact Email*

kevin.m.mcnerney@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Group

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Pedestrian/Biker Bridge from Preserve Parkway to Park Potomac

Proposal Location*

Preserve Parkway to Park Potomac

Describe Your Proposal*

Many Rockville residents would love to have a pedestrian/biker bridge over 270, from Preserve Parkway to Park Potomac.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

A pedestrian bridge would enable residents from the Tower Oaks, Park Potomac, Seven Locks, and Montrose areas to avoid traffic on Montrose Road and Wooten Parkway when patronizing the restaurants, shops, businesses, market and dog park, all in an environmentally friendly way.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

at least 10,000

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No, it doesn't impact private property. However, I believe that all residents near the area are in support of the bridge project.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

I don't think this project fits in an existing CIP project.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90256****Date Submitted: 5/7/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Susan Schindler

Contact Email*

gldsfm@aol.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title***

Pedestrian Bridge

Proposal Location*

tbd

Describe Your Proposal*

Bridge to connect Tower Oaks to Park Potomac area

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

traffic and safety

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

1000

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

I don't know

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

I don't know

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90442****Date Submitted: 5/13/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person***Contact Email*****Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*****Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title*****Proposal Location*****Describe Your Proposal***

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

The area is growing, and it would become more attractive if the residents of the Tower Oaks, Park Potomac, Seven Locks, and Montrose areas could avoid the traffic on Montrose Road and Wooten Parkway to patronize the restaurants, shops, businesses and parks.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

At least 1000+

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

There is plenty of public owned property to make the connection on.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

I'm not sure

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #90557****Date Submitted: 5/16/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Ilya Albert

Contact Email*

theilyaalbert@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title***

traffic calming devices to improve public safety

Proposal Location*

East Rockville

Describe Your Proposal*

I propose to add speed bumps throughout the East Rockville neighborhood on residential streets to slow down local and commuter traffic. In particular, adding the speedbumps at the intersection between Crabb Ave and North Horners Lane.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

The East Rockville area population has increased over time, including the use of automobiles, which are all parked on the narrow residential streets of East Rockville, causing at times bottlenecks of vehicles. Additionally, commuters and locals are speeding quickly through our seats in these narrow streets, where pedestrians regularly walk. By adding speedbumps to East Rockville, in particular, Crabb and North Horners (I live at 403 Crabb Ave), speeding drivers will be forced to decrease and maintain speed, which will alleviate potential vehicular accidents (a car crashing into another car, house, or potentially a pedestrian, such as children and elderly citizens). On my own street, at 403 crabb ave, I have already taken note of drivers using excessive speeds or reckless and negligent driving, on our street. At times, I believe drivers believe the residential streets permit speeds that of a highway, which of course is not the case. Recently, a yellow Honda S2000 performed donuts in the middle of our street, almost hitting a house and car. Signs or cameras will not resolve the speeding issues. By adding speed bumps, drivers will be forced to control their speeds in our neighborhood, creating a safer environment for the East Rockville residents. Please, please, consider adding speed bumps to our neighborhood, at the very least near my home, where drivers are regularly speeding down narrow streets.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Entire population of East Rockville \ or near my home where traffic is busy and quick.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No, this doesn't impact private property.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Yes. adding speed bumps will help Rockville's goals heading toward zero traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2030.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #90994

Date Submitted: 5/30/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Sebastian Kierschner

Contact Email*

s.kierschner@hotmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

SEBASTIAN KIERSCHNER

Proposal Title*

Pedestrian Bridge between TowerOaks/Preserve Parkway and Park Potomac

Proposal Location*

Accross 270

Describe Your Proposal*

Pedestrian/biker bridge to connect Preserve Parkway with the Park Potomac neighborhood.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

A pedestrian bridge would enable residents from the Tower Oaks, Park Potomac, Seven Locks, and Montrose areas to avoid traffic on Montrose Road and Wooten Parkway when patronizing the restaurants, shops, businesses, market and dog park, all in an environmentally friendly way.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

All Residents of North Farm, Tower Oaks, Souther Rockville Area also Dogwood Park Community

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

unknown

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

unknown

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #91026****Date Submitted: 5/31/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Jason Manijak

Contact Email*

jtmanijak26@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title***

Disc golf course

Proposal Location*

Red gate

Describe Your Proposal*

I would like a other disc golf course in the area. The only one is in Seneca Creek park. Red gate Park would be a great location to put a course, and would add an additional draw to the new plans for red gate Park.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Outdoor activities

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Thousands

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Red gate park

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #91089****Date Submitted: 6/2/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Andrew Chang

Contact Email*

achang1@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title***

Hungerfordtowne Traffic Calming

Proposal Location*

Hardy Pl and W Edmonston Dr

Describe Your Proposal*

Increased traffic calming measures to slow down speeds and prevention of stop sign intersection running.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

With the Elementary School and speed camera on W Edmonston Dr, speeding traffic has moved to other side streets. There are people driving at excessive speeds on these side streets, in addition to running stop signs at intersections. Proposal to introduce traffic calming measures to slow down speed.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

500

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

no impact to private property

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

vision zero

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #91110****Date Submitted: 6/3/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Jackie Gonzalez

Contact Email*

jackkevbri@att.net

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title***

Establishment of a Pedestrian Bridge Between Tower Oaks and Park Potomac

Proposal Location*

Over 270 Freeway Between Tower Oaks and Seven Locks (Park Potomac Shopping Area)

Describe Your Proposal*

I propose the City of Rockville build a pedestrian / bicycle bridge that goes over the 270 Freeway and is located halfway between the existing traffic bridges that are already located on Montrose Road and Wooten Parkway.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

The establishment of a pedestrian bridge in this area will connect the existing/planned communities, restaurants, shops and offices located on Tower Oaks and Preserve Parkway with the existing/planned communities, restaurants, shops and offices in the Potomac Park area. By establishing this pedestrian bridge, the city will greatly promote increased foot, bike and paw traffic between these two growing areas. This pedestrian bridge will allow all of these residents, shoppers and resident employees to forego their vehicles, while traversing between these thriving areas in a safe and environmentally friendly manner. This bridge will also allow increased usage of the new dog park the city just established on Preserve Parkway. The high-volume and fast-moving traffic found on Montrose Road and Wooten Parkway really discourages pedestrian traffic between the existing / planned communities, restaurants, shops and offices located on both sides of the freeway.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

While I am not aware of the exact number of residents in these locations, nor am I aware of the exact number of people that use these restaurants or shops on a daily basis, I suspect we are talking about several thousand residents, consumers and employees that could directly and repeatedly benefit from this pedestrian bridge.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

N/A

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

I believe the area where a pedestrian bridge can be erected is already City or County owned.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

I do not believe this proposal currently falls within any existing City or County project.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #91753

Date Submitted: 6/23/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Jasna Rodulfa-Blemberg

Contact Email*

jasna.rodulfa@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Make access to Redgate Park more walkable

Proposal Location*

E Gude Dr by Redgate Park

Describe Your Proposal*

Currently Redgate Park's only official entrance is by Avery Rd. Pedestrians need to cross the busy and dangerous intersection of E Gude and Norbeck Rd, go along the sidewalk by the busy, loud, and car exhaust polluted Norbeck Rd, then cross to the other side of Avery Rd, then go down Avery Rd, and carefully cross Avery Rd again to go to the car lane of Redgate Park. It would be great if there were more sidewalk along E Gude Dr that directly connected the area along the E Gude Dr Service Rd and the corner to Norbeck Rd, and along that sidewalk have a pedestrian-friendly entrance to Redgate Park. This is near a bus stop that currently has very little safe space for a pedestrian to wait. I would even say, don't add a car entrance as that would complicate traffic. It would further be nice to have a crosswalk or pedestrian bridge that crossed E Gude Dr in this area. It may also be nice to further develop the area across Norbeck Rd where there is a bus stop and almost no room for people to safely and comfortably wait.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Pedestrian and bus rider safety along E Gude Dr and Norbeck Rd, make Redgate Park more accessible and pedestrian friendly. Make this area a little more attractive to visit -- there are some strip mall businesses and offices here that could benefit from this accessibility as well.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #91825****Date Submitted: 6/25/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Ravi Gupta

Contact Email*

ravgupta20@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title***

Rockville

Proposal Location*

MD

Describe Your Proposal*

This proposal aims to utilize unused land or abandoned sports courts to create additional pickleball courts in Rockville, MD. Pickleball is rapidly growing in popularity, and providing more courts will encourage physical activity, community engagement, and recreational opportunities for residents of all ages. This aligns with the city's commitment to enhancing recreational facilities and promoting active lifestyles.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

The proposal addresses the lack of sufficient pickleball courts to meet the growing demand in the community. By repurposing unused land and abandoned courts, we can create spaces that promote healthy living, social interaction, and outdoor activity, addressing both physical and mental health needs. This also supports the city's goals of maintaining and enhancing public infrastructure as outlined in the Capital Improvements Program (CIP).

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Considering Rockville's population of approximately 67,000, and assuming that approximately 5% of the population might be interested in using the pickleball courts, this proposal has the potential to benefit over 3,000 residents. This estimate is based on the growing popularity of pickleball and the inclusive nature of the sport, which appeals to a wide range of age groups and fitness levels.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

No, this proposal has not been discussed and agreed upon by the local neighborhood association yet.

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No, this project will utilize public lands and abandoned public sports courts, ensuring that no private property is impacted.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Yes, this proposal aligns with the city's existing CIP project focused on enhancing recreational facilities and promoting active lifestyles among residents. Specifically, it complements initiatives such as the Outdoor Recreation Pool Renovation and the Lincoln Park Community Center Improvements by providing additional recreational opportunities.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #91930****Date Submitted: 6/27/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Emily Lincoln

Contact Email*

emilymcla@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Emily Lincoln

Proposal Title*

Dog Park at Elwood Smith Park

Proposal Location*

Elwood Smith Park - Field next to playground

Describe Your Proposal*

There is a rectangle of minimally utilized grass at Elwood Smith Park surrounded by the creek, Lynnfield St, the playground, and the community center. It tends to get very buggy and wet because of complicated water drainage problems that were discovered during the playground renovation. Therefore, it's minimally used especially in the summer. I propose that this plot be enhanced in a way to make it less swampy and perhaps turned into a dog park or half dog park, half basic sports field. It doesn't have to be complicated, just a place for people to let their dogs come and play together off leash.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Renovating under utilized space, removing standing water contributing to bug problem, bringing neighbors together, more eyes and ears in area recently suffered from gun violence.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Hundreds

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No, it's already property of Rockville City

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Don't know

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #91931****Date Submitted: 6/27/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Emily Lincoln

Contact Email*

emilymcla@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Emily Lincoln

Proposal Title*

Traffic Improvements at Mt. Vernon PI

Proposal Location*

Rockville Pike @ Mt Vernon PI

Describe Your Proposal*

This is a very dangerous intersection because people coming out of the parking lot that is shared by Patient First/Roy Rogers often ignore right of way laws to turn left SB on Rockville Pike. There are also people U-Turning to go SB, not realizing that they must technically yield to people turning Right from Mt Vernon PI to SB Rockville Pike. There was also a pedestrian incident in the past few years within a block of here. PLEASE put some kind of turning restriction or stop light at this intersection before there is an accident. You may not have enough data to justify this, but anecdotally I have observed many near misses. Someone is going to get hurt

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Serious auto accidents

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Thousands

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

no

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

don't know.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #92005****Date Submitted: 7/1/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Melissa Bourne

Contact Email*

Robo71054@msn.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title***

Bridge in Glenora park

Proposal Location*

Glenora park

Describe Your Proposal*

Glenora Park is somewhat divided by a creek and forest. Half of the park is on Dundee rd and other half is Wootton parkway and McCormick. The part on Dundee has the playground, basketball and by Guy court is the tennis courts. The other part has the baseball field and volleyball court. There is no connection between the two areas except to walk all the way around. And there is no parking in the McCormick area- just residential. We need a bridge that crosses the creek and connects not only the park areas but the communities too. I think you need to see the area to understand the problem.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

1. Connecting the two park areas 2. Parking access to the baseball field 3. Connecting the areas and easier access to the tennis courts

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Too many to count

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

I'm not sure

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #92511

Date Submitted: 7/18/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Christina Berube

Contact Email*

christina.berube@yahoo.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Improved crosswalk signage/lights at Route 28 and Grandin

Proposal Location*

at Route 28 and Grandin

Describe Your Proposal*

I propose a flashing light crosswalk sign, similar to those in the town center crosswalks, to be placed at Route 28 and Grandin.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

The crosswalk at Route 28 and Grandin is unsafe. No one stops for pedestrians, who are often stranded in the median. When cars do stop, since it is a double lane road, it creates unsafe conditions as cars coming from behind speed AROUND the correctly stopped car, putting drivers and pedestrians at risk. I have actually accidentally caused a car crash here, when a car didn't see me crossing in front of a stopped car, then saw me last minute, slammed on their brakes, and caused the car behind them to rear end them. Another time, cars were stopped to let me go, and a dump truck didn't anticipate that, and ended up driving up OVER the curb onto the sidewalk to avoid hitting the car in front of them. Someone could have been killed. A flashing light would alert drivers that someone is crossing, and that other cars may be stopped. The city actively promotes this route with green biking waysigns. So please do more to make it safe for us!

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Perhaps you could count the number of people crossing here?

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Do not know.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #92531

Date Submitted: 7/19/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Sam Darko

Contact Email*

sdarko@gwu.edu

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Inline hockey rink

Proposal Location*

Elwood Smith Park

Describe Your Proposal*

An inline hockey rink similar to the one located at Dewey Local Park in Kensington.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Ice hockey is an expensive sport, but an outdoor inline rink could serve a wider population and make hockey more accessible for everyone in the community.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Hundreds

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

No

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #92611****Date Submitted: 7/23/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person***Contact Email*****Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*** **Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title*****Proposal Location*****Describe Your Proposal*****What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?***

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

100 kids

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

No

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #92625

Date Submitted: 7/23/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

yajie li

Contact Email*

yajie98li@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)**

yajie li

Proposal Title*

outdoor gym

Proposal Location*

Dawson family park, Elwood smith park or Dogwood park

Describe Your Proposal*

We would like kids and adults to be able to do outdoor gym such as parallel bars, Pullup Bar, leg or arm presses

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

there's no outdoor gym for adults or kids in the neighborhood-- parents can work on exercise while their kids play and kids can try basic gym outdoors.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

everyone age 5-80yo

EXHIBIT NO. 34 NOT USED
DUPLICATE OF EXHIBIT NO. 33
NEXT EXHIBIT IS NO. 35

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #93255****Date Submitted: 8/12/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Yvan Charpentier

Contact Email*

yvan.charpentier@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Group

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)**

Lincoln Park Civic Association (LPCA)

Proposal Title*

Soccer goals for Isreal Park

Proposal Location*

Isreal Park grass field

Describe Your Proposal*

Equip Isreal Park with two (2) soccer goals and net for Youth soccer. The dimensions requested are: 6.5'High x 18.5' Wide x 6.5' Deep.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

The addition of the equipment would give the opportunity for community members of all ages to play soccer at Isreal Park. This would complement the current sport offering of the park (tennis, baseball and baseball). We are proposing the procurement of goals of 'Medium' size to better serve our community youth. The goals will have multiple purposes: 1. Allow community members to have a safe public space to engage in this healthy recreational activity. Identical initiatives were successfully implemented at Maryvale and College Gardens Parks. 2. Enhance the experience of the already existing soccer programs for the Lincoln Park Community kids. The soccer program at the Lincoln Park Community Center has operated without goals for many years. 3. Extend the offering of sports for summer camps run from the Lincoln Park Community Center Here is an example of goals with wheels: <https://kwikgoal.com/product/deluxe-european-club-soccer-goal/>, model 2B3004. We also recommend getting two anchor bags for safety purposes. Estimated cost: \$4,876.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

It will serve the 300+ residents of Lincoln Park. It is likely to also attract residents from close by neighborhoods, such as East Rockville

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

The proposal has the support of the Lincoln Park community, via the Lincoln Park Civic Association (documented in the July 2024 meeting minutes).

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No, it does not impact any private property. The recent extension of the parking lot size of the Lincoln Park Community Center will adequately accommodate the additional car traffic, if any.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Yes: Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan: plan that establishes policies to guide the city's growth, development, and quality of life, including in the areas of land use, recreation and parks.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #93486

Date Submitted: 8/20/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Stuart Fribush

Contact Email*

slf1749@yahoo.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Group



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

North Farm Citizens' Association (NFCA)

Proposal Title*

Sidewalk Remediation in North Farm

Proposal Location*

North Farm

Describe Your Proposal*

There are approximately 2.5 miles of roadway in North Farm and there are concrete sidewalks on both sides of the roads. There are many places where roots from City-owned trees have caused elevation changes, gaps, unevenness, or other problems making North Farm sidewalks unsafe. Our sidewalks are regularly used by walkers, joggers, and pet owners -- young and old. Some choose to walk or jog in the streets due to sidewalk unevenness, creating a different set of safety issues. This includes some disabled residents who choose to walk in the streets due to sidewalk safety hazards. There are some temporary repairs in need of more permanent remedy and some unaddressed problems in need of repair (see <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1xNJallZTmsq-QMhrhWtOAc37U6H5sB9s>). This proposed project is aimed at bringing North Farm sidewalks up to current safety standards, including ADA compliance.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

This proposal seeks to eliminate safety hazards on North Farm sidewalks and reduce the need for people to walk or jog in the streets. For example, Farm Haven Drive is configured as a circle approximately one mile in circumference and many people walk or jog laps in the street because the sidewalks are hazardous in spots. Farm Haven Drive is also heavily traveled by personal and commercial vehicles entering or leaving North Farm, some of which travel at speeds well beyond the speed limit. The combination of speeding vehicles and pedestrians walking or jogging in the streets is obviously a significant safety risk.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

North Farm is a community of 262 single family homes located just north of Montrose Road and just east of I-270. Assuming an average of three occupants/household, this proposal would serve approximately 800 residents plus visitors. That results in a rough estimate of 1000 people.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Yes. The NFCA Board voted unanimously to submit this proposal at its 8/12/24 regular meeting. The minutes of the 8/12/24 meeting will reflect that.

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No private property is affected.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Yes. Concrete Repair & Replacement. "This sustainable program repairs and replaces concrete street components such as curbs and gutters, sidewalks, and driveway aprons; miscellaneous infrastructure items such as drainage structures, guiderails, retaining walls, and brick paving; and small sidewalk additions. Specific areas for repair and replacement are selected through staff's annual evaluation based on ADA compliance, research, and generally accepted industry standards."

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #93515****Date Submitted: 8/21/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Anonymous

Contact Email*

anonymous@yahoo.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)**Proposal Title***

Security Improvements at City Hall

Proposal Location*

Rockville City Hall

Describe Your Proposal*

The City should proceed with investing in security improvements at City Hall to include visitor screening and management. Due to its proximity to local courthouses and mass transit, City Hall employees face risks related to serving our constituents and others.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Safety of City employees and the public at City Hall

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

70,000

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

No

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #93763****Date Submitted: 8/30/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

David Brewster

Contact Email*

uncidaveme@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)**

David Brewster

Proposal Title*

Request for a sidewalk on Tall Grass Court in Rockville

Proposal Location*

Tall Grass Court

Describe Your Proposal*

This request is for a sidewalk to be placed alongside Bullards Park (west side) of Tall Grass Court. This new sidewalk would connect with the sidewalk at the corner of Autumn Wind Way and the sidewalk on the east side of Tall Grass Court. I have lived on the street for 7 years and these are my observations: This is a heavily used cul-de-sac by pedestrians and cars alike. Many of the pedestrians heading towards the park, sometimes with their dogs or children, will not bother to use the sidewalk, on the opposite side of the street. They would rather take their chances to get to the park before a possible arriving vehicle is an issue. Some relevant information of Bullards Park: A field of Bamboo has been removed from along Tall Grass CT with the intention that it would eventually be replanted with typical grass. The bamboo used to block half the street after winter storms. I am guessing that's why it was removed. There was a split-rail fence that allowed a single entrance into the park from Tall Grass CT. The fence was removed at the same time as the bamboo. The entrance path is still established and maintained with wood shavings being placed there. Unfortunately, new residents are not aware of the old entrance and often park in front of this path. A new ramp in the curb has been constructed and this may help to re-establish the entrance location. There are several challenges to putting a sidewalk on the west side of Tall Grass CT. A guardrail at the south end, a fire hydrant at the north end, and many trees between are quite a bit of those challenges. One suggestion was to narrow the street so a new sidewalk would take up that space and avoid all the extra work to remove trees and relocate. I believe that the neighbors might not like that option as the street is often used for a lot of car parking. One option may be, since this is a park, maybe the pathway could wind through the trees in the park rather than be restricted to a parallel path to the street? The only challenge with this option would be the guardrail, which is a challenge with any option. Another thing to note is that the playground is up for an overhaul or replacement. It would be helpful if there was a pathway connected to the playground from Tall Grass Court as it is from Calvert Road at the west end. Another option is if the pathway need to be parallel with Tall Grass Court could it be made next to the curb? This may save most of the trees from root damage.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Reduction of pedestrian and vehicles interaction on Tall Grass Court.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Hundreds per year

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

I can provide a petition or traffic survey. General discussion with neighbors has shown all agree with this need.

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No impact with private property.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Yes. There is a proposal for a nearby playground upgrade. This could be incorporated with that project.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #93793****Date Submitted: 8/30/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person***Contact Email*****Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?***☒ Self**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title*****Proposal Location*****Describe Your Proposal***

This designated composting site (there may be multiple sites in Rockville) would use new critter proof and smell proof compost bins to allow trained community members to compost food scraps with garden waste their home to responsibly create high quality compost. Each site should be able to handle up to 1/2 to 1 ton of material a month. To join each member must take an hour training and be able to help process the compost 1-hour a month. This can be similar to the Washington DC Community Compost Cooperative Network at <https://dpr.dc.gov/page/community-compost-cooperative-network>.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Composting locally at the neighborhood or community-level will divert significant quantities of organic materials from landfill disposal. In other words, waste is reduced: food scraps and other organic materials are diverted from disposal and composted. It also yields many other community benefits: social education, inclusion and empowerment, greener neighborhoods, improved local soils, less truck traffic hauling garbage, more local jobs, and increased composting know-how and skills within the local workforce. It has been demonstrated that community-scale operations can move from concept to operation in a relatively short time frame. And community composting can build critical support for and participation in future citywide food scrap recovery programs. Community composting programs have been successful in many parts of the world, including the US.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

It could be introduced to all Rockville residential neighborhoods.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No, the composting sites could be placed in a community park, by community garden plots, along certain roads like Wootton Parkway, Montrose Road, Georgia Avenue, etc.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

This could fall under Recreation & Parks CIP or under a Refuse CIP project to lower amount of refuse that will be trucked in the form of organic matter to the transfer station....will lower gas used to truck refuse and decrease Rockville carbon footprint.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #93817

Date Submitted: 8/31/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Olga Benseghir

Contact Email*

benseghiolga@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Public Bathroom for Montrose Park

Proposal Location*

451 Congressional Ln, Rockville, MD 20852

Describe Your Proposal*

I would like to ask the city to install public bathroom facility at the Montrose Park. This park is always busy with children.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

It will help to keep this park clean. People (particularly children) use surrounding bushes and trees as the bathroom.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Large community, over 200 people a day.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

NA

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Yes

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #93828****Date Submitted: 9/1/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person***Contact Email*****Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?***☐ Self**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title*****Proposal Location*****Describe Your Proposal*****What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?***

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

I do not know.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

N/A

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

I do not know

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Related to Pedestrian Master Plan; I don't see funding in the CIP section of the city budget.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #93840****Date Submitted: 9/1/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Tiffany Wheeler

Contact Email*

Tiffany.AM.Wheeler@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title***

Digital/Electronic Community Bulletin Boards

Proposal Location*

City of Rockville Parks

Describe Your Proposal*

These bulletin boards would be located at City of Rockville Parks so people could easily see upcoming events and activities that may be of interest to them. It would avoid wasting paper like for traditional flyers. Community members/groups/and perhaps local businesses could submit their events, activities, etc. for review to ensure appropriate and the manager of the digital boards could push the messages/flyers out to the boards. Alternatively QR code signs (that point to a community event website) could be placed in parks. And people interested in submitting events for posting could submit to the site manager for review and posting.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Helping build more community and keeping people aware in a more succinct, efficient way.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

All Rockville community members.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Perhaps upgrades at recreational facilities/parks.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #93849

Date Submitted: 9/2/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Chris Nelsen

Contact Email*

nelsenc@utexas.edu

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Twinbrook Parkway Bike Lane

Proposal Location*

Twinbrook Parkway

Describe Your Proposal*

Expanded sidewalks with dedicated bike lanes to promote biking to Twinbrook Metro Station

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Reduces car traffic; reduces carbon emissions; promotes active lifestyles; separates cars, bikes, & pedestrians.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

1000

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No, public/DOT ROW

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

TBD

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #93868

Date Submitted: 9/2/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Jean Ekman

Contact Email*

jeane9696@att.net

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Proposal for establishing mandates for Trimming or removing large trees in West End Neighborhoods

Proposal Location*

West End area of Rockville

Describe Your Proposal*

I propose that Historic West End establish regulations for the allowed size of large trees in the West End neighborhoods. There are many very large tree in this area. Most people have never trimmed their trees due to expense. It is a serious problem not only because of expense but also confronting residents to maintain their tree to a certain size. No one will want to tend to this matter unless regulations are put in place. This ought to have been established many years ago. It is now a serious problem when storms or lightening are around, or as trees age. These large trees or limbs from the trees can fall on residents, cars, or resident homes. Restrictions need to be put in place, inspections done, along with incentive to trim or remove a tree that is oversized for the neighborhood. Money for this serious problem ought to be allocated as it would provide safety for residents, cars and homes.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Neighborhood safety to residents, cars and resident homes.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

population of West End of Rockville. Don't know exact number.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

The project would impact private property because the large trees are mostly on private property. I doubt many home owners would support this plan due to expense. That is why I propose establishing regularionts that would require adherence to this matter. West End is historic. Along with historic areas, there are restrictions and guidelines. This would become one of the guidelines for living in this area. When buying a house in this area, it would be explained to the prospective buyer.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

unknown

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #93923****Date Submitted: 9/3/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Emily Mitchell

Contact Email*

mitcheem@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title***

Special waste collections

Proposal Location*

Rockville

Describe Your Proposal*

The proposal is to implement a regular (monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly) curbside collection service for special waste products such as batteries, metals, and plastic film. This program would provide residents with a convenient way to dispose of these materials by offering curbside pickup on designated days. Residents would receive special waste boxes or bins for these items, which they can place at the curb for collection on the designated day. The program would cover all residential areas within the city that are currently serviced by the garbage and recycling pickup

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Currently, the only option for disposing of special waste products like batteries, metals, and plastic bags and film is to take them to the city's waste facility (or a participating grocery store drop-off for plastic bags and film). This is inconvenient for many residents, likely leading to improper disposal and potential environmental contamination. By offering curbside collection, this proposal addresses the need for a more accessible and convenient disposal method, which will increase participation in proper waste disposal, reduce the environmental impact of hazardous materials entering the regular waste stream, and foster a culture of sustainability in the community. Given that the city already provides occasional special pickups for items like Christmas trees and fall leaf pickup, this proposed service could build on that model to address other critical waste disposal needs.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Population of Rockville (67,000+ residents)

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

No

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #94020****Date Submitted: 9/7/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person***Contact Email*****Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?***☐ Self**Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)****Proposal Title*****Proposal Location*****Describe Your Proposal*****What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?***

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Thousands who commute here daily and those who live nearby

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

No

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #94035

Date Submitted: 9/8/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Elaine Gebell

Contact Email*

egebell@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Pave the 700 block of Carr Ave

Proposal Location*

700 block of Carr

Describe Your Proposal*

Just need the 700 block repaved. Thank you for your consideration.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

The road is a high traffic road from 270 to Beall Elementary school.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Unknown

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

no

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

unknown

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print**Propose a Project - Submission #94045****Date Submitted: 9/8/2024**

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Karen Anselmo

Contact Email*

karenetz@yahoo.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)**Proposal Title***

Monument Park Tennis/Pickleball Court

Proposal Location*

Monument Park

Describe Your Proposal*

Above the playground at Monument Park is an open grass area that would be ideal for 1 (maybe 2) tennis/pickleball courts. That area currently has the playground and basketball court.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

There are no public tennis courts on this side of West End.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

The community

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

The location would be in the park. There are 1-2 house that are adjacent to the park. Not sure how impacted they would be as the court would be closer to MD Avenue.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Recreation and Parks?

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #94085

Date Submitted: 9/9/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Erin Mahony

Contact Email*

eamahony@aol.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Install walkway in historic alley parallel to West Montgomery ave

Proposal Location*

Historic Alley behind West Montgomery Ave between Laird St and Forest Ave

Describe Your Proposal*

The paved alley between Laird St and Forest Ave that runs behind West Montgomery Ave doglegs up to West Montgomery Ave between the 400 and 300 block instead of continuing straight through to Forest Ave. This is City owned property and it would be nice to have a portion of this alley behind the 300 block of West Montgomery Ave paved, connecting the alley to Forest Ave, so that pedestrians and bikers walking/biking through the alley could continue to Forest Ave then to the sidewalk along Harrison on the way to town center instead of having to back up to the extremely busy West Montgomery Ave.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

It provides a safer route through the neighborhood to town center for pedestrians and bikers while avoiding the extremely stressful sidewalks along West Montgomery Ave

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Dozens a day walk the alley

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

I am making this request on my own but this proposal has previously been submitted by WECA and has their support as part of their recommendations to the master plan

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

The alley runs along the boundaries of private properties, but the alley itself is owned by the City. It would affect those properties by allowing pedestrians to walk or bike near their houses as they are able to do in the front. But again - the property subject to the proposal is owned by the City of Rockville - this is not a right of way situation.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

I suppose this could fit withing the Sidewalks project

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #94136

Date Submitted: 9/11/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

David Fuller

Contact Email*

dgfuller2@yahoo.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

David Fuller II

Proposal Title*

Remove Bike Lanes in Rockville Town Center

Proposal Location*

Rockville Town Center

Describe Your Proposal*

Remove the underutilized, if at all used, bike lanes in Rockville Town Center, downtown area and replace with an extra car lane to reduce traffic congestion.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Reduce traffic congestion

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Thousands, everyone who travels by car through the Rockville Town Center, Rockville downtown area.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No private property affected

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

No. But may reduce some requirements for the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety project

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #94137

Date Submitted: 9/11/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Margaret W Blair

Contact Email*

margaretwblair@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Margaret W Blair

Proposal Title*

Make Twinbrook Parkway Safer

Proposal Location*

Twinbrook Parkway between Viers Mill Road and Rockville Pike

Describe Your Proposal*

When I drive on Twinbrook Parkway from Viers Mills Road toward Rockville Pike, I like to use the right lane so that 1) speeding drivers can pass me and 2) I can turn right into Twinbrook Metro parking lot

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

There are many bumps in the right lane that jar me and hurt my back. Also, when it is nighttime and raining, I cannot see clearly the dividing line between lanes. I would like the bumps to be smoothed over and I would like the lane demarcations to be painted in glow paint or have lit-up dots. It is almost impossible to see where the lanes end (including for oncoming traffic) when it is pouring rain at night. I see that the city of Gaithersburg has done that on Rockville Pike and it is much safer driving there at night.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

the many thousands who drive on Twinbrook Parkway every day. It is a major thoroughfare to Rockville Pike and the Metro

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

Probably would be supported positively by people who own property along Twinbrook Parkway, but no adverse effect

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

I have no idea

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #94138

Date Submitted: 9/11/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Mary A. van Balgooy, President

Contact Email*

twinbrook.president@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Group

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Twinbrook Community Association

Proposal Title*

Splash Pad

Proposal Location*

Rockcrest or Twinbrook Park

Describe Your Proposal*

As the summer heat intensifies, residents of Twinbrook face a growing challenge in finding affordable and accessible ways to cool off. This proposal advocates for the establishment of a splash pad in Twinbrook to address this issue, providing a refreshing and inclusive recreational option for all families in the community.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

This proposal addresses the following needs: 1. Affordability and Equity. Currently, Twinbrook Pool requires a membership or daily fee to access its facilities. This cost barrier limits many families, particularly those with lower incomes, from enjoying the pool. Given that over 70% of Twinbrook's population consists of families, and that Twinbrook is one of the most affordable housing areas in Rockville, Maryland, it is imperative to offer an alternative that does not impose financial constraints. 2. Demographic and Population Growth. According to 2010 estimates, Twinbrook has a population of 10,000 with this number expected to rise as more individuals seek affordable housing in the area. The increasing population necessitates additional recreational infrastructure to meet the growing demand and ensure that all residents have equitable access to leisure activities. 3. Climate Change Considerations. With the ongoing impacts of climate change, including rising temperatures, the need for accessible cooling options is more urgent than ever. A splash pad provides a climate-appropriate solution, allowing residents to enjoy a water-based recreational activity that helps mitigate heat stress and promotes public health. Benefits of a Splash Pad 1. Inclusive Recreation. A splash pad offers a zero-entry design that accommodates users of all ages and abilities, including young children, the elderly, and individuals with disabilities. This inclusivity ensures that everyone in the community can benefit from a fun and safe way to cool off during hot weather. 2. Cost-Effective Fun. Unlike traditional swimming pools, splash pads do not require a membership or daily fee, making them a cost-effective option for families. The installation of a splash pad provides a free-to-access facility that can be enjoyed by all residents without financial barriers. 3. Community Enhancement. A splash pad serves as a communal gathering space that fosters social interaction and community engagement. By creating a vibrant and accessible recreational spot, the splash pad will enhance the quality of life in Twinbrook, providing a much-needed social and recreational asset. Conclusion The proposed splash pad in Twinbrook is a timely and necessary addition to the community's recreational infrastructure. By addressing affordability issues, catering to the growing and diverse population, and responding to climate change challenges, the splash pad will serve as a valuable resource for families and individuals alike. Investing in this project aligns with Twinbrook's commitment to equity, inclusion, and enhancing the overall well-being of its residents. We urge the consideration and support of this proposal to bring a much-needed splash pad to Twinbrook, ensuring that all members of the community can enjoy a refreshing and accessible recreational experience.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

At least half the population of Twinbrook and surrounding neighborhoods.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Twinbrook Community Association held a community meeting in July asking for suggestions about the needs for Twinbrook. This was one of the top three choices.

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

No.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #94158

Date Submitted: 9/12/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Mary A. van Balgooy, President

Contact Email*

twinbrook.president@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Group



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

"Welcome to Twinbrook" Signage

Proposal Location*

Edmonston, Ardennes, Broadwood, possibly at Twinbrook Metro exits

Describe Your Proposal*

A welcoming and well-designed entrance sign is a crucial element in establishing a positive identity for a community. This proposal outlines the need for a "Welcome to Twinbrook" sign that will enhance the visual appeal of our neighborhood, foster a sense of pride, and provide a warm greeting to both residents and visitors.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Addressing Community Needs 1. Community Identity and Pride. Currently, Twinbrook lacks distinctive entrance signs that reflects the unique character and spirit of our neighborhood developed almost 80 years ago. Well-designed welcome signs would serve as a symbol of community pride, reinforcing Twinbrook's identity and creating a positive first impression for residents and visitors alike. 2. Enhancing Visual Appeal. The visual appeal of Twinbrook can be significantly improved with professionally designed welcome signs. Aesthetic enhancements to entrances north and south of Veirs Mill will contribute to the overall attractiveness of the neighborhood, making it more inviting and visually appealing. Benefits of "Welcome to Twinbrook" Signs 1. Establishing a Strong Community Identity. Welcome signs would serve as a visual representation of Twinbrook's character and values. By incorporating local symbols, colors, or dates, signs will help to establish a distinctive identity for the neighborhood, enhancing its recognition and appeal. 2. Enhancing First Impressions. Welcome signs will make a positive first impression on visitors and prospective residents. It will signal that Twinbrook is a well-maintained and welcoming community, contributing to its overall desirability. 3. Promoting Community Pride. The presence of prominent welcome signs will instill a sense of pride among current residents. It will symbolize the community's commitment to its own image and reputation, encouraging residents to take pride in their neighborhood.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

The residents of Twinbrook as well as outside visitors to Rockville

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Twinbrook Community Association held a community meeting in July asking for suggestions about the needs for Twinbrook. This was one of the top three choices.

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

No.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #94163

Date Submitted: 9/12/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Andria Apostolou

Contact Email*

andria.apostolou@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

n/a

Proposal Title*

Install stools for children to wash hands in public places like the Rockville city swimming pool, libraries and other public buildings

Proposal Location*

Rockville city swimming pool lockers indoors and outdoors (and other public buildings like libraries, civic center etc)

Describe Your Proposal*

Please consider installing stools for children to be able to easily access faucets to wash hands in restrooms. Similar products to this (Step 'n Wash <https://stepnwash.com/products/step-n-wash-self-retracting-step-stool>) are available at commercial spaces (like Wegmans) and they would greatly assist families with children in all public buildings in Rockville. A space like the swimming pool that is frequented by young children should be children friendly and a parent should not have to pick up their kid to be able to wash their hands. It would keep the place more sanitary. Thank you for the consideration

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Would assist families with young kids to be able to wash hands properly and keep the public spaces like the swimming pool sanitary.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Based on my estimate at least in the swimming pool it would help approximately 50% of the patrons if not more.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

n/a

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Not sure.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #94178

Date Submitted: 9/13/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

David Stinchcomb

Contact Email*

DStinchcomb11@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Group



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee (RPAC) and Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee (RBAC)

Proposal Title*

Lakewood Elementary School Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge Access

Proposal Location*

Where the current pedestrian/bicycle bridge to Lakewood Elementary School crosses Wootton Parkway and the Carl Henn Millennium Trail

Describe Your Proposal*

Add an access ramp to connect the Lakewood Elementary School bridge with the Carl Henn Millennium Trail (CHMT). This connection is included in the current Pedestrian Master Plan.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Currently, access to the ped/bike bridge is limited to a ramp on Glenmore Terrace; there is no access point from the CHMT. Parents and children who wish to walk or bike to the Lakewood ES using the CHMT must detour into the Glenmore Terrace neighborhood using either Keynes Lane to the north or Dundee Road to the south. Parents who have dropped their children off at school and wish to go for a run or bike ride on the CHMT do not have direct access. Members of the Lakewood ES PTA have mentioned the need for this connection in the meetings with bike/ped advocates. In addition, residents of the Lindsay Terrace neighborhood must cross Wootton Parkway at street level to access the CHMT.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

There are over 400 students at Lakewood ES. Those living on the east side of Wootton would have more options to access the bridge. Parents of all students who wish to use the CHMT after dropping off their children would have much better access. Residents in the McComack Road neighborhood (about 60 households) would have better access to Lakewood ES. Residents of the Glenmore Terrace neighborhood (about 35 households) would have more direct access to the CHMT. Residents of the Lindsay Terrace neighborhood (about 25 households) would have access to the CHMT without crossing Wootton Parkway at street level.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

This proposal was discussed and agreed on at the RPAC meeting on 9/12/2024 and the RBAC meeting on 9/4/2024. Meeting minutes will be available.

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No, the existing public right-of-way and easement should be adequate for construction of a new access ramp.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

No.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #94188

Date Submitted: 9/13/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Doris Schraft and Jeffrey Hudgens

Contact Email*

d.schraft@att.net

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Self

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Proposal Title*

Install flashing devices in center island and along crosswalks on Beall Avenue at Gibbs Street and at Maryland Avenue

Proposal Location*

Beall Avenue at Gibbs Street and at Maryland Avenue

Describe Your Proposal*

There are currently pedestrian-activated flashing devices at the Beall Avenue crosswalks at Gibbs Street and at Maryland Avenue. These flashing lights are at the sidewalks, where pedestrians activate them; but drivers, who are often passing closer to the center island than to the sidewalk, do not always notice the lights in their peripheral vision as pedestrians start crossing. The drivers' views of pedestrians are also often obscured by utility and delivery trucks—particularly during the outsets of street crossings. The risks of auto-pedestrian collisions and injuries would be reduced by the placement of corresponding flashing lights at the center island, closer to drivers in the left lane, and flashing lights that outline the entirety of walking lanes.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

Pedestrian safety is currently compromised by crosswalk lights situated at the periphery of drivers' field of vision.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

Pedestrians and drivers along busy Beall Avenue between N Washington St and Hungerford Drive

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?**Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?***

No

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Probably the Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety element

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #94203

Date Submitted: 9/13/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Margaret Magner

Contact Email*

westendca.pres@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Group



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

West End Civic Association

Proposal Title*

Deer Population Management

Proposal Location*

All of Rockville

Describe Your Proposal*

Research and carry out an organized program of humane deer population management across Rockville.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

The deer issues in our city have gone beyond the nuisance level. The problem is now a public health issue. Deer population in the city has reached unprecedented numbers and, according to Rockville Animal Control, the problem affects every area within the city, including Town Center. Rockville's White-Tailed Deer Management Plan from 2012 identifies that the primary concerns of an increasing white-tailed deer population are issues related to public safety and health. These safety concerns include deer vehicle collisions and Lyme disease. Although deer are not the only carriers of the black-legged tick that is the source of the disease, the close proximity of large numbers of deer to humans in Rockville neighborhoods, where they no longer fear people and come close to homes, increases this public health concern. Ecological and biological impacts, as well as negative impacts to residential landscaping are other major concerns highlighted in the document. In the 14 years since this plan was written, the deer population in Rockville has grown even denser. Residents are concerned about feeling they need to request exceptions for 10-foot high fences to help minimize ecological and biological impacts of the deer near homes. We don't want Rockville to become a city of fences. We propose humane deer population management.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

All Rockville residents potentially impacted by vehicle collisions, disease, ecological and biological impacts of the deer overpopulation.

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Yes, the proposal has been discussed and agreed on by our group. Concerns about deer have been raised by residents at nearly every monthly neighborhood meeting (September through May) of our civic association in 2023 and 2024. We invited a guest speaker from the Rockville Neighborhood Services Animal Control team to our September 2024 monthly meeting, and approximately 30 neighborhood residents discussed with him the safety, health and ecological issues of deer overpopulation in our city and within the group about how to work towards a solution. A motion was made at that meeting and unanimously passed by all residents present to propose this CIP project as a neighborhood submission to benefit all in the City impacted by deer overpopulation. The meeting minutes of this September meeting will be approved as official at our October 10, 2024 meeting, but they could be provided in draft form prior to that if that would be helpful.

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

The project does not directly impact a specific private property. Deer population management would provide health and ecological benefits to private property owners concerned about deer impacts.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

We did not see a deer management project listed in the summary of projects. The project relates to: - Neighborhood Services/Animal Control (reduce cost of their deer-related effort and the hundreds of dead and injured deer they need to manage annually) - Transportation (reduce the rising rates of deer collisions) - Stormwater Management (reduce the ecological impact of loss of vegetation at ground level)

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Print

Propose a Project - Submission #94209

Date Submitted: 9/13/2024

Please submit only one proposal per form. If you have multiple proposals, please submit multiple forms.

Contact Person*

Patricia G Tice

Contact Email*

ptice17@gmail.com

Are you making this request on behalf of a group or yourself?*

Group



Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Ingleside at King Farm Green Team, Rockville MD

Proposal Title*

Rockville Retention Ponds Invasive Vine Removal

Proposal Location*

Watts Branch Watershed, King Farm Boulevard area, Rockville MD

Describe Your Proposal*

I am a resident of the Ingleside King Farm elder community on King Farm Boulevard and Piccard Drive. Ingleside is in the Upper Watts Branch Watershed. Several stormwater retention ponds in our neighborhood occur along two minor tributaries of the watershed. Paved walking/biking paths traverse the stream routes. These areas have vigorous healthy forests with a variety of native trees and shrubs. Ingleside residents regularly enjoy walking along these paths, observing the seasonal changes in the plants and birds which are found there. The area is frequented by local birders and is considered a birding hot spot by the Montgomery Bird Club. Yellow Warblers and Green Herons are among the interesting bird species identified there. One of my favorite trees is the American Persimmon which is locally common. Unfortunately, these urban forests are being overrun by invasive and non-native vine species, among them Multiflora Rose, English Ivy, Porcelain Berry, and Oriental Bittersweet. In some cases the vines have grown to the tops of the trees, smothering and weakening the trees and leading to their deaths. These vines need to be removed.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

As trees grow larger, they provide important environmental services by cooling our neighborhoods and sequestering increasing amounts of carbon. Removing carbon from the atmosphere is important to counteract global warming. Our urban forest reserves are precious resources which need maintenance from time to time. Removal of these invasive vines is not something which can be accomplished by citizen volunteer Weed Warriors. Over the years the vines form heavy woody stems which require profession equipment to remove. A survey would need to be done to estimate the amount of work needed for this project. That is beyond my abilities. I would be happy to work with the Rockville Forestry Department to identify instances where trees are endangered by these vines. I suggest surveying first along both sides of King Farm Blvd between Gaither Road and Piccard Drive. The Forestry Department would then be able to develop a cost estimate for subsequent activity. Let's start cutting down the invasive vines.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

500 Ingleside King Farm residents, the greater King Farm neighborhood, Rockville and birders from the DMV area who use the eBird app to log reports of birds observed throughout the region and notify each other of rare and unusual birds seen in the region

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Ingleside King Farm Green Team. Their endorsement will be forwarded to the committee.

Does this project directly impact any private property? If so, do the owners of those properties support the project?*

No.

Does your proposal fit within an existing CIP project? If so which one? (Existing CIP projects can be found in the city's budget document on the city's website.)*

Not to my knowledge.

Thank you for submitting a proposal for the FY 2026 budget process. A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and applicable city department staff. Additionally, your proposal will be included as part of the FY 2026 budget public record beginning with the first Budget Public Hearing in Fall 2024. To follow the FY 2026 budget process, please check the city's website to find dates of Mayor and Council work-sessions and budget public hearings. These dates will be published once set by the Mayor and Council in the Fall.

Judy Penny

Budget Proposal ■

From: Max van Balgooy <max.vanbalgooy@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 27, 2024 8:27 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Comments on FY 2025 Budget and Community Priorities

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to share my thoughts on the FY 2025 budget, particularly regarding how resident priorities align with the city's planned projects. The recent survey indicates that residents value parks as a top priority. However, initiatives such as RedGate Park and Arboretum and the King Farm Farmstead rank lower on the list. I recommend reframing these projects to emphasize their role as parks that benefit the entire city, which could increase their appeal and potential impact. For example, simplifying the names by focusing on "park" rather than "arboretum" might underscore their accessibility and value to all residents (an arboretum is a place where trees are cultivated for scientific and education purposes--which will not appeal to many residents nor is the intent of RedGate).

It's also worth noting that the survey may not fully represent the entire community's views, given its self-selecting nature; participation wasn't drawn from a scientifically random sample. Additionally, the survey does not capture the perspectives of our local businesses, which play a significant role in economic development, especially in the Town Center Master Plan and related efforts.

That said, the survey does offer useful insights into resident interests and can guide how we approach and communicate these projects to maximize citywide benefit--but it is just a starting point.

Thank you for considering these thoughts as we move forward with the budget and planning processes.

Best regards,

Max A. van Balgooy
313 Twinbrook Parkway
max.vanbalgooy@gmail.com

Judy Penny

From: Sarah Looney Oldmixon <sarah.oldmixon@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 27, 2024 8:41 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Opposition to Proposed West End Deer Culling

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

I would like to share my opposition to the proposal to direct Rockville budget funds towards culling the deer population in the West End. While there are times that overpopulation makes it absolutely necessary to reduce the deer population in urban areas, I have seen no evidence that the deer in our community have reached anything close to the population levels that would necessitate human intervention.

To be clear: I am not a PETA member or animal rights activist. I am weighing in as a West End resident and carnivore who enjoys an occasional venison sausage.

Deer play an important role in maintaining the ecosystem of our community parks and greenbelts. Our limited budget dollars should be put to better uses.

Sincerely,
Sarah Oldmixon
Dale Drive, Rockville MD

Judy Penny

Budget Proposal

From: Bruce Plunkett <bplunkett1966@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 9:01 AM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Rockville Deer population.

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Members of the council,

I urge you to take the exploding deer population in to account when thinking about the 26 budget! Vehicle accidents, disease born insects, property destruction and public safety all come to mind when I think about how many deer are in our city. Other places have delt with this problem I'm sure we can as well but funds and people that have a plan are needed to put this in motion. Let's please get started on taking care of this problem before someone gets hurt or worse. Thank you for listening.

Bruce Plunkett
419 West Montgomery Ave
Rockville, Md

Judy Penny

From: Jeanne OMeara <jeanne.omeara1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 28, 2024 9:25 AM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Deer Management-public hearing

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Mayor & Council,

The unmanaged Deer population has long been a topic placed before the city. The city has chosen to ignore this ever growing issue while surrounding jurisdictions have put measures in place.

Ways to mitigate and manage deer populations has come a long way and there are human and financially responsible ways in which to do this, as i understand Gaithersburg is a city we could potentially learn from with them placing feeding stations with birth control around the city and can uptick or downtick depending on the deer pressure.

We live in one of the most expensive counties in the US and with home prices averaging in the \$700's and upward paired with high property taxes. While the city may think this is just a nuisance, house values have been impacted. 15-20% increase is seen in property/resale value with attractive landscaping. If you live in rockville you have a huge challenge planting the small variety that may not be eaten by the deer.

I won't hammer home the other impacts as you all are very well aware of them but have chosen not to act.

Please assign monies in the 2026 budget to tackle this out of control issue. Additionally, get serious about planning in 2025 and not cave to spam emails that are created by PETA. Listen instead to the residence needs.

Jeanne OMeara
419 W Montgomery Ave
Rockville MD 208450



Twinbrook Community Association

P.O. Box 834
Rockville, MD 20848-0834

TCA Testimony on Rockville FY 2026 Budget

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

My name is Mary van Balgooy, and I am the president of the Twinbrook Community Association (TCA). Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Rockville FY 2026 budget on behalf of the Twinbrook neighborhood. Throughout the year, TCA has engaged neighbors through meetings, monthly walk-and-talks, and our annual picnic to discuss community priorities. Based on their feedback and our Executive Committee's discussions, we respectfully request that the following points be added to the record.

First, the construction of a pedestrian and bicycle bridge spanning the railroad tracks in Twinbrook remains our community's highest priority. We are pleased to see that the city received a federal grant to evaluate and design a crossing over the Metrorail and CSX railroad tracks, which would connect Twinbrook to Rockville Pike and vice versa. While this grant is an important step forward, we know much remains to be done before the bridge becomes a reality. We strongly encourage the city to maintain this project as a top priority in the coming years.

Regarding pedestrian safety, we commend the city's commitment to the "Safe Routes to School" initiative, which aims to enhance safety at critical intersections in Twinbrook. This initiative is essential for our residents, particularly children, who will benefit from these improvements. We fully support the current plans and have suggested additional enhancements, which are on record. At this stage, we urge the city to allocate funding in the budget to cover all feasible improvements identified in the Safe Routes to School analysis.

Additionally, TCA submitted two budget requests through a community engagement process, and we'd like to comment on each of these.

1. **Neighborhood Welcome Signs:** Twinbrook currently lacks welcome signs, despite our requests in previous budgets, including FY 23. We strongly encourage the city to prioritize this signage initiative, which aligns with the adopted Comprehensive Plan. Placemaking through neighborhood welcome signs enhances community identity and builds a sense of belonging. These signs not only foster neighborhood pride but also create a positive impression for visitors and prospective residents, signaling that Twinbrook is a well-maintained, welcoming community.
2. **Splash Pad Installation:** TCA advocates for the addition of a splash pad to our community's recreational offerings. A splash pad offers a zero-entry design suitable for all ages and abilities, from young children to seniors and individuals with disabilities, providing an inclusive and safe way to cool off in the summer. Importantly, a splash pad is free to access, ensuring that all residents can enjoy it.

without financial barriers, and it addresses climate adaptation needs by offering a water-based recreational activity suited to warmer weather.

In closing, we are grateful for your consideration of these priorities, which we believe will greatly benefit the Twinbrook community. Thank you for your dedication to improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

Mary van Balgooy, President
Twinbrook Community Association

Judy Penny

Subject: FW: Rockville Retention Ponds Invasive Vine Removal, #94209
Attachments: Important to remove vines from trees.docx; Trees combat global warming.docx; Weed Warrior Work.pdf

From: Tricia Tice <ptice17@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2025 9:53 AM
To: mayorcouncil <mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>
Cc: cityclerk <cityclerk@rockvillemd.gov>; citymanager <citymanager@rockvillemd.gov>
Subject: Rockville Retention Ponds Invasive Vine Removal, #94209

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Mayor and Council.

I am a resident of the Ingleside King Farm elder community on King Farm Blvd and Piccard Drive. Last September, I submitted a Capital Improvement Project to Rockville: *Rockville Retention Ponds Invasive Vine Removal*, #94209. I've already submitted a packet of documentation in support of the project.

Here are a few more files to add to my packet. Please note the photo of work the Weed Warriors have already done along King Farm Blvd, and the photo of vines festooned from telephone lines on Redland Blvd.

Patricia (Tricia) Tice

=====
1615-C Piccard Drive
Apt 1425
Rockville, MD 20850

Making the transition to a plant-based diet may be the most effective way an individual can stop climate change. Thich Nhat Hanh

Humans have increased the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere by 47 percent since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution. As a result, our average annual global temperature has risen by 2 degrees, which has, in turn, driven temperature extremes, decreased snow and sea ice cover, intensifying natural disasters, and changing habitat ranges for plants and animals.

There is a simple solution – and it's one of our most powerful weapons in the fight against climate change - trees.

Carbon sequestration:

Carbon dioxide absorbs and radiates heat. Trees help combat global warming because they absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through photosynthesis, effectively acting as a carbon sink by storing this carbon in their trunks, roots, and leaves, thus reducing the amount of greenhouse gases contributing to climate change.

Photosynthesis:

Woods and forests absorb atmospheric carbon and lock it up for centuries. They do this through photosynthesis. This is the primary mechanism through which trees absorb carbon dioxide, using sunlight, water, and carbon dioxide to produce oxygen and energy for the tree.

Forest ecosystems as carbon sinks:

Forests, with their large tree populations, act as significant carbon sinks, absorbing large amounts of carbon from the atmosphere.

Trees Make Rain:

Forests have a big influence on rainfall patterns, water and soil quality and flood prevention too. All that water vapor rising from the forest feeds moisture-laden clouds while also causing convection. Together, these effects accelerate the formation of rain, which falls to the soil and gets taken up all over again. This cycle of absorption, evaporation, and rain happens everywhere there are plants.

Trees are the ultimate carbon capture and storage machines:

Just like humans, trees breathe. But, while humans inhale oxygen and exhale carbon dioxide, trees do the opposite: their leaves pull in carbon dioxide, water, and energy from the sun to turn into sugars that feed the tree. This process, known as photosynthesis, emits oxygen. So, through photosynthesis, trees remove climate-warming carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and help us mitigate the effects of climate change., forests in the U.S. offset about 16 percent—or three decades worth—of greenhouse gas emissions emitted from cars, trucks, power plants, and other sources in country. In fact, forest ecosystems are the largest land-based carbon sink on Earth.

So next time you take a deep breath of air give credit to a tree or hug a tree in thanks for what it gives us – the very air we breathe.

It's Important to Remove Vines from Your Trees

Vines can harm trees by competing for resources like sunlight, water, and nutrients, and by adding weight that can damage branches or even the entire tree structure. Here's a more detailed explanation of how vines can negatively impact trees:

Resource Competition:

- **Sunlight:** Vines grow rapidly and cover the tree's canopy, blocking sunlight needed for photosynthesis, which is essential for the tree's growth and survival.
- **Water and Nutrients:** Vines compete with the tree for water and nutrients in the soil, weakening the tree and making it more susceptible to disease and pests.
- **Space:** Vines can also take up space on the tree, hindering its natural growth and development.

Structural Damage:

- **Weight:** As vines grow larger and heavier, they add significant weight to the tree's branches and trunk, potentially causing them to break or even collapse.
- **Girdling:** Some vines wrap tightly around the tree's trunk or branches, constricting the flow of nutrients and water, effectively "strangling" the tree and leading to its death.
- **Moisture Retention:** Vines trap moisture against the tree's bark, creating an environment conducive to fungal and bacterial growth, which can lead to disease and decay.

Other Negative Impacts:

- **Bark Damage:** When vines are removed from a tree, their rootlets damage the bark, leaving the tree vulnerable to pests and diseases.
- **Hiding Structural Problems:** Vines can mask underlying problems with the tree's structure, making it difficult to identify and address potential issues before they become severe.
- **Invasive Species:** Many vines, are invasive and take over landscapes, outcompeting native plants and harming ecosystems.



Weed Warrior Work, King Farm Blvd.

Rockville Capital Improvement Project #94209



Vines on Redland Road, Summer View

pgt, 03/13/2025

TESTIMONY OF ROBERT WRIGHT
CITY OF ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND
FY 2026 BUDGET HEARING
MARCH 17, 2025

Exhibit No. 65
FY 2026
Budget Proposal

I am Robert Wright residing at 209 Watts Branch Parkway. I and my neighbors in Rockshire, Watts Branch Meadows, Cambridge Heights, Fallsmead, Glenora Hills and Carter Hill ask you to include a covered shelter with services in Wootton's Mill Park in the FY 2026 budget. This is not the first time this request has been made. I re-submit my testimony presented in November, 2023, to include a covered shelter with services in the FY 2025 budget.

Given the many users of Wootton's Mill Park, gardeners, tennis court players, parents of children using the playground, walkers, fitness trail users, village event participants, and joggers, this is a well-used park. Many of the other covered shelters in the city are isolated. A covered shelter with services in Wootton's Mill Park would be part of a very vibrant publicly used park.

In previous fiscal years staff, including the Director of Parks and Recreation, led me to believe that upcoming budgets would include this project in Wootton's Mill Park. Yet, the proposed FY 2026 Operating Budget and CIP has no mention of a covered shelter with services in Wootton's Mill Park.

I hope the Mayor and Council will direct city staff to work with the communities surrounding Wootton's Mill Park to develop an aggressive timeline to make this project a reality. Let's begin by including a scoping study for the project in the FY 2026 budget.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Wright". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

I am Robert Wright residing at 209 Watts Branch Parkway. I ask you to include a covered shelter with utilities in Wootton's Mill Park in the Capital Improvements Program for FY 2026. The covered shelter would be like the covered shelters in other Rockville Parks, e.g., Calvin Park and Maryvale Park. Locating the covered shelter in the vicinity of the large number of community gardens, the tennis courts, and the existing parking lot would be ideal. This area of Wootton's Mill Park fronts Hurley Avenue meaning the entire area is City property—no land acquisition is required. It would be relatively easy to provide utilities—electricity, water and sewer.

In addition to existing users of the area—gardeners, pickleballers and tennis enthusiasts—the walkers, joggers, and families on the way to the playground would seek shelter during inclement weather. As a participant in the Wootton's Mill Village, the Village would have a neighborhood location for our social events and meetings. There are numerous residents in surrounding communities, including but not limited to, Rockshire, Watts Branch Meadows, Cambridge Heights, Fallsmead, Glenora Hills and Carter Hill that would enjoy use of the covered shelter.

I look forward to your inclusion of this covered shelter project in Wootton's Mill Park in the FY 2026 Capital Improvements Program. Please contact me if you require additional information or want to discuss.

Robert Wright

Judy Penny

From: Karen Buglass <kzbuglass@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 5:52 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Peerless Rockville deserves your full support

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Mayor and Council,

We are asking you to fully support Peerless Rockville's Community Grant. Peerless Rockville makes it possible for all Rockville residents to learn about our City's diverse and unique history through lectures, tours, exhibits, publications, and their community archive. It brings in others outside of our community to take advantage of those very same things—even teeing up additional revenues through restaurant visits and parking fees.

Highlights include Black History, Women's History, and help Rockville residents, visitors, and business understand Rockville's development and modern identity.

Fully fund Peerless Rockville's community grant to guarantee the continued availability of quality educational programming and the curation of 1000s of historical photographs and documents of Rockville's history.

Thank you,
Karen and Ralph Buglass
Rockville MD

Judy Penny**Exhibit No. 68
FY 2026
Budget Proposal****Subject:** FW: Follow-up - What now - budgets for FY 26**From:** Mark Pierzchala**Sent:** Monday, February 24, 2025 12:26 PM**To:** Marc.Erich@montgomerycountymd.gov; councilmember.stewart@montgomerycountymd.gov

Cc: councilmember.friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov; councilmember.albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov; councilmember.balcombe@montgomerycountymd.gov; councilmember.fani-gonzalez@montgomerycountymd.gov; Evan.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov; councilmember.jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov; councilmember.katz@montgomerycountymd.gov; councilmember.Luedtke@montgomerycountymd.gov; councilmember.mink@montgomerycountymd.gov; councilmember.Sayles@montgomerycountymd.gov; Monique Ashton <mashton@rockvillemd.gov>; mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov; cityhall@gaitthersburgmd.gov; Richard.Madaleno@montgomerycountymd.gov; bill@thinkmoco.com; newman1259@live.com; Laurie Boyer Babb <laurie@thinkmoco.com>; Lynne Benzion <Lynne@thinkmoco.com>; 'Cindy Rivarde'; Rockville Chamber of Commerce <marji@rockvillechamber.org>; Anthony Featherstone <afeatherstone@worksourcemontgomery.com>; boe@mcpsmd.org; Thomas W Taylor@mcpsmd.org; Ivon Alfonso-Windsor@mcpsmd.org; Montgomery College Board Of Trustees <trustees@montgomerycollege.edu>; Jermaine F. Williams, President, Montgomery College <President@montgomerycollege.edu>; Budget Office <Budget@montgomerycollege.edu>

Subject: Follow-up - What now - budgets for FY 26

February 24, 2025

To: Montgomery County and Municipal Leaders, previously emailed.
 Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich,
 Montgomery County Council President Kate Stewart
 Montgomery County Council Members
 City of Rockville Mayor and Council and Appointed Officials
 City of Gaithersburg Mayor and Council and Appointed Officials
 Richard Madaleno, Montgomery County Chief Administrative Officer
 Bill Tompkins, President and CEO, MCEDC
 Laurie Boyer Babb and Lynne Stein Benzion, Directors of Economic Development, MCEDC
 Cindy Rivarde, Rockville REDI
 Paul Newman, former board member of Rockville REDI
 Marji Graf, Rockville Chamber of Commerce
 Anthony Featherstone, Executive Director, Workforce Montgomery

Added for this Email: (See the note at the end of this email.)

MCPS Board of Education general email, MCPS Superintendent Thomas W Taylor, MCPS Acting Financial Office Mrs. Ivon Alfonso – Windsor, Trustees Montgomery College, President Jermaine F Williams, Montgomery College, Budget Office Montgomery College

From: Mark Pierzchala, former Rockville Councilmember**Subject:** FY 26 and Beyond – Budgeting

Why this email now: I see very little coming from County or Municipal Elected on economic or budgeting issues. Additionally, I see FY 26 as the beginning of a new economic era for this area. And now is budget season.

Again – there are no blind ccs on this email, but the audience is broader to include MCPS and MC leaders.

This email follows 3 emails sent to the first group of addressees above. These were sent on November 14, 2024, August 8, 2024, and July 1, 2024. In those emails I warned that a new Republican administration would move quickly to slice federal workers and contracts (including contractor employees). I even mentioned that such an administration would resort to ‘extra-legal’ actions. Now, we are starting to see this unfold daily. If I missed anything it was (1) a compliant Congress, and (2) DOGE actions.

I am not privy to your behind-the-scenes discussions and preparations, and while I don’t see communication to the public from you all about these matters, I do realize that nothing I write below is new to you. But maybe this provides an overview in one place. What is clear to me is that the cuts are severe, and that these will be long-lasting. There is a new normal.

You all should be communicating this to your constituents now and that you all will have to be making some painful decisions and that you must prepare not only for FY 26, but for the longer term.

As of this writing, I see no slowdowns in these actions to cut Federal spending slashes in Federal Workforce and contracts. Even if courts overturn some of the Administration’s actions, they will be enacted, if necessary, by Congress, and probably within their first year. Additionally, there may yet be decisions to move some or many agencies out of the DC area. (Note: In my career, I have seen this in some Western European countries.) So far, there are few if any Federal Departments or Agencies that will not see cuts.

What does this mean for budgeting at the County and Municipal levels? Here are the economic – budgeting, and population shifts that I wonder about:

Economic and Budgeting Shifts

I don’t know magnitudes or severity. The length of impact is bound to be indefinite. There may be turmoil for 2 or 3 years then a steadier path. You cannot operate on previous economic assumptions or previous long-range plans.

- Short term: Reduced income tax revenues
- Short term: Inflation not receding? Construction costs continuing to rise?
- Longer term – within 2 to 3 years: (1) Property Tax Revenues no longer increasing and perhaps decreasing; (2) non-payments and appeals rising
- Reduced aid from the State
- Reduced aid from the Federal Government
- Private sector hesitation and shelving of development and investment plans
- General population caution on discretionary spending, even for those not directly impacted by cuts.
 - Downstream impact on retailers and service providers.

Population Shifts

I base this on what I saw as a Councilmember during the Great Recession. I ask questions then provide my prediction.

- Will private school students move into public schools in numbers big enough to matter? Likely, so increased enrollment.
 - On the other hand, it may not be as difficult to fill teaching positions and substitute teacher positions. How about school bus driver positions?
- Will parents of college Freshman and Sophomores decide that these students should start off at Montgomery College instead of starting immediately at 4-year institutions? Likely, so increased MC enrollment.
 - MC is a great investment anyway.
 - Universities at Shady Grove would also be a lower-cost alternative for Juniors and Seniors.
- Population levels: Will the County continue to see increases in population size? Not likely, and if so, not at the high incomes we're used to.
- Is it possible MoCo will see population decreases? Possible.
 - **Young adults:** These people and their children are the most impacted for the Federal Budget cuts due to the way cuts are being implemented. Some may have to move out of the area.
 - **Seniors:** Speaking for my own family, we're trapped into our low-monthly-mortgage and see no possibility of moving in the short term. We're not planning to move anyway, but I think those with mortgages on lower-priced homes at much lower rates don't have the possibility of moving out.
- Food aid: Will we see a return to food lines we had during the pandemic? Not likely, but maybe.
 - Increases for our food-providing private agencies. Likely.
- I wonder if we will have a housing crisis 3 years from now.
- I wonder if we will have a school capacity shortage 3 years from now.

Budgeting

I'm not on the hot seat anymore, but if I were, here are the things that I would be wondering about:

Revenue

- Property tax revenue predictions: It's time to start asking harder questions of staff about these predictions. Some of the revenue predictions are based on property tax levels established before the new Administration.
- Income tax predictions: Staffs probably have not had enough time yet to factor in job losses. This includes for contractors as well as Federal employees.
- Income from higher levels of government: The State budget is in tatters and the Federal Government is cutting. It's fortunate that these are not the largest sources of income for the County and Municipal leaders on this email.

Demands on Budgets

As the pain increases, the more demand there will be for services.

- Direct aid to businesses and residents will be asked or demanded. This is more for the County Government, but all levels of government will be impacted.

Budgeting Posture

- No tax increases. For those facing income loss, this would be a piling on.
- No new positions. Even as an extremely talented new pool of former Federal Government Employees become available for local government jobs, now is not the time to add new positions.
- Filling existing position vacancies. Only on an as-needed basis.
- Do not expand programs. Your existing direct aid programs will be stressed anyway.
- Do not expand or create programs where you must forecast demand. I would not expand tax credit programs, for example. The take-up may be more than you can deal with.

- Homeowners: Especially for those who have owned homes for some time. They have equity in their homes. They should draw on that before they draw on County resources that will be stretched anyway.
- The situation is far more complex for homeowners who may be under water on their more recently purchased homes.
- Capital spending: Only essential capital spending should be considered. Nice-to-have projects should be shelved.
 - If I were the County Executive or on the County Council, I would deny additional funding for new BOE school space until the Board of Education redraws cluster and catchment boundaries to maximize the use of existing unused school capacity space. This should be for school year 2025-2026. It can be done.
 - The final school boundary analysis was released in May 2021. There were 5 plans studied. I would go with the one that maximizes the use of existing school space. (I know there will be pitchforks on this.)
 - Even in the best of economic times, there has never been enough budget capacity to meet school expansion needs, and at the same time, adequately maintain existing building stock. Don't get me started on building roofs and failing A/C systems. There are schools that wait far too long to be renovated while new school capacity is built and while existing capacity is not utilized. So, redraw those lines now, while your constituents can see the need for you all to take action now.
- For the County and municipal budgets, do what it takes to maintain your Triple-A bond ratings. The ways these ratings are set is somewhat obscure, but I wonder if these rating agencies will be watching to see how your levels of government adjust budgeting and spending in reaction to these cuts.

Economic Development Agencies

I'm not sure what to say here. I am thinking of applying to Rockville's REDI board, but the soonest onboarding for that would be October 2025. I was on the REDI board from 2009 to 2013 as the Rockville elected representative, and I keep in close contact with REDI.

I have no idea what the County Economic Development Agencies are up to, how well they work with each other, or how well they work with the County elected. We have empty office buildings and empty lab spaces. We have many talented, recently made redundant, people with skills. Can the County react quickly to get some investment here?

- We have talent! We have space!
 - Expand in Montgomery County and we will (1) provide fitting out design costs, (2) super quick permitting, and (3) fitting out costs.
 - You can be up and running in your MoCo Office Building / Lab Space within 4 months! (How quick can MoCo be?)

Are any of the private companies in this area working to take advantage of this economic calamity?

- Research for You!
 - We can build your on-line research team within a week!
 - Montgomery County has the nations largest pool of on-line talent that can do your research now!

I know that there has been movement to provide resume reviews and interviewing practice. While not for everyone:

- Here is how you can start your own business!
 - I had to do this in 2010. It's a huge learning curve.

I moved from Federal Government to private industry in 1996 (it's why we moved from Arlington to Rockville then). It's a tough move.

- Here is how private companies differ from Federal Government employment: A seminar.
 - Performance incentives are different, private companies hang onto their trade secrets and best practices, while Federal Government researchers are free and are encouraged to share their findings.
 - If you don't win the bids and re-bids, or satisfy your market, you can lose your job.

Disclosures

- My wife works as a media assistant at an MCPS elementary school.
- I took 3 classes at MC in 2024 and am taking one now. My 2 daughters had brief stays at MC.

Note to New Email Recipients

For MCPS Board of Education and Montgomery College. If you wish to see the 3 previously emails to the County and Municipal leaders, let me know where to send them.

Contact

Mark@MMPLive.com: I check this email 3 or 4 times per day.

I will be reaching out to some of the addresses on this email to try to arrange meetings to get a better idea of what you all are thinking.

Mark Pierzchala, former Rockville Councilmember

Judy Penny

Subject: FW: Peerless Rockville's Community Grant

From: Camille Battle <cc.battle@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 13, 2025 2:15 PM
To: mayorcouncil <mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>
Subject: Peerless Rockville's Community Grant

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Honorable Mayor and Council,

I am a supporter of Peerless Rockville as well as a native of Rockville, MD. I am requesting that you fully fund Peerless Rockville's community grant to continue to guarantee quality educational programming and the curation of 1000s of historical photographs and documents of Rockville's history.

Rockville has a rich and interesting history, not always positive for us who were black, but it was where I lived and prospered on Great Falls Road from the ages of 2 to 18 and went off to college and a career.

My late mother, Mrs. Nina Nina H. Clarke, an educator, historian and author, was a very active member of Peerless Rockville.

Many stories remain to be told to bless, encourage and/or entertain, especially to those who are students of history as I am.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Camille Clarke Battle
2405 Fairlawn Street
Temple Hills, MD 20748

Judy Penny

**Exhibit No.70
FY 2026
Budget Proposal**

From: THERESA MACIEJEWSKI <tempura8@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, March 14, 2025 9:01 AM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Support for Programs

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

All the programs are useful.

Theresa E. Maciejewski

Judy Penny**Exhibit No. 71
FY 2026
Budget Proposal**

From: Angus Chen <chentail@protonmail.ch>
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2025 8:30 AM
To: Judy Penny
Cc: cityclerk
Subject: RE: The Community Forum/Budget Public Hearing

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Good morning,

My name is Angus Chen, and I am the Chairperson of the Advisory Board at Rockville Fitness and Swim Center. The Advisory Board would like to submit the following statement for the FY26 Budget Hearing.

Could you please let me know whether I should submit it to the Community Forum or the Budget Public Hearing? Would you accept this email as a submission?

The Statement from Rockville Fitness and Swim Center Advisory Board

The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center is one of the most visited city recreation facilities. It generates over 2 million dollars, over 350k + customer visits annually that include membership visits, daily admissions, program attendance, etc., and 900 Rockville-Montgomery Swim Club registrations (It includes the Rockville Rays roster) annually. The Swim Center is open 362 days a year.

I am here on behalf of the RSFC Advisory Board to express our sincere gratitude for your recent efforts in reviewing the total Capital Improvement Program (CIP) needs and for approving the necessity of additional funds for the Recreation Pool project. The transformative outdoor recreation pool will become an iconic feature that Rockville will be known for decades and one that residents will love.

In addition, we have been hearing members of our community are being impacted by Reductions in Force (RIF), given our proximity to affected federal government agencies etc. During such challenging times, the Swim Center serves as more than just a fitness facility. It is a space where our community can maintain a healthy lifestyle, find support, and come together.

We are thankful for your commitment to improving our community and for acknowledging the vital role that the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center plays in meeting the diverse needs and desires of Rockville's residents. The current facilities work well and do so much good because of the amazing staff, user community, and support from the city—let's treasure it and not take it for granted. We are confident that, with your continued support, The Swim and Fitness Center can continue to serve the needs of all community members.

Thank you again for your dedication and hard work.

Sincerely,

The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center Advisory Committee

v/r,

Angus
 (240)620-8888
www.linkedin.com/in/anguschencybersecurity

Judy Penny**Exhibit No. 72
FY 2026
Budget Proposal****Subject:** FW: Full Funding for Peerless Rockville

From: Gary Funkhouser <funkgaryd@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, March 17, 2025 1:08 PM
To: mayorcouncil <mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>
Subject: Full Funding for Peerless Rockville

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Mayor and Council,

We are asking you to fully support Peerless Rockville's Community Grant. Peerless Rockville makes it possible for all Rockville residents to learn about our City's diverse and unique history through lectures, tours, exhibits, publications, and their community archive.

Over the years Peerless Rockville has led the effort to save a number of historically significant buildings in Rockville including the Red Brick Courthouse, the B&O train station, Wire Hardware, and Frida's Cottage that otherwise would have been lost forever.

They highlight Black History, Women's History, and help Rockville residents, visitors, and business understand Rockville's development and modern identity.

With its many educational programs and displays, Peerless is one of the City of Rockville's best ambassadors in showing the rich quality of life that our community provides.

Please fully fund Peerless Rockville's community grant to guarantee the continued availability of quality educational programming and the curation of 1000s of historical photographs and documents of Rockville's history.

Sincerely,

Claire and Gary Funkhouser
1037 Carnation Drive
Rockville, MD 20850

Hello, I am David Hill, the President of Rockville Sister Cities Corp., and representing that organization to explain our Community Org. grant submission for FY2026.

First explaining our FY25 grant usage, we asked for and were allocated \$15000 for the current fiscal year. This was an 11% increase over the prior year because we included some City support for a new Rockville student exchange in 2025 (about 10% of net costs), and asked for a COLA adjustment to support for the Bubble Tea Festival in Rockville event, which BTW, was the best attended single day event in Town Center in 2025. In the end, we will leave \$2500+ of our FY25 grant in City coffers due to the inability to use Fitzgerald Theater this Feb. as in-kind facility usage. Meaning our actual grant impact will be less than the prior FY by 7%, notwithstanding a fulsome year of RSCC activity. That means the City supported 15% of RSCC costs in FY25, without monetizing our extensive volunteer labor into our budget total. That remains a good deal for the City, if you value our activity.

Moving onto FY26 and the current grant ask. Please note that six months after the Oct. grant submission, the precision of what anticipated in FY26 is moving around a bit. I note that RSCC practice, indeed what the grant process asks us to do, is identify grant costs by particular activities. That is particularly challenging for a sister city program that mostly operates with our sister cities about six months ahead. Meanwhile, the grant submission this cycle came up to 21 months ahead by the calendar. Things change in that time period. For instance, we still do not know all the detail of the trip plan, some of M&C will take to Pinneberg, Germany in early Sept. for their 150th anniversary, that could lead to costs that must be covered.

Our FY26 grant submission has the following components,

\$7000 for the 2026 Bubble Tea Festival (roughly a third of the cost of this event and same since FY25)

\$6000 in-kind facility usages, for two major facility rentals and some small park and community center uses throughout the year. (same since FY2025)

\$2000 Rockville student exchange support (also same since 2025)

\$1000 for support of mentioned official M&C trip to Pinneberg for such as city-to-city gifts or relevant arrangements (not including travel or lodging). (this expense is new for FY26)

These mentioned items wind-up being only \$1000 over the prior FY asked grant. (7%)

Then one further line-item was a big ask (on our scale) for \$10,000 to support the official visit of the Mayor of Yilan City and delegation under consideration for early Sept. (so in FY26). We asked the City for this support because 1) this will be a City-to-City official visitation, and 2) we bear a reciprocal expectation for hospitality based on that given to the Rockville official delegation that visited Yilan City in 2023 led by Mayor Newton. It is our turn to host well. However, we can now say that this visit will not happen officially in 2025 due circumstances in Yilan City. We are still pursuing whether Mayor Chen might visit personally, not officially, later in the year. Yet as not an official City activity, RSCC then becomes the major host, not the City of Rockville.

In the meantime, we have a smaller replacement ask, only apparent since the grant request deadline (15 months prior to the timing of the relevant event). This is for the City to contribute some of the costs of the Rockville Lantern Festival event. In FY25 grant funding, we will not utilize \$2500 of our grant that was in-kind to rent the Fitzgerald Theater in Feb. of this year, because that theater was closed. So we could not follow-through on this in-kind City facility usage, leaving RSCC holding a significant cost not budgeted. We got the event into another area facility (the TECRO Cultural Center, some of you attended, thank you), and had a grown attendance occasion with about 500 attendees. Frankly, this is a bigger number than Fitzgerald Theater can hold. If we are to continue to build this event year-

on-year, we are facing again having to absorb an external facility event cost and ask if the City will support some of that cost and event to the tune of \$3000. Another way to look at this is let us shift a \$2500 in-kind ask to a \$3000 cash equivalent ask, as we will not use both, and which we do remains to be determined nearly a year ahead of time.

=====

[The following italic text was not delivered verbally in testimony, having run out of time. While submitted here in writing.]

Therefore, we withdraw the \$10,000 ask for official City visit support, and replace it with a \$3000 ask for Lantern Festival support. With the potential of leaving \$2500 in-kind costs unused. Also, after holding two student exchanges in 2025, we may not have a 2026 exchange leaving that portion of our grant ask in City coffers too. That would leave us costing the City \$500 less in FY26 than FY25 funding level.

In summary, our current grant ask as modified goes to \$19000, with the expectation we will not use it all. In the City Mgr. draft budget, we received notice of \$15000 grant funding—without detail on what portion of our original \$16000 ask would be shed.

We need some flexibility to accomplish our mission in these budget cycles. We do not ask the City for a single cash grant payout as some orgs. do. Since we are a collaborating organization conducting the City's Sister City program. We could really use some flexibility for unknowns and changes with the more than year ahead FY grant cycle. Our current submission is likely to adjust downward in expense, I suggest that's the reasonable position to be in, given the considerations.

Thank you for supporting RSCC for 68 years and considering our grant submission for FY26.

EXHIBIT NO. 74 NOT USED
DUPLICATE OF EXHIBIT NO. 73
NEXT EXHIBIT IS NO. 75

Sara Taylor-Ferrell**Exhibit No. 75****FY 2026****Budget Proposal**

From: Alison Van Dyke <alisonlenvandyke@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 8:40 AM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: in support of Rockville rent stabilization

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Mayor Ashton and City Councilmembers,

I have called Rockville home since 2017. Last year, I was notified that my monthly rent and fees would be raised by 40% (\$1,000) on lease renewal. Such a massive increase in an already high cost of living would not have been sustainable financially. Thankfully, that was for a 12-month lease. On changing to a 13-month lease, the increase in monthly rent and fees was 12% (\$300). This high cost of living is making saving for both retirement and a downpayment on a home challenging.

I respectfully ask you to support rent stabilization, especially in this time of financial uncertainty given potential job instability for many who call Rockville home. Moving forward, I will only vote for candidates who support mandatory rent hike caps. Thank you for reading about my concerns.

Alison

--

Alison Van Dyke, MD, PhD

Judy Penny**EXHIBIT NO. 76****FY2026****BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Kari Barrett <kpbrtt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 10:03 AM
To: Tim Chesnutt
Cc: mayorcouncil; Sara Taylor-Ferrell; Steve Mader
Subject: Re: Support for Community Garden Lots at Redgate Park

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Hi there - it's been a little while. Any status update on the development of a Redgate Park community garden?

Thanks,

Kari

Sent from my iPhone

> On May 24, 2023, at 3:33 PM, Kari Barrett <kpbrtt@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> I really appreciate you all being so responsive and your thoughts on timeline. It does help.

> Kari

>

> Sent from my iPhone

>

>> On May 24, 2023, at 2:57 PM, Tim Chesnutt <tchesnutt@rockvillemd.gov> wrote:

>>

>> Kari, what we have is progress, but it is not definitive quite yet. The community gardens are part of the Mayor and Council adopted plan for the park, and design of the park and all of its amenities will begin in FY24 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024). For a project of the scope and scale of RedGate Park, design will likely take most of the year. Once the design is completed, the initial phase of implementation/construction would likely include the community gardens, as they are relatively "low-hanging fruit". That being said, parking, grading and preparing the area for gardening, as well as getting water to the site are some of the initial challenges beyond simply designating the space. My hope would still be that this could be accomplished very early in the plan implementation, so we are probably looking at Spring of 2025 being the first full growing season (with the best-case possibility of Fall of 2024 if literally everything goes well). Hope that helps.

Thanks-

>>

>> Tim

>>

>> Timothy J. Chesnutt

>> Director of Recreation and Parks

>> 111 Maryland Avenue

>> Rockville, MD 20850

>> 240-314-8602

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: kpbrtt@gmail.com <kpbrtt@gmail.com>

>> Sent: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 8:28 PM

>> To: Tim Chesnutt <tchesnutt@rockvillemd.gov>

>> Cc: mayorcouncil <mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>; Sara Taylor-Ferrell <sferrell@rockvillemd.gov>

>> Subject: RE: Support for Community Garden Lots at Redgate Park

>>

>> WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

>>

>> Hi Tim - Any update on community garden at Redgate? Thanks, Kari

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Tim Chesnutt <tchesnutt@rockvillemd.gov>

>> Sent: Monday, December 12, 2022 10:22 AM

>> To: Kari Barrett <kpbrtt@gmail.com>

>> Cc: mayorcouncil <mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>; Sara Taylor-Ferrell <sferrell@rockvillemd.gov>

>> Subject: RE: Support for Community Garden Lots at Redgate Park

>>

>> We are actually in the midst of the FY24 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024) budget development. Once that process is completed (targeted for May 2023), we will know which year the community gardens will be funded. The limited design involved, and the subsequent construction should be a relatively quick process, probably able to be completed within the same calendar year. Hopefully we will have the definitive answer in May. Hope that helps. Thanks-

>>

>> Tim

>>

>> Timothy J. Chesnutt

>> Director of Recreation and Parks

>> 111 Maryland Avenue

>> Rockville, MD 20850

>> 240-314-8602

>>

>> -----Original Message-----

>> From: Kari Barrett <kpbrtt@gmail.com>

>> Sent: Monday, December 12, 2022 10:12 AM

>> To: Tim Chesnutt <tchesnutt@rockvillemd.gov>

>> Cc: mayorcouncil <mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>; Sara Taylor-Ferrell <sferrell@rockvillemd.gov>

>> Subject: Re: Support for Community Garden Lots at Redgate Park

>>

>> WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

>>

>> Thanks Tim! That's great news. I'm near the park but just outside the city boundary at Bauer and Norbeck. One last question, do you have a target year/date for the garden lots to be available? I know it's early on but I wasn't sure if you were looking at 2024 or later.

>> Best,

>> Kari

>>

>> Sent from my iPhone

>>

>>>> On Dec 12, 2022, at 9:17 AM, Tim Chesnutt <tchesnutt@rockvillemd.gov> wrote:

>>>

>>> Ms. Barrett,

>>> Thanks for your inquiry about the future community garden plots at RedGate Park. None of our other community gardens are restricted to City residents, so even though we have not gotten to that level of detail yet, I would imagine that we will follow our current policies and practices of having these open to everyone. For further information, please click on this link: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/653/Garden-Plots>. As we proceed with the RedGate Park gardens, the policies and practices will be available at this site as well. Thanks-

>>>

>>> Tim

>>>

>>> Timothy J. Chesnutt
 >>> Director of Recreation and Parks
 >>> 111 Maryland Avenue
 >>> Rockville, MD 20850
 >>> 240-314-8602

>>>

>>> -----Original Message-----

>>> From: Robert DiSpirito <rdspirito@rockvillemd.gov>
 >>> Sent: Friday, December 9, 2022 5:35 AM
 >>> To: Tim Chesnutt <tchesnutt@rockvillemd.gov>
 >>> Cc: Christine Henry <CHenry@rockvillemd.gov>
 >>> Subject: FW: Support for Community Garden Lots at Redgate Park

>>>

>>>

>>>

>>> -----Original Message-----

>>> From: Kari Barrett <kpbrtt@gmail.com>
 >>> Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2022 8:58 PM
 >>> To: Sara Taylor-Ferrell <sferrell@rockvillemd.gov>
 >>> Cc: mayorcouncil <mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>
 >>> Subject: Re: Support for Community Garden Lots at Redgate Park

>>>

>>> WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

>>>

>>> Sara -

>>> Will the garden lots only be for city of Rockville residents?

>>> Thanks,

>>> Kari

>>>

>>> Sent from my iPhone

>>>

>>>> On Nov 18, 2022, at 10:36 AM, Sara Taylor-Ferrell <sferrell@rockvillemd.gov> wrote:

>>>>

>>>> Dear Ms. Barrett,

>>>>

>>>> On behalf of the Mayor and Council, thank you for your comments on the proposed FY2024 Budget.

>>>>

>>>> Your comments will be placed into the official record and considered by the Mayor and Council as they discuss all aspects of the Budget.

>>>>

>>>> The Mayor and Council will hold two more Public Hearings on Monday, March 6, and April 17 and four Worksessions on Monday, March 6, March 20, April 17, and May 1, 2023.

>>>>

>>>> The FY2024 Budget record will close on April 21, for Adoption on May 8, 2023.

>>>>

>>>> Please continue to follow the City's website <http://rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter> for more information.

>>>>

>>>> The Mayor and Council appreciate your comments.

>>>>

>>>> Thank you.

>>>>

>>>>

>>>> Sara Taylor-Ferrell
>>>> City Clerk/Director of Council Operations
>>>>
>>>> City of Rockville
>>>> 111 Maryland Avenue
>>>> Rockville, Maryland 20850
>>>> Office 240-314-8283
>>>> EFax 240-403-9283
>>>>
>>>> -----Original Message-----
>>>> From: Kari Barrett <kpbrtt@gmail.com>
>>>> Sent: Thursday, November 17, 2022 11:29 AM
>>>> To: mayorcouncil <mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>
>>>> Subject: Support for Community Garden Lots at Redgate Park
>>>>
>>>> WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.
>>>>
>>>> I would love to have a garden lot at Redgate. Will need level ground and good fencing along the parameter to keep out deer. Please consider best site for successful gardening and park aesthetics. Happy to volunteer to be involved in planning.
>>>>
>>>> Sincerely,
>>>> Kari Barrett
>>>> Rockville, MD
>>>>
>>>> Sent from my iPhone
>>

EXHIBIT NO. 77 NOT USED
PART OF EXHIBIT NO. 78



IKF Green Team
Ingleside@King Farm
701 King Farm Blvd
Rockville, MD 20850

November 21, 2024

To: ROCKVILLE CITY GOVERNMENT CITIZEN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Green Team is a Service Committee at Ingleside@King Farm, a senior residence community in Rockville. We have membership of 30 residents. One member, Tricia Tice is involved in many initiatives due to her interest in native plants, invasive species of plants, pesticides, energy usage and conservation, electric vehicles, monarch butterflies, just to name a few. At our October 8, 2024 meeting, the Green Team discussed Tricia's proposal to Rockville's Capital Improvement Project solicitation, and this letter is to inform you of our support for her proposal "Rockville Retention Ponds Invasive Vine Removal".

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,
IKF Green Team Co-Chairs

David Martinsen (240-620-1242, davidmartinsen@yahoo.com)

Carl Schneider (301-254-2481, carl@mediationmatters.com)

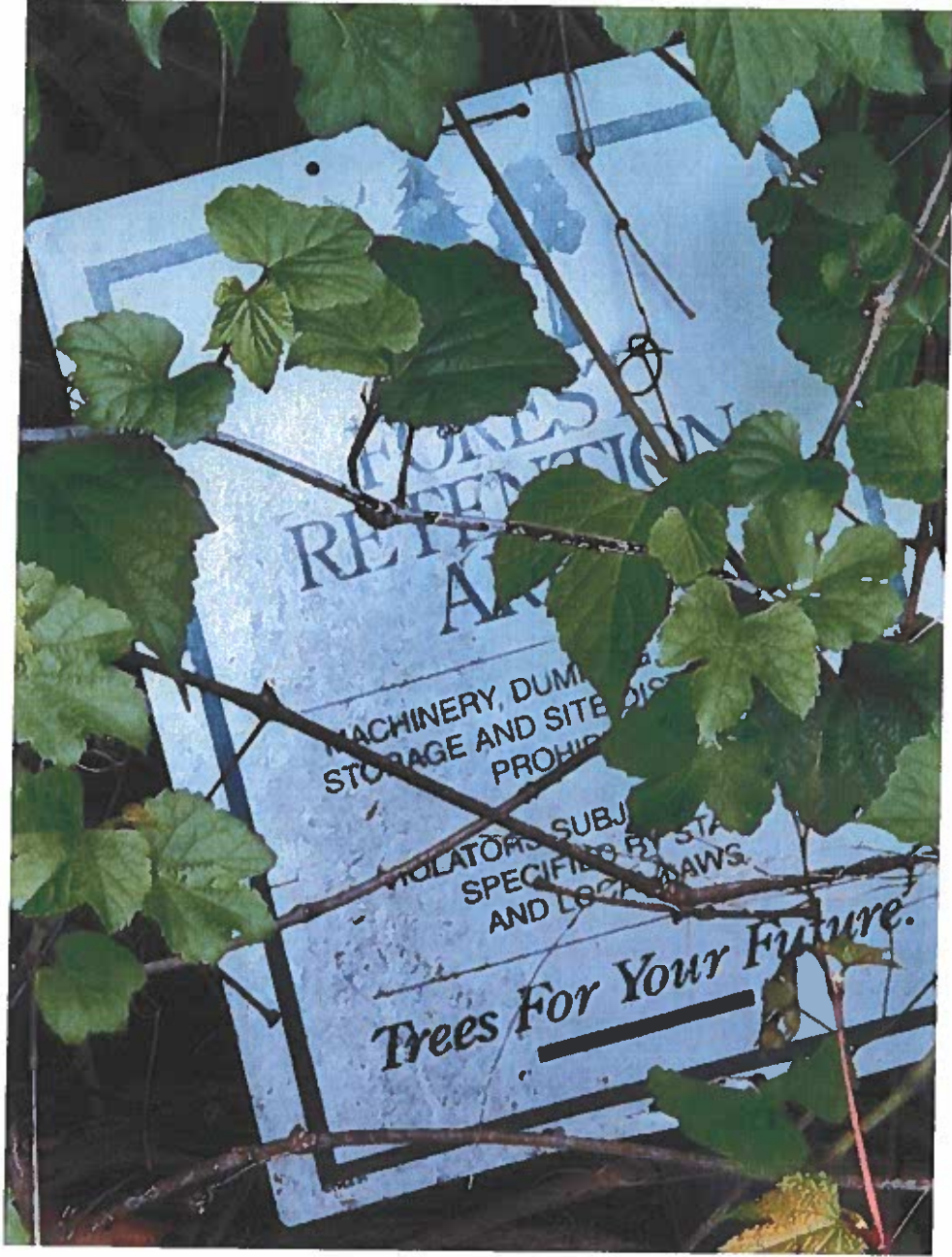


EXHIBIT NO. 79 NOT USED
PART OF EXHIBIT NO. 80

EXHIBIT NO. 80
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL

1615 C Piccard Drive, apt.1711
Rockville, MD 20850
February 6, 2025

Rockville City Government
111 Maryland Avenue
Rockville MD 20850

Dear Rockville City Government,

The Resident Council of Ingleside King Farm (IKF) endorses the project proposal of the Ingleside at King Farm Green Team, entitled "Rockville Retention Ponds Invasive Vine Removal." This project proposes to remove invasive and non-native vine species, including Multiflora Rose, English Ivy, and Porcelain Berry, among others, that are choking native trees in the Watts Branch Watershed in Rockville MD.

By removing these invaders, healthy plants, trees, and flowers can thrive without being suffocated. Also, the stormwater retention ponds on King Farm Blvd and the nearby Watkins Ponds at King Farm Stream Park host many bird species. This healthy habitat makes these areas critical for migrating native birds, as well as home for a variety of nesting birds during breeding season. It is very important to protect the lives of the native trees around these ponds.

The Ingleside King Farm Resident Council of the IKF community is the resident voice for over 500 residents living and enjoying the beautiful King Farm Neighborhood. The surrounding areas extend the IKF experience to outside the IKF campus. It is important that the surrounding areas retain this lovely experience. Please seriously consider this project proposal of Tricia Tice and the Ingleside at King Farm Green Team.

Respectfully,

Antonia (Toni) Schierling
President, Ingleside King Farm Resident Council

CARBON STORES

Forests are the second-largest storehouses of carbon after oceans

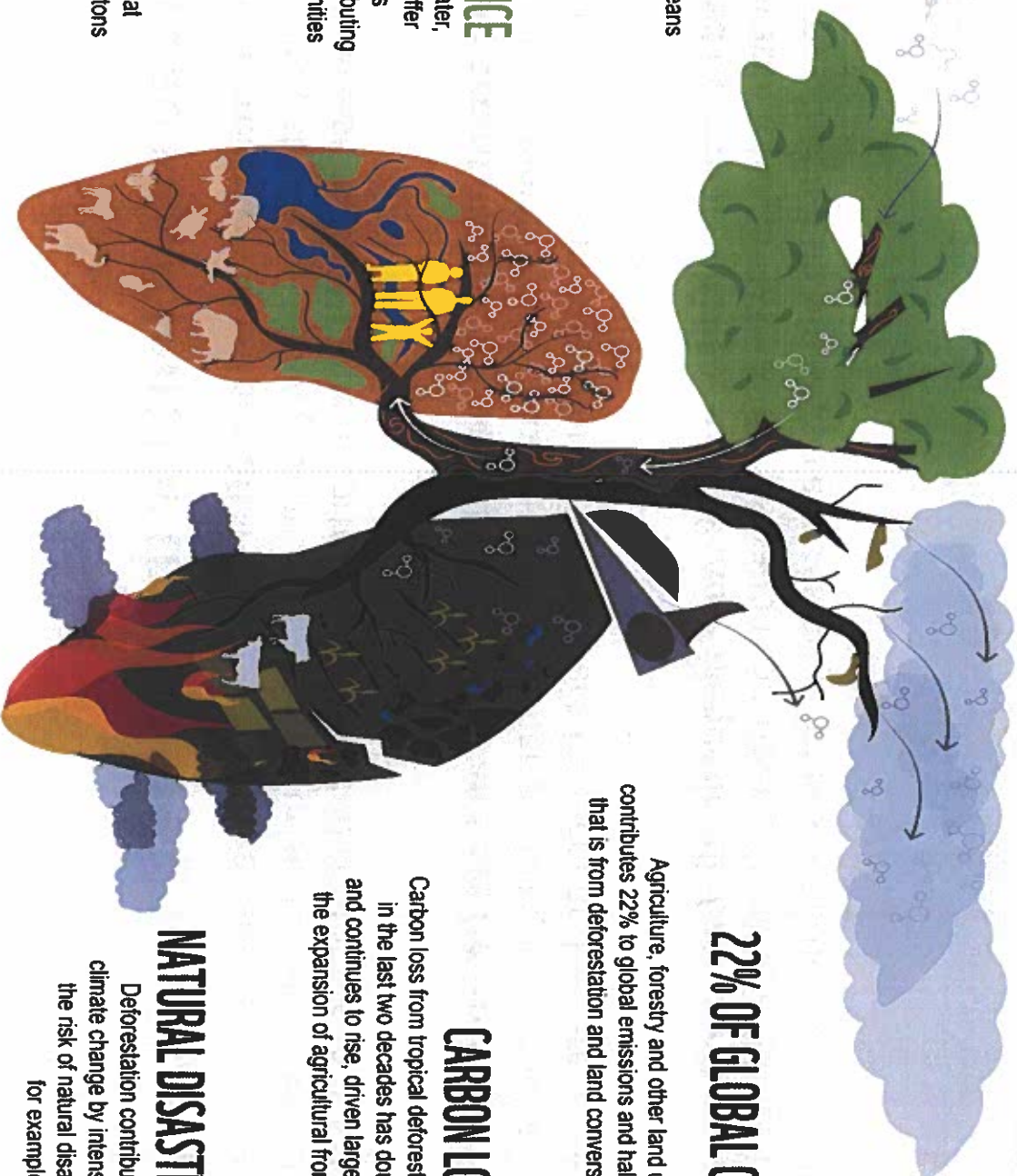
INCREASED RESILIENCE

Forests provide clean air and water, help regulate the climate and buffer against natural disasters such as floods and wildfires, while contributing to the resilience of local communities

2.4 BILLION

Forests provide a carbon sink that absorb up to 2.4 billion metric tons of carbon each year

Forests are a climate solution



22% OF GLOBAL CO₂

Agriculture, forestry and other land use contributes 22% to global emissions and half of that is from deforestation and land conversion

CARBON LOSS

Carbon loss from tropical deforestation in the last two decades has doubled and continues to rise, driven largely by the expansion of agricultural frontiers

NATURAL DISASTERS

Deforestation contributes to climate change by intensifying the risk of natural disasters, for example fires

Deforestation contributes to climate change

Why forests are so important for the climate

Forests are the largest storehouses of carbon after the oceans, as they absorb this greenhouse gas from the air and lock it away above and below ground. So, it is no surprise that when we cut down or damage our forests, we release huge amounts of carbon emissions that contribute to the climate crisis.

But forests are also important as they can help protect people and nature from the consequences of a warming world. As the impacts of climate change - including floods and storms from rising sea levels and increased precipitation - become more frequent and severe, forests can provide a crucial buffer for our communities.

Extreme events caused by climate change, such as more frequent wildfires, limit the ability of our forests to regenerate. At the same time, deforestation contributes to climate change by increasing the risk of fires. Stopping deforestation and restoring forests is a crucial part of climate action.

ROCKVILLE CITY GOVERNMENT CITIZEN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Name of Group (if request is on behalf of a group)

Ingleside at King Farm Green Team, Rockville MD

EXHIBIT NO. 81

FY2026

BUDGET PROPOSAL

Proposal Title*

Rockville Retention Ponds Invasive Vine Removal

Proposal Location*

Watts Branch Watershed, King Farm Boulevard area, Rockville MD

Describe Your Proposal*

I am a resident of the Ingleside King Farm elder community on King Farm Boulevard and Piccard Drive. Ingleside is in the Upper Watts Branch Watershed. Several stormwater retention ponds in our neighborhood occur along two minor tributaries of the watershed. Paved walking/biking paths traverse the stream routes. These areas have vigorous healthy forests with a variety of native trees and shrubs. Ingleside residents regularly enjoy walking along these paths, observing the seasonal changes in the plants and birds which are found there. The area is frequented by local birders and is considered a birding hot spot by the Montgomery Bird Club. Yellow Warblers and Green Herons are among the interesting bird species identified there. One of my favorite trees is the American Persimmon which is locally common.

Unfortunately, these urban forests are being overrun by invasive and non-native vine species, among them Multiflora Rose, English Ivy, Porcelain Berry, and Oriental Bittersweet. In some cases the vines have grown to the tops of the trees, smothering and weakening the trees and leading to their deaths.

These vines need to be removed.

What need or problem does this proposal address or solve?*

As trees grow larger, they provide important environmental services by cooling our neighborhoods and sequestering increasing amounts of carbon. Removing carbon from the atmosphere is important to counteract global warming. Our urban forest reserves are precious resources which need maintenance from time to time.

Removal of these invasive vines is not something which can be accomplished by citizen volunteer Weed Warriors. Over the years the vines form heavy woody stems which require profession equipment to remove. A survey would need to be done to estimate the amount of work needed for this project. That is beyond my abilities. I would be happy to work with the Rockville Forestry Department to identify instances where trees are endangered by these vines.

I suggest surveying first along both sides of King Farm Blvd between Gaither Road and Piccard Drive. The Forestry Department would then be able to develop a cost estimate for subsequent activity. Let's start cutting down the invasive vines.

Approximately how many people would your proposal serve?*

500 Ingleside King Farm residents, the greater King Farm neighborhood, Rockville and birders from the DMV area who use the eBird app to log reports of birds observed throughout the region and notify each other of rare and unusual birds seen in the region.

ROCKVILLE CITY GOVERNMENT CITIZEN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

If request is on behalf of a group, has this proposal been discussed and agreed on by your neighborhood group? Could you upload supporting documentation (such as meeting minutes or a signed petition) if requested?

Ingleside King Farm Green Team. Their endorsement will be forwarded to the committee.

Submitted by:

Patricia Tice, 1615-C Piccard Dr, Rockville, MD 20850, Ptice17@gmail.com

MS Rutgers University, Field Ecology, 1976

Member, Maryland Native Plant Society

Member, Montgomery Bird Club

Member, Ingleside King Farm Green Team



Redland Road Vines, Two Views

EXHIBIT NO. 82 NOT USED
PART OF EXHIBIT NO. 81
NEXT EXHIBIT IS NO. 83

Good Evening, Mayor and Council Members,

My name is Odeth Berlin, Director, Rockville Emergency Assistance Program of Community Reach of Montgomery County.

I am here to express our deepest thanks for the FY26 Rockville Emergency Assistance Program (REAP) funding in the base budget.

With your faithful financial contribution over the years, you've demonstrated your deep commitment to our work (by providing emergency financial assistance to Rockville residents who are facing rental eviction, utility disconnect and medications assistance as well as those who live in Montgomery County who need human services such as dental, vision, clothing, food, and computers referral.)

Your support has repeatedly played a key role in our success. Let me tell you a story: Ms. L who is a single mother of 3 young children 6, 8, 10 was recently laid off from work, could not pay her rent, and was about to lose her home. REAP was able to provide emergency financial assistance to stop her eviction. Losing her home would result in them being displaced, it would be more difficult for the children to attend school regularly and maybe even change school. It would take away from looking for a new job, the negative impacts on her credit and the inability to secure housing in the future as well as other hosts of other problems. It would put a greater burden on the COR and Montgomery County to find them shelter and use of county resources which are very limited. This is just one example of the many clients who receive funding through the REAP grant.

This is why it is, so vital that the City of Rockville ensures that the safety net programs be included in the budget. REAP was awarded 55K in the FY25 budget and due to the high need of the residents of Rockville we have exhausted those funds and were awarded an additional 44K. REAP helps with other funding sources and provides referrals as well as case management for Rockville residents.

On behalf of the clients of REAP of Community Reach of Montgomery, we wanted to say a big thank you again. We look forward to our continued partnership as we continue to serve the most vulnerable in our community.

Good evening, Mayor Monique Ashton and City Council Members

My name is Cecilia Rojas. I am the Director of the Language Outreach Program (LOP) of Community Reach of Montgomery County, 1010 Grandin Avenue, Suite A1, Rockville MD 20851.

During these past thirty years, with the City's support, LOP has provided English as a Second Language and Literacy to adult immigrants. Our students turn to us because they want a better life for themselves and their children. However, to achieve that, they need to be able to communicate. LOP classes serve a basic need in a diverse community such as ours.

Our classes are unique as we also provide tutoring for the school-age children of our adult students. Children have received care, tutoring, and mentoring from our staff and volunteers. The children from the first decade or two of LOP are now adults. Due to the impact our program has had on the lives of their parents and families, those children are giving back to the community by helping the very program that helped improve their lives.

Children of non-English speaking parents are at a clear disadvantage; their parents are unable to help them with their homework or effectively communicate with school staff. We work closely with the teachers of our children to provide much-needed support, helping to provide communication between the parents and teachers, and learning what additional assistance the children need.

For an immigrant, learning English is a long journey. It takes seven years for a non-English speaker to master the English language. Seven years. Therefore, you all can see that our program's retention rate is critical for the greatest success of our students. Each class, and each level of instruction, incorporates life skills that are key to quality of life.

Our students believe in the current environment, it is now even more essential to speak, understand, and read English.

This Fiscal Year 25, we had the opportunity to offer English classes at the Rockville Community Centers of Twinbrook and Lincoln Park, and at Twinbrook and Meadow Hall Elementary Schools. We also offered child tutoring at Meadow Hall. We served 84 City Rockville adult and child residents in our Summer, Fall and Winter sessions.

The City of Rockville has been a strong supporter of the Language Outreach Program (LOP). We truly appreciate the funding, and we hope to receive your continued full support.

Thank you

Judy Penny**EXHIBIT NO. 85****FY2026****BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Ricky Mui <RickyFMuiMBA@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 12:28 PM
To: cityclerk
Subject: Rick Mui Personal testimony for Mayor and Council

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Greetings Mayor and Council,

This is Rick Mui, Chair of the Rockville Human Services Advisory Commission. HSAC is made up of nine very passionate Rockville community members, who share a monthly Wednesday evening highlighting issues that concern our community. Our backgrounds span across service providers, service recipients and members at-large.

This portion of my message represents my own insights and journey. In the past years, we focused on the community services which are exclusive to the populations that have reduced options; for emergency shelter, food, appropriate seasonal clothing, elderly care, physician care and access to mental health services. Without Rockville's financial community services grants, this vulnerable population would be perhaps be neglected.

This year, with the revised Community Grants process, I am working with the Commission to expand our scope to advocate for essential services that benefit our community as a whole. We will endeavor to highlight non-profit partners that provide services that address Rockville's various human needs. Starting tonight, HSAC members should be offering their testimony on some of the essential services that warrant our collective consideration and perhaps some grant funding.

One future goal is to encourage the wider community to consider the possibility of volunteering or adding charitable support to ensure services that benefit our communities persist. A few weeks ago, I participated in a Rockville Rotary Service project at Nourish Now. Both non-profits are long-time and steadfast members of the Rockville community. I wanted to highlight Nourish Now for its outstanding organized process at local Food Recovery. Stephen Gormley, Nourish Now's COO, estimates that 5,300 Rockville residents are food security issues, meaning some cannot financially afford the rising costs for some food items to feed their families. The Commission has heard some anecdotes that some vulnerable people had to choose between paying rent or purchasing food. Nourish Now offers food recovery from local stores, re-distributing grocery items that are no longer sold in stores to families. Some fruits and vegetables may not meet aesthetics, or some products supplies exceeded customer demands; whatever the case, Nourish Now 's pickup capacity is limited to 2 trucks and 2 full time drivers, and a team of volunteers to perform a Quality Control sort at their E. Gude Drive facility. Within a few hours or days, the same produce, milk, baby food items, or packaged foods will be in the hands of Rockville residents via the hands of the amazing volunteers at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church. Rotary International estimates that 33% of American produced food is wasted; so we can all do our part to ensure food is used to nourish our community and not our landfills.

Other notable services offered to Rockville citizens are the CCACC Senior Citizen services; to include language translations, medical screenings, activities, and meals. This year a host of applications came from non-profits that had not previously applied included the American Legion Post 08, which seeks out

military veterans in our community and connect them to state and national benefits; as well as sponsoring some of our local youths in the Maryland American Legion Boys State and Girls State.

We must keep in mind that it has been the Mayor and Council that have dedicated Community Grant funding to keep the marginalized members of our community part of Rockville. Funding has gone to support the very basic human needs of shelter, food, security, rest, and services to help these families get back on their feet when they have little else to turn to. The Commission will continue to explore new possibilities through cross commission exchanges or with the City Manager, through initiatives like offering showers at Rockville City Community Centers to those lacking adequate housing; or supporting disabled tenants that lack laundry access. As a commission, we are grateful for the Mayor and Council's support of the recently completed Human Needs Assessment, to which our former HSAC Chair Amanda Schwartz frequently requested. We ask during this budget season to continue the Mayor and Council's financial support for the non-profit partners that focus on delivering supplementary services to Rockville residents.

Sincerely,

Rick Mui
cell: 478-955-3017

MEI Solutions: (MUI) Enterprises Integrated Solutions
M.B.A., M.S., B.S., Certified LSS Black Belt, ICAgile Practitioner
Consultant
Board of Directors, USNA Alumni Association GW Chapter
Board of Directors, OCA-DC
Deputy VP Corporate Relations, Ascend GW
Entrepreneur

Judy Penny**EXHIBIT NO. 86
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Carol Hannaford <carol.hannaford@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 4:58 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Cc: Carol Hannaford (carol@claymaven.com)
Subject: Fw: How do Rockville's electeds score on housing?

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Mayor Ashton and Councilmembers. I started to read this article a couple of weeks ago but have not followed the links yet to read the details. I imagine that you have.

From what I've read so far, it seems that you are getting good marks for effort and commitment. Not surprisingly, it recommends furthering those efforts.

I recently received an invitation to attend the 2025 Volunteer Appreciation Party at Glenview Mansion. Although I have been told that it is important for volunteers to meet each other, I will not be attending. I have received similar invitations in the past, as well as wood-framed acknowledgements for environmental work and special recognition for donating to the Rockville Holiday Drive. For two years I returned the frames to City Hall.

I understand that the Mayor and Council have a variety of audiences to which responses are needed. At the same time, I would prefer to see the money spent on appreciation and recognition going instead to affordable housing, advocating for rent stabilization, buying a young person a swim team scholarship, or sending a kid to camp.

Thank you,

Carol Hannaford
Twinbrook

From: Greater Greater Washington
Sent: Wednesday, March 12, 2025 6:53 AM
To: Carol Hannaford
Subject: How do Rockville's electeds score on housing?

Grading Rockville's mayor and council on housing

Ryan Murphy • March 11, 2025



Now that those of us in Rockville have had a bit more than a full year with our new Mayor & Council, I felt it was important to attempt to grade their performance so far when it comes to policies for increasing housing production.

Share



Judy Penny

**EXHIBIT NO. 87
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: D M <moore.deborah55@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 5:35 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Caregiver Funding For This Year

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

March 24, 2025

To the Mayor & Council

My name is Deborah Moore. Although I am honored to serve as one of two Consumer Representatives on the Human Services Advisory Commission, I am writing here as a Rockville citizen.

I have written before to advocate for caregiver organizations and the services they provide. What they provide are numerous and well known. From shelter for displaced, unhoused individuals to health care to fighting food insecurity, the caregivers of Rockville are an immeasurable source of aid to what is often referred to as “vulnerable” individuals.

The above is well known to you. Now, what do I believe to be salient at this time?

We are currently in a radically different time than the one we were in when I wrote concerning funding a year ago. The need for deliberate, rigorous, determined and robust funding advocacy for those who are caregivers is needed now more than ever. I have always believed that you have the goal of providing that funding and are willing to continue to do so—even in the present atmosphere.

So, I respectfully request that you continue your commitment to this funding—and to do so in all roles in which you navigate—for the promotion of the highest quality of life for all members of the Rockville community.

I believe you have always done this and that you will continue.

I thank you for your time and attention.

EXHIBIT NO. 88
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL

March 24, 2025

Lucinda Hall
210 Elizabeth Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850-1207

Rockville Mayor and Council
City of Rockville
111 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Mayor and Council:

I am writing regarding the FY 2026 Budget.

I retired in June 2009, and I joined the Rockville Senior Center (RSC) that same year. I did not know the educational and social activities would provide me with so many opportunities and blessings.

Exercise, nutritional, and health-related classes kept me aware and focused on living a more well-balanced lifestyle.

Participating in RSC social activities and clubs, I have so many new friends. I am thankful for every one of them.

Since joining the RSC in 2009, I have been on over 100 one-day and overnight trips. They provided more experiences than I could have ever imagined having.

I fully support a budget, for the RSC, above the currently budgeted amount. Due to inflation and price increases, especially for buses, trips, restaurants, catering, and other services; increasing the RSC budget will allow the Center, and its dedicated staff, to continue the high-quality programs they provide.

Sincerely,

Lucinda Hall



EXHIBIT NO. 89
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL

3.24.25

Testimony in Support of FY26 Grant Funding for Main Street

Presented by: Tara Owens, Executive Director, Main Street

Date: March 24, 2025

Good evening, Mayor and Councilmembers,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight. My name is Tara Owens, and I serve as the Executive Director of Main Street. I'm honored to speak in strong support of our FY26 funding request through the Community Services and Enrichment Grant Program.

Main Street is an inclusive community model created by Jillian and Scott Copeland in response to the lack of housing and social opportunities for their son Nicol, an adult with developmental disabilities. Recognizing the need for affordable, accessible inclusion, they launched Main Street in 2020, which has since become a vibrant hub in Rockville.

As many of you know, Main Street is three things:

- **An accessible apartment building** with 70 units—75% affordable, with 25% of those reserved for adults with disabilities.
- **A community of over 270 members of all abilities**, including **95 Rockville residents**, who participate in **12–15 weekly programs** across social, cultural, educational, and wellness topics.
- **An inclusive employer**, anchored by the Soulfull Café, which provides competitive jobs to people with and without disabilities.

The grant request before you supports one of the most essential aspects of our mission: our **Social Mainstays**—a series of weekly, staff-facilitated programs that offer safe, affordable, and inclusive social opportunities for adults with disabilities. These programs help participants build relationships, engage with their community, and grow in confidence and independence.

Our Social Mainstays include:

- **Food for Thought** – a facilitated discussion over lunch at Soulfull Café
- **The Hang** – group games like trivia and Jeopardy held virtually and in-person
- **Friday Vibes** – a dinner with a unique theme each week

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a.15



- **Sunday Social** – providing fun and creative experiences
- **Eating Out** – group dinners at local Rockville restaurants
 - This program in particular has direct economic benefits:
 - It provides consistent business to restaurants in the City of Rockville
 - It brings new people to Rockville—members who might not otherwise visit the area are now dining and shopping locally.

These programs fill a major gap for adults with disabilities. After leaving the school system, many lose access to regular social opportunities. Social Mainstays bring that connection back.

We're also proud of how these programs promote civic engagement and community partnerships. Here are a few we've welcomed:

- Rockville staff speaking on voting
- Regular Coffee with a Cop events at our cafe
- City Planners gathering feedback on Rockville's Master Plan
- BJ Dawkins, Chair of the Montgomery County Black Chamber of Commerce, speaking on Juneteenth

These collaborations help our members connect more deeply with the City of Rockville and its resources.

We requested **\$27,946 in FY26 grant funding and were recommended for an award of \$25,000, and we are incredibly grateful.** This proposed funding will support the cost of Social Mainstays for **87** Rockville participants, after member contributions.

This grant will allow us to continue—and expand—these life-enriching programs. It ensures that all residents, regardless of ability or income, have access to consistent, meaningful, community engagement.

Let me close with a story that shows what this impact looks like.

Picture this. Maddie is a newer Main Street member. She is a 34-year-old adult with little to no social interaction other than her sisters. They had just suffered the tremendous loss of her mother, her primary caregiver. At the urging of her sister, Elle, Maddie reluctantly came to a Main Street program. She was shy, didn't contribute much but she continued to return, slowly she started to participate and now she has formed strong bonds with members and staff.



After a few months of being a Main Streeter, she is working out in our gym weekly, she attends weekly social and educational programs. And, get this---- *Just last week*, Maddie made plans to go to the movie with a friend—for the first time ever, completely on her own. That simple act of independence is huge. Now, she’s talking about starting a book club and a movie group at Main Street.

Moments like these are what Main Street is all about—**empowering people to lead full, connected lives and, in the process, supporting our local economy and enriching our city.**

Thank you all for your time, your support, and your commitment to a more connected Rockville.

Rockville City Mayor and Council Testimony for the FY26 Budget

March 24, 2025

Andrea Kempner-Wink, Managing Director of Community Reach of Montgomery County

Thank you, Mayor Ashton and Councilmembers Fulton, Jackson, Myles, Shaw, Valeri, and Van Grack, for your support of the underserved in Rockville. Community Reach of Montgomery County has appreciated the work we have been able to do with your support to serve those in need of healthcare, housing, financial emergency assistance, education for immigrants, and eldercare. We thank the City for our faithful partnership since our inception in 1967 as we serve and advocate for Rockville residents.

Together we have embraced people from all walks of life and every corner of the world. We have helped residents realize their dreams of financial security, plant roots, and raise their families in this welcoming community.

Community Reach of Montgomery County (we shorten our name to “Reach”) offers

- Assistance to those who face eviction or utility turn-offs, or need referrals for food, clothing, dental and vision care through our Rockville Emergency Assistance Program;
- Homecare services and repair and maintenance for our senior citizens aging in place through our Senior Reach Program;
- A safe place to call home for men and women who were previously unhoused through our Jefferson and Rockland Houses;
- A way to connect with our community through English Language classes and Citizenship Test Preparedness classes for immigrants through our Language Outreach Program; and
- A healthcare home for those who are uninsured or enrolled in Medicare or Medicaid through our Mansfield Kaseman Health Clinic.

My colleagues will share information about these services. I have the honor of sharing a story and facts about our Senior Reach Program.

Each year our Senior Reach Program serves about 50 City of Rockville residents who are over 60 years old with homecare services that lower their risk of illness and infection. We provide approximately 30 residents with assistive devices, and home repair and maintenance so they have a safer living environment and more mobility within their homes. Our clients are able to live independently, many in the homes where they raised their children, for years longer than they could without our assistance. Most have an annual income of less than \$20,000.

Thank you for funding this program in FY25 and previous years, It makes a world of difference in the lives of our clients.

Here is one example of how our work makes a real difference:

Ms. G, a Lincoln Park resident in her 80s, lives in the house where her children grew up. For over a decade, she has received homecare services through us. During a recent check-in by our staff, Ms. G mentioned that her water bills had been unusually high, and she suspected there might be a leak in her water heater. We hired a plumber to do an inspection. He confirmed there was a leak and warned that if it was not repaired, the tank might burst, flood her home, and cause significant damage. Senior Reach contracted for a new water heater to be installed. With a letter from the plumber, Ms. G was also able to get a partial refund from the water company. I quote Ms. G: "The emergency device service, home care help and of course the water heater have helped me so much and improved my quality of life greatly!"

In 2024, we ramped up our technology assistance for Rockville seniors. At Victory Court, we offered two hours each week when any resident could meet with a volunteer who would help walk them through their concerns and questions about their cellphones, tablets, laptops, and other technology. Senior Reach has held similar one-time activities with student volunteer groups. Not only do these events provide useful learning opportunities for Rockville residents. They also offer socialization experiences between generations.

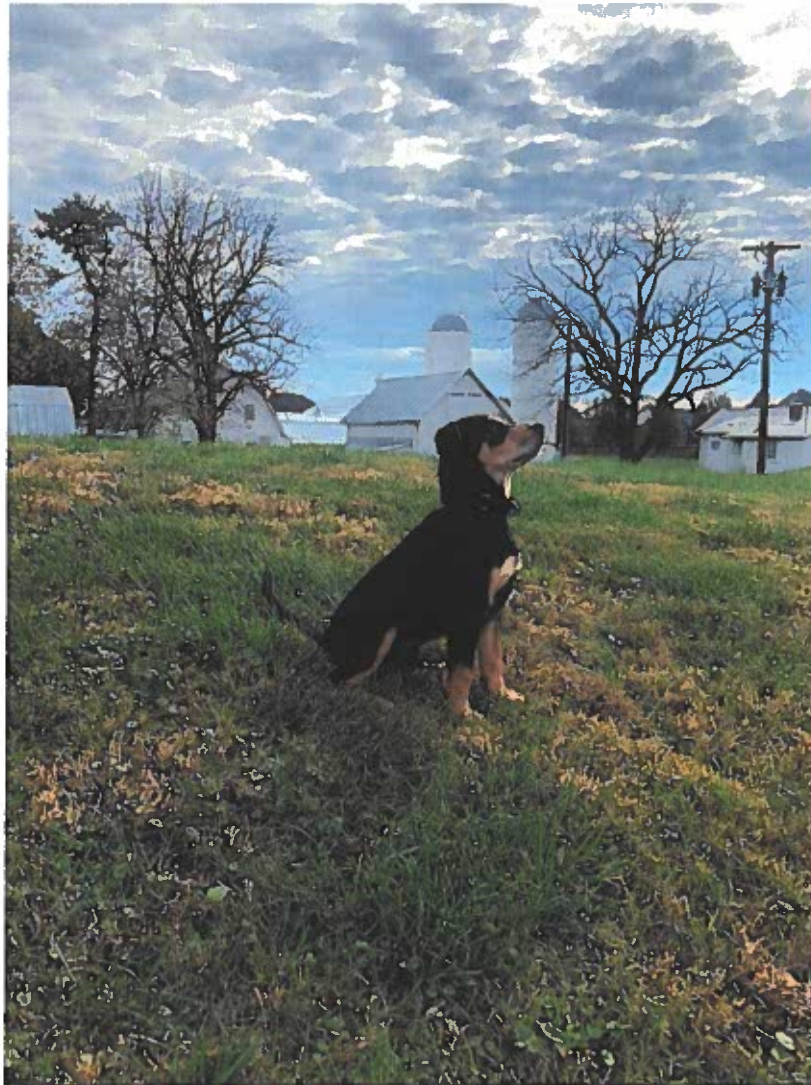
Although we are proud of our Senior Reach successes, there are many more whose quality of life, health and safety would be vastly improved with the help of our program. We always have waiting lists of more than ten lower income Rockville seniors for both homecare and home repair

due to funding shortages. Homecare services are increasing in cost year after year. We expect that materials and labor for home repairs will rise more quickly this year and in the future as the economic situation changes. The average age of our population is increasing, and senior citizens are a rapidly expanding demographic.

We ask for your continued and increased support as we strive to help all our seniors age with quality of life, assuring no one is left behind due to age or socioeconomics.

THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE
KING FARM URBAN FARMING CENTER
(KFUFC)
A Proposal

February 25, 2025



The Gibney Alliance LLC

304 Ridgemont Avenue • Rockville, MD 20850-6056 • (301) 580-5729

King Farm Farmstead Property Proposal

Background:

A similar proposal was originally submitted February 20, 2017. At that time, I had a great deal of support from everyone with whom I discussed this, including Mayor Newton, Mark Pierzchala, a veteran owned consulting firm, the USDA, the DLA, two local restaurants, and the Maryland Agricultural group at the History Farm Park. The original submittal was for an Aquaponics Center, dedicated as a DIY training center for students and the military. At that time, within the plan, was the need for a secondary egress. The recommendation was to incorporate the King Buick dealership and have the egress out of the northern end of the property to Shady Grove Road. That option, as well as the hillside amphitheater are no longer viable due to the EY development.

Therefore, herein is an updated recommendation. I have retained a great deal of the original content, in that, some of the initial potential investors may renew their interest and consideration. However, the recommendation is no longer merely for Aquaponics, but rather an overall Urban farming training venue.

Overview:

The King Farm Farmstead Property provides the City of Rockville with the ability to open a new door on public/private collaboration. The "Perfect Storm" of history, pragmatism and opportunity come together to enable a watershed project, the City of Rockville King Farm Urban Farming Center (KFUFC). In its 2014 property assessment, the architects of Wheeler Goodman Masek (WGM) cite, "It would be wonderful if future site use could support and enhance this historic narrative." use could support and enhance this historic narrative." KFUFC fulfills that request by continuing the interrupted King Farm legacy with the next generation of farming capability in an environment that promotes education, community, and history.

The principal effort would be directed toward Aquaponics. It is a closed system of two disciplines – hydroponics, or growing plants without the use of soil; and aquaculture, or fish farming. Aquaponics brings the two together, solving common problems with each type of system. The expanded proposal includes hydroponic, freight, and backyard farming.

KFUFC is envisioned as an Aquaponics learning and production center. Its purpose would be threefold: first, to provide a learning center for a multi-level educational experience, featuring field trips highlighted by meals served direct from the farm; second, a Do-IT-Yourself (DIY) center, for building an Aquaponics facility, with sights on proposals to provide secure food sources for military bases and facilities; and, lastly, an operational farm growing products to be sold to local restaurants and grocery stores, and provide for a farm-to-table community kitchen and restaurant.

The Team:

The Gibney Alliance, LLC was formed in 2015 to “Apply Science Artistically.” The principle and owner, Tom Gibney has over 30 years of experience in the public and private sector in Operations and Program Management. His career is notable for the oversight of cross-functional efforts to resolve complex issues that have foundered, and the delivery of comprehensive programs on time and within budget. Mr. Gibney has developed a network of support that includes expertise in the aquaponics model, Friendly Aquaponics, a Hawaiian-based aquaponics organization with patents on various methods; and Growing Power, an aquaponics organization founded by Will Allen, a former basketball star at Richard Montgomery High School, and recipient of a \$500,000 MacArthur Foundation grant for his work in urban farming. Experts in engineering construction design and installation, all the building trades, landscape design, finance, education and military acquisition, and the legal team of Shulman Rogers provide additional network support.

As a Program Manager at the United States Government Printing Office (USGPO), Mr. Gibney managed over 150 renovation projects over three years, in the 1.5 million square foot historic building complex. This culminated with opening of the first floor Visitor’s Center that provides a museum-like waiting room for visitors to enjoy the rich history of the GPO. At the same time, he negotiated and managed a collaborative agreement with the Architect of the Capitol for Legislative space-sharing that provides over \$1.2 million in annual revenue.

The Gibney Alliance will work closely with the City of Rockville staff in the development of the various phases of the project specifically regarding the interaction with the contractors and integration of the contract work currently out for bid. We intend to work closely with City’s historic preservation effort to fully exploit the farmstead’s 2006 designation as an historic site. We also anticipate tapping the teams at Croydon Creek and the Rockville Mansion to share best practices in community partnerships and educational endeavors.

Building Use:

The Main House is anticipated to initially serve as the gateway to the enterprise, serving as a “Welcome” facility. Ultimately, the house would be converted to a bed and breakfast or a small restaurant, featuring farm to table products from KFUFCA and potentially providing a forum to guest chefs. The vision is for the chefs to use the products from KFUFCA for a special menu of their choosing, to be served to special guests interested in supporting this effort, on the weekend.

The vision continues with the renovation of the horse barn. The WGM recommendation to demolish and rebuild using the existing historic materials offers a tremendous opportunity to make this the centerpiece of KFUFCA, a fully operational farm to table restaurant and a community kitchen. The menu from the weekend would mass produced for the community. Collapsible cafeteria style tables in the barn could be set up to support

up to 100 patrons. The “restaurant” would serve as a commercial enterprise to support the operation of the kitchen for the less fortunate of our community, who would receive their meals for free.

The intention is to also landscape the grounds to accommodate a Farmer’s Market. This would include products from the center, a discounted participation from the community farmers on-site, and local producers. The horse barn would be utilized for cover as required.

The renovation of the garage would provide office space to support the project team and the on-site staff, with little to no effort required outside of the original WGM recommendations.

The barns will be the primary location for the Aquaponics production and DIY centers. Fully functional Aquaponics and hydroponics in one barn, with the building center, design, engineering and construction in the other. The WGM recommendations would be supplemented with operational facilitation equipment all within the constraints of the historical renovation and preservation guidelines. The attic areas would be subsequently included perhaps as an expansion to the restaurant concept, and a beer garden that incorporated the outdoor areas between them.

The tenant houses would be used for staff and operational supporting activities with additional options studied once the proposal moves forward.

In addition to the buildings, a future supporting use of the land around the buildings would include non-intrusive, environmentally friendly greenhouses that expand the capability, learning opportunities and sustained growth.

Community Impact:

Mr. Gibney also has a keen interest in the City of Rockville and its future. As a former member of the Traffic and Transportation Committee, the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance Committee, he has gained insight to the issues affecting ventures pursued within the city.

Community integration is a key component of the proposal. The enterprise would operate within the requirements and codes of the water and sewer guidelines. The City Police and Fire leadership will be consulted to ensure a cooperative and interactive relationship with them and their efforts in the community. As the facility becomes operational, the use of public transportation would be encouraged, and a shuttle service from the Metro Station is envisioned for large groups, and potentially during visiting periods. Schools will be provided with a local and inexpensive field trip opportunity. The anticipated hours of operation are 9AM to 3PM during the week, with flexibility to accommodate learning efforts; and weekend hours amenable to customers and interested residents, and there will be 24/7 staff oversight.

As the project expands, the number of employees would increase accordingly. Led by Mr. Gibney the initial project team and core operational team would consist of four to five at various levels of involvement overseeing renovations and interacting with the city leadership. This team's construct would evolve with the project and grow in accordance with the General and Administrative requirements of the enterprise. The Aquaponics model is well defined and employs 16 individuals per acre of farming. Depending upon greenhouse installation options, this component of staffing will have a significant range. Additional employment opportunities include part- and full-time support for DIY training, canning, distribution, kitchen, restaurant, and bed and breakfast operations. The total anticipated staffing for years 1-2 is 5-20 full and part-time employees; years 3-5, 15-50; years 6 on 40-100. A non-intrusive parking facility, and potentially, a collaborative agreement with King Farm to accommodate additional parking needs would be pursued.

Summary:

Following the initial funding, this public/private effort is anticipated to produce a positive cashflow within three years. Ultimately removing the farmstead as a burden to the Rockville taxpayer. A full pro forma will be made available if the city chooses to pursue this effort with the Gibney Alliance LLC.

Judy Penny

**EXHIBIT NO. 92
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Gerald Cichy <gr.cichy@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 9:00 PM
To: mayorcouncil; Peerless Rockville; Gerald R Cichy
Subject: City Support to Peerless Rockville

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Mayor and Rockville Council,

In your City Budget Provisions, I would hope you could continue to financially support the work of Peerless in and for the City of Rockville.

Thank you.

Gerald R. Cichy
(Resident of Rockville since December 1969.)

Good evening, Mayor Monique Ashton and City Council Members

My name is Cecilia Rojas. I am the Director of the Language Outreach Program (LOP) of Community Reach of Montgomery County, 1010 Grandin Avenue, Suite A1, Rockville MD 20851.

During these past thirty years, with the City's support, LOP has provided English as a Second Language and Literacy to adult immigrants. Our students turn to us because they want a better life for themselves and their children. However, to achieve that, they need to be able to communicate. LOP classes serve a basic need in a diverse community such as ours.

Our classes are unique as we also provide tutoring for the school-age children of our adult students. Children have received care, tutoring, and mentoring from our staff and volunteers. The children from the first decade or two of LOP are now adults. Due to the impact our program has had on the lives of their parents and families, those children are giving back to the community by helping the very program that helped improve their lives.

Children of non-English speaking parents are at a clear disadvantage; their parents are unable to help them with their homework or effectively communicate with school staff. We work closely with the teachers of our children to provide much-needed support, helping to provide communication between the parents and teachers, and learning what additional assistance the children need.

For an immigrant, learning English is a long journey. It takes seven years for a non-English speaker to master the English language. Seven years. Therefore, you all can see that our program's retention rate is critical for the greatest success of our students. Each class, and each level of instruction, incorporates life skills that are key to quality of life.

Our students believe in the current environment, it is now even more essential to speak, understand, and read English.

This Fiscal Year 25, we had the opportunity to offer English classes at the Rockville Community Centers of Twinbrook and Lincoln Park, and at Twinbrook and Meadow Hall Elementary Schools. We also offered child tutoring at Meadow Hall. We served 84 City Rockville adult and child residents in our Summer, Fall and Winter sessions.

The City of Rockville has been a strong supporter of the Language Outreach Program (LOP). We truly appreciate the funding, and we hope to receive your continued full support.

Thank you

Judy Penny

Subject: FW: Addition of a Gude Drive noise abatement study to the FY 26 Budget

EXHIBIT NO. 94

FY2026

BUDGET PROPOSAL

From: Sandy Watson <sandy@watsonthemarket.com>

Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 2:00 PM

To: CMO <CMO@rockvillemd.gov>; mayorcouncil <mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov>

Cc: Rachael Plett <info@rachaelhamm.com>; Nick Durham <nickdurham@gmail.com>; Emily Stelzer <emilystelzer@hotmail.com>; Jim Reschovsky <jreschovsky@verizon.net>

Subject: Addition of a Gude Drive noise abatement study to the FY 26 Budget

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Good Afternoon:

The Woodley Gardens Civic Association (WGCA) would like to request an addition to the City's FY 26 budget to fund a study that will explore options and make recommendations for abating noise from Gude Drive. The proposed study should address only the slightly less than 0.2 mile segment East of the Gude Drive intersection with Piccard Drive. This stretch of Gude Drive either has no sound abatement or small and inadequate berms that do little to abate road noise. (Other portions of West Gude Drive adjacent to Woodley Gardens and College Gardens have sizeable berms which are effective in abating traffic noise.) Woodley Gardens residents living on the Aster Blvd. cul-de-sac as well as other nearby residents on the 1000 block of Aster and portions of the 1000 block of Carnation are affected by high levels of traffic noise.

Proposal

WGCA proposes that the City fund a study to assess traffic noise levels affecting homes near the aforementioned stretch of Gude Drive and to develop options for noise abatement. Options for abatement could include one or more actions: construction of sound walls, enhancement of existing berms, deployment of "sound cameras," increased use of speed cameras, traffic calming measures to encourage compliance with speed limits along the targeted stretch of Gude Drive, or other solutions.

Background

- **Car and truck traffic volumes on Gude Drive have increased by orders of magnitude over the past three decades.**
 - The current design of the new entrance to the Senior Center calls for changing the main entrance from Carnation Drive to Gude Drive and making most of the parking places available from Gude Drive, not Carnation Drive. This will further increase traffic on Gude Drive.
 - The WGCA, through its representative on the Gude Drive Entrance Advisory Committee, advocated for noise abatement to be incorporated into the design of the new entrance. The Department of Public Works declined the inclusion of noise abatement in the Gude Drive Senior Center Entrance project.
- **Unlike most of West Gude Drive adjacent to Woodley Gardens and College Gardens the stretch of Gude Drive adjacent to homes on the Aster Blvd. cul de sac either lack any noise abatement or have small and inadequate berms.**
 - The vegetation originally planted on the berm or on the embankment (where no berm exists) has either died or is ineffective: the berm was planted with conifer trees that have grown so large that only tree trunks and dead branches, not foliage, are available to lessen road noise and block the view of the roadway from adjacent homes.
- **Homeowners living along this stretch of Gude have not noticed any diminution of noise since the speed limit on Gude Drive was lowered to 35 mph.**

- Speeding remains common and the one permanent speed camera along West Gude Drive is nowhere close to the stretch of Gude that lacks noise abatement.
- **Gude Drive continues to be used for drag racing—typically in the middle of the night. Racing cars often have modified exhaust systems and are extremely loud, frequently waking residents up.**
 - Rockville Police have not been willing or able to deal with this despite years of complaints.
- **A noise study conducted in 2005 is no longer relevant given the enormous increases in traffic volumes since it was constructed and problems with that study.**
 - A noise monitor used in the earlier study was placed near the Upper Watts Branch Stream, just south of Gude Drive. While the monitor was laterally close to Gude Drive, it was placed 25 feet below the surface of the roadway at the bottom of a large embankment. Nearby houses, however, are built at the level of the roadway.

The WGCA thanks you for your consideration of our proposal.

Sincerely,
Sandy Watson
President, Woodley Gardens Civic Association

Judy Penny

From: Jeanine Gould-Kostka <jgkostka@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2025 5:42 PM
To: CMO; mayorcouncil
Subject: FY26 Budget: Support for WGCA proposal for Gude Drive Noise Abatement Study

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

March 31, 2025

Dear Mayor Ashton, City Council and City Manager,

I am writing today in support of the Woodley Gardens Civic Association (WGCA) request for an addition to the City's FY 26 budget to fund a study that will explore options and make recommendations for abating noise from Gude Drive. The WGCA proposes that the City fund a study to assess traffic noise levels affecting homes near the stretch of Gude Drive slightly less than 0.2 miles east of the Gude Drive intersection with Piccard Drive and to develop options for noise abatement.

My family moved into our home in Woodley Gardens in 1999. Traffic on Gude Drive at that time was steady but there was little truck traffic. With development all over the City and County, Gude Drive steadily gained traffic volume including a large increase in dump trucks going to construction sites. We have written to the Mayor and Council many times requesting action to address the noise issues in this section of Gude Drive, which has little to no noise abatement due to the inadequate berms and dying trees (photos attached).

Requests for help with noise abatement

- 2005: Requested help to address noise and the City of Rockville responded by conducting a noise study. The microphone was placed at the bottom of the earth berm behind our home. The noise survey showed noise levels to be acceptable. If the microphone had been placed on our deck or screened porch the results would have been much different.
- 2010: My husband and I read an account in the Rockville Central newsletter regarding the truck and neighborhood traffic issue during the Mayor and Council's November 22, 2010, meeting. The discussion during that meeting surprised WGCA residents as a councilmember noted that WGCA residents were not impacted by the noise from Gude Drive because the backs of our homes face the busy thoroughfare.
 - WGCA sent a letter on November 29, 2010, related to the Council discussion and requested effective sound barriers and vigorous enforcement of speed limits. The City's response was to rebuff the request for sound barriers and indicated the Rockville police were doing the best they could related to speed violations.
 - My husband and I sent a letter on December 2, 2010, to the Mayor and Council requesting a scientifically based noise study (5 years had passed since the previous study) and provided

recommendations to mitigate the noise issues. City staff responded by rebuffing our claim that noise was impacting our neighborhood. No additional noise study was conducted.

- 2023: My husband and I sent two letters to the City of Rockville and shared videos of Gude Drive traffic from our backyard (March 22, 2023, May 26, 2023, videos shared on April 15, 2023).
 - We submitted an online complaint form on April 14, 2023, which led to an ongoing dialogue with Rockville City Police about enforcement of existing traffic laws.
 - The City of Rockville continued to rebuff requests for noise mitigation as part of the Senior Center entrance project.
- 2024: My husband and I sent a letter outlining our concerns to the Mayor and Council on November 18, 2024, related to the Senior Center Entrance Project. I attended the public meeting held in November 2024 where City staff once again informed attendees that noise abatement concerns will not to be addressed as part of the Senior Center Entrance Project.

The consistent message received from City staff and some elected officials since the early 2000s has been that noise issues on Gude Drive are not a priority. I thank the WGCA for submitting this proposal to add a Gude Drive noise abatement study to the FY 26 Budget. WGCA concerns should be met with at least the same level of attentiveness that was afforded Rockville residents who advocated for a Gude Drive entrance to the Senior Center. The WGCA proposal offers options for noise abatement, and I hope the proposal is given serious consideration during the budget process.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Jeanine Gould-Kostka
Woodley Gardens resident





To Whom it may concern:

Without our ongoing partnership with the Rockville Bike Hub, we'd be unable to have our Annual Bike Donation Event every October.

The event has been held for six years and we've been able to collect over 1600 bicycles from the generous residents of Montgomery County, Maryland.

Some of the collected bicycles are refurbished by the Rockville Bike Hub and then given to our Bike Match MoCo program. MCDOT's BikeMatchMoCo is a year-round program which has provided nearly 800 county residents with new/refurbished bikes donated by members of the community.

During each of our donation events the Rockville Bike Hub and their volunteers have provided the following invaluable assistance:

- RBH helps unload donated bicycles from resident's vehicles
- RBH answers questions about where the donated bicycles will be going and the RBH's organizational mission
- RBH bicycle mechanics inspect each donated bicycle for mechanical issues
- RBH volunteers sort and organize the donated bicycles into three groups
 - o (1. Rockville Bike Hub, 2. Bikes For The World or 3. Montgomery County's Recycling Center)
- RBH preps all bicycles for transportation by removing the pedals and binding together all the donated bicycle parts.
- RBH helps load the bicycles onto the appropriate truck for transportation to their designated location.

In summary, without the help of the Rockville Bike Hub we would be unable to provide a much needed and affordable transportation option to the residents of Montgomery County, Maryland.

Sincerely,
Paul Gatons
Communications Specialist
MCDOT - Director's Office
101 Monroe Street 10th Floor
Rockville, Maryland
Office Phone #240-777-7162
Cellphone # 240-994-9352

**EXHIBIT NO. 97
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

Christine King
New Neighbors Interfaith Alliance (NNIA)
211 Watkins Circle
Rockville, MD 20850
February 8, 2025

Mr. Abe Bruckman
Rockville City Council

Dear Mr. Bruckman,

The Rockville Bike Hub (RBH) has provided unwavering support to the Rockville refugee community sponsored by NNIA for more than 3 years (since early 2022).

They have donated and serviced bikes for dozens of individuals, including adults and children. These individuals use their bikes not only for recreation, but also as a form of transportation to attend to their daily commitments. Several family breadwinners ride their bikes to their Rockville place of employment, others ride to the Metro to get to their jobs, students ride the bikes to Montgomery College, and the children who reside in an apartment complex without school bus availability, use the bikes as transportation to their elementary, middle and high schools. A newly immigrated family seldom, if ever, has a car to use for transportation so they rely on public transportation, biking or walking. Many of these families live, or have lived, in the Fields of Rockville and Congressional Towers, and various other apartments and private homes in Rockville.

RBH is truly an asset to Rockville by encouraging environmentally friendly transportation and an affordable means of critical transportation for less fortunate families.

NNIA is truly grateful for their support and highly recommend that the City of Rockville help ensure they continue to provide this valuable service to our community.

Sincerely,

Christine King
Christine King
President, NNIA

**EXHIBIT NO. 98
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

February 14, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I highly recommend Rockville Bike Hub for their outstanding partnership and support of the BikeMatchMoCo program from July 1, 2020, to December 27, 2024. Since the beginning of the program, Rockville Bike Hub has been a vital partner, contributing monthly bicycle donations to the program.

Their generous support has been instrumental in benefiting the entire Montgomery County community. Numerous families have received bikes through this partnership, allowing them greater mobility and access to essential resources. Over the years, from 2020 through December 2024, Rockville Bike Hub has donated 93 bicycles to families in need, positively impacting the lives of many individuals.

Rockville Bike Hub's consistent and unwavering support has significantly improved our program, and we are grateful for their dedication and commitment to improving the lives of families in Montgomery County.

Sincerely,

Maritza De La Vega

Maritza De La Vega
Contract Manager, TriPS Stores, BikeMatchMoCo
& Rideshare Program
Director's Office
101 Monroe Street, 10th Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850
Montgomery County Commuter Services
Cell Phone: 240-994-4966
Maritza.delavega@montgomerycountymd.go

Sara Taylor-Ferrell

EXHIBIT NO. 99

FY2026

BUDGET PROPOSAL

From: Linda Brenner <linda.june.brenner@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 29, 2025 7:21 PM
To: CMO; mayorcouncil
Subject: Gude Drive Noise Abatement Study

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Rockville Mayor and Council and City Manager,

I am writing to express my support for the City conducting a noise abatement study for the portion of Gude Drive nearest to Piccard Drive. This area has little to no berm and few robust trees separating the traffic noise on Gude Drive from the houses in the circle of Aster Boulevard and from the houses on Carnation Drive that back to Gude.

Traffic on Gude Drive seems to increase each year, including many large trucks and some motorcycles. Traffic noise is loud and affects the quality of life for the residents nearest to Gude.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Linda Brenner
1089 Larkspur Terrace
Rockville, MD 20850
301-802-3801

EXHIBIT NO. 100
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL

Sara Taylor-Ferrell

From: Eileen McGuckian <phileen3@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2025 5:17 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Letter for City of Rockville FY2026 Budget Hearing and Consideration
Attachments: Mayor & Council -- budget letter.docx

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Mayor Ashton and Members of the City Council,

Attached is a letter for inclusion in the current FY2026 budget hearing record and for your consideration.

This is written to remind you of the many positives provided by Peerless Rockville and to urge you to fully and unanimously support this excellent nonprofit's FY2026 Community Grant.

Full funding of this grant is a true value for Rockville's government and the entire community. Full funding will guarantee the continued availability of quality educational programs, personal assistance, access to all of the resources collected and enhanced over 50 years of dependable public service, and more.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Eileen McGuckian
Rockville, Maryland
phileen3@verizon.net
301-468-7331

Attached: Letter of support for Peerless Rockville's FY2026 Community Grant

MayorCouncil@rockvillemd.gov

March 31, 2025

Dear Mayor Ashton and Members of the City Council,

I write to remind you of the many positives provided by Peerless Rockville and to urge that you fully support this excellent nonprofit's FY2026 Community Grant.

Peerless Rockville makes it possible for all Rockville residents, businesses, organizations, and visitors to learn about our City's unique history. Strong assistance from Community Grant funds enables Peerless to provide the services described below almost entirely at no charge.

Attendance at Peerless Rockville programs -- whether they are in person at Glenview or in a Rockville neighborhood, or virtual -- is evidence of the interest of persons of all ages in the variety of topics that are offered every season of the year. Presentations by knowledgeable speakers have tied our city to national events: helping to inspire the American Revolution, Rockville's close connection to Civil Rights, accomplished Rockville women who have improved our world, our role in the Underground Railroad, tours of local historic sites, how Rockville evolved into the city we have today.

Visitation to the Red Brick Courthouse -- to see exhibits, conduct research, request assistance, pick up maps and brochures -- introduces to the Town Center people who stay to walk, dine, shop, and read informational signage about our history. At the Peerless Rockville office families, students, and scholars can and do access thousands of documents, photographs, oral histories, and artifacts in archives dedicated to Rockville's people, places, and 250 years of history.

Peerless Rockville is a true value for Rockville's government and entire community. Peerless makes careful use of a small professional staff and a dedicated cadre of volunteers to bring us this high-quality assistance, information, programming, curation, and a true sense of Rockville's place in Montgomery County, Maryland, and the United States. Through 50 years of operating and evolving into the excellent institution it is today, Peerless Rockville has built a solid reputation for professionalism, quality performance, and cooperation with the City of Rockville and all entities within our community. Further, staff is adept at using City funds to show community support when applying for specific program grants.

Fully funding Peerless Rockville's community grant will guarantee the continued availability of quality educational programming -- lectures, tours, exhibits, and publications. This grant sustains an archive of thousands of historical photographs, records, and documents of Rockville's history.

My family and I personally attend many of these programs and events, and highly recommend all of them to every member of the Mayor and Council.

Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely yours,

Eileen McGuckian
Rockville, Maryland
phileen3@verizon.net
301-468-7331

EXHIBIT NO. 101 NOT USED
PART OF EXHIBIT NO. 100
NEXT EXHIBIT IS NO. 102

EXHIBIT NO. 102 NOT USED
PART OF EXHIBIT NO. 95
NEXT EXHIBIT IS NO. 103

Sara Taylor-Ferrell**EXHIBIT NO. 103****FY2026****BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Kathleen Cene <kathleendcene@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2025 8:02 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: flatsatshadygrove@druckerandfalk.com
Subject: Kathleen Cene; Rent Increase

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear City Clerk,

My name is Kathleen Cene, and I am reaching out to formally request reconsideration of the proposed 6.34% rent increase for my lease renewal at the Flats at Shady Grove.

I recently began my career as an educator for Montgomery County Public Schools, a role I truly love. However, I am currently managing \$90,000 in student loan debt and already working a second job to meet my financial obligations. A rent increase would place a significant strain on my ability to afford housing while continuing to serve my students.

Throughout my time at the Flats at Shady Grove, I have always paid my rent on time and have been a responsible tenant. Given my financial situation and dedication to my profession, I kindly ask that my rent remain the same upon renewal.

I truly appreciate your time and consideration, and I would be grateful for any flexibility or assistance in this matter. Please let me know if there are any options available.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kathleen Cene

240-490-0709

Judy Penny

**EXHIBIT NO. 104
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Karen Davis <ksdavis99@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 2, 2025 7:57 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Noise Abatement Study for Gude Drive

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

April 2, 2025

To: The Mayor and City Council

Hello.

We would like to voice our support for a noise abatement study to be done on Gude Drive in anticipation of the new Senior Center entrance from Gude Drive. Therefore, **we support the WGCA proposal for an addition to the City's FY 26 budget to fund a study that will explore options and make recommendations for abating noise from Gude Drive.**

We live on Aster Boulevard and, although we are not on the Aster Blvd cul-de-sac, we can currently hear traffic noise from Gude Drive when taking daily walks around the cul-de-sac and through the Senior Center property. The noise level will only get louder as more traffic uses the 0.2 mile segment east of the Gude Drive intersection with Piccard Drive. This is the stretch of Gude Drive that either has no sound abatement or small and inadequate berms that do little to abate road noise. Currently, Woodley Gardens residents living on the Aster Blvd. cul-de-sac, as well as, other nearby residents on the 1000 block of Aster and portions of the 1000 block of Carnation are affected by the high levels of traffic noise.

We'd like to add that the car and truck traffic volumes on both Gude Drive and on I-270 have increased by orders of magnitude since we moved into this neighborhood in 1991. Our small neighborhoods will be engulfed by loud traffic noise if/when projects such as the widening of I-270 and the new Senior Center entrance from Gude Drive get implemented. Budgeting for a noise abatement study to find acceptable options is in the best interests of all of the residents who live in the College Gardens, Woodley Gardens and Rockville Estates neighborhoods.

Thank you for your consideration.

Paul and Karen Davis
613 Aster Blvd
Rockville, MD 20850

Sara Taylor-Ferrell

EXHIBIT NO. 105

FY2026

BUDGET PROPOSAL

From: Kristen Konopka <kristen.konopka@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 11:58 AM
To: mayorcouncil
Cc: Steven Pazan
Subject: Gude Drive Noise Abatement Study

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Good afternoon,

I am writing as a resident of Woodley Gardens to advocate for a noise abatement study on Gude Drive. I am a mother of three young children (8, 5, and 2) whose home backs up directly to Gude Drive. The noise created by high-speed cars and trucks on Gude Drive is a constant aggravation and detriment to our daily lives. The noise from vehicles can be heard in our home at all hours of the day, and is nearly deafening when in the backyard. The rattling of large trucks and the sound of drag racing down the long stretch of Gude Drive is disruptive and terrifying to our children.

We take pride in being active members of our community and love to host friends and neighbors for outdoor movie nights and potluck dinners in our backyard. However, the noise pollution from Gude Drive negatively impacts use of our outdoor space and is a terrible representation of our community.

I am begging the mayor and council to fund a study to develop a recommendation for abating noise on Gude Drive, at least in the stretches along residential neighborhoods (segment east of Gude and Piccard intersection). Some solutions could include: enhancements of existing berms to provide natural noise abatement, specifically positioned speed cameras near the residential areas, deployment of "sound cameras" and other traffic calming measures to enforce compliance with speed limits.

My husband and I decided to move our growing family to Woodley Gardens back in 2019, the neighborhood I actually grew up in. We have loved our community and being residents of Rockville. We believe in investing in the future of this community- and that means protecting residents negatively impacted by Gude noise pollution- and ultimately protecting the lives of those drivers along Gude who are practicing unsafe driving habits.

Thank you for your consideration,
 Kristen Konopka Pazan
1014 Aster Blvd

Sara Taylor-Ferrell

**EXHIBIT NO. 106
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: M.A. S. <schutzlo@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 4, 2025 2:30 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Please fully support Peerless RVL

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am asking you to fully support Peerless Rockville's Community Grant.

Peerless Rockville enables all Rockville residents and visitors to appreciate our City's substantive and diverse local history, through lectures, tours, exhibits, publications, partnerships, social media, and its community archive.

Unique in our City and region, this truly "peerless" organization interprets Rockville's architectural history, Women's History, Black History, civic and economic development, and modern identity for the benefit of all Rockville residents, visitors, and businesses.

Please fully fund Peerless Rockville's community grant to guarantee the continued availability of its quality educational programming, preservation initiatives, and the curation of thousands of the City's historical photographs and documents.

Peerless is who we are!

Thank you,
Martha S. Lo
Maryland Ave., Rockville

Judy Penny**EXHIBIT NO. 107
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Marcia Bond <marciadbond@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 6, 2025 9:54 AM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Peerless Rockville

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am asking you to fully support Peerless Rockville's Community Grant. Peerless Rockville makes it possible for all Rockville residents to learn about our City's diverse and unique history through lectures, tours, exhibits, publications, and their community archive.

They highlight Black History, Women's History, and help Rockville residents, visitors, and business understand Rockville's development and modern identity.

Fully fund Peerless Rockville's community grant to guarantee the continued availability of quality educational programming and the curation of 1000s of historical photographs and documents of Rockville's history.

Thank you!

Marcia Bond 240 205 9399
502 King Farm Blvd, Rockville, MD 20850

Statement of Jim Reschovsky regarding Woodley Gardens Civic Association's proposed

Gude Drive Sound Mitigation Study

EXHIBIT NO. 108

FY2026

BUDGET PROPOSAL

Rockville Mayor and Council Meeting

April 7, 2025

My name is Jim Reschovsky and I live at 1005 Aster Blvd. My family and I moved to our home in 1991. Our home is adjacent to the Aster Blvd. cul de sac. Sound from Gude was not a problem when we moved in. Traffic was light. However, in the intervening 34 years, Gude traffic and its attendant noise have increased tremendously. It's time for the City to do something about it and my wife and I support the Woodley Gardens Civic Association request for a noise abatement study.

The proposed study would address noise along a short section of Gude Drive from West of the intersection of Gude and Piccard to just east of where Gude crosses the West branch of the Upper Watts Branch stream. Both ends of this segment of Gude lack any sound abatement, while in between there is a very inadequate berm that offers little sound mitigation. The City has not attended to the vegetation on this berm since it was built in the 1980s. The surviving trees on the berm do virtually nothing to deaden the sound as the trees' vegetation only starts 15 feet or so above the berm.

Last week I conducted a very unscientific traffic volume survey. Whenever I was in my kitchen, I would pause, take my phone out, turn on the timer, look out the window, count the number of cars on Gude over one minute, and record it. During rush hours, there is on average a car going by between every 1½ to 2 seconds. Outside of rush hours, including over the past weekend, volumes are only slightly lower: vehicles go by every 2 to 3 seconds on average. At night time, traffic volumes are lower. But it is at night that the motorcyclists and cars with loud modified exhaust systems come out for drag racing, awakening my neighbors and me. This has gone on for years but, despite complaints, there has been no apparent police intervention.

We do appreciate that Rockville recently lowered the speed limit on West Gude to 35 MPH. But we haven't really noticed any reductions in traffic speeds and noise. When I recently drove down West Gude Dr., I noticed three speed cameras in the segment close to the entrance to King Farm. Here berms on the College Gardens side are relatively tall and homes on the King Farm side are mostly 200 feet or more distant from Gude. But on the Woodley Gardens side near the Aster Blvd cul de sac there are no speed cameras and speeding remains unabated. What is the logic here?

I am serving on the Citizens' Advisory Committee on the design of the Gude Drive entrance to the Senior Center. The design now calls for Gude to become the primary entrance to the Senior

Center. The new entrance will increase traffic—and traffic noise—on Gude even more. From the beginning, members of the Citizens' Committee listed noise impacts as a concern. Yet, we were consistently told by Department of Public Works staff that sound mitigation was not going to be considered as part of the design. Indeed, we struggled for the first 8 months of the process to overcome City resistant to even agree to include a privacy fence and some plantings between the new entrance roadway and the yard of the adjacent property at 1010 Aster Blvd. in the plan.

I think it is short sighted for the design of the entrance not to integrate potential noise mitigation elements as they pertain to the area near the Gude-Piccard intersection. While we are advocating for a noise abatement study to explore best ways to control the traffic noise along a somewhat longer stretch of Gude Drive, I hope the Gude entrance design can incorporate ways to integrate noise abatement in that section of the Gude Drive that it most directly affects and avoid costly retrofits.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Jim Reschovsky

EXHIBIT NO. 109
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL

Judy Penny

From: Steven Pazan <spazan@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 10:42 AM
To: mayorcouncil; Kristen Konopka
Subject: Attention Woodley Garden / College Gardens : Gude Noise Abatement / Berm Improvement

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Good afternoon,

I am writing as a resident of Woodley Gardens to advocate for a noise abatement study on Gude Drive. I am a father of three young children (8, 5, and 2) whose home backs up directly to Gude Drive.

My wife and I decided to move our growing family to Woodley Gardens back in 2019, the neighborhood my wife actually grew up in. We have loved our community and being residents of Rockville. We believe in investing in the future of this community - and that means protecting residents negatively impacted by Gude noise pollution - and ultimately protecting the lives of those drivers along Gude who are practicing unsafe driving habits.

The noise created by high-speed cars and trucks on Gude Drive is a constant aggravation and detriment to our daily lives. The noise from vehicles can be heard in our home at all hours of the day, and is nearly deafening when in the backyard. The rattling of large trucks and the sound of drag racing down the long stretch of Gude Drive is disruptive and terrifying to our children.

I am aware of the speed cameras going both directions down near the GUDE / 355 intersection (.3miles west from that intersection); however, that deterrent doesn't prevent or catch offenders near the starting line for majority of drag races right at the gude Picard intersection at where the new proposed entrance for the new Senior Center entrance. I fear of potential loss of life based on these current high speed incidents.

I would like to propose a speed camera going both directions near or around this intersection to keep drivers / passengers / and pedestrians safer. As a member of the community residentially we take pride in being active members of our community and love to host friends and neighbors for outdoor movie nights and potluck dinners in our backyard. However, the noise pollution from Gude Drive negatively impacts use of our outdoor space and is a terrible representation of our community.

I have seen the deterioration of the trees on the berm including at least 5 dead trees needing to be cut and removed by city of Rockville DPW tree team. The berm is overgrown by invasive vines and weeds preventing current old growth pines / black walnuts / and other tree species to continue to grow strong and thrive for generations to come. I was so thankful to the city tree team for replanting a couple of red bud trees (a native flowering tree) in the place of some of those older trees and they taking root and bloomed. I'm worry that the salt / erosion / and invasive species will continue to destroy the earth berm and bike paths on gude.

I am begging the mayor and council to fund a study to develop a recommendation for abating noise on Gude Drive, at least in the stretches along residential neighborhoods (segment east of Gude and Piccard intersection). Some solutions could include: enhancements of existing berms to provide natural noise

abatement, specifically positioned speed cameras near the residential areas, deployment of “sound cameras” and other traffic calming measures to enforce compliance with speed limits.

Thank you for your consideration,
Steven Pazan and The Pazan family.
1014 Aster Blvd

Steven Pazan MS

Judy Penny

EXHIBIT NO. 110

FY2026

BUDGET PROPOSAL

From: Nick Durham <nickdurham@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 11:34 AM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: sound abatement for GUDE entrance to senior center

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Hi Council,

I am emailing to support for noise abatement related to the Gude entrance planned to be built at the Rockville senior center. It is critical that, as traffic increases, houses in the woodley gardens neighborhood are protected from disturbances. Especially as cars have gotten louder. Another suggestion is to lower the speed limit on Gude.

Best,
Nick

--

Nick Durham
nickdurham@gmail.com

EXHIBIT NO. 111
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL

Judy Penny

From: Rachael Plett <info@rachaelhamm.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 11:35 AM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Please add Gude Drive Noise Abatement to the FY26 budget!

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Hello Mayor and Council,

Thank you for considering our request that a noise abatement study along Gude Drive be added the upcoming budget.

As a member of the WGCA board, I'm pleased that we worked together on the Gude Drive entrance to the Senior Center to craft a solution that will benefit the wider city community and minimize impacts to our Woodley Gardens neighborhood. The issue of noise on Gude was discussed in tandem with the entrance discussions in our community, and I believe it should be considered in the FY26 budget, given the additional traffic issues that we will face along Gude Drive.

Our complete letter, which was distributed last week, is below.

Thank you for all you do for our city.

Rachael Hamm Plett

WGCA Vice-President

WGCA request for Gude Dr. Noise Abatement Study:

The Woodley Gardens Civic Association (WGCA) would like to request an addition to the City's FY 26 budget to fund a study that will explore options and make recommendations for abating noise from Gude Drive. The proposed study should address only the slightly less than 0.2 mile segment East of the Gude Drive intersection with Piccard Drive. This stretch of Gude Drive either has no sound abatement or small and inadequate berms that do little to abate road noise. (Other portions of West Gude Drive adjacent to Woodley Gardens and College Gardens have sizeable berms which are effective in abating traffic noise.) Woodley Gardens residents living on the Aster Blvd. cul-de-sac as well as other nearby residents on the 1000 block of Aster and portions of the 1000 block of Carnation are affected by high levels of traffic noise.

Proposal

WGCA proposes that the City fund a study to assess traffic noise levels affecting homes near the aforementioned stretch of Gude Drive and to develop options for noise abatement. Options for abatement could include one or more actions: construction of sound walls, enhancement of existing berms, deployment of "sound cameras," increased use of speed cameras, traffic calming measures to encourage compliance with speed limits along the targeted stretch of Gude Drive, or other solutions.

Background

- **Car and truck traffic volumes on Gude Drive have increased by orders of magnitude over the past three decades.**
 - The current design of the new entrance to the Senior Center calls for changing the main entrance from Carnation Drive to Gude Drive and making most of the parking places available from Gude Drive, not Carnation Drive. This will further increase traffic on Gude Drive.
 - The WGCA, through its representative on the Gude Drive Entrance Advisory Committee, advocated for noise abatement to be incorporated into the design of the new entrance. The Department of Public Works declined the inclusion of noise abatement in the Gude Drive Senior Center Entrance project.

- **Unlike most of West Gude Drive adjacent to Woodley Gardens and College Gardens the stretch of Gude Drive adjacent to homes on the Aster Blvd. cul de sac either lack any noise abatement or have small and inadequate berms.**
 - The vegetation originally planted on the berm or on the embankment (where no berm exists) has either died or is ineffective: the berm was planted with conifer trees that have grown so large that only tree trunks and dead branches, not foliage, are available to lessen road noise and block the view of the roadway from adjacent homes.
- **Homeowners living along this stretch of Gude have not noticed any diminution of noise since the speed limit on Gude Drive was lowered to 35 mph.**
 - Speeding remains common and the one permanent speed camera along West Gude Drive is nowhere close to the stretch of Gude that lacks noise abatement.
- **Gude Drive continues to be used for drag racing—typically in the middle of the night. Racing cars often have modified exhaust systems and are extremely loud, frequently waking residents up.**
 - Rockville Police have not been willing or able to deal with this despite years of complaints.
- **A noise study conducted in 2005 is no longer relevant given the enormous increases in traffic volumes since it was constructed and problems with that study.**
 - A noise monitor used in the earlier study was placed near the Upper Watts Branch Stream, just south of Gude Drive. While the monitor was laterally close to Gude Drive, it was placed 25 feet below the surface of the roadway at the bottom of a large embankment. Nearby houses, however, are built at the level of the roadway.

The WGCA thanks you for your consideration of our proposal.

--

Rachael Hamm Plett
 Moduza Design
 443.536.3120
info@rachaelhamm.com
info@moduza.com
www.moduza.com

EXHIBIT NO. 112
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL

Sara Taylor-Ferrell

From: Carolyn Inoa-Monje <carolyn.inoa@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 11:35 AM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Support Gude Dr Traffic Noise Study

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

I am emailing in support of the woodley gardens association's request for a Gude drive traffic noise study. The amount of noise we hear late in the night and starting at 4:30am is surprising. We are on the corner of carnation drive and larkspur terrace but we still hear the noise from trucks and other loud cars. I can only imagine what our neighbors that back onto Gude can hear! We have such a beautiful neighborhood but this is the kind of problem that affects quality of life. Especially when you have little kids that get startled at night by all the noise. Thank you for your consideration.

Best,
Carolyn Inoa-Monje
1098 Larkspur Terrace, Rockville, MD 20850

Carolyn Inoa-Monje
c: 703.899.1510
e: Carolyn.Inoa@gmail.com

Sara Taylor-Ferrell

**EXHIBIT NO. 113
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Karen Friend <karenolkfriend1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 11:37 AM
To: mayorcouncil; Brian Friend
Subject: Guide Drive to the Study Tonight

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Hello, Mayor and Council,

I am writing to ask that you please consider the WCGA Gude Drive noise abatement request.

Traffic on Gude drive has increased and the sound abatement has not. Both the constant hum and the extremely loud and regular car races are audible from our home several blocks away, disruptive to our families and community year round, at all times of day and night.

This nuisance plaguing the area can be mitigated pending your approval.

Best,
The Friend family

Judy Penny**EXHIBIT NO. 114
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Terri Martinez <terrimmartinez@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 12:18 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Senior Center new entrance

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Hi there,

My family has been in Woodley Gardens near the senior center for 27 years. We realize the entry makes sense from Gude and would like to ask for a couple considerations for the neighborhood.

1. Noise abatement for those affected by Gude Drive noise. Not an issue for our home but I care about those whom it affects.
2. Dog park in the Senior Center or Woodley Park area. Our neighborhood is chock full of wonderful pups. Every day neighbors pine for a dog park. Going to King Farm requires a long drive and is not a good answer putting more cars on the road with our pups. Please consider our request for a dog park, preferably in the area of the field at the center.

Warm regards,
Terri Martinez
1 Hawthorn Ct

Judy Penny

**EXHIBIT NO. 115
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Amy McLaughlin <amclaugh@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 12:39 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Noise abatement study for Woodley Gardens

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please fund a noise abatement study for Gude Dr. We live in the Aster Blvd. cul de sac and we really can no longer use our deck comfortably during the day due to all the vehicular noise coming from Gude Dr. It really is not possible to have an average conversation on the deck while the traffic is zooming by so quickly so close to the house. We would appreciate the city looking in to the matter.

Best,
Amy McLaughlin
1013 Aster Blvd.

Sara Taylor-Ferrell**EXHIBIT NO. 116
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Judy Cline <wgstprez@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 1:32 PM
To: CMO; mayorcouncil
Subject: Gude Drive traffic noise abatement study

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Council members and Mayor,

I am writing to support the WGCA request to have a proper study done in order to fund some metric of noise abatement for the homes near Gude Drive. I have personally noticed an increase in traffic noise over the more than 20 years of living on Hawthorn Court. While 270 is a constant hum of traffic noise, Gude's noise tends to more abrasive and jarring. If the city could replace and plant more trees and/or build sound barriers, these measures would go a long way to decrease the noise level coming from the north.

Your consideration and action would be appreciated.

Sincerely,
Judith Cline
23 Hawthorn Court
Rockville

Sent from my iPhone

Sara Taylor-Ferrell

**EXHIBIT NO. 117
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Audrey Moog <audreymoog@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 2:21 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Proposal relating to funding study re Gude Drive noise abatement

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Mayor and Council:

My husband and I live on Carnation Drive in Woodley Gardens. We are affected by noise and traffic levels on West Gude Drive. We write in support of the Woodley Gardens Civic Association's proposal asking the City to conduct a noise abatement study of Gude Drive adjacent to the neighborhood.

WGCA proposes that the City fund a study to assess traffic noise levels affecting Woodley Gardens homes adjacent to Gude Drive and to develop options for noise abatement. Options for abatement could include one or more actions: construction of sound walls, enhancement of existing berms, deployment of "sound cameras," increased use of speed cameras, traffic calming measures to encourage compliance with speed limits along the targeted stretch of Gude Drive, or other solutions.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposal.

Audrey Moog and Brendan McKeon

Sara Taylor-Ferrell

**EXHIBIT NO. 118
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Elizabeth Perkins <perkins.eliz@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 2:21 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Gude Road Noise abatement study

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Good afternoon,

I would like to submit my support for a noise abatement study along Gude Drive. I live at 1010 Aster Blvd which backs up to Gude Drive and will soon also be bordered by the new entrance to the senior center.

We have purchased this home in part for our three young children and dog to play in and love our spacious property. However the noise created by the traffic on Gude Drive as well as highway 270 is so loud it is difficult to speak to one another. The children cannot hear me call them inside for dinner if they are out back. We used to love eating outdoors but it is difficult to have a conversation because of how loud it is back there.

This is the main route for all the large dump trucks and other diesel trucks to get to the freeway and it is very loud when they stop and have to start up again going over the bridge. There are people drag racing on this road in the evenings quite often going at very high speeds. We probably cannot change those things, but the sound could be reduced in our neighborhood, as it is along the stretch near college gardens.

It is clear that there was an effort to have a berm with evergreen trees placed outside of our property along the road at one time. However the trees have grown so tall and lost all of their lower branches - and several have fallen down in recent storms. Perhaps the berm could be raised and new trees/shrubs planted or a fence/wall placed.

We hope you will consider a noise abatement study in this area. Thank you.

Elizabeth Perkins
(425) 503-2020
perkins.eliz@gmail.com

Sara Taylor-Ferrell

EXHIBIT NO. 119
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL

From: Margaret Magnier <margaretmagnier@nyc.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 3:16 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: FY26 Budget

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Madame Mayor and Rockville Councilmembers:

It's unfortunate when the City's public response resources and online space are used as a vehicle to spread untruths against an organization about which some responders to the FY26 Budget Survey apparently know little. For me it was shocking to read untruths written about Peerless Rockville on a taxpayer-funded online survey. The City should take steps to ensure their resources cannot be enlisted to spread such misinformation.

Above all, the Mayor and Council should fully fund Peerless Rockville to enable residents to continue to benefit from the educational and community-building resources it offers.

For the record I am not a Peerless Rockville employee, or on their board. I'm a Rockville resident who has benefited from their programming in my hometown and learned much through them about times and actions in Rockville's past that some would like to keep quiet, but Peerless Rockville helps bring into the light.

Here are some facts and real-life experience about this organization:

1. **Peerless Rockville is doing high quality work that benefits the City and its residents.** As examples, here are a few of their public programming and exhibitions I've attended and valued, which were free and accessible to all. This programming has made me a better resident and allowed me to learn truth and admire the resilience of real people who lived and worked right here:

- ***Forging Freedom: Endurance, Escape and Rockville's Underground Railroad*** - exhibition in the Red Brick Courthouse. At this exhibition I learned about the lengths enslaved people living in Rockville needed to go to escape local enslavers, and the tragedy of separated families that happened when local slaveholders died and their "possessions", including people, were sold off outside the Rockville courthouse.

- ***Emancipation and the Pursuit of Education: 150 years of Advancement in Educational Equality*** – exhibition in the Rockville Library. This exhibition helped me understand the challenges African American people in our community had in receiving education and the many ways that separate was not equal.

- ***Thurgood Marshall, the NAACP and a Civil Rights Milestone in Rockville*** – Peerless Rockville talk presented in 2024 in the Grey Courthouse. At this talk I learned about this milestone 1930's court case, argued by Thurgood Marshall representing Rockville school teacher William Gibbs' request for equal pay for Montgomery County's Black and white schoolteachers. It was thrilling to hear and understand the impact of this historic case in the very room in our hometown where it was argued.

- ***Rockville's "Colored Troops"*** – Peerless Rockville talk presented in 2023 by Chiquita Sorrels, Historian for Rockville's Jerusalem-Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church. At this talk I learned about the bravery of free and enslaved African American men from Rockville who joined the "US Colored Troops" and fought to end slavery in this country. It was especially interesting to hear the details about the research tools and methods that proved what happened to these men later in life as they interacted with the Veteran's Bureau and other organizations, and how these tools can be used by people today to research their own family members who may have lived a similar path.

- ***Three Lynchings in Montgomery County*** – Peerless Rockville talk presented in 2022. At this talk I learned about Mr. John Diggs-Dorsey and Mr. Sidney Randolph, who in separate incidents six years apart were pulled from the Rockville jail by local white mobs and hung from Rockville trees. I grew up here but was never taught and had never understood that there were lynchings in Rockville. Facing this and taking part in the local movement to publicly recognize

these events in our history and memorialize these victims has been extremely important to me and my family. I'm grateful to Peerless Rockville for not shrinking from painful aspects of Rockville's history.

- **Dr. Frieda Fromm-Reichmann** – multiple Peerless Rockville events were held in 2021 to celebrate and publicize the accomplishments of this Jewish woman who fled Nazi Germany in the 1930s and then made her home in Rockville, where she helped heal patients with her groundbreaking empathic psychotherapy.

- **Women Who Dared** – Peerless Rockville publication about six local women from different walks of life with major achievements that aided Rockville residents and helped put the city on the map. I was proud to learn the stories of these local women who rose above societal conventions. It's important for Rockville women and girls to know and be able to celebrate the strong role models who lived and worked right here where we live.

- **Changing the Map** – I'm looking forward to this upcoming study and exhibition by Peerless Rockville about Rockville's downtown neighborhoods and businesses before Urban Renewal funds and activity changed Rockville's downtown in the 60s and 70s.

This is just a small list of programming by Peerless Rockville I've attended that has focused on the sometimes less-well-known but critically important inclusive elements of the history of our city. **I especially appreciate how Peerless Rockville actively seeks out and presents topics and scholars that help diverse audiences consider and understand together topics like the impact of enslavement and segregation right here in our hometown** - very challenging, but very important, to sensitively bring into the light.

2. **Peerless Rockville does this work well and to a high standard of professionalism.** It has won awards for excellence including the Maryland Historical Trust Award for Excellence in Community Engagement, the Outstanding Educational Program Series Award from Montgomery Preservation, and has been cited by U.S. Representative from Maryland Jamie Raskin, U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen, County Executive Elrich and Councilmember Sidney Katz, in recognition of their contributions to Rockville. This organization makes personal engagement and participation interesting and possible for residents from a huge variety of backgrounds through a purposeful assortment of channels including scholarly talks, exhibitions, family scavenger hunts, discovery walks, support for historical markers and signage, written publications and online presence.

3. **Peerless Rockville is the only organization - public or private - doing this work with an inclusive lens focused on Rockville history.**

Madame Mayor and Councilmembers, we are presently in a period of American history where diversity, equity and inclusion have become "dirty words" to many in government. I am proud that the leaders of the state of Maryland, Montgomery County and - I believe - the City of Rockville, do not subscribe to this rhetoric and believe cities and places are better when residents have access to fair and balanced information about their local history and high-quality events and forums to allow them to consider it together. I believe from your records and positions that you support Rockville residents having more access - not less or no access - to culturally sensitive experiences and learning like this.

Peerless Rockville provides this at a very high standard, and helps residents and the local community experience that Rockville is Rising Together. **I call on you to recognize the important role Peerless Rockville plays in our City and to fully fund Peerless Rockville for their budget application of \$120,000.**

Sincerely,

Margaret Magner
115 Forest Avenue
Rockville, MD

cc: Rockville FY26 Budget Survey

Sara Taylor-Ferrell

**EXHIBIT NO. 120
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

From: Anne-Marie Coakley <coakley.annemarie@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 4:00 PM
To: mayorcouncil; roryp@coakleyrealty.com
Subject: Support for Funding Study to Address Road Noise from Gude Drive

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

Dear Mayor,

I'm writing to express my strong support for efforts to fund a study to address the persistent and growing issue of road noise from Gude Drive. As a nearby resident, my family and I have been significantly affected by this issue for years.

The noise has made our backyard and home increasingly unpleasant, but more than that—it's caused real, physical damage to our property. Over time, several pine trees have fallen in our yard due to the stress and weakening caused by the constant vibrations and exposure, breaking multiple times and damaging our children's trampoline and playground set. Some of the toys and equipment were damaged beyond repair. We've spent upwards of \$5,000 on repairs and replacements, and the risk to both our property and our safety continues.

A sound wall along Gude Drive would not only serve as a much-needed noise barrier—it would also improve safety, enhance privacy, and increase the overall quality of life for families like ours who live close to the road.

I hope you will seriously consider funding the proposed study and prioritize action to address this long-standing concern. Thank you for your time and commitment to improving our community.

Sincerely,
Anne-Marie and Rory Coakley
1012 Aster Blvd, Rockville, MD 20850

301-467-2904

Judy Penny

EXHIBIT NO. 121

FY2026

BUDGET PROPOSAL

From: Bette Gould <bettegwhiz@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 7, 2025 10:49 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Noise abatement on Gude Drive

WARNING - External email. Exercise caution.

April 7, 2025

Elected officials:

I lived on the Aster Blvd cul-de-sac for close to 2 years in 2022, 2023 and 2024. The noise level is unacceptable. Too many trees and yearly Rockville plantings have died on the berm. There is no sound barrier remaining.

If you test the sound level you will find it is unacceptable for voters living there. When the night time car racing occurs even shut doors and windows do not muffle the sound.

I was there last Saturday and was shocked how many more trees are down...and not removed.

Certainly this area needs better attention.

Thank you for consideration for a badly needed noise study for this area.

Bette Gould
285 N Washington St
Apt 1423
Rockville, MD 20850

City of Rockville FY 2026 Budget Workshop**Statement of Jack Thirolf on behalf of the Rockville Recreation and Parks Advisory Board****April 7, 2025**

Thank you, Mayor Ashton and Councilmembers, for the opportunity to provide input into the FY 2026 budget process. The comments below complement and fill out the testimony I provided to you all on behalf of the Board on Monday, March 24.

The Recreation and Parks Department is one of Rockville's gems, from the well-cared for facilities to the excellent workforce to the culture we build as residents together each day. Having such a strong system of parks and recreation programs helps make Rockville unique in our area—they help pull us together and give us a strong sense of community.

We thank the Mayor and Council for continued the investments in the recreation and parks system that allow the City to keep delivering such strong services, both in CapEx and OpEx.

I want to echo the comments you heard from my friend Angus Chen earlier this month on behalf of the Swim and Fitness Center Advisory Committee and give an especially big thank you for the commitment to the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center and the outdoor recreation pool. The new pool is a generational investment for the City—it will be enjoyed by Rockville swimmers for decades to come. We also thank you for the City's swift and effective programs and support for neighbors who have lost their jobs via reductions in force this year.

You hear from our Board each year on the budget. You hear from us, essentially, "because the City's facilities and parks work so well, it can be easy for the City and residents to take them for granted. Our Recreation and Parks programs aren't problems, so they could lose priority. Don't let that happen." Each year we urge you to continue making the capital and operational investments to make sure the City's gem stays a gem.

This year, our group has a different sense and message, but the same mission and goal.

We need to meet the moment with a smart budget that has its eyes open to economic realities affecting our area, that positions the City for long-term sustainable success, and that supports City residents in the immediate term.

We think it's prudent and necessary to prepare for lower-than-expected tax revenues in the years to come, to protect core priorities, to support City residents in need, and to give flexibility/delay "nice to have" projects.

To the extent possible, we suggest shift funding to 1) help folks who may be impacted by reduction in force and other economic challenges and 2) give a buffer for hits in future years. For ambitious projects that we might or might not be able to afford, let's smartly give ourselves flexibility to not get overextended and to instead 1) protect our core long-term needs and 2) give financial assistance to residents who have lost jobs and may not be able to send their kids to camps or otherwise participate in planned City programs. We need to not just push for a "big" budget to keep these programs gems; we need to be smart, open-eyed, and proactive.

I'll give three examples of areas where we think the City might execute on the Budget in a way more in line with the current environment and better serve recreation and parks users:

- You heard from the Recreation and Parks board this winter expressing concern about the King Farm Farmstead study—not because we didn't think improving the Farmstead is important, but because many of us have seen this facility languish for years without a clear vision. I was going into middle school when King Farm was built up. The City has been trying to figure out what to do with the King Farm site since then. Instead of \$100k to study what to do next, we wrote to you suggesting 1) using that money and attention for the structural baseline improvements needed and 2) urging that the City be able to authentically engage with residents directly to map out the path ahead without the cost of a consultant. We appreciate your sense of urgency and look forward to helping accelerate a realistic, do-able plan for the Farmstead. Now more than ever, each dollar of the City's budget and each minute of staff time matters and comes with a meaningful opportunity cost.
- For Redgate, our group has had different views and good discussions on prioritizing active uses versus passive uses at the site. We're united in appreciating the importance of Redgate for the City and the positives of the current setup and how it's used—for birdwatching, for the temporary dog park, for cross-country races, for relaxation, for re-establishing native plants and trees. Our sense is Redgate works pretty alright right now. (The main improvement would be getting easier walking, biking, and driving access via Taft Court and Route 28 instead of just Avery Drive). We're also aligned in thinking that embarking on a major set of capital improvements at Redgate (or even expensive studies) now seems unwise. Instead, we suggest the City make the improvements needed for safety and accessibility, get the trees planted, and let's think out what to do next when we have a better line-of-site on the City's long-term budgets and develop an authentic sense of what residents need and want. The City could spend millions and millions of dollars at Redgate—that spending might or might not improve how the site supports residents' use and enjoyment of the park. In choosing to advance these big plans, the City should keep in mind the more modest but still critical projects it needs to consider. For example, the Talbott Street Park would give recreation access to a big population in the City that's been cut off from other parks by 355 and Edmonston for decades.
- For user fees, our understanding is the City sets fees to maximize economic participation and to ideally cover operating expenses. How fees differentiate between resident and non-residents varies based on the program. In the coming months, we encourage the City to consider creating a greater difference between the rates charged residents and non-residents, especially for programs where the capital investments in facilities are a material part of the overall cost.

We offer these ideas as suggested areas for the City to improve and to better serve residents. Thank you for your support for the City's recreation and parks programs and all the people who benefit from them.

- Jack Thirolf



History | Present

**EXHIBIT NO. 123
FY2026
BUDGET PROPOSAL**

April 7, 2025

Greetings, Mayor Ashton and Members of Council,

This letter follows my testimony on behalf of the Board of Directors of Peerless Rockville for the FY25 Budget public hearing on March 24, 2025. The Board and I strongly advocate for full funding of our community grant to continue fulfilling our public history education and heritage services to the City of Rockville. **This year, by funding Peerless Rockville, you can take a stand in support of authentic and inclusive American history told right here.** Since my testimony, **national sources of funding** such as the Institute of Library and Museum Services and the National Endowment for the Humanities have been **cancelled**. These provide direct and indirect **grant funding opportunities that are simply no longer available.**

At a time when the true breadth of American history is being deliberately erased from public records, with the intentional removal of the contributions and experiences of Americans of color, of women, of other targeted groups, **City of Rockville support helps Peerless to build and share an inclusive history of Rockville.** If we are not funded, how will the City of Rockville continue to provide our services?

As the primary organization for public history and the only archive and historical entity focused full time on Rockville - **our work provides an essential service to the city and its residents and your support of our grant is vital.** The community grant funds our educational lectures and events, online and fixed exhibits, and a variety of place-based programs and tours, it sustains our community archival collections and allows us to provide professional cultural heritage services.

Peerless Rockville serves as **a vital resource for City employees, residents, students, educators, institutions, and visitors.** From placemaking and archival conservation to history research and heritage tourism, we are committed to maximizing the impact of every dollar to benefit Rockville's residents. **With a lean budget and small staff, we deliver high-quality services and programs that honor the city's rich history and diverse communities.**

Core Services and Activities: Our community archive, funded by the City of Rockville's community grant, is a cornerstone of our work. We maintain and **curate a publicly available collection of historical materials, including documents, photographs, oral**

histories, and artifacts, preserving Rockville's history for future generations. These resources inform public programs, art, research projects, publications, and heritage tourism efforts throughout the city, ensuring that stories of underrepresented groups, including African American and Women's history, are woven into Rockville's narrative.

In addition to our archival work, we offer a wide array of educational opportunities, including:

- **Public lectures, walking tours, and publications** on topics such as Emancipation to Integration, which highlights the struggle for educational equality by Rockville's Black community.
- **Neighborhoods Series** exploring the development and transformation of local communities.
- **Online and in-person exhibits** on important local topics, like the Underground Railroad and Urban Renewal.

Our programs are designed to **engage the public in learning and valuing Rockville's history**, including the contributions of marginalized groups and individuals. Peerless Rockville's work is a growing and evolving history resource that informs our community, creating a shared understanding of our past and its relevance to the present.

Advocacy and Historic Preservation: Peerless Rockville's involvement in historic preservation is **guided by the City's goals and Planning Instruments**. Our role is to help the City meet historic preservation objectives, such as increasing awareness of resources connected to underrepresented groups and facilitating ways that these resources provide education and contribute to the quality of life of residents, businesses, and visitors.

We support Heritage Tourism initiatives by providing documentary materials, images, and knowledge to create interpretive signs, support educational projects, and assist with the City's historic preservation efforts. This work is integral to Rockville's status as a Certified Local Government.

The Impact of City Funding: The City of Rockville's investment in Peerless Rockville is essential for maintaining these programs. The grant increase for FY23 was a necessary adjustment after years of stagnant funding. This increase allows us to **sustain our educational services, curate our archive, and continue to engage with the community**. Without this funding, many of our services would be drastically reduced, and the opportunity for residents and businesses to access these invaluable resources would be jeopardized.

A Unique Resource for Rockville: Peerless Rockville is the only organization solely dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of Rockville. Our community archive and educational programs serve as an irreplaceable resource for current and future generations, highlighting stories that might otherwise be forgotten. We believe in the power

of accessible history education to enrich our community and strengthen Rockville's identity, making it an attractive place to live, work, and visit.

Looking Ahead: As we prepare to mark the 250th anniversary of the United States and Montgomery County in 2026, Peerless Rockville stands ready to work with the City in preserving and celebrating the history that makes Rockville unique. We urge the Mayor and Council to fully fund our FY27 grant to ensure that this important work continues. By investing in Peerless Rockville, you invest in preserving the history and heritage that define our community. Your continued support is vital to our ability to offer these invaluable resources to all who call Rockville home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy A. Pickard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nancy" being the most prominent.

Nancy Pickard
Executive Director

City of Rockville

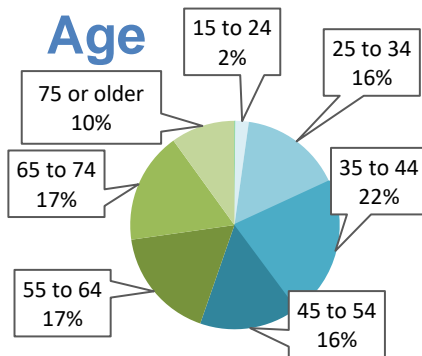
FY 2026 Community Budget Priorities Survey

Prepared By:
Finance Department
(240) 314-8400

Final Report
767 Responses

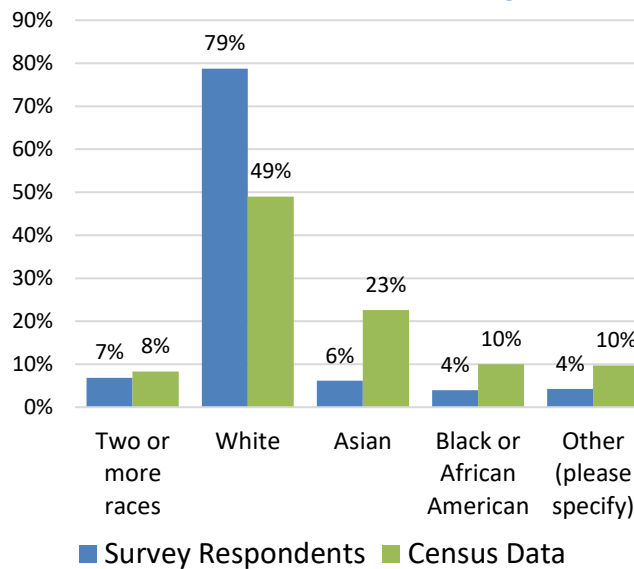
Our Respondents

767 Total Survey Responses



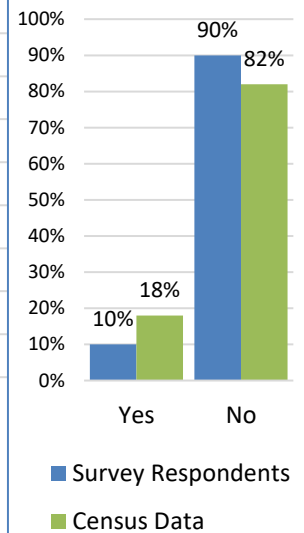
Age: Respondents 35+ are over-represented by 14 percentage points, while those 15 to 34 are under-represented by the same amount.

Racial Identity

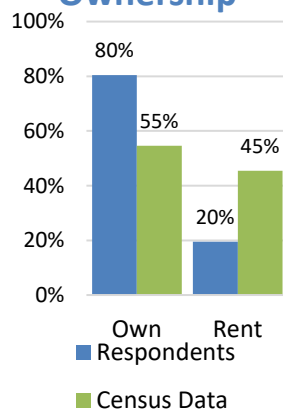


Racial Identity: Respondents identifying as White are over-represented by 30 percentage points. Those who identify as Hispanic or of Latin American identity are under-represented by 8 percentage points.

Hispanic or Latin American Identity

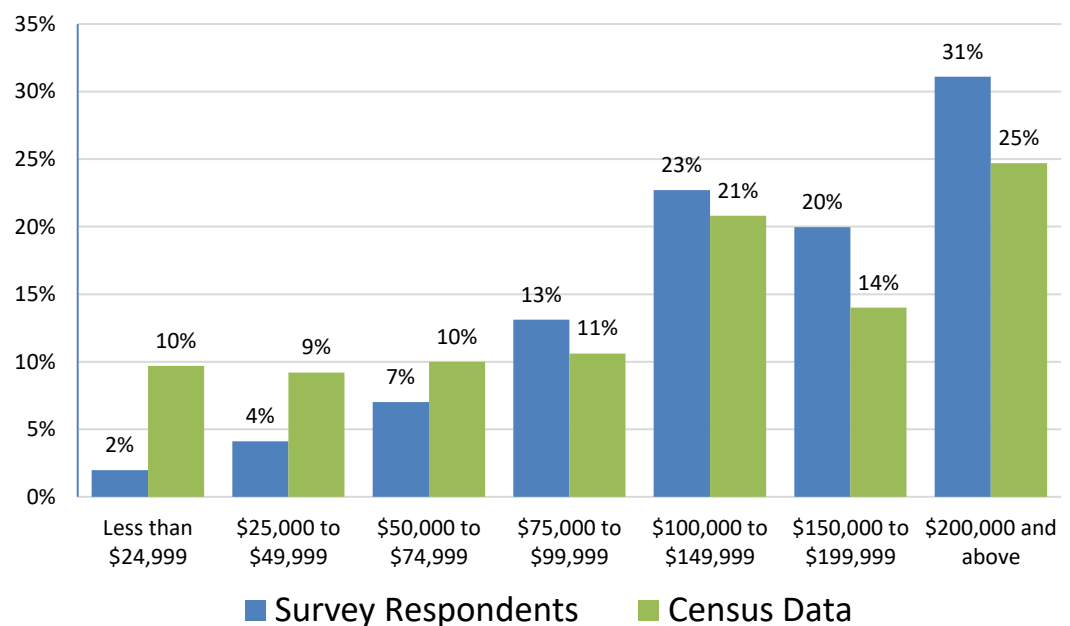


Home Ownership



Home Ownership: Respondents who own their home are over-represented by 25 percentage points, while those who rent are under-represented by the same amount.

Income



Income: Respondents making over \$150K are over-represented by 12 percentage points, while those making under \$75K are under-represented by 16 percentage points.

Where our Respondents live

*Outside city
limits: 13%*

Area 3:
29%

Area 2:
14%

Area 4:
11%

Area 1:
15%

Area 5:
18%

The table below provides a comparison of the city's population by Area to the survey responses. Looking only at survey responses that identified one of the Areas on the map, the survey representation aligns as follows.

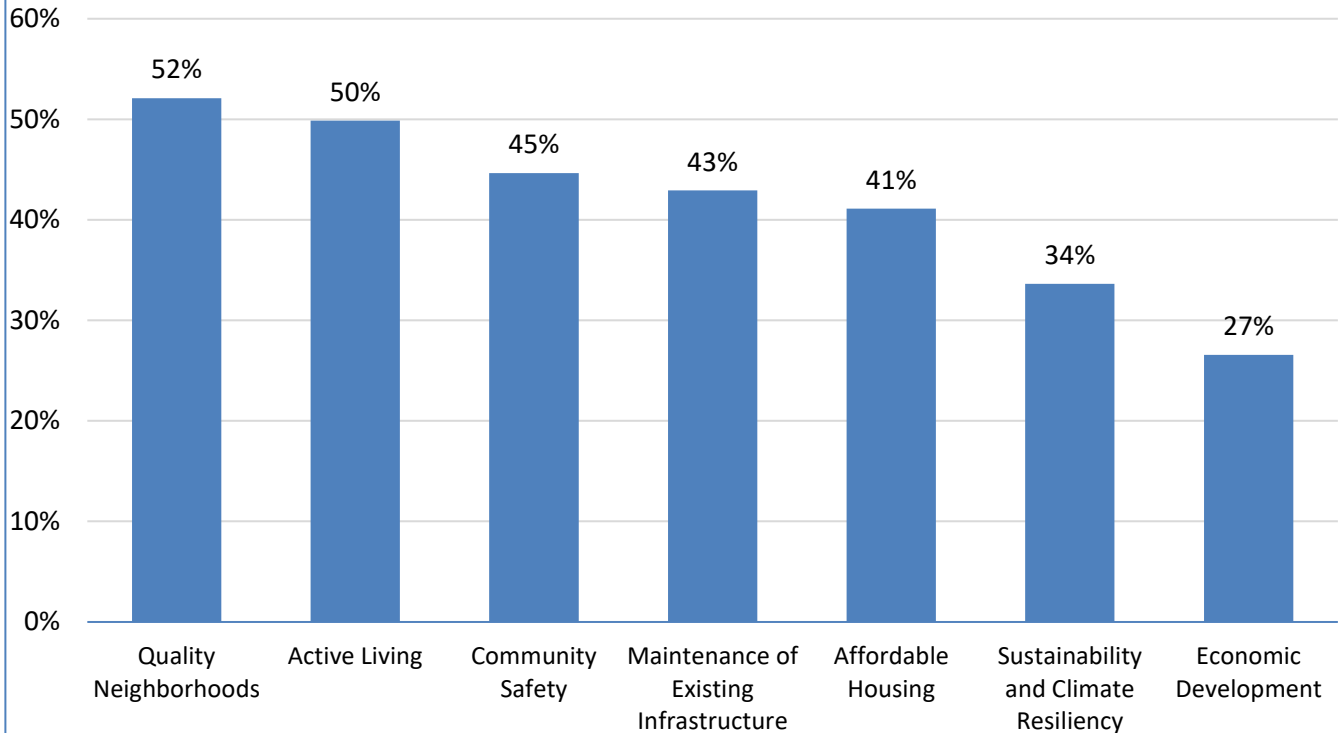
Area	Population	Percentage	Respondents
1	7,760	12%	18%
2	8,241	12%	16%
3	18,760	28%	34%
4	12,036	18%	12%
5	20,320	30%	20%

Respondents who live in Areas 1, 2, and 3 are over-represented by 4, 4, and 8 percentage points, respectively.

Respondents who live in Areas 4 and 5 are under-represented by 6 and 10 percentage points, respectively.

Survey Responses

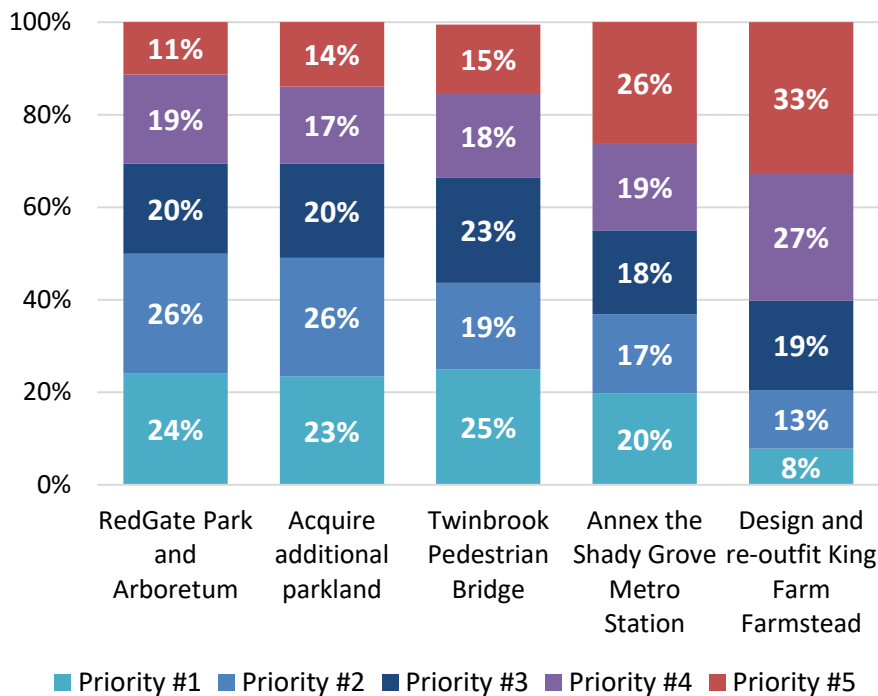
Priority Program Areas



Trends and Analysis

- Age: among respondents aged 15-34, Affordable Housing is the most selected priority program area, selected by 67%, while among those aged 35+, only 37% selected it as a priority program area.
- Home Ownership: among respondents who do not own their home, Affordable Housing is the most selected priority program area, selected by over 71%, while less than 34% of those who own their home selected it as a priority program area.
- Income: among respondents who make less than \$75K, Affordable Housing is the most selected priority program area, selected by 62%, and Sustainability was selected by over 42%, while Affordable Housing is the least selected by those who make \$200K or more, being selected by less than 29%, and Sustainability the second least, selected by only 30%.
- Area of Rockville:
 - In Areas 1 and 5, Affordable Housing is the second most selected area, being selected by 50% of respondents.
 - In Area 2, Community Safety is the second least selected area, being selected by less than 33% of respondents, while Sustainability is selected by 45%.
 - In Area 3, Community Safety is the most selected area, being selected by more than 50% of respondents.
 - In Area 4, Maintenance of Existing Infrastructure is the most selected area, being selected by 57% of respondents.
 - Among respondents who live outside of Rockville, Active Living was selected by over 69%. A possible explanation is that those who come to Rockville do so primarily for outdoor and recreational activities.

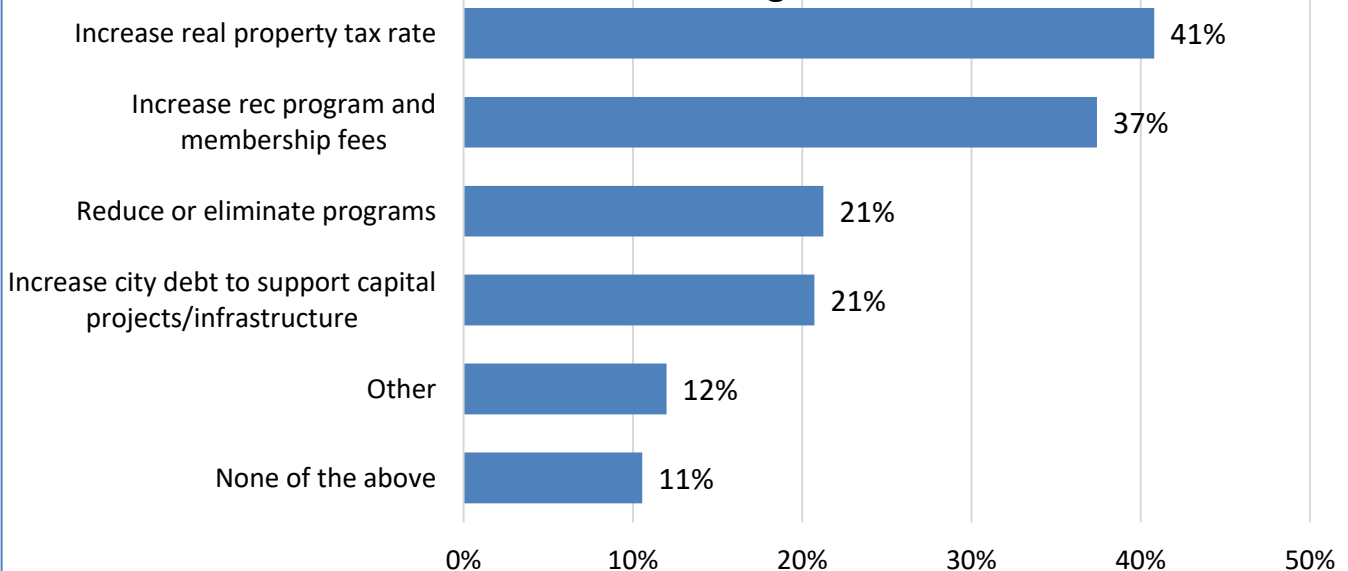
Prioritization of Major Planned Initiatives



Trends and Analysis

- 58% of respondents in Area 1 selected Twinbrook Pedestrian Bridge as their #1 priority, about 2.5 times more than the proportion of all respondents.
- 38% of respondents in Area 3 selected Re-outfit King Farm Farmstead as their #1 or #2 priority, nearly double the proportion of all respondents.
- 49% of respondents in Areas 3 and 4 selected Annex Shady Grove Metro as their #1 or #2 priority, 12 percentage points more than all respondents.
- Design King Farm Farmstead ranked as the lowest or second lowest priority among all areas.

Options to Maintain a Balanced Budget



Trends and Analysis

- Age: among respondents aged under 35, Increase Rec Program and Membership Fees is selected by less than 25%, and Increase Property Taxes by more than 50%, while among those aged 45-64, over 45% selected Increase Recreation Program and Membership Fees and less than 35% selected Increase Property Taxes.
- Home Ownership: Increase Real Property Tax Rate is the most selected option among renters, selected by 54% of renters, and the second most among homeowners, selected by 38% of those who own their home.
- Area: among respondents from Area 4, 54% selected Increase Rec Program & Membership Fees, and 38% selected Reduce or Eliminate Programs, while only 33% selected Increase Property Taxes.



Appendix: Respondent Comments

Please provide any comments you have about your priority program

Respondent ID **areas:**

It's unfortunate when the City's public response resources and online space are used as a vehicle to spread untruths against an organization about which some responders to the FY26 Budget Survey apparently know little. For me it was shocking to read untruths written about Peerless Rockville on a taxpayer-funded online survey. The City should take steps to ensure their resources cannot be enlisted to spread such misinformation. Above all, the Mayor and Council should fully fund Peerless Rockville to enable residents to continue to benefit from the educational and community-building resources it offers. For the record I am not a Peerless Rockville employee, or on their board. I'm a Rockville resident who has benefited from their programming in my hometown and learned much through them about times and actions in Rockville's past that some would like to keep quiet, but Peerless Rockville helps bring into the light. Here are some facts and real-life experience about this organization:

1. Peerless Rockville is doing high quality work that benefits the City and its residents. As examples, here are a few of their public programming and exhibitions I've attended and valued, which were free and accessible to all. This programming has made me a better resident and allowed me to learn truth and admire the resilience of people real who lived and worked right here:

- Forging Freedom: Endurance, Escape and Rockville's Underground Railroad - exhibition in the Red Brick Courthouse. At this exhibition I learned about the lengths enslaved people living in Rockville needed to go to escape local enslavers, and the tragedy of separated families that happened when local slaveholders died and their "possessions", including people, were sold off outside the Rockville courthouse.

- Emancipation and the Pursuit of Education: 150 years of Advancement in Educational Equality – exhibition in the Rockville Library. This exhibition helped me understand the challenges African American people in our community had in receiving education and the many ways that separate was not equal.

- Thurgood Marshall, the NAACP and a Civil Rights Milestone in Rockville – Peerless Rockville talk presented in 2024 in the Grey Courthouse. At this talk I learned about this milestone 1930's court case, argued by Thurgood Marshall representing Rockville school teacher William Gibbs' request for equal pay for Montgomery County's Black and white schoolteachers. It was thrilling to hear and understand the impact of this historic case in the very room in our hometown where it was argued.

- Rockville's "Colored Troops" – Peerless Rockville talk presented in 2023 by Chiquita Sorrels, Historian for Rockville's Jerusalem-Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church. At this talk I learned about the bravery of free and enslaved African American men from Rockville who joined the "US Colored Troops" and fought to end slavery in this country. It was especially interesting to hear the details about the research tools and methods that proved what happened to these men later in life as they interacted with the Veteran's Bureau and other organizations, and how these tools can be used by people today to research their own family members who may have lived a similar path.

- Three Lynchings in Montgomery County – Peerless Rockville talk presented in 2022. At this talk I learned about Mr. John Diggs-Dorsey and Mr. Sidney Randolph, who in separate incidents six years apart were pulled from the Rockville jail by local white mobs and hung from Rockville trees. I grew up here but was never taught and had never understood that there were lynchings in Rockville. Facing this and taking part in the local movement to publicly recognize these events in our history and memorialize these victims has been extremely important to me and my family. I'm grateful to Peerless Rockville for not shrinking from painful aspects of Rockville's history.

114834141649

<p>114834141649 (continued)</p>	<p>· Dr. Frieda Fromm-Reichmann – multiple Peerless Rockville events were held in 2021 to celebrate and publicize the accomplishments of this Jewish woman who fled Nazi Germany in the 1930s and then made her home in Rockville, where she helped heal patients with her groundbreaking empathic psychotherapy..</p> <p>· Women Who Dared – Peerless Rockville publication about six local women from different walks of life with major achievements that aided Rockville residents and helped put the city on the map. I was proud to learn the stories of these local women who rose above societal conventions. It's important for Rockville women and girls to know and be able to celebrate the strong role models who lived and worked right here where we live.</p> <p>· Changing the Map – I'm looking forward to this upcoming study and exhibition by Peerless Rockville about Rockville's downtown neighborhoods and businesses before Urban Renewal funds and activity changed Rockville's downtown in the 60s and 70s. This is just a small list of programming by Peerless Rockville I've attended that has focused on the sometimes less-well-known but critically important inclusive elements of the history of our city. I especially appreciate how Peerless Rockville actively seeks out and presents topics and scholars that help diverse audiences consider and understand together topics like the impact of enslavement and segregation right here in our hometown - very challenging, but very important, to sensitively bring into the light.</p> <p>2. Peerless Rockville does this work well and to a high standard of professionalism. It has won awards for excellence including the Maryland Historical Trust Award for Excellence in Community Engagement, the Outstanding Educational Program Series Award from Montgomery Preservation, and has been cited by U.S. Representative from Maryland Jamie Raskin, U.S. Senator Chris Van Hollen, County Executive Elrich and Councilmember Sidney Katz, in recognition of their contributions to Rockville. It makes personal engagement and participation interesting and possible for residents from a huge variety of backgrounds through a purposeful assortment of channels including scholarly talks, exhibitions, family scavenger hunts, discovery walks, support for historical markers and signage, written publications and online presence.</p> <p>3. Peerless Rockville is the only organization - public or private - doing this work with an inclusive lens focused on Rockville history.</p> <p>Madame Mayor and Councilmembers, we are presently in a period of American history where diversity, equity and inclusion have become "dirty words" to many in government. I am proud that the leaders of the state of Maryland, Montgomery County and - I believe - the City of Rockville, do not subscribe to this rhetoric and believe cities and places are better when residents have access to fair and balanced information about their local history and high-quality events and forums to allow them to consider it together. I believe from your records and positions that you support Rockville residents having more access - not less or no access - to culturally sensitive experiences and learning like this. Peerless Rockville provides this at a very high standard, and helps residents and the local community experience that Rockville is Rising Together. I call on you to recognize the important role Peerless Rockville plays in our City and to fully fund Peerless Rockville for their budget application of \$120,000.</p>
<p>114834089584</p>	<p>When the City passes new rules and opportunities, they need to ensure adequate enforcement so property owners' rights are not negatively impacted.</p>
<p>114833606756</p>	<p>I support affordable housing, including ADUs and rental of rooms in single-family homes, but not giveaways to developers that undermine other priorities like tree-lined pedestrian & bicycle-friendly streets that are also important to affordable and sustainable living--eg waivers of trees, play areas.</p>
<p>114833570775</p>	<p>More trees e green spaces. Too many buildings!!!</p>

114833470588	For economic development I include helping Rockville become an arts and culture destination.
114831269764	<p>Stop putting bike lanes in. This isn't Europe, stop trying to make it as such. You've completely disrupted easy access to a dying town center by minimizing travel lanes for a hand full of bikes.</p> <p>Use the spaces you have and enforce affordability in the existing high rise buildings. The city keeps shoving 10 pounds of crap in a 5 pound bag in town center. It's not the answer. Then you move the city's largest event to town center and why? RedGate was the perfect home for HTH. Town center is DYING. No event or activity is going to save it when there has been years of neglect and creativity down there. Use other spaces within the city that provide the adequate space and amenities for the events and activities that you have groomed your community to expect.</p>
114831137051	RENT STABILIZATION
114829902492	Given the turmoil in our community from the musk/Trump/Vance disaster, it is probably best to move cautiously with new initiatives. That said, climate change is an emergency that requires immediate action.
114829495117	Rockville needs to adopt rent stabilization at least on par with the County.
114825623569	Please fully fund Peerless Rockville! The provide excellent resources for the community while helping preserve local history.
114824669963	Keeping Rockville safe and welcoming to everyone is key to our future as a city. Affordable housing (by increasing both supply and providing rent stabilization measures) and safe and convenient non-car transportation infrastructure are essential to rise together, as the city's new motto proclaims.
114824541544	City development must focus away from car-based transportation, away from suburban sprawl. It is unsustainable environmentally and financially. People are happier and healthier when they can walk/roll to amenities without the need of a car, and actual community can grow, instead of people being increasingly isolated. PLEASE focus on more thoughtful, higher density development, such as the idea of the 15 minute city.
114824508216	Keep the old neighborhoods and all "old" structures so the City doesn't loose it's personality.
114823755779	Rent stabilization please so we can have affordable housing! More mixed use development and denser housing, more public transit so we can make places more walkable and human scale instead of car scale.
114823138692	I feel strongly that we need to enforce community safety laws. Maintaining infrastructure is an absolute must have. City Of Rockville has plenty of existing community activities which I appreciate.
114822941952	Bike lanes are not a priority.
114822763943	Rockville has room to improve, but it's already really great and we should be making it possible for more people to live here. This would benefit both them and the city.
114820342580	Creating an office of rent stabilization w/ two employees to enforce rent stabilization.
114820335988	Interested in making Rockville a more desireable and feasible place to live
114820330145	Affordable rental housing
114819515498	Mixed purpose housing that not aggravate community congestion is desired.

114819510157	We need local business/industry to provide jobs to support housing, even affordable housing is out of reach with local jobs.
114819494354	More housing staff
114819487908	Create an office of Rent Stabilization with two employees to enforce rent stabilization
114819482484	1) affordable housing 2) quality neighborhoods 2) active living
114817664582	The program areas I selected are broad enough to include all of the others.
114816198816	The City has under-prioritized economic development for decades. We were companies to other areas even before the federal cuts. This is an existential threat for the city and the services it provides. Without economic development, all our other priorities will fall through.
114815003172	Rockville should be geared towards creating good, high paying jobs. And not government jobs. Private sector. Can we get a manufacturing plant here?
114814595504	I would also add that it is very important that the City Council be supportive of staff by funding 1) a real COLA for current staff, and 2) a real COLA for retired staff.
114813344179	As a renter, the worst thing the city could do for affordable housing is to implement rent control. It benefits the few to the unfair detriment of the many. Please continue to reject it for Rockville.
114812387564	I live in towncenter and there are no parks to sit in
114812220752	Have been having multiple issues with neighbors and those in neighborhood not leasing dogs and those dogs being an active danger, no real enforcement
114808591814	I did not select affordable housing because I want more housing at all prices. We need high income earners and the taxes they pay, too.
114805111027	I am not a fan of the narrow four floor developments; I have doubts about quality. Also, in 2022, the company I and my roommates rented from (Scarborough Square, 548 College Parkway) gave us a unit with a preexisting bed bug infestation and refused to acknowledge or address the issue until we got the city involved, so I am very invested in code enforcement and tenant rights.
114800139594	Pedestrian safety and traffic enforcement on east side of Route 355.
114800050071	Please focus on mixed-use development. People need amenities within walking distance of their homes.
114795171967	So many good programs and very difficult to choose.
114794504392	Studies have shown that green space, parks and trees improve community safety, health, well-being, and economic development.
114793674204	NEED there to be AI wifi Camera Monitors mounted everywhere lights are, with a robot arm to protect the camera attached, I NEED this as a GOV Spending Priority, people dying unknowingly due to lack of Boarder Control since CITIZENSHIP is PURCHASE ABLE will ALLOW PERMEANT HARM.
114793586003	Though safety and infrastructure are concerns of mine, they aren't as much of an immediate issue as the overall quality of our city and neighborhoods. Maintaining development so there is continued focus on climate concerns and keeping a pleasant natural environment for citizens is an immediate issue that should be factored into all programming.
114792775474	Hire more police officers to patrol the city!!
114792732657	None of the above are possible without investment in economic development.

	<p>Rockville city is in a prime location for accessing many amenities in the DMV, but much of the city is old and rundown so an afterthought when people consider where they want to spend their disposable income and leisure time. Much of Rockville city is an undesirable place to live due to rundown infrastructure, poorly kept residential areas, and boarded up businesses.</p> <p>Rockville city leaders should focus on ways to beautify the business and residential areas and parks through code enforcement, instructors maintenance.</p> <p>Given federal \$\$ for social programs and school supports are ending, Rockville city leaders need to rezone to attract a more self sufficient population. Doing so would also improve the quality of neighborhoods by removing loiters and juveniles delinquents and junk out site.</p> <p>Rockville city leaders should NOT add more subsidized/affordable housing, shelters, halfway houses, mental health facilities, bus parking facilities, services for undocumented, or detention centers. The Rockville tax base can NOT support these high need populations and State and Federal \$\$ for such programs are ending.</p>
114792360904	
114792021241	Pedestrian safety, street signing, traffic lights and traffic signals improvement along Rockville Pike/355 are a priority.
114791929259	Instead of allowing small houses to be torn down for expensive duplexes and apartments, I'd like to see incentives to keep small houses for low income families to buy.
114791792871	Housing is so expensive in Montgomery county. Make it affordable is a top priority. And parks and recreational options are a second top priority.
114791756660	Please pass rent control and stabilization. It is so important and necessary to keep Rockville vibrant and full of culture.
114791534406	Maintenance of infrastructure would be a choice if was allowed 4.
114791307607	Safety a priority for residents and visitors
114791294886	Keep our neighborhood safe.
114791224187	If we don't take focus on climate change nothing else will matter
114791206963	A resilient and green community that welcomes all income groups will generate revenue to fund the other goals.
114791195090	I feel forest preservation is a different category from building codes.
114791141780	Some of the neighborhoods in MoCo are looking poorly maintained and are in need of cleaning up and ongoing code enforcement. Cars on lawns and miscellaneous junk in yards visible to neighbors is unacceptable and needs to be cleaned up. Our property values are connected to how our neighborhoods look and feel. The county needs to play a key role to see that code violations are quickly and addressed and see that remedies are competed timely and completely.
114791075141	I think over all safety is vital.
114791062336	Return Rockville to a high 'quality of life', which hasn't been true for some years now, due to poor prioritization by the city staff, which is focused on rapid housing development over all other priorities.
114791059251	They're all important, and it's difficult when there are many things on the same line. My actual priorities are: 1. Ped & bike infrastructure and safety; 2. Preservation of and access to nature spaces; 3. Maintenance; 4. Sustainability & climate; 5. Other

114791048060	Refund the police. Offer climate by working with citizens to upgrade houses so more climate friendly (I.e. insulate houses, increase water efficiency (I.e. rain barrels instead of watering lawn from tap), etc.
114791032536	Too much new construction of residential and not enough parks/outdoor space.
114790993560	We need to make it legal to build small-lot size dense apartments without parking. Just regular pre-war housing. Five floors of apartments above a hair salon. Why is this illegal? Remove lot size minimums, parking minimums, lot utilization requirements, too-sprawly FAR requirements, home business/ADU bans, height limits that make no sense, setback requirements, detachment requirements. All R-1a zoning is tax-negative and unsustainable economically, ecologically, and socially.
114790987819	1) More trails (away from roads); 2) Move sidewalks away from roads (ie ensure a verge or buffer in between); 3) Less salt on roads in winter; no salt off roads (the salt is killing street trees due to overspray in tree beds); 4) Replace dead trees and preserve tree beds (why are tree beds shrinking (and disappearing altogether in some cases) and not being properly mulched in a "tree city usa"?)
114790985158	All of these programs are very important. As a long-term home owning resident and parent, I believe it is the city management's responsibility to grow and maintain the quality of life within the community. Infrastructure, Active living options (green space, etc.), taking physical care of community neighborhoods - helps lead to the other major programs such as community safety, to sustainability, to affordable housing, leading finally to economic development. Then circles around again. Establishing a strong community of happy and healthy people is the foundation of growth.
114790979640	I personally think Rockville over-extends itself to the point of public harm instead of benefit in most of the unchecked categories. In the checked categories, I've had no qualms. My girlfriend says that the city doesn't take sustainability seriously enough, however.
114790967090	All of these are important in balance with one another and within the budget--if one is ignored (say, infrastructure) it will rapidly become "too expensive" to fix within a given budgetary cycle
114790925022	I have lived in Rockville since 1978. I live in the West End. I am definitely interested in economic development, but I think too often the city has felt pressure from the developers to reduce the number of trees and pocket parks they need to provide in order to make these new communities more livable and friendly. Now that Rockville has become more desirable to developers, as close in space becomes less available, I hope they use their leverage to insist on more green spaces in all new development.
114790912668	We need more police. I called the police once and no one came.
114790903344	It is essential that the tree canopy of the city be expanded to improve the health and sustainability of life under climate change. Protecting and planting trees is the most important thing we can do in the face of climate change. Increase required tree planting and open space in new developments
114790903293	Our roads are in shambles.
114790900877	I think Active Living is linked to Climate Resilience. More green space, please.
114788437804	Make sure there is sufficient infrastructure to support growth. Make sure regulations aren't too onerous to attract new business and jobs. Effectively use the skills of educated retirees so they are encouraged to stay.

114788101712	Community safety and support of our police force should be the top priority.
114784112255	None of the other program areas (housing, econ development, quality of life) succeed without safety so it should be top priority.
114783970113	We don't own a car and would appreciate any initiatives that take pedestrians into account.
114783408764	I support rent stabilization because as a renter, I am concerned about the cost of living in Rockville. If rent increases are not limited per county law, I and many others will be forced to take this into account at the next city election
114782756667	I would have selected 'affordable housing' but really we need more housing, including market rate. The city should be trying to attract high income people (and taxpayers) to Rockville Town Center and Twinbrook Quarter. This will also help attract businesses looking to serve them—and the rest of us. Dwelling on just affordable housing means we sometimes miss opportunities to attract more investment that benefits everyone.
114781984367	Smart policies for mixed use zoning or building use to make offices more attractive to renters ("there's a gym on site!"). Same for transit so the Pike isn't the only hotspot for businesses.
114781103381	What's the delay in revitalizing the town center? At least utilize all those empty spaces somehow. Tree inspections by the city, and maintenance, should be looked at in the West End historic district.
114780726611	Zoning needs to encourage business growth in primarily residential neighborhoods. People should be able to walk to places like grocery stores, cafes/restaurants, doctors office, etc. Please prioritize creating more pedestrian and bicycle connections throughout the city.
114780382524	Open green spaces for citizens for recreational activities and keeping our area balanced between city and nature. Affordable housing to attract people who would like to live and boost the areas revenue and businesses and supporting our first responders to help maintain and keep us safe.
114780075216	Any and all infrastructure should be approached ASAP for pedestrian/cycling safety, especially nearer to the Town Center. There are multiple schools within a mile of Town Center and children are consistently walking through heavily hostile environments to and from school. Maryland Ave between the Town Center and I-270 is a prime example of a space that should be considered for traffic calming, protected bike lanes/sidewalks, and/or additional tree cover or boulevard implementation with a tree-lined median to reduce car speeds and coerce drivers to slow down or take alternate routes through the city.
114778309808	affordable housing and economic development are linked

114776805326	<p>Rockville already offers a generous amount of public infrastructure and programs compared to the other municipalities in the metropolitan area. What we need now is better utilization of the existing infrastructure and programs to make the city more vibrant. Economic development, while it sounds pressing, will most likely come as a result, if we can better utilize what we already have. We have three metro stations, a lot of good restaurants, a strong offering of retail, and we have just put in a lot of biking infrastructure. We need to be proactive about infrastructure and program maintenance, and better market what we have.</p> <p>Relatedly, I recognize that the city has a lot of initiatives and programs, but not all of them make sense together. It may be worthwhile to better plan/reconcile the various programs. (One example is the rains capes program providing generous grants to putting native plants and perennials in, while the city puts in and ripping out annuals every quarter on parkland, and there are large areas of public land on which invasive species grow).</p>
114776527074	Keeping our city and neighborhoods safe, well maintained, and full of economic growth are the most important priorities.
114776129976	PAY YOUR EMPLOYEES
114775262721	With taxes increasing I feel we need to minimize any tax increases as it relates to the above priorities. All the initiatives are great but not at the expense of higher taxes.
114775157091	Look at thriving cities of similar size and use best practices. Attract people by making it livable. Also—crack down on loud cars and speeding.
114775051679	<p>Climate resiliency? This is a a new one. Zero priority for that.</p> <p>Also, please avoid "affordable housing" initiatives. Let the market handle that, please.</p>
114774666816	Speeding, aggressive driving, and red-light-running is out of control!
114774380528	The three I've selected all implicate sustainability and climate resiliency in a big way.
114774063101	na
114772745729	Rent stabilization is something that I feel requires the most attention from elected officials and city management that is not getting enough attention now. Rockville has great amenities, but it is very difficult for residents to be able to afford to live here and for businesses to afford to operate here. Rent stabilization is a critical tool that should be used to keep Rockville more diverse and affordable to all residents.
114767280565	People want a couple more things to do around here, more third spaces. I think a tea house is a great idea. The focus is the open space, atmosphere, and meeting people casually. Also, we have to Maintain our current infrastructure to good health or people will be upset.
114767154167	Pedestrian and bicycle safety is also a crucial matter of infrastructure. Affordable housing goes hand-in-hand with available housing, and the city should follow the lead of the county in promoting both denser, more walkable development, and affordable housing policies (including rent control)
114766886666	I anticipate having to move outside the city within the next five years due to a lack of housing in my price range. We need more homes at all price points, especially affordable housing, and I strongly support policies that would build additional housing of all types inside the city limits. In particular, we need more inexpensive rentals and options for purchase that are sized in between small apartments and large detached houses — more townhomes, duplexes, triplexes, and possibly ADUs would help.

114766502291	Need to have the town square thriving like other mixed use development in the county (pike and rose, downtown crown, etc).
114766310592	Affordable housing and rent control are all 3 of my choices.
114766129977	PASS RENT STABILIZATION!!
114765860198	Limit rent hike
114765032370	<p>As our community continues to grow with the upcoming new developments, there is an increasing demand for essential city services, particularly within the police department. To ensure public safety and maintain efficient operations, I would like to respectfully request that the city consider adding more police personnel, specifically administrative staff such as an additional dispatcher.</p> <p>In light of the growth, it may also be worth exploring the possibility of creating part-time positions to help meet these staffing needs while remaining fiscally responsible. This adjustment would not only improve response times and overall efficiency but also help ensure that our police department can continue to serve the community effectively.</p>
114764284330	I'd like to see thoughtful neighborhood planning rather than building just to build.
114763657824	Providing safe and affordable housing that is highly connected by pedestrian, cycling, and public transit options is one of the best ways the city has to provide a stable and just foundation for all residents. Part and parcel to this effort also has to be a rent stabilization measure that protects the nearly half of Rockville residents who rent against the worst impulses of a rental market controlled by corporate landlords and real estate investment trusts who prioritize the extraction of profit over the stability of our community.
114763161371	Crime is a problem - lack of enforcement and lack of consequences are incredibly frustrating, impacting local businesses and residents alike. Rockville Metro Station frequently smells like marijuana - despite public smoking of it being illegal - making it unpleasant or even unbearable for people who rely on metro or buses to get to and from work or elsewhere. It's disgusting and unhealthy, especially for those with respiratory issues or sensitivities. My health and well-being aren't being protected.
114762574278	Create an Office of Rent Stabilization with two employees to enforce rent stabilization.
114761174310	No more bike lanes/remove underutilized ones. Maintain what we have. Do not keep increasing the need for new taxes by building unnecessary stuff. No trees in medians- need low maintenance options.
114759880939	Affordable, not 800k townhouses crammed together with not enough parking. Reduce crime and drug use. Stop wasting money on arty crap, plant a tree instead.
114759042697	create an Office of Rent Stabilization with two employees to enforce rent stabilization
114752716555	Hillcrest park needs a makeover. It is the only park in the city that doesn't have swings for the kids to play on.
114751920018	All are important, but affordable housing is my top priority. It isn't right that teachers in MoCo can't afford a starter home in Rockville. Anything affecting quality of life for residents comes in second. Community Safety and Quality Neighborhoods were tied for third in my priorities, but I decided on Quality Neighborhoods because thankfully, I live in a safe neighborhood.
114749336071	rent stabilization and inclusive zoning for more housing
114748885752	Sometimes the boring stuff like maintenance is most important!

114748311097	Whenever I ask an elected official how to create more affordable housing, they say "build more housing." Please find another answer. I live in a rental and the more new housing goes up around me, the more my rent increases. That's a fact.
114744654283	Most of the housing being built in Rockville is not really "affordable."
114744588896	Prioritize and rejuvenate Town Center, provide multiple ways for people to connect/socialize, create zoning laws that are uniform
114743740435	We should be encouraging multi modal and active lifestyles. Maintaining parks is pretty important to that and expanding ped/bike networks that are safe/comfortable. Reduce fire risks in buildings.
114743306360	Pedestrian safety: Improve safety at crossings; repair broken/uneven sidewalks. Provide access to Senior Center from Gude Drive.
114738865736	Let's get to net zero energy use.
114737744203	My landlord has increased my rent at least five percent each and every year for the past eight years. My income hasn't done that! There is a severe disconnect here between corporate landlord greed (housing has been a soft target for hedge funds and other national corporate owners) and what is reasonable and affordable.
114737534358	Rockville needs rent stabilization. My household earns enough to not need it, but I do not want to see the city become a playground for rich residents only.
114737528563	Affordable housing is my main priority. If I could also live in Rockville while working here I would. If there was more affordable housing, and rents were capped to 5% increase, more people would move to the city. With the rent cap in effect everywhere else in Montgomery County there is incentive to live elsewhere.
114737506224	My husband and I lived in Rockville from 2016 to 2024, but we were forced to move out of the city due to rising rent and a lack of affordable housing. It was a frustrating and disappointing experience, because we love Rockville and would have stayed if we could afford to.
114736123018	1. We should assess the health of the upper watts branch woods as the city's best carbon sink. I'm concerned that the deer are eating the next generation of saplings and the understory is depleted. 2. The city should be actively replacing invasive trees and other species on City property, and encouraging/actively enforcing private property owners to do the same.
114736088196	These should be interrelated with the ones I didn't check.
114734277385	Please hire two full time staff to implement rent control.
114733178791	It would be great if Rockville had something that would attract Bethesda people to visit and spend money here!!
114735484160	The city should take a harder look at the amount of pavement and concrete in the budget and find ways to minimize both the amount of money spent on that and the amount of those materials added within Rockville. Just as we should find ways to increase pedestrian safety through new sidewalks and street crossings, we should also actively look for places to remove unnecessary pavement to reduce stormwater runoff and associated during strong storms/heavy rain events, increase recharge of groundwater, and resiliency of vegetation in the city during droughts, like our current drought. Please consider establishing a net zero increase in paved areas within Rockville and switch to using permeable pavers, low carbon concrete, and/or carbon sequestering concrete for city pavement projects.

114732952963	I love how hard Rockville Mayor And council works to include citizens in their planning and decisions. I love that. I always feel safe In Rockville and put that as my number one priority. I love that we are surrounded by green space and put that as my number two priority. I thought about making climate and sustainability number three but realized if we focus on that, such as electrifying buses, we might run out of money. So I put economic development as my third choice. But the close, which I believe does depend on economic development, is reducing greenhouse gases. This includes continuing our fight against putting a toll road on I 270. It also includes Housing development near the metro stations .
114732743434	I would like to see bus, walking, and cycling options prioritized, particularly so they are more available and safe. One of Rockville's strengths is the density of businesses and communal areas, but they are literally deadly to reach from residential areas without - and with - cars. Buses also do not run frequently enough to de-incentivize locals from driving; for example, Bus 45, which services the metro stations, runs every 35-45 minutes, while the metro runs every 10. Veirs Mill, the Pike, and E. Gude (the Millennial Trail there is just a sidewalk, which is dangerous for both peds and cyclists to share) could stand to go on road diets to allow everyone equitable, safe access to the straightaways.
114730815226	Please stop building. It removes trees and nature space and adds to water run off and heat generation from concrete/black top. Please remove bike lanes on Old Georgetown Road.
114728295263	I support native plant giveaways, more tree giveaways, better publicity for rain barrel incentives and support of installing residential rain gardens. Native demonstration gardens in our parks in general would help toward climate resiliency (e.g., we need more gardens like in Dawson Farm Park). Native plants have deep roots and require much less maintenance than "pretty" annuals or lawn grass. Parks staff should prioritize keeping trees healthy in our green spaces (push back if a resident complains about a tree unless the tree is actually dangerous AND is in a spot where it could be a hazard), planting native trees that require less maintenance, AND keeping those trees free of invasive vines. It often seems that the intention is good with tree planting, but then there's no watering, and the invasive vines are allowed to kill the new trees. And please do something about the seemingly abandoned vine-choked properties owned by the Betty Brown Casey Foundation across from RMHS and the Rockville Metro (Park Rd). Acquire these properties and turn them into functioning forest spaces.
114727886851	Affordable housing is in an issue for the next generation.
114727487804	Please prioritize planting native plants/trees in parks and neighborhoods.
114728218367	City and county need more jobs. Rockville should lead here, try to attract corporations back to MoCo. Bike infrastructure badly needed along 355 to connect Twinbrook with Town Center area. Bike lanes in Town Center are a mess, made traffic significantly worse. Take away the street parking and add a wider median with dedicated turn lanes at the lights. Neighborhood quality will be improved by upzoning. Public works needs significant shift in priorities. Stop wasteful planting of annuals in medians and small parks. Switch to native plants, and then focus on maintenance of hillsides, former alleys, etc. abutting properties, instead of letting them become overrun with invasives and then de-annexing.

114727381477	I would rate policing as number one. There is increase in crime since the start of the pandemic. Two people stabbed by twinbrook metro, illegal crossings of Viers Mills road that led to a death, constant alcohol consumption in Rockcrest park and along popular park alleys, drunk people passed out or loitering around Twinbrook Library. Increased crime will lead to lower property values and outflow of people especially with kids away from Rockville. This is directly related to 5. Less people and lower home values mean less tax revenue. Vicious cycle that is avoidable by increased enforcement of existing laws and regulations. If we allow laws to not be followed we are slipping into dangerous territory.
114727372002	I would like to see the city prioritize parkland, trees (specifically native tree plantings) in park areas as well as residential and new developments. My neighborhood still has a number of bradford pear trees along the street that we would like to see replaced by native trees and last I checked, the city tree plan still includes many non-native trees which are better than the callery pears but not nearly as beneficial to our birds and other wildlife as native trees.
114727337196	Good longterm mental and physical health requires focus on a biodiverse, unpolluted environment, improving access to natural areas and safe, quality, affordable housing.
114727207270	Having the areas be more walkable and accessible, which works with sustainability, should be priority. We need less housing and more requirement of the apartment complexes to be utilized
114727184581	It was very difficult to prioritize those program areas. All are important!
114727161508	I disagree that the above are mutually exclusive. Many are intertwined.
114727089922	Recent shootings within Rockville City are absolutely heinous, unsatisfactory, and not excusable. There is gang activity within the city's limits that needs to be investigated and dealt with appropriately. Additionally, the continued lagging economic development in Town Center and elsewhere is absurd. Has Rockville ever considered looking at space within its limits and inviting a manufacturing company here?
114726668458	Adding multifamily housing should be a priority.
114726371963	Sustainability and climate resiliency are redundant. If you prioritize affordable housing, quality neighborhoods, and walkable communities you achieve your resiliency goals
114725947433	Why is green space lumped in with quality neighborhoods. Same with bicycle safety in community in safety
114725503554	I believe in safety first. Next, need economic development for the city to be healthy and grow. Finally Active living parks bring in young families who will stay and get involved.
114725007239	Affordable housing to me means additional housing first and foremost
114723722420	Be more budget conscious concerning expenses where not needed.
114723679326	Economic development specifically of Rockville town center
114723542462	The police need to start prioritize the well being of us taxes paying people. The crime rate is rising. Stores keep getting robbed and the police aren't doing anything.
114722874675	Green spaces--in parks and in neighborhoods/along streets are essential to citizens' mental & physical health and encouraging people to get around other than by car. Green spaces and native trees are also at the heart of sustainability, climate resilience and flood mitigation.

114722705227	The next generation cannot afford to start families in Rockville. New townhome developments starting in the high 800s are not “starter homes,” and many want the security of homeownership before having children.
114722533514	All these priorities actually matter.
114722072107	Baltimore Rd from Norbeck to Rockville High School is neglected, barely enough room for 2 buses to cross Rock Creek.
114722020735	The country is way overdue in addressing climate change and providing clean, accessible, and affordable housing for people of all ages, incomes, and ability to function both physically and mentally.
114721967029	The city must pursue economic development through building and enforcing quality housing. Attracting more residents will help broaden the tax base and provide more customers for our activity centers like town center and Rockville Pike and Veirs Mill shopping centers. the city should continue to incentivize the redevelopment of our old auto centric shopping centers. The city should work with REDI and Chamber of Commerce to better promote Rockville to businesses. Lastly, the city should continue to priotize community safety by ensuring our police force is fully staffed.
114721644307	More jobs, less houses, shorter commutes= less traffic
114721171931	Enforcement and safety of existing homes
114721030386	Planning should be consistent. Stop granting waivers just because a developer ask for them. Vibrant, lively neighborhoods have family friendly amenities.
114720881456	All of these things are important. Hard to choose
114720561971	Priorities for municipal government must be basic functions of infrastructure maintenance and public safety that cannot be provided by private sector.
114720526941	There has been an increase in crime and that needs to be addressed. Better code enforcement is also needed.
114720510657	I know little about the needs in Rockville.
114720502501	I would have also chosen Active living
114720366991	We should be a leader in Sustainability and climate resiliency. We know how, but we need to follow through.
114720215797	It was hard to pick just three here. All are impirtant.
114720171414	Maintaining safety and working on quality of life will help develop the other areas.
114720148483	New bike lanes are very useful!
114720109234	Climate resilience is also important to me.
114720104803	Better pedestrian infrastructure is needed, especially around First Street
114720063032	Quality of life should increase value for people living in the area
114720009933	The loss of tree canopy, especially larger trees, is a huge concern and an essential component of sustainability and climate resiliency (e.g. preventing flooding, reducing the heat island effect,
114716660240	Crime is rising, infrastructure is breaking down, and the standards and care of our neighborhoods are eroding due to growth and change. Our government should be using funds and resources to address these issues first.
114716639334	Please worry less about climate resiliency and more about the litter-strewn streets and lawn signs on public spaces. Please don't pay someone to pick them up. Please notify these companies that it's illegal to put them there.
114716603980	After 12 years is time to complete the Rockshire parking lot project before something horrible happens there...people are constantly worried about this place in the center of community.

114713682208	I firmly believe in prioritizing quality neighborhoods, but we'll get those by prioritizing affordability, sustainability, and walkability/public transportation.
114711223341	These go together. Stop prioritizing "historic nature of our [SFH] neighborhoods" and allow duplex, triplex, and quadriplex housing and better bike paths.
114710940867	affordable housing is number 1 than economic development community safety and active living walkable communities
114710853695	Housing affordability is important as well however, current weather disasters have made it clear that climate resiliency is of the utmost importance.
114710044138	Maintenance is always a low priority because it doesn't produce something new. But it should be the highest priority because it keeps existing investments in good operating condition.
114709996203	Need to plan for growth in a way which makes sense - provide adequate parking, ensure schools can handle influx of students, have good bus service and other public accommodations.
114706555741	Affordable new housing is a necessity, especially for first time home buyers
114706495085	The common theme in my answers is addressing climate change. The city absolutely must prioritize climate action, especially harder systemic changes like land use and transportation planning.
114705918530	Upzoning is necessary to create affordable housing. Make sure that's part of the program.
114705867623	I think Rockville has been thrust to the forefront of affordable housing to an unfair degree. However noble the intentions, we have many citizens who work hard, have secured degrees, and are forced to accommodate others who simply play the system and bring violent crime and vandalism into our community, which our police force cannot or will not handle. I live across the street from MPDU apartments. Some of the folks there work hard and are taking advantage of the program as a stepping stone to a better life. Some are flat out criminals and drug addicts who actually started setting up chairs and doing drugs in our private street. They trespass, break the glass in our private street lamps for fun, and the police cannot or will not do much when called. The same people who supposedly cannot afford housing spend money supping up their cars with performance mufflers that are a nuisance.
114705854354	I would focus on quality of life, for our seniors but also the under-served. And economic development should be the rising tide that lifts all boats.
114702952703	Focus on overall urban planning to move Rockville away from the isolated, car-centric bedroom community that it currently is to a walkable community with public transportation that makes sense.
114702482081	Please put a camera at Wootton and first street where there is now NO left turn. I live right there and everyday people are STILL making the left turn to go to 355. Put cones in right lane - the lines do absolutely nothing
114702464953	I worry about the lack of vibrancy of downtown Rockville and how that contributes to crime. Crime at the Metro is also very real - fights, drug use, loitering, fare jumping etc. Finally, we just bought a house a year ago, but it was difficult to find something affordable and with quality building.
114702455309	If the city prioritizes active living it provides a better quality of life for residence and increase property values.
114702181419	Rockville is not affordable for young people to live in. Need to prioritize affordable and attainable housing - not luxury housing

114702125692	I moved back to Rockville specifically for low-car lifestyle and SAFE access to many family friendly amenities. Rockville has a reputation as a great place to live for families, let's keep enhancing that.
114701874965	We have a lot of parks. I like them and want to keep them but I don't know if we need more
114701414663	No comment.
114701226529	1more cross walks 2 more bike lanes3 more police
114701136234	The other areas all fall by the wayside if you fail to maintain existing infrastructure. Overemphasis on high-\$, single-family homes ensures that average workers will get started on their long commutes ASAP after work, and not linger to shop/recreate in a community they generally resent.
114700979495	ADA regulations should be required by our city for any new development. Government buildings are held to ADA laws, but a citizen has to sue private businesses to correct ADA infractions
114700954954	If we don't focus on sustainability and climate resilience, nothing else will matter
114700722196	Renovate wootton high school
114700577872	Town Center needs to attract and keep retail and restaurants.
114700533662	Affordable housing!
114700528101	Incentivize conversion of empty office buildings into residential, hotel, and mixed use.
114700523302	Please keep my roads in good shape and keep me safe with a fully staffed police force. I'm not really crazy about all the bicycle infrastructure. This isn't California. You can't ride your bike 12 months a year. During parts of December and March, and most all of January, February, it's too cold for most people to ride bikes...and often times, July and August are too hot to ride bikes. I drive through the town center and out Falls Road most every single day. I will have stretches of time where I won't see a bicycler going in either direction for 5 or 6 weeks. At a time. It seems to me that making wholesale changes to roadways to accommodate 1/1000th of the population is not money that is prioritized very well....not to mention that it takes roadway lanes away from cars and public transportation. Cars and buses have no choice but to use roadways. Bicyclers do have choices. They can use shoulders, sidewalks, and all of the extensive parks that run through our neighborhoods that have paved bike paths. Our city and area roadways were designed by experts in their field. They were designed to carry a certain amount of traffic efficiently and when you shrink the roadways to accommodate a few people it has a big effect on the masses.
114700519620	Please improve affordable housing options and make our neighborhoods more resilient through tree maintenance and forest preservation
114700482935	Trees in Rockville town center need trimming! They can be hazard with storms! Update parks and playgrounds!
114700468289	Improving Community Safety is more than more Police. Police is the last resort. More Social Services are needed.
114700447598	Again, PLEASE revitalize the town square: it was the determining factor for us to move to Rockville. Had we known it was going to turn into a dead zone, we'd have made different plans altogether.
114700172106	The vitality of town center is important for the entire community. Keep businesses and grow the town center area, drawing more crowds with better parking.

114698999691	I think that affordable housing and sustainability are closely tied and need to be integrated for each to be successful. Affordable housing must have efficient appliances, heating/cooling, and run on renewable energy as much as possible to keep bills low and protect our most vulnerable residents from the biggest impacts of climate change.
114694573698	MoCo must have housing available with transportation options for everyone.
114694471003	I'm lumping active living and community safety together since being able walk, bike, and otherwise roll safely are very important to me.
114693815427	The walk from Rockville Metro over the bridge and into Town Center needs to be better lit and more welcoming. It currently is derelict and scary - not a way to get more people to come to Rockville Town Center.
114693315971	Safety especially with the rise of fights, robberies in Rockville.
114693259296	Climate resilience includes tree cover
114692434653	We need way more police. I was told only 9 officers work at a time to cover the entire city? I've lived in Rockville the last 7 years and have called the police maybe 3 times and it takes well over 2-3 hours to come. The officers arrive and they are fantastic but always start with an apology saying they are slammed and understaffed.
114691812190	I feel the Community Safety should be a priority because my children go to Meadow Hall ES and Rockville HS and it's not safe for them to cross at their school. I think there should be a police present while before and after school. I also think there should be a crossing guards at Rockville HS since there's none right now.
114691658232	As a part of the younger generation under the age of 30, it is very difficult to afford a house let alone an apartment in this area. A lot of the building, even the older ones, are asking \$1400 a month for just a studio apartment. A single person would have to make at least \$60,000 a year to live pay check with these house prices. To make citizens live more comfortably, there should be more affordable housing and development. Additionally, there should be a tax credit for anyone renovating their house because most of the houses in the Rockville area are from the 50s and are fixer uppers.
114690404145	A healthy economy allows for all other things to be achieved.
114690280972	Need more sustainable initiatives and more focus on low income families. Costs of living are going up, yet wages are not keeping up. Families, including mine, are having trouble keeping their housing in their own neighborhood. We also need a focus on sustainability and climate action. Can we get a city compost program going? Can it be a public drop off station where a public worker vets what is going into the system? Or can we pay for a pickup? Some cities in the US already have compost systems.
114690121084	Rockville Town Square restaurants and businesses seem to have very high turnover. Events in the area are important to their survival.
114690105148	do the basics...
114689840837	Code Enforcement regulations continue to penalize homeowners. It is never a good experience to apply for a building/home improvement project permit. This department is understaffed. Homeowners do not feel welcomed. In fact, I was told when I went to apply for a building permit that IF the Code Enforcement finds I have made improvements to my house without pulling a permit I will be fined. It was as if the Building Permit employee was threatening me.

114689772436	Quality neighborhoods, including forest preservation and green space, actively support environmental and safety goals, while separating both from politics surrounding climate change and policing, respectively.
114689720070	Rockville is in the toilet. I live in college gardens and never go into the city. Head right towards 270 away from the city. Too dangerous to go in gonna hit a person living in poverty. What a mess you have made! 12.9% POVERTY!!! Really!!!!
114689486682	Areas need upkeep.
114689485496	This is all important and I don't see how you can prioritize.
114689480595	Neighborhoods should be more pedestrian-friendly and have more housing options than are presently available.
114689398844	Controlling crime and omission of DEI programs are my main issues. There needs to be consequences of criminal actions, not "restorative justice".
114689375344	the unchecked items (sustainability, active living, affordable housing and quality neighborhoods) are all important -- however, in order to have and enjoy those very important things, we need to maintain what we already have, we need community safety and we need continued economic development to support the important initiatives that make Rockville a nice place to live.
114689374586	City maintenance is poor, crime prevention is lax. These need to be prioritized.
114689325040	Rockville town center is deteriorating into another Rockville Mall.
114689320661	Need to reduce costs in all city department so we can give homeowners a tax break.
114689293341	I live near Dogwood Park and the Hungerford Pond which seem to be totally ignored as far as maintenance. The pond has turned into a swamp with many people I've spoken to avoiding it now due to mosquitoes. My block at the lower end of Cabin John Parkway has become a breeding ground for deer which destroy people's gardens and poop all over the park. The street is also now being used by motorcyclists (crotch rockets) who speed up and down the street without regard to pedestrians or children. I haven't seen a police car in my neighborhood for months.
114688472378	MORE POLICE! clean up blight and graffiti
114687733826	Please focus on pedestrian safety.
114687309246	Greater emphasis on density and pedestrian/bike infrastructure will allow for a larger tax base for the city and lower per person costs for upkeep relative to car-centric development. I and many other people would love to live in Rockville car free but that is just not a possibility with the current city's design. Things like the town square, metro, and bike lanes are going in the right direction but unfortunately basic amenities like grocery stores or hardware stores are not within walking distance for most, even in the most dense parts of the city.
114683321757	Affordable housing does not mean subsidized housing. Follow basic supply and demand economic principles and increase the housing supply. Reduce costs to landlords by expediting evictions, incentivize property improvements that increase tenant satisfaction, safety security etc.
114680620856	Update zoning regulations to encourage small commercial development within residential areas. People should have access to conveniences within walking distance of their homes (grocery stores, restaurants, shops). Also promote higher density residential development while maintaining natural beauty.
114679736859	Consider a new strategy if REDI is ineffective with economic development.

114679684073	Neighborhoods should be rezoned to encourage commercial and residential development together. People are happier when they can walk to amenities that they use regularly, and businesses thrive when they have actual foot-traffic instead of customers having to drive specifically to the business.
Please provide any comments you have about your prioritization of the major planned initiatives:	
114834221454	I dont think we need to build anything else at RedGate park. Its fine as it is.
114833832811	I want to see expanded economic and community opportunities in Twinbrook. This is an area of Rockville with great promise in retail, the arts, placemaking, etc. I hope the city move forward with the bridge.
114833606756	RedGate Park is important, but it should be kept natural. IF Shady Grove annexation will generate revenue I'm in favor, but only if it does not overburden city infrastructure, and there needs to be walkable access to parks.
114833570775	More trees e green spaces.
114831269764	For the love of all that is holy use RedGate as a multi-purpose, multi-generational area. It should be home to events and festivals, sports and recreation fields and courts, walking paths, rentals and other multi-purpose areas. It sucks that it's being used primarily by binocular-clad bird watchers instead of developing it into a space for ALL citizens of Rockville. It's a sad display of ingenuity and foresight on behalf of mayor and council.
114829900874	The bridge should have both ramps and stairs, so that people near the tracks can get up to the bridge without backtracking all the way to the base of the ramp.
114828721071	Actually, none of these should be considered until all other existing infostructure is at prime efficiency.
114828655656	Concentrate on City assets before taking on more
114825603694	I don't know who thinks of these initiatives as these are very specific. Were residents sent a survey to help narrow these down?
114824642783	The more greenery and parks, the more desirable the neighborhoods.
114824669963	Improving walkability, especially near transit and high density housing, is essential.
114824541544	All city development should be done within a framework of re-naturalizing the environment, remove massive open car parks, reintroduce greenspace to heavily developed areas, prioritize non-car-based transportation.
114824508216	I believe in PRESERVING Rockville's history. If you tear all the "old" structures down, you will remove our wonderful history. You need to grant Peerless Rockville funding so they can help the city preserve buildings and all artifacts! It's important for the children and their children!
114824505395	Parking in Downtown Rockville is atrocious and the garage adjacent to the jury parking lot should be torn down and remade. The spots are too narrow to fit a car.
114823688404	Economic development should be the top priority.
114823138692	I think maintaining historic barns at King Farm is a waste of money.
114822941952	Existing Rockville residents should be prioritized.
114822763943	I think our top priority should be to increase the supply of housing, especially near metro stations.
114822199070	isnt there more the city could be doing like maintaining roads pot holes and keeping city roads clean?

114820335988	Interested in walkability improvements as well as more mixed use housing (commercial on the street level and residential above)
114820333033	Rent stabilization is the most important. Affordable housing and stabilizing rent are necessary for everything else to matter.
114820330145	The top priority is Rent Stabilization. These priorities do not take Rockville renters into consideration at all.
114820322518	Walkability improvements , in general, are very important
114819515498	Shady grover metro investments is a sizable return on investment, including housing.
114819510157	I need to know more about these initiatives before I can rank them.
114819503186	Adding a bridge that spans across Twinbrook is important to me as I use public transportation. It is difficult to access the other side of the metro.
114819494354	Street lights by Shady Grove
114818650074	should not have to select all 5 if we only prioritize the top 3
114817664582	I live in King Farm. I want to make sure the King Farmstead Campus meets the needs of my community, including not increasing traffic.
114816318575	I think more pedestrian development is vital to the growth and health of our city and citizens
114816198816	Focus on projects with direct economic development benefits over vanity projects (like the "arboretum" at Red Gate).
114815982442	Bring King Farm online and utilize this valuable historical resource for modern income and entertainment.
114815003172	The economy is key. I put Shady Grove down as #1, but the reality is town center needs to be addressed. I know a plan is in place for that, but it needs to happen. Less regulations are needed. How long do permits take to get in this city? What does it cost to do business in Rockville? Our process should be streamlined and we should be extremely business friendly.
	The Town should definitely not acquire additional parkland while there is so much investment to make in the Farmstead and at Redgate. To help to afford these investments, the Town should strongly consider selling a portion (20-25 acres?) of Redgate for some sort of development. Redgate is 130 acres. Keeping 100+ acres as parkland would still be wonderful and would not be a sacrifice.....and could help to accomplish other City goals.
114814595504	Another high priority, in my opinion, is building an expanded community center at Montrose Park. That playground is among the most used in Rockville but the residents are not part of the regular speakers in the city. Older residents in Montrose remember when the community center was used for all sorts of activities, but now it's a single-use day care. The City is (appropriately) allowing so much additional density in the lower Pike that the population would absolutely warrant a community center in that location, to which the residents would be able to walk. If this option were on the list, I would place it first, ahead of all the options listed here.
114813472753	Thinking of broader benefit to the community with respect to already planned, usefulness, safety and potential use.

114813344179	In addition to annexing around the Shady Grove station, the city should look to annex around the Twinbrook station, particularly down Twinbrook Parkway. Would help achieve a cohesive growth plan for the area to benefit businesses and residential areas.
114812472288	The language in these options is too vague. And non-descriptive.
114812387564	Neighborhood parks are needed and walking friendly streets
114811737255	Contain over-development.
114808591814	I support the annexation of valuable property around the Shady Grove Metro Station to support population growth and revenue generation.
114805111027	Would be interested in hearing more about plans for Shady Grove Station
114800139594	More investment in East Rockville specifically Twinbrook. RedGate if you aren't going to cave to the outside interest groups (birders).
114797776559	I highly value sufficient parkspace for Montgomery County residents as a way for communal recreation, exercise, and community connection.
114797099041	Balance QOL (Walkability) w/ development by corporations that are sitting on record amounts of cash. And always seem to find the \$. Thanks.
114794888297	Maintain Redgate Farm. There are plenty of walkers, families and birdwatches to enjoy this area. It would be a shame to lose this valuable part of the environment
114793586003	Balancing the increased development with parks and trees will help counter air pollution and offer natural urban cooling.
114792732657	Please do not acquire more parkland without a sustainable means to maintain.
114792716041	While I have make planned improvements to Redgate- I'm not familiar with what those plans are. Having access to that space for being in nature is very important to me.
114792464379	Visiting RedGate Park today, I liked seeing several dogs with their companions enjoying the dog park. A top sighting last year was a Great Blue Heron fishing in one of the ponds.
114792437228	I have been asking for a path created from Lake Frank to RedGate for some time now and it is falling on deaf ears I feel. This should not cost too much and it will help us walk to RedGate rather than drive the pollution creation, cars.
114792414760	Natural areas within the city limits are undervalued and a huge (often overlooked) commodity. Development and public safety are important too, but attention often is given to these initiatives at the expense or in lieu of preserving or funding parkland. In addition to prioritizing what I ranked as #1 and #2 above, I urge the City to allocate funds to control the invasion of invasive species throughout our City and Parklands.
114792360904	Rockville is congested with many commercial buildings within a small area, yet it's not easy to access these buildings safely as a pedestrian. Rockville city leaders should focus on making it easier and safer for people to access shops and parks with options like pedestrian bridges and more parkland. This is especially important given many kids walk to school, parks, and shops.
114791953565	I'd like to see a pedestrian bridge or tunnel to link the Twinbrook metro station and Congressional Plaza, too. Other metro stations in the area do not require pedestrians to cross Rockville Pike to reach the other side (i.e., North Bethesda, Rockville).
114791881645	Need revenue to for growth and improvements.
114791792871	I live near RedGate Park and walk around it weekly. It is a crown jewel of a nature park in Rockville.

114791756660	Improving the walkability of Rockville improves life for everyone here!
114791656281	NA
114791380157	Redgate is such a treasure in our city. Its beautiful, peaceful and a great place to walk and see nature.
114791307607	Save and design park land
114791306769	Public use greenspaces are good for our communities and our emotional and physical health.
114791294886	Make decisions that brings revenue to the City.
114791224187	Redgate is such an amazing wonderful, pls nurture it!
114791206963	I chose 2 open space initiatives as a way to both protect green spaces as Rockville grows, and to enhance the quality of living. Redgate in particular should remain a green space that eventually is connected to other nearby public parcels. Rockville has plenty of developed park land. This space should be limited to low impact use such a hiking, biking, and wildlife viewing.
114791155166	"Improvements" to RedGate should NOT be development into sports facilities, concert venues, or other construction that damages the natural resources. The city SHOULD connect RedGate to Rock Creek Trail near where it crosses Avery Rd., and add bike/pedestrian safety features to that section of Avery Rd. The city should also connect Rock Creek Trail to the John Hayes Forest Preserve at Baltimore Rd.
114791141780	More project work and funds should be aimed at enhancing opportunities for safe walking and biking in Rockville. Red Gate is a gem and we must continue to maintain and enhance it for use of our citizens. Green space to enjoy is essential to a healthy and vibrant community. We need more green spaces that are well cared for and actively maintained.
114791106755	Maximize local safety & preserve park land & green spaces amid all the development. Preserve RedGate's natural environment to maximum extent feasible.
114791102480	Rockville continues to invest in initiatives that improve quality of life for residents. These priorities continue that strategy.
114791075141	More mass transit options. Free trolley on Rockville Pike from King Farm to Pike and Rose
114791062336	Nature and trails were what the Engage Rockville study on Redgate favored over other changes by a factor of 4:1. The worst problem in Redgate is the rapid expansion of invasive plants and bushes within the park. Eradication thru professional treatments should be a priority before the invasives wipe out much of the native vegetation.
114791059251	Redgate Park is one of the best places to connect to nature, away from the sounds of cars and the city, and it means a lot to develop it in that way. Where people can take walks, sit, and enjoy tranquilly. I'm not sure what improvements are proposed but it's important to keep this mood in sight for any future developments, and avoid any loud permanent usage like athletic fields, which we already have a lot of. Pedestrian, bike, and other personal mobility infrastructure is a high priority to improve the economic future of Rockville and decrease the number of cars in the city. I don't know enough about the other proposals.

114791054019	I fully support the maintenance and improvement of Redgate Park, though no major building or development on the park property. This park offers a beautiful and peaceful place for respite for both humans and wildlife.
114791048060	Keep Redgate as natural as possible. Maybe stock ponds with trout in winter and offer for blind/under 16 age fishing opportunity.
114791037235	Redgate Park is a great resource and should be maintained/enhanced.
114790993560	Fix zoning to allow organic development. Invest in parks and walkable spaces. Fund transit. The Rock Creek Trail should have a spur path the goes to Redgate park.
114790987819	We love seeing the old, historic farm in our city. Disappointed to see the excavation and new houses being built so close to it. There should have been more of a buffer. What remains of the farmstead should be protected and preserved and put to good use. The community gardens in the farm fields are a perfectly fitting and appropriate use.
114790986355	RedGate Park is a gem of the City of Rockville that is increasingly popular, and which holds the possibility of being an incredible destination park. Connecting the park to Rock Creek Park would allow people to access the park by bicycle and on foot.
114790985158	Established residents and improving the quality of our community should take precedence over more development for new residents. Plans should include preserving established natural habitats for wildlife in these areas as well.
114790979640	All the projects make sense to me. 1-3 are exciting, 4&5 just aren't relevant to my life.
114790977405	Considering Rockville's basically urban environment, the City should place a high priority on the acquisition of addition of additional land for parks and recreation.
114790972403	more access for pedestrians would be ideal
114790967090	RE: planned improvements to RedGate, I do not support brightly lit playing fields with artificial turf, etc. I do support a more natural area.
114790962816	Undeveloped green space needs to be protected, especially as climate change grows worse
114790951784	RedGate Park could use some upgrades
114790939885	Rockville is becoming increasingly built up/urbanized. I would like for the Council to be more creative about thinking about development than defaulting to building more buildings.
114790937706	Redgate is such a special place - investing in this park is an amazing opportunity and a gift to our community and the our native flora/fauna.
114790934787	First, take care of the assets you have before acquiring more.
114790928063	Redgate park is a fabulous place to walk and nature watch. A gem of a place. My highest priority.
114790925297	Need green space, nature, dog walking space.. for quality of life and conservation.
114790925022	Especially in these disruptive political times, natural and thereby inherently neutral political spaces are vital for a community. Due to its large acreage, Redgate offers a unique opportunity to create a large and enduring park, rarely available in urban areas. People are increasingly hungry for safe and beautiful outdoor spaces for recreation and peace of mind. I am sure, as it gets more fully built out, it will become a Rockville treasure. I'm sure that future generations of Rockvillians, will be grateful to the current mayor and council for their foresight.

114790920047	Been living in Twinbrook since 1996 and that pedestrian bridge is extremely important! Thanks.
114790912668	Please leave enough forest for the animals.
114790909584	We love Redgate Park. It's a great community resource that brings us to Rockville.
114790910983	I think parkland is important to not only physical, but mental health, and the way the current administration is taking it away quickly, Rockville should have as much parkland as possible. I think traffic is already at a maximum at the Shady Grove Metro, so put that at the bottom; the more homes, the less parkland and the more traffic.
114790908752	Please leave one natural land beauty - we all need it
114790903344	Red Gate Park is the only park that provides a quiet peaceful place. It shelters many bird species and native mammals. In a city that is dominated by development it is crucial to protect Red Gate as a truly unique and special place.
114790903293	Redgate needs an 18 hole DISC GOLF COURSE!!!
114790900877	Need more green space protected and available to the public. Less impervious areas which contribute to flooding during extreme rain events. And safety (pedestrian bridge).
114790899832	I'm nature lover. I often hike and walk with my dog and family and friends. Having more natural space is my priority.
114790893933	Redgate is a wonderful place to walk and is slowly attracting wildlife such as birds. Greenspace is vital in our lives!
114790890685	Once we loose parklands, they are gone forever....acquire additional parkland for future generations and keep Rockville Green.
114788101712	More Annexation of reasonable property is better for the City.
114787845030	RedGate is a beautiful space that provides a safe environment for walking
114784112255	Improvements to RedGate sound expensive. Few people live around the park. Better to improve and expand neighborhood parks, especially in areas of the city underserved by green space.
114782756667	The buildings at King Farm have been an expensive albatross for the city. After 20+ years the city has yet to find a viable use for old farm structures. The city should seek to extract itself from the covenants that saddle it with this collection of non-viable properties. Nostalgia for a time gone by is no justification for continuing to burden Rockville taxpayers.
114780726611	Please prioritize creating connections to RedGate, particularly pedestrian and bicycle paths and entrances TO the park, not just within it. If people can't get there, it doesn't matter how great it is.
114780382524	Bridge connection for Twinbrook would improve walkability in the area and make other businesses and neighborhoods more accessible especially for people who don't own vehicles. Expanding park areas and improving park areas would bring a positive change to the Rockville area as well, getting ahead of the curb and set a good green/city example for the future.

114780075216	Any amount of non-car infrastructure, especially surrounding metro stations, should be prioritized to future-proof the city and its citizens for a transit-oriented future. I would further suggest up-zoning around the Rockville and Shady Grove metro stations, and consider a pedestrian bridge similar to Rockville's across the Pike to King Farm and to the shopping centers near Twinbrook. That, or reconsider having the Pike as a 6-lane highway through the middle of our city and place it on a road diet.
114778819093	Annexing the Shady Grove metro and encouraging more residential/commercial properties nearby should absolutely be the #1 priority. There are too many vacant / surface lots that should be turned into apartments/condos. Something like Pike & Rose should be the goal.
114778795894	None of the choices would be a high priority for me. How about increasing fire and police department services.
114778668343	I support economic development and growth but there is a lack of coordination with other government entities, specifically Montgomery County Public Schools. Any growth in housing should be accounted for with increased capacity at schools. Too many schools are overcrowded and too reliant on trailers to accommodate the overcrowding.
114777946886	Rockville desperately needs more green space but affordable housing is also needed. "development" of more office spaces is NOT needed
114776805326	We need better connectivity of existing public transportation infrastructure, specifically better walking and biking routes to and from the existing metro stations. Currently all three stations in the city are designed for driving. This creates a somewhat large buffer area people arriving by metro would need to walk through to get to what the city has to offer in terms of shopping, dining, or even apartments. Rockville should continue to invest in making the areas immediately adjacent to its metro stations into places of interest.
114776527074	Maintaining our city and beautify our current parks and communities are more important than all these projects, in my opinion.
114776129976	My top pick is important! Also, pay your employees!!! Stop being cheap!
114775262721	Redgate has so much potential and the King Farm Farmstead seems to be wasted sitting doing nothing when it can be a fantastice community center.
114775157091	The City is hamstrung by the historic designation of the Farmstead. Repeal that and then decide how to best use the land. Also in general—plant more trees and restore forested areas that have been decimated by development.
114775141019	The senior center is getting overcrowded. The king farm campus would be a good place to expand community recreation.
114775051679	Leave the King Farm area alone. We do not require "usable purposes" which will only further increase traffic congestion.
114774759686	More parkland is needed.
114774380528	Inclined to focus on building up assets currently in Rockville before annexing Shady Grove Metro Station. There are already two ways to cross RR tracks in Twinbrook -- Metro station and Twinbrook Rd (does it have sidewalks adjacent? There are many lanes of roadway at the crossing.).
114774169791	Revitalizing downtown Rockville is #1 by far.
114774063101	these do not relate much to me.
114774044302	Redgate could be our local "Central Park" to bring all the community together in nature.

114772745729	I would like to see affordable housing and economic development prioritized in these initiatives.
114771228527	Selfishly I choose interest
114770387642	Is there a projection for what type of economic development could increase revenues for the city around Shady Grove?
114769994439	I focus on general public safety and development that would benefit most people than selected or targeted area.
114769121601	Ninguna
114767280565	I've been around Twinbrook. I just can't think of the need for the bridge so that's why I Put it last. I think it's important that we have space for more community events and increased revenue generation. I think E. Guide Rd. in W. Guide Rd. could use a clear bike lane.
114767154167	I do not feel strongly about my votes above, they are just guesses about what would be best for increasing options for non-car mobility and housing availability/affordability, which are the two biggest issues we face IMO
114766886666	Strongly support additional development around Shady Grove Metro, but unsure how Rockville's annexation of Metro property would contribute to this.
114766617742	Acceptance and equality of treatment regardless of color, ethnicity and religion
114766544493	Please fix the parking situation in rockville town center. The cost is outrageous and is probably contributing to the turnover of businesses there.
114766129977	PASS RENT STABILIZATION NOW!
114764487894	I live in Twinbrook. This would help us a lot!
114764363098	Both King Farmstead, 6 Taft St and Red Gate face demolition by neglect from the City.
114763657824	Housing construction adjacent to public transit (like Shady Grove Metro) and the pedestrian connectivity of communities (as in Eastern Rockville currently isolated by the railroad tracks) should be prioritized. I would also include better cycling infrastructure along side those priorities. The city's Bikeway's Master Plan has languished while progress on cycling infrastructure along 355 and other key cycle routes hasn't meaningfully progressed.
114763161371	Rockville Town Center is STILL struggling - this needs to be fixed before any additional or expansion of "economic development" initiatives.
114762983857	Rockville natural areas is one of its greatest asset. Protecting and improving them is essential, in face of the tempting urbanization and housing development pressure.
114762574278	I strongly prioritize pedestrian safety as a public transit user. Not sure I have ever lived anywhere that had such a jarring combination of good public transit access to services (which I enjoy and value) and unsafe road design. I often feel like I and the pedestrians and transit users around me are in physical danger from cars.
114761658932	I want to see projects that protect parkland and natural spaces
114761516669	Since I live in King Farm, that's where my priorities lie.
114761174310	Reduce congestion from overbuilding by acquiring parkland. Keeping metro a focal point of our community should be paramount. No more bike lanes. Remove underused bike lanes.
114760104175	Get the metro station area. Annex along shady grove road
114759880939	Spend no more on murals and do more to reduce property taxes.

114759858823	The farmstead is a community treasure and could be used for enhancing cultural, educational and recreational purposes in keeping with the city's heritage and traditions and its current diversity. It is place to build community.
114759571371	The farmstead is part of Rockville's history and an asset to the community. The garden that exists allows residents to collaborate and give back to the community through donation of excess produce. The buildings if repaired and repurposed could se to be as sought after indoor rental space when weather does not allow for outdoor festivities with proceeds supporting maintenance and potentially generating excess funds that could be used towards other projects in Rockville
114759551020	The green woods and parks are what make parts of Rockville desirable. It helps balance against the intense strip malls and car dealerships. As Rockville sells more development, I hope we preserve the remaining woods and old trees and focus on revitalizing industrial or abandoned properties (White Flint and other areas)
114759458566	Greenspace makes for a healthy family
114752643626	The priority for the Farmstead development must be historic preservation and respect for the community garden that's adjacent to it, NOT revenue production.
114751920018	Annexation doesn't seem to have any disadvantages as long as it is revenue generating. The Farmstead can be a value added resource for the City. The tracks separate an entire community from walking or cycling to the future Twinbrook Quarter especially if the Metro is closed. Construct a pedestrian bridge. Parks are always desirable. RedGate is a beautiful property and it is fine as is. As much as I would love to see an Arboretum, it isn't a necessity to still enjoy the park
114749336071	I dont care about any of those initiatives. I want rent stabilization. Housing is a human right
114748906669	Rockville needs as much green space as possible, including walking trails, wetlands and more community gardens.
114748311097	"Useable" purposes for Farmstead could mean a lot of things-don't forget it is a PARK and has historic designation.
114746503241	It's so hard to access the shopping center in twinbrook because of the big street. It feels very unsafe and scary to cross. It deters me from shopping in that area
114746257281	Focus on traffic safety at redland rd and frederick rd intersection. No left turn unless traffic green turn light.
114744654283	Rockville should prioritize environmental issues while there is still a native environment to save.
114744588896	Pedestrian access and usable and more green areas should be prioritized.
114743306360	I have higher priorities, but they are not listed here: (1) Pedestrian safety: Improve safety at crossings; repair broken/uneven sidewalks. (2) Provide access to Senior Center from Gude Drive.
114742603360	Keep Twinbrook "walkable" with strong priority on community natural/park space
114738231645	Red gate park is amazing! Please make it even better!
114737744203	Where is moderate housing and rent stabilization in the priorities? It is number one for me and my family.
114737528563	I consistently use the parks around and near Rockville after work. More parkland would be beneficial to my work life balance.
114737526714	More opportunities for walking safely. Fixing potholes in streets. Prevent speeding. Address increased traffic due to more housing/people.
114737401353	The city needs revenues.

114736987919	There is an increasing amount of new housing in the city, and green space is shrinking. Rockville is a very different place from years ago when I moved here. I'm considering moving to another state.
114736563687	Given that 90 percent of residents have access to a park within a 10-minute walk, it doesn't really make sense to try and acquire additional parkland throughout the city.
114736426789	Prioritize walkability and development. You want more money in future budgets? Expand the tax base by increasing density.
114736123018	We need more greenspace, especially close to Rockville Town center
114736088196	If possible develop planning area 7 as a "collegetown" with housing affordable to those who might be students, college/MCPS employees and small business owners/employees
114736083584	I think we should focus on improving the areas already within city limits like Red Gate, ped bridge, and King Farm, rather than annex additional land that will need a huge investment to improve sufficiently.
114735806619	Less Building, more Parks, and open land
114734554822	Maintaining green space and adding more green space is a priority for me.
114733178791	I love the idea of a thriving Metro station center with stores, restaurants and housing. I hope some will be senior housing.
114732952963	Adding more housing at our metro stations will reduce traffic and greenhouse gases. Making neighborhoods more walkable by connecting people to retail in their neighborhoods, will also reduce traffic. And walking improves our health. And of course we want to preserve green Spaces.
114735484160	We need to support the businesses in the new Twinbrook Quarter and improve connectivity of Twinbrook neighborhoods to the rest of Rockville to improve the equality and safety of access to local goods and services. Without support from all of Rockville's closest residents, there could be much more business volatility and turnover and lack of benefits to Twinbrook residents who supported the development of Twinbrook Quarter. Building the pedestrian bridge across the train tracks would address these issues and could also reduce the city's carbon emissions because more residents would be able to eliminate short car trips with lots of high-emitting idling, and instead complete errands by walking or riding bikes or scooters. We also need to advance the arboretum/park plans at Redgate since they have already been developed and gained public support. The plans to establish an arboretum at Redgate would enhance visitors experiences, enhance the value of the park as wildlife habitat, and increase the park's carbon-sequestering potential. Additional park land could be acquired to increase total green space in the city, preserve vegetated buffers around developments to maintain or improve air quality, sounds barriers, wildlife corridors, recreation and environmental stewardship opportunities, as well as aesthetics within Rockville. Costs of any new developments at Shady Grove and King Farm should be assumed by prospective developers and the city staff should not review their plans until developers can clearly demonstrate that they have met the letter of all applicable laws, regulations/building codes, including environmental protection and restoration standards.
114732667968	A bus route closer to RedGate would make it more accessible, especially for youth activities.
114732545229	Remove homeless and transient from streets and force redevelopment of blight commercial shopping area along Viers Mill Rd.

114732331026	Farmstead Buildings are there. Next to it there is a large community opening soon with over 300 townhouses, condo. Also since this past summer water and sewage access was brought to this campus, should see what can be done with existing buildings. Perhaps use for recreation classes and maybe Rockville Villages and other Rockville non-profits could use the space as well.
114730815226	RedGate land has been part of community for decades. It is a nature preserve. Please save and upgrade the clubhouse so patrons can use it now and future. Tearing clubhouse down will cost more to rebuild and disrupt surrounding space.
114729456875	The "Freedom" bridge was a failure because it connected the East side to a rather barren stretch of 355. Hechingers was happy. The proposed bridge will connect the East side to a wide assortment of retail from Congressional to Wegmans.
114728308843	Improve RedGate park and open it to public access
114728218367	East and west side communities need better walking and biking connections. Hope Twinbrook Bridge will lead to a new bridge across tracks near Rockville metro. Absolutely vital that RedGate park be preserved and NOT developed into more car-dependent housing. City needs to improve its economy and business climate, Annexing Shady Grove will hopefully create desirable commercial space.
114727886851	I don't see the benefit of building a pedestrian bridge in Twinbrook, where there is the metro that provides this pass.
114727487804	Parkland like Redgate bring your Montgomery County neighbors (like me!) to the City of Rockville... when we orient our activities towards Rockville, we also spend money in Rockville shops/businesses. Please prioritize planting native plants/trees in parks and neighborhoods
114728295263	While I believe green space, green infrastructure and parkland are a #1 priority, I'm not sure what "planned improvements to Redgate Park" means, and therefore I hesitate to click on that. Improvements mean different things to different constituencies. I believe most of Redgate Park should be rewilded as a functioning native ecosystem (forest), that incidentally has some lawn areas for cross country and walking paths, maybe a small area of community gardens, maybe a disc golf course. The clubhouse could be improved. Other than that, please NO amphitheater, NO festivals/events. Regarding the refitting buildings within the King Farm campus-should be the policy wherever possible. We do not need to build more buildings, more apartments, etc. We need to use the buildings we already have, particularly where they are standing vacant for years. Retrofit existing buildings so they can be useful and stop eating up green spaces in the name of progress. In general, we need many pedestrian bridges, not just in Twinbrook at the tracks. Crossing 355 and Viers Mill Road can feel like a life-threatening endeavor in several locations, despite the crosswalks. At a minimum, we should have more flashing signs at crosswalks, e.g., at Viers Mill and Dodge.
114727418382	A pedestrian bridge, and indeed any amenities for pedestrian safety and convenience, is helpful. But you can cross the train lines by going through the Twinbrook Metro or on the sidewalk on Twinbrook Parkway. More pressing pedestrian reform in my mind would be installing a sidewalk or walk/bike lane, or at least trimming the overgrown trees/brush to distance pedestrians from cars, on Viers Mill Road between Twinbrook Parkway and the Twinbrook Connector Trail.
114727395704	accessible parks and more trails please!

114727378869	Twinbrook is an amazing neighborhood. Please pay it more attention and give it the care and concern you give to West Rockville.
114727337196	Ideas for Redgate: add a larger nature center at RedGate, with more programming about native plants and/or more native demonstration gardens and giveaways to encourage people to introduce more Maryland natives into their own home landscapes. This would also be an important resource for local and migratory birds and other wildlife, and would attract human visitors too!
114727318520	Please maintain or increase the number of trees in any of the projects.
114727308887	Twinbrook was promised another metro tracks crossing to access the Twinbrook Quarter project on foot/bike and that should be a priority
114727226414	A pedestrian bridge would have a very positive impact on quality of life and walkability in Twinbrook.
114727225535	The Twinbrook bridge would be a huge improvement for everyone, especially with the rezoning.
114727210296	Twinbrook pedestrian is essential as it will connect that neighborhood to rockville. If you can build a bridge that allow cars then even better
114727207270	What does annexing mean in terms of Shady Grove? We can or cannot use that area for development?
114727198577	I live in Twinbrook so I am biased. But continuing development in the city should be the main priority.
114727193261	Redgate is a great location for moving towards native plantings to increase biodiversity, and create habitat. It's a birding hotspot and could even be more so. To have a unique place to walk through native meadows and other habitats, is great for our mental health, too!
114727188958	RedGate is a regional space, an opportunity to provide habitat for wildlife (including birds), an example of native planting for renters and homeowners and a place of tranquility for all. Development in the DMV makes natural areas that support native species more and more rare. The wood thrush, DC's state bird, the red eyed vireo and eastern towhee are declining due to development and climate change. Rockville has an opportunity to play a part in reversing this trend. Water is another vital resource that further planting of native plants at RG could also affect. This will decrease the amount of runoff by replacing existing turf with native grasses which have very deep roots and help water seep into the ground instead of running off. Large shade trees help mitigate warming.
114727184581	I became a certified naturalist through the Audubon Naturalist Society (now Nature Forward) and have read extensively about the importance of access to green spaces for people's well-being.
114727161508	Establishing clear boundaries for development while maintaining natural spaces is essential. We regularly use Rockville parks and businesses and would increase patronage with better resources.
114727146850	I would visit Redwood Park if it were upgraded to include native plants and education about ecosystems and the need to remove non-native invasives and plant natives.
114727089922	I did the best with my options. I don't believe these to be primary priorities for the city to begin with.
114726668458	A bridge for pedestrians and cyclists over the railway is a good idea as long as it is not like the one at Lincoln Park which is not user-friendly.

114726371963	Twinbrook is a disconnected community. By prioritizing a pedestrian bridge, we create deeper connection to Rockville writ large and the incoming business improvements happening in the city of Rockville and on Rockville Pike.
114725947433	The pedestrian bridge seems like a bad idea since the one north of the rockville metro is barely usable. I think a multiuse bridge/tunnel would be a good idea because the gentle slopes let cyclists ride through easily
114725503554	Red Gate provides a great place for people to enjoy nature with their families and friends and meeting new people of all ages. Besides outdoor concerts, the city add craft fairs or fall festivals to bring in money. Even provide workshops for people to learn about bird watching, use a compass, etc. Invite scout troops to help with this to earn badges, and more.
114723820739	I haven't followed the local news enough to make an informed decision about the other items above. Supporting RedGate natural habitat for wildlife & low-impact enjoyment.
114723722420	Free available parking is an issue for Senior Citizens.
114723279804	Pls. consider building a pedestrian bridge from Twinbrook a #1 priority. Thank you.
114722874675	There is excess demand for access to nature programs. RedGate Park has room to satisfy that demand by locating a main, larger nature center where the old clubhouse is. With the trails at RedGate and trail connecting RedGate to the Hays Forest preserve, the city could attract more birdwatchers to spend money in Rockville, and offer more afterschool and summer programming for children. The amphitheater should be deleted from the plan; if one is needed, it should be adjacent to the Fitzgerald Theater--which has power, parking, changing rooms, restrooms.
114722533514	None were really top priority for me. Instead - prefer you prioritize rent stabilization and community engagement and stability.
114722478950	More trees in rockville please!
114722092517	I use RedGate Park every week and want it to continue to have running paths in addition to native trees and shrubs for birdwatching.
114722072107	Keeping RedGate Park and Arboretum a park with walking paths for all.
114722037134	More parkland would beautify Rockville
114722020735	Redgate Park is becoming a premier go-to location for people of all ages. It provides those of all incomes and ethnicities with a place to walk, watch birds and butterflies, and relax. It is an oasis within our city.
114721644307	Red gate- we go there a lot when visiting the farmers market or other things in Rockville we really love the natural setting and quiet. We really don't want an amphitheater built at Red Gate and want it to remain quiet. Maybe make the clubhouse a community/nature center.
114721573346	The more green space we get and preserve the healthier the community we will have for generations to come.
114721472704	Sustainable growth and economic development are key to the city, but if done with a blind eye toward green space we will lose our natural spaces forever. We must prioritize our environment or it will be gone..... and the loss is incalculable.
114721030386	Neighborhoods east of the railroad tracks are not prioritized. We need more pocket parks and passive green spaces.
114721014497	Land that could be developed or set aside as a park will be difficult to find the longer you wait, and one of the best things about Rockville are all the parks in the city!

114720881456	I live close to Rockville but not in the city. I appreciate access to Red Gate Park and support the improvements that are being made to preserve it as open space and natural habitat.
114720789136	Green spaces and the continuing to support the success of Redgate's transformation is a key part of making Rockville a livable and healthy community.
114720581922	Outside spaces in Rockville are important to many. Thank you Rockville for doing a good job at it
114720561971	The antiquated King Farm buildings have been a money pit for years. Find a use or raze them so the land can be utilized and generate taxes.
114720537702	Redgate Park should have a high priority - it is a magnificent park and the Mayor and Council should make every effort to insure that it is well maintained and well publicized throughout the community.
114720526941	We NEED more green space and better parks!
114720510657	Only get more land if keep it green. This wonderful park must be kept in good shape for birding and for people to get away from their troubles by being in nature. If kept "green" it is money well spent. So important.
114720502501	I really didn't care about choosing 5 and wanted to choose my first 2.
114720366991	Add solar panels to City buildings, and solar canopies to parking lots. Add EV chargers throughout the City to encourage residents to drive electric.
114720368043	We need to preserve trees and green space in Rockville.
114720316219	Climate change is our biggest threat. We need more trees and parks to provide cooling and to capture rainwater from severe rainstorms and flooding expected in the future.
114720261346	I have been asking for a path from lake Frank to Redgate for a long time. When will this happen please?
114720260276	For me the most important priority is maintaining the parks and green spaces for us. If you develop everything we suffer in the end. With green spaces the air quality remains better and the mental health of the citizens is improved. If you build up everything we are the losers in the end. So remember to keep the parks and green spaces for us to enjoy forever.
114720215797	In our world today, I am deeply saddened by climate change and the elimination of trees and parkland. Please preserve as much as you can, like preserving Redgate and do not let builders knock down trees just for their own convenience.
114720171414	Preserve the existing natural spaces is essential; develop useful ways for pedestrians and good use of urban spaces also.
114720148483	Keep Redgate as a nature area
114720112032	With the Wegman's nearly open, the pedestrian bridge is more important than ever! Parks are also an important priority for me.
114720110937	RedGate Park is unique in its size and the kinds of habitat it offers to wildlife, and of course the kind of space it offers for recreation to residents. Please prioritize.
114720109234	I love Redgate the way it is currently, not sure what the planned improvements would encompass.
114720100142	Redgate Park and green spaces are vital for the health of our communities.

114720099494	I am all for more green spaces -- especially as housing - retail development seem to be ongoing at a rapid pace in our county. However, I do think there is enormous upside for the Shady Grove Metro station area to be improved for revenue/housing development -- though parkland there would be a major plus as well.
114720098785	This is a unique opportunity to continue making improvements to RedGate Park and the Arboretum. Let's not lose steam here to improve an amazing green parkland resource for the community.
114720097719	Nature and outdoor activities are important for mental health and safety.
114720084417	I don't have an opinion about the above other than prioritizing RedGate park and pedestrian safety
114720063032	quality of life important to me
114720009933	Prioritize the Community Gardens and Arboretum at RedGate Park. And keep it a quiet place with no amplified events! Would be amazing to have the building become a nature center to capitalize on the amazing variety of birds and wildlife in the park.
114716639334	These questions were very unclear and very vague.
114715978338	Make Redgate a venue for events and an arboretum.
114713682208	Make sure that "usable purposes" in King Farm include affordable housing for disabled people! That means places without stairs and more financial aid. It's so hard to find ADA compliant housing in the community. We need much more of it!
114712649174	Making Rockville less car-dependent should be the priority. Not just a pedestrian bridge at Twinbrook, but prioritization of pedestrians and cyclists in general. Make RedGate accessible to pedestrians and cyclists. Same for businesses. People shouldn't be reliant on a car to do most of their errands. Re-zone so residential areas can have small businesses, and incentivize those businesses in those areas.
114711223341	At-grade railroad crossings have been a deathtrap forever. Three died at the Montrose one in the summer of 1999.
114710940867	expanding the shady grove metro station should be the number one economic goal of the city, PG just got the FBI campus at greenbelt metro that will bring a lot of tax base income to their county and city of green belt that should be our goal
114710853695	Twinbrook deserves to have easier pedestrian access to downtown Rockville.
114709996203	I don't know what the King Farm initiative is, so it's last.
114708579101	N/A
114708570307	Millennium trail needs improving for better surfaces and safety
114708214940	They all seem expensive and mostly they don't help anyone
114706555741	Re-outfit king farm but keep it affordable. Creating new houses that are \$700k up is unrealistic.
114706556714	Lots of young families are looking for opportunities to live and play in Rockville permanently - any opportunities for more housing and family experiences like dining, parks, shopping and living are all welcomed. We want to make it safe, easy to get to and fun!
114705960587	We want to move due to development.
114705918530	Unless the Shady Grove annexation comes with significant upzoning, don't bother.
114705917580	Should start artist in residence in bldg behind clubhouse. Like Glass blowers Metal Artist etc in partnership with Vista arts

114705867623	Important to increase green areas and make improvements to parks in order to match growing population. Do not think we should undertake major construction for crossing over railroad tracks when there are already many ways to cross over railroad tracks, including walking through Metro stations or existing bridges.
114705827893	Number one priority should be replacing all the aging water mains in the city. Not any of these initiatives.
114702464953	There are so many blighted buildings between Gude and Shady Grove that I believe it brings down the property values.
114702455309	Green space and parklands should be a priority for the city. It helps build a stronger city, increases property values and improves the quality of lives for residents.
114702372667	A little vague.
114702125692	The bridge sounds amazing! Right now only a few neighborhoods are safely connected to rockville town center and shopping, and this would increase the range of highly desirable areas for families to live in. Walkability and SAFE biking access matter a lot to families! Until a route is 100% safe, parents will not be able to let their children use them alone, this would be a huge improvement. This would also improve access to Rock Creek trail for all residents.
114701546576	There arent more worthwhile improvements that benefit the community as a whole? If i could choose zero for some of these I would
114701414663	No comment.
114701296747	i dont' see anything about making the montrose park building accessible to the neighborhood. Most disappointing
114701268122	Focus on revenue growth while preserving the unique neighborhood friendly environment Rockville is known for
114701226529	more bridges over roads more cross walks that work more bus
114701136234	A fit person can do many errands on foot withing, say, a 3-mile walk, reducing traffic, but have to circumvent rr tracks, intersection built for cars, and odd rights-of-way is a major deterrent!
114700979495	We need public bathrooms in Town Square.
114700954954	I tried to prioritize based on the impact to the largest number of citizens
114700722196	We have enough parks, need improvement to infrastructure specifically our SCHOOLS.
114700529519	Using land, especially for housing, next to metros is top priority for me. Next is priotitizing people being able to get around without cars.
114700528101	RedGate property should be swapped with MoCo for other properties and/or money. MoCo should add it to abutting regional park. The City should be in the neighborhood park business, not in the regional park business.
114700519620	Please improve pedestrian infrastructure
114700502481	Transit oriented access and development is important to the city and it's residents.
114700482935	None of these initiatives are really vital to Rockville development. Let's update park playgrounds! Let's make more family friendly initiatives. Trees in Rockville town center need trimming! They can be hazard with storms!
114700468289	Parkland with lots of trees is needed to take a break from the very hot summers that we are going to have in the future.

114700447598	You are missing a major one: revitalize the town square and attract new businesses and restaurants; it's a dead zone right now
114700445501	Safe access for Twinbrook is an important equity issue. Given the building and investment in that area, we need to improve pedestrian and bike safety. The entire city should be more walkable and bike-friendly.
114700439367	Revenue generation = more improvements Pedestrian bridge is not a priority unless there have been issues with pedestrians crossing unsafely.
114700172106	Parks are the best thing about Rockville. The more the merrier!
114698999691	Bicycle and pedestrian safety is a huge priority for a functional, sustainable transportation system. To achieve our climate goals, we need to lower our vehicle miles traveled and emphasizing bike and walkability near high-density residential areas with transit is one of the best ways to do so.
114694573698	Safety first, building communities also important. Transportation for everyone, including bikes.
114692434653	We need to connect the neighborhoods. The high line in NYC is a perfect example of what could be done here
114691812190	I feel a pedestrian bridge at Twinbrook will benefit the community to make it safer for everyone to cross Twinbrook safely.
114691658232	As a pedestrian, I feel unsafe when crossing most major roads in the Rockville area including Viersmill, Maryland Avenue, and Gaude Drive. I believe all major traffic lights on roads should have all red phases, no turn on red signs, and red light cameras. This will make it safer for pedestrians and generate revenue for the City. The pedestrian bridge over the Twinbrook metro is the first step in making walking safer in this area
114690280972	I think you should use the money for things you already own & are responsible for, before adding onto more responsibilities. I do think more green spaces & natural spaces for wildlife are very necessary amidst all of the urban developments going on. Critical for our community and ecosystem.
114690121084	I would like to add the construction of a pedestrian bridge from the Twinbrook metro station across Rockville Pike so that it is safer. Other metro stations in the area (North Bethesda and Rockville stations) do not require pedestrians to cross the busy road (355). It would benefit the community to link the metro station and Twinbrook Quarters area currently under construction with Congressional Plaza on the other side.
114690105148	twinbrook is the largest, most populated section of Rockville and generally gets the least support from city government
114690069586	There should be transportation priorities especially for Hungerford community
114689849164	My first priority would be complete sidewalks and the redevelopment of East Rockville via Stonestreet and the Rockville metro station, but that was not listed.

114689840837	<p>The City of Rockville must do all that it can to protect Open Space within the city proper limits which may overlap with Montgomery County property. The former Red Gate golf course is a perfect example of what will, one day, be developed with densely populated housing without sidewalks.</p> <p>Everyone in government loves to say they care about the environment yet almost never, ever stop residential developers from densely populating former open space. King Farm is an example of this. The more the Mayor and Rockville City Council allow residential developers to develop open space while road ways remain over capacity the more all of us will sit in traffic. Wildlife loses their habitat and get run over of the roads or shot and killed by Maryland Dept of Natural Resources.</p>
114689772436	<p>While I've been a significant advocate for pedestrian access in Rockville (and served for a time on the Environment Commission) and currently live in Twinbrook, increased rail crossings for pedestrians in Twinbrook is of limited value. The corridors between First Street, Edmonston Drive, and Twinbrook Station, the neighborhood's existing crossings) contains very little of interest to pedestrians. Moreover, those of us who use public transit are likely headed to Metrorail or MARC stations anyway. The benefit does not support the cost.</p> <p>Twinbrook would benefit much more from added parks in the neighborhood's interior and from soundwalls for neighbors living near the CSX tracks.</p>
114689737225	Use tax monies for major citizens benefit
114689720070	<p>You keep moving Mass amounts of poor people in and the ones with money are going to leave. That will give you a bigger mess than you ever imagined. PUMP THE BRAKES! Rockville is Headed right to the toilet!</p> <p>Poverty rate at 12.9%! You should be Ashamed of yourself</p>
114689486682	Bringing high quality hotels, shopping and restaurants to expand Shady Grove Metro like other Town Centers at the ends of rail lines.
114689485496	Every park should have a portapotty or access to a bathroom.
114689480595	Expanding the available housing stock and increasing the pedestrian accessibility of the Pike should be top priorities.
114689416176	<p>Please refocus planning efforts from prioritizing automobiles to prioritizing humans. Require future development to create pedestrian-friendly design.</p>
114689411724	Walkable and rolling walker use
114689387605	We should do all we can to conserve as much green space in Rockville as possible.
114689381249	I would like to see investments in the citys park systems, and parking. I want rockville to preserve its charm as a desirable suburb to live in for families.
114689375344	<p>pedestrian safety, accessibility/fairness to connect Twinbrook community to the rest of Rockville is important. Parkland to preserve nature in our City that contributes to quality of life and balance between City and Nature. Preserve SOME deer habitat (please!) because our neighborhoods are overrun.</p>
114689374586	The Rockville City Center needs to be prioritized for customer access (by vehicle and by foot traffic) and storefront rental charges need to encourage more businesses to move in
114689338895	the pedestrian bridge makes living and shopping without cars more possible. Any development is low on my priority list.
114689336660	New revenue = less increase for retired, fixed income residents
114689325040	<p>King Farm Farmstead is deteriorating because of neglect and lack of vision.</p> <p>Developers are waiting for the sell off. They are also waiting for the sell off of Red Gate.</p>

114689320661	None of the above. Taxes are too high. We need to reprioritize and reduce exoenditures and give homeowners a tax reduction. With inflation, cost of living is just too high. I want to see a tax cut for homeowners.
114689308327	Not interested in annexing Shady Grove Metro Sta, at all. We have enough economic development as it is. Let's concentrate and make better what we have.
114689305365	In all cases, reoutfitting and redesigning existing buildings (for retail and housing), should be the preferred approach rather than breaking new ground. We already have a built-out environment, ample vacant office and retail space. These should be redesigned to achieve the city's housing goals.
114689296477	Maximize number of users
114689293341	Rockville needs more parks and walking trails and less development. Traffic is already out of control and the city seems to be oblivious to it. Development seems to be the ONLY priority Rockville officials have.
114687733826	Please prioritize pedestrian safety and projects that bring Rockville together, such as a Twinbrook bridge.
114687309246	All of these are really important, but there are a lot of locations, especially in the town center. I really like the recommended park at Jefferson and Monroe in the town center master plan. Having such a park in the town center would be incredible for quality of life. Annexing the Shady grove metro would be great for the city, and hopefully incentivize more development around that station. Right now the station is designed almost exclusively for cars with very minimal pedestrian and bike connectivity. A pedestrian bridge in twin brook would also be nice, but I am really hesitant to see how it turns out. In most cases because of inconvenient design or lacking upkeep they end up as an expensive passing curiosity rather than a valuable part of our infrastructure. Jane Pontius Unity Bridge on Fredrick ave is an unfortunate example of such an underutilized bridge, with the massive height, an lack of stairs makes what would be a short crossing into a long looping trek. Also the location chosen has very little pedestrian/bike infrastructure availability.
114683321757	The pedestrian bridge is expensive and unnecessary. Pedestrians can just walk through the metro station. If anything, negotiate with metro to improve and keep the thruway open after hours. Annexing Shady Grove metro area will add a SIGNIFICANT burden on the Police department which is overwhelmed as it is. King Farm farmstead: Make the field by Ridgemont and 355 a parking lot. Move the Saturday farmer's market into the barns. Improve parking around Welsh Park and swim center. The sports events in Welsh Park, swim center and rock terrace fields often overwhelm the area parking.
114680620856	An additional crossing over the tracks in Twinbrook would be amazing. Twinbrook can and should be an amazing, walkable neighborhood, but there's such little access to businesses without being able to cross the tracks. Zoning regulations should be updated to encourage more small commercial development alongside residential. People should not be forced to use their car in order to access any business (grocery stores, restaurants, shops, etc.).
114679736859	Consider demo of the buildings at the farmstead to provide parkland and open space if no viable business opportunity is present

114679684073	Add'l parkland is essential to redesigning Rockville into a less car-dependent city. RedGate and King Farm both have the potential to be incredible amenities for their immediate neighborhoods as well as the city as a whole. My understanding is that the Twinbrook pedestrian bridge could receive significant grant funding, and so wouldn't require as much direct funding from the city.
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Respondent ID	Please provide any comments you have about your options to maintain a balanced budget:
114834221454	In todays climate, increasing the tax rate is borderline cruel. Lots of our neighbors have lost jobs or have experienced reduced in come.
114834141649	Not clear whether these are more or less important than the priorities.
114834089584	What are the "new priorities"? Do they need to be funded?
114833606756	With growing economic uncertainty and likely recession with continued high interest rates, as an economist I sadly have to encourage the M&C to adopt a conservative budget stance. But not raise costs given the uncertainty already faced by federal employees in the city.
114833570775	More trees e green spaces. Too many buildings!!!
114833470588	Don't know if the current debt number is good or bad. Doing taxes and debt together would yield roughly \$2.5m in revenue. Is that number significant enough to make a difference in the lives of the residents, out will it all go to New infrastructure and salaries?
114831269764	Cut the programs with the least participation.
114831137051	RENT STABILIZATION
114830887989	Subsidized housing.
114829902492	In light of the turmoil from the musk/Trump/Vance disaster, the city should make some contingency plans for funding. Is Rockville in danger of losing federal funds? We should also give some thought to what happens if the local economy is in collapse.
114829900874	The actual solution is upzoning all single-family zoning to quadplexes or even apartment buildings. The best way to increase revenue is to grow the tax base by increasing the population of the city.
114829536648	Reduce grants to agencies it serving the city such as Peerless Rockville. How does our tax dollars pay for office space, salaries, and maintenance of buildings outside of Rockville. criminal!
114829495117	I would be willing to pay more in property taxes to allow for our great city to be more affordable for our renters.
114828721071	Get rid of DEI initiatives and personnel. I want the best qualified, not based on skin color, gender, or anything else. Period.
114828655656	Fully fund Peerless Rockville's excellent programs that benefit our entire city.
114825603694	Decrease waste and increase operational efficiency.
114824669963	Finding ways to tax corporate tenants higher
114824541544	I think the real property tax rate increases noted are extremely reasonable, but I would also support tax credits for low-value homes in coordination with increases to the general tax rate.
114824508216	I never see anyone using the new bike lanes. what a waste of money. Increase parking. No one will ride their bike to shop for groceries.
114824505395	Please fully fund Peerless Rockville which is a beneficial program to educate citizens and preserve the history of one of the oldest cities in Montgomery County.

114823688404	The increase in property assessments does not keep up with inflation which drives city expenditure. Increased debt should be used to support infrastructure improvements.
114823138692	The focus on spending for biking is sized to the number of people I see using these improvements. I would eliminate everything other than maintaining the millennium trail. I know senior activities are heavily discounted but I would assert that most seniors are very wealthy. Possibly eliminating the senior exemption for property tax might be a place to look for additional revenue from people who can afford to pay it.
114822941952	The city has not raised this tax rate in a long time.
114822763943	It's worth considering a land value tax.
114822199070	city getting more income from property taxes on new developments. 7% expenses on IT is outrageous. more than HR and other departments combined.
114820342580	Passing rent stabilization would decrease the city's spending on emergency rental assistance
114820335988	I don't think recreation program increases would provide the desired outcome. I believe it would make these programs (which are already optional) less accessible.
114820330145	Please - hands off renters
114819510157	Property taxes are already too high - I can barely afford mine -- progressive tax measures based on ability to pay could provide a source of additional revenue.
114819503186	Membership to community centers should be free to residents of the City of Rockville
114819487908	Passing rent stabilization would decrease the city's spending on emergency rental assistance.
114819482484	reduce the police budget --> fund rent stabilization, parklands
114818650074	-Consider efficiencies on staffing and cross train
114818209768	Issuance of debt should be extremely low priority. Where possible, a reasonable increase in user fees would be preferred way to absorb costs.
114817664582	Consider a sliding fee scale that charges non-Rockville residents a slightly higher fee
114816318575	Please put forth strict measures that will allow rent control/rent stabilization within Rockville.
114816198816	Taking on debt will be necessary. We will lose residents if taxes go up. The City HAS to get more efficient in its staffing and programs. Funding entitled programs like Peerless Rockville needs to be severely limited to protect core services and values.
114815003172	Get rid of any DEI related programs. Mayor and Council should take pay cuts. How much does the city manager make? I also see in the proposed budget that: we're adding funding for affordable housing opportunities; 5 new government jobs for various permit processes; 2 civilian positions for the Police - for what?; more money for a gun buy back program; etc. I see unnecessary increased government spending. It really is the same old same old around here. This is very frustrating. And we just continue on in life as if this is all good. Rockville has a lot of money to begin with. We don't have a revenue problem, we have a spending problem. And town center is not vibrant.
114814595504	I support increases in recreation fees, but with increased opportunity for hardship memberships for those with lower incomes.

114813408134	There are so many senior center events. Maybe a little less?
114813344179	The city should eliminate its DEI position. The city was a welcoming, inclusive city before the off-putting DEI movement took hold and will remain one afterward. People left, right, and center are tired of racializing every policy and using terms like BIPOC and Latinx that make so many cringe.
114812472288	Reduce or eliminate discretionary programs and events.
114808591814	The city should seize the moment to drop DEI-related positions and programs. The culture has rejected this heavy handed approach. Better to achieve the same inclusive aims with less hoopla and less emphasis on attaching identity to everything.
114805111027	I don't know enough about this to have an informed opinion, but I do think increasing costs for recreation would deter participation and I'd like to keep recreation as accessible as possible.
114800139594	Reduction in funding of pet projects. Eliminate REDI. What is the real ROI there? Less focus on Town Center. Stop cutting parks and recreation funding (and pushing increased fees on participants) It's a quality of life issue and one of the main reasons people choose Rockville. Previous Director ran it into the ground, now is not the time to pass the costs onto residents. Rockville isn't a credit union, lets stop the branding initiatives.
114797776559	Passing rent stabilization would decrease the city's spending on emergency rental assistance.
114797099041	Take a hard look at our cost/benefit resourcing to Annapolis. Trim the extent to which we subsidize Baltimore City and PG County. "Equity" cuts both ways.
114795171967	Would follow fellow citizens and leaders suggestions.
114794888297	a lottery specific to Rockville
114794504392	Invite bond funded programs for public parks and playgrounds.
114793674204	Eliminate city recreational and focus all of it on building ecovillages instead, Ecovillages is where everyone's effort directly strengthens utility maintenance and input were available and effective, it was needed for keeping our ecosystem and our lifespan. But if you don't know the system's problem, then the system will use it to envy you entirely alive. I will NEVER forgive GOD for allowing parenting to happen without government issued Liscence, from this day on any child that is not born in a LAB will never be a citizen of united States legally and will be donated to foreign countries to solve the emergency food crisis.
114792775474	Painting bike and bus lanes is a waste of money. I'd rather have a safer city with more police.
114792716041	Identify underused programs and consider elimination them.
114792437228	Any program that is considered overhead should be eliminated.
114792021241	Other: Public Private Parterships, bring private sector for key community development programs to release funding to be use in infrastructure programs.
114792008371	I'm unsure what is best since I don't know the amount of money the city needs for the budget.
114791929259	These all just penalize those of us who live here and make it more expensive to live here. Why not incentivize lower and middle-income residents instead of the uber-rich?
114791798818	Increase sales tax
114791534406	I would not object to the property tax increase except that new assessments are up significantly and Moore is looking for money to close big budget gap.

114791387757	I moved here in October and don't have enough information to judge the above.
114791294886	Don't pay for DEI programs. Focus on good services.
114792360904	<p>Before proposing raising taxes on residents, Rockville city leaders need to communicate what programs these dollars support. For instance, it would not make sense to raise taxes on current home owners to support affordable homes for new residents who can choose to live elsewhere. Most Rockville city residents purchased their homes long ago and are on fixed incomes or are middle class so cannot afford additional taxes.</p> <p>If taxed will be increased, all residents should pay those taxes, not just homeowners. Renters and people in government housing should pay the same \$100/year proposed for homeowners to pay.</p> <p>Rockville city needs to conduct program evaluations and cut any programs with a low Return on Investment. There need to be solid metrics tied to each program, and programs not meeting those metrics should be cut.</p> <p>Rockville should cut any programs attracting more residents depended on government help. Most middle class people are struggling to stay afloat so should not be burdened funding low income programs that attract more low income people to the area.</p> <p>The only Rockville program deserving of more funding are the police so we have a great presence in neighborhoods to deter juvenile delinquents and petty criminals.</p>
114791275867	I am not in favor of reducing accessibility of City sponsored programs in order to balance the budget. I would support a reasonable increase in property taxes, especially on commercial property.
114791145439	Enforce parking more. Parking on the street in my neighborhood requires a permit, but I often see cars without permits parked during restricted times. There are also many cars parked along Stonestreet Ave where it's metered but obviously don't pay because they haven't moved in weeks.
114791141780	Become business friendly and work to grow the tax base with addition of interesting and desirable businesses. Stop getting in the way of businesses that want to operate in Moco with long waits for permits and other unacceptable hindrances to progress in this area. You can't tax residents endlessly. Just stop. Get creative and figure out ways to enhance the tax base.
114791102480	Multiple approaches to revenue growth can be applied to these initiatives. Debt financing remains at relatively low rates. Program users should bear some of their costs.
114791075141	not an expert in this field. Not clear how these options help. Are we trying to reduce debt? increase city staff?
114791062336	Eliminate planting of spring bulbs(60-65K) a year and all the repeated labor visits to the same planting sites (up to 4 visits per year, including spring bulbs with annuals. Replace this effort with funds to eliminate invasive plants from Rockville.
114791059251	A difficult choice but probably the most fair option
114791054019	I support conducting studies to determine how extensively and widely public programs and resources are being used to identify those that might be cut with the least adverse consequence.
114791032536	Property tax is already too high!!
114791021824	I think the city needs to attract more development and improve downtown Rockville like Pike and Rose. Downtown Rockville is a missed opportunity.

114790987819	What "new priorities" are we trying to accommodate"? Maybe eliminate those. We can't answer the question appropriately without knowing what costs are increasing or being added.
114790993560	Literally just make is legal to build housing. Organic development pays more property tax than car-dependent suburban development, and it addresses the housing crisis too. It's so astoundingly simple. It is how Rockville grew in the first place. Just make is legal to build small apartment buildings attached to each other like all the nicest neighborhoods in the world. Legalize Georgetown-style development by right all throughout the city and you'll generate 100x more property tax FOR FREE. This just requires fixing the laws. Address/remove lot size minimums, parking minimums, lot utilization requirements, too-sprawly FAR requirements, home business/ADU bans, height limits that make no sense, setback requirements, detachment requirements.
114790985158	Large Employers and anyone making more than double the household median income in Montgomery County, MD, should be subject to a higher tax rate then Small Businesses and lower income individuals.
114790979640	I was a board member in a prevalent Rockville group with a budget of about \$2M. Without naming any names, I'll say that I quit volunteering because I saw that there weren't many productive things happening around the groups efforts. Especially for a price tag of \$2M. In short, I think it would be great to use the current political climate as an opportunity to cut programs and budgets without raising as much of an alarm as it did in the 2010's
114790978176	Create a public bank, along the lines of North Dakota's bank, to support public projects.
114790967090	I would have to know the extent of a shortfall to make a completely informed decision- -I also think its prudent to have a reserve to respond to unforeseeable expenses e.g. natural disaster, infrastructure repairs
114790925022	I am not knowledgeable enough to know the consequences of my choice. Especially with the uncertainty of what is happening with the federal work force, you face a challenging issue.
114790910983	We should be willing to pay a bit more for all the benefits we get from Rockville City.
114790903344	Eliminate REDI and other programs that have not demonstrated a benefit to the city. Require developers to provide for essential amenities, eg parks, tree planting,etc programs as part of the cost of development. Quality of life for present and future residents is more important than the profits of developers. Increase incentives for developers to make this possible.
114790890685	Increase taxes on those making more than 500k...leave middle class alone.
114788437804	Eliminate programs that are not well-run nor cost-effective by evaluating them. (I can't specify).
114784112255	Cut Peerless Rockville grant.
114783949021	Schools receive more than adequate support. Trimming down their budgets would allow for savings that could be used for other purposes.
114783862587	I'd nix peerless Rockville they're essential a city funded anti development advocacy org.
114783408764	I support rent stabilization because as a renter, I am concerned about the cost of living in Rockville. If rent increases are not limited per county law, I and many others will be forced to take this into account at the next city election

114783139975	Reevaluate and reduce programs that are not necessary, for example, DEI-related
114782756667	The city should increase its user fees for the new pool. It was already often overcrowded in the summer, mostly with non-Rockville residents. Higher fees might help curb over-utilization.
114781103381	the MANY halfway and/or rehab houses that are all over the city!! we have more than enough!
114780075216	Any amount of taxation on the wealthier citizens should be prioritized over the cutting of programs or reduction in access to recreation/mentorship. An increase of taxes on a \$1million home by \$100 annually is infinitesimal compared to the vast benefits to our community and our youth that the other programs could provide. Deficit spending should also always be on the table in order to provide citizens with the best possible city resources. Redevelopment of vacant parking lots, particularly around Town Center and metro stations, should be a priority to increase taxable revenue. Finally, a possible road diet to the Pike could help achieve greater taxable income by replacing large-lot shopping centers with more walkable and attractive spaces, inviting more spending and more mixed-use development along the Pike.
114778819093	Reducing city staff should be a top priority, and I'm a bit shocked it was not an option. The upper/middle management should be the target as these staff typically cost the most. As a resident I don't feel like I get better benefits from my city than a Montgomery County resident living outside of Rockville. To be clear, I am a life-long Democrat, but the city bloat has to be addressed first. There have to positions in the city government that could handled partially by Montgomery County staff and/or sub-contracted out to part-time staff on an as-needed basis.
114778795894	R.E. taxes are too high. Definitely no increase in taxes.
114778687630	I am a property owner and can shoulder the slight increase in the property tax rate, which is relatively small. It is a more progressive approach to closing the gap. Increasing fees on programs would hit some of our lowest income residents harder, so I would only do that as a last resort.
114778682888	Could you do a progressive phase in? I live in Area 4. I have a lot of economic opportunity. I'd gladly pay more in property tax to support programs for neighbors who have less. But I don't want an increase in tax to hit older/fixed income/lower income neighbors in a way they cannot afford. I also think some people would be willing to trim programs but without a list of what programs there are, it is difficult to comment on priorities.
114778309808	Does the City analyze which programs have the lowest participation rates? Can some programming be consolidated? Are there opportunities for the City to find an independently owned business who provides similar services and promote them (cool way to connect independent businesses to rec and economic development)?
114776527074	Reduce programs that are not being used and government waste first, then and only then consider tax increases and increasing fees for city recreational programs. These are an important outreach for our community.
114776129976	PAY YOUR EMPLOYEES, WE WILL WORK HARDER AND GO ABOVE AND BEYOND FOR THE COMMUNITY!
114775262721	Assessments have skyrocketed so taxes are going up. I want to see programs that work within the existing budget. No tax increases please. Work with what we have an reduce spending to fit the current revenue stream.

114775157091	Our taxes are WAY too high already and property tax just went up again. Conduct an audit of city spending. How much of the police budget went to high tech tools that are expensive and ineffective?
114775051679	Across the board spending cuts. Also; NO MORE TAX INCREASES.
114774714459	Increase in safe bicycle paths.
114774666816	Please carefully evaluate the need for / performance of third party contractors, especially in the squishy areas of "raising awareness," "sustainability," "equity," etc, or wildly speculative "master plans" for the year 2075. Make Town Square attractive to people with money to spend before directing investible funds into meaningless or unattainable buzzword goals.
114774169791	You can generate higher tax revenue if you revitalize the downtown and have enough parking to support visitors for the surrounding area.
114774063101	reduce property tax rate. taxes too high.
114772745729	I would like to prioritize having higher taxes on the wealthy in order to pay for social services. I hope to see this addressed through a variety of tools in this year's budget, including some form of rent stabilization. It is important that we prioritize programs for the city's working families who already face the effects of a high cost of living.
114769994439	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce school lunch programs 2. Reduce rental assistance programs or made tenants pay an increase rental. 3. Enforce house coding and fine when they violate the housing code in group house or building without permit. 4. To increase pedestrian safety by holding people crossing the street against the traffic lights to pay fine.
114767510204	Provide a subsidy for the increase cost of city programs for those who can't afford it.
114767280565	I think the city should find more ways to increase revenue. Volunteer, donation based fundraisers. Or, a city owned business that generates revenue. I think the city is still growing so I wouldn't reduce programs.
114767154167	I think the city should consider whether introducing costs for parking (either on-street, via meters / permits, or in city-owned / controlled garages) could represent a significant revenue stream -- it would go hand-in-hand with sustainability / climate initiatives.
114766886666	Don't know
114766129977	PASS RENT STABILIZATION!!
114765860198	Control rent increase
114764395286	Reduce police budget and number of officers and use that money to hire two city employees to enforce rent stabilization.
114764363098	Bike lanes, pickle ball, skate park have little real value in a technology society.
114763657824	An honest review should be taken of tax incentives given to large corporations who demand them for activities that would have been profitable for them anyway. These demands are made in bad faith, and are a bluff the city should call more often. Much in the same way that stadiums deals demand public funding without returning the promised benefits, the city (and our elected leaders in particular) need to stand up to these demands which only privatize public funds while imperiling services for the broad community.

114763161371	I can't keep paying more and more for services I don't receive when the cost of living here is so high. We need greater fiscal responsibility - look at what you spend on things like landscaping with annuals that just die each year. Stop wasteful spending first!
114762983857	Keeping city services and recreation program, subsidized and as affordable as possible is what seems the most socially just thing to do. Budget can be increase by city debt and tax increase targeting wealthiest home owners.
114762574278	Passing rent stabilization would decrease the city's spending on emergency rental assistance.
114761978407	Please DO NOT increase property taxes in Rockville. They are already the same amount as a mortgage. It is unsustainable to have affordable housing if we can't afford to pay our taxes! Just because people live in single family homes doesn't mean they are rich.
114761174310	Stop spending on socially conscious events/programs that are not widely attended or supported Climate initiatives- Stick to items that have direct impact like recycling and energy efficiency for public buildings. Charge fees to those who use services.
114759880939	Cut waste. Remember during covid when your rental inspectors took combat pay but were not actually doing on site inspections. Cut fraud. How many assistants does every govt office need. Reduce taxes. I have to live within a budget you should too.
114759858823	Seek grants for recreation, education, culture, environment,etc.
114759795095	Rockville has had success with federal and state grant programs in the past. I'd look to expand these efforts as well as searching for non-profit or other organizations to partner with on specific projects. The Twinbrook pedestrian bridge seems like a perfect project for this. The city also has great recreation programs. One option, instead of charging more for programs, would be to try to expand the marketing of such programs. Could we increase revenue by increasing attendance?
114759458566	Increase the efficiency of delivering services to decrease costs of programs
114759042697	"passing rent stabilization would decrease the city's spending on emergency rental assistance."
114752716555	Make it more affordable for seniors to live in the city.
114751920018	If a person can afford the current outrageously priced homes, I can't understand why they should complain about an increase of \$0.01 per \$100. They spend that much each year on Starbucks coffee and other nonessential items.
114749336071	increase property tax without offloading cost to renters
114748885752	Increasing program fees is the least equitable unfortunately.
114744588175	Reduce MPDU Programs and adopt free market rentals and sales of property. They attract criminal elements and criminal visitors. Theoretically a good thing, but I've seen way too much crime and drug traffic in these communities. Have seen this firsthand in connection while performing volunteer services. The recreational fees are very reasonable, and the staff are, as a whole, great. Would not mind a slight increase - maybe five percent - to keep it that way.
114743740435	There may be ways to combine programs for efficiency and reduce labor costs or waste.
114743306360	Bonds for capital investment projects. Recover from use fees.

114740913260	I do not have enough information about existing programs to identify those where the impact of a reduction would be least damaging to the community as a whole.
114739565363	Reduce property tax
114738865736	I don't know enough to make this decision.
114737534358	This is clearly the best idea. Anyone who owns a home that expensive can pay that tiny increase in order to fund a better city for everyone.
114737401353	I want to avoid debt and cuts to programs.
114736987919	Rockville's already losing residents who moved to other states due to higher taxes, and an increased property tax rate will only worsen the situation.
114736426789	Upzone all of Zones 1 & 2 to allow du- & quad-plexes. If people want big historic homes, they can try to afford the West End.
114735484160	Eliminate fireworks from the city budget. There are plenty of fireworks in local jurisdictions and we can replace 4th of July fireworks with other, much lower carbon-emitting activities such as laser light shows with music. Eliminate paving projects where possible as described above and use construction methods to allow pavement to last longer.
114734554822	I'm not qualified to answer this question.
114732667968	While a ~\$100 increase in property tax for a household might be reasonable considering the collective increase in revenue, a much higher tax increase wouldn't be favorable—this method disproportionately affects families who have a mortgage obligation and leaves renters potentially paying less of their usage-based share for city services and benefits.
114732095330	For the increased fees for recreation and membership, this would only make sense if there will be additional benefits provided from the priority accommodation
114730815226	Please avoid or minimize debt.
114729456875	Decrease Parks and Recreation expenditure. They seems to be a very disproportionate part of the City budget.
114729394923	Reduce costs of mowing by putting native plantings along roads. Or allowing community volunteers and homeowners to do more of it.
114728295263	Cut back on mowing and blowing across the city. Particularly this year when NOTHING is growing due to prolonged drought, the city is still paying contractors to mow and blow (literally just blowing dirt around). Just stop! Mow less frequently! Cut the blowers!
114728218367	Property taxes are high enough. Eliminating Town Center subsidies was a great first step - is there more waste like this? Stop wasteful plantings! The constant swapping out of annuals is appalling. Plant natives, and being a program to cleanup city land that is overgrown.
114727886851	increasing taxes or fees in not a solution as we have faced a big inflation affecting the community, and everyone is struggling the day to day as salaries are not increasing equally.
114727487804	Not sure
114727395704	i am a property owner - higher tax worth it to keep recreation affordable for all

114727381477	What about better law and tax collection enforcement? If five families live in a single family home, shouldn't they pay higher taxes? More noise, more traffic congestion, more garbage. Over the last year there were multiple popup sellers of fruit and toys along Viers Mill corridor. Foos safety anyone? Are we allowing illegal sellers now? I would be curious to see programs the city has. Maybe a follow up survey with details about each program and potential savings?
114727378869	Reduce the excessive barriers to home improvement and building in the City of Rockville. Upgraded homes fetch higher prices and increase value, which naturally increases the tax base.
114727210830	I'm not sure of all the programs that the city offers, but I suggest to reevaluate the effectiveness and cost of the most expensive ones. Also, to save money, can we repurpose the metro tunnel instead of building a new pedestrian bridge? Discuss with WMATA to install a gate near the fare machines to keep the metro secure when the metro is closed. Maybe add some art and extra lighting to make it fun and secure. The bridge will be expensive and we already have a tunnel to take Twinbrook residents to Rockville Pike, so I don't see the need for a new bridge.
114727207270	The fee for unoccupied apartment buildings should be higher to ensure more people get affordable housing, and the fees help fund resources. Also, apartment complexes should pay a certain percentage of profit to city or be required to give back somehow.
114727198577	Reduce money that goes to affordable housing and climate budget. That is something the state and federal government should do. Increasing property tax rate is okay if that money is being spent on improving the city and thus improving quality of life and real estate value.
114727146850	Look for programs that have limited participation and consider eliminating them.
114727089922	Mayor and council should take pay cuts. How much does the city manager make? Any DEI programs should be limited and significantly reduced. Why not consider supporting jobs and good companies coming here. We always focus on ways to expand monetary intake and grow government. This is not a viable option. This town is wealthy, and should really consider cutting programs. Not growing.
114726668458	Increasing fees for users of city programs seems fair. Expenses have gone up everywhere so this should not surprise people. I would pay more to go to the Rockville pool if it were not so crowded so maybe higher fees will help minimize overutilization. Sometimes it's hard to find a chair on summer days.
114726371963	I own a single family home and I support higher property taxes to create a more sustainable and just community.
114725007239	As a new member of the city, I'm not aware of existing programs, but increasing taxes or taking on more debt are both unsustainable options. If there isn't room in the budget for new things then don't do them.
114725006765	Increased fees for contractor licensing, inspections, etc
114723970543	Reduce parking enforcement and eliminate the speed camera budget
114723820739	I cannot answer that.
114723542462	Community mediation
114722874675	Strengthen and ENFORCE requirements for developers to contribute to infrastructure and green space. And stop granting exemptions that undermine tree and green space requirements, which works against encouraging pedestrians and building climate resilience.

114722767837	Require non-Rockville residence to pay higher fees for Rockville sponsored programs.
114722037134	Eliminate debt and reduce taxes
114721729186	No comment
114721644307	No increase in taxes or lessen.
114721030386	Eliminate City funded events to "get people downtown." People will come downtown only if you make it a destination, by having an attraction people want to be part of.
114720881456	I don't live in Rockville so I will leave this to residents.
114720789136	Underperforming or underutilized programs should be reviewed and revamped for savings
114720561971	Eliminate the grant to Peerless Rockville. After 50 years, it should be self-sustaining.
114720510657	I am too uninformed to comment.
114720502501	Not on my radar and don't know enough to give an opinion
114720366991	Reduce waste: city buildings often keep lights on all night, even buildings that are not in use - turn them off! Encourage City staff to shut off engines when not in use - I see code enforcement and maintenance staff sitting in their trucks, often for hours, with engines idling, even when it's nice out. Install solar panels. Yes, they cost \$ upfront, but in the long run they will save the City \$ with reduced electrical bills.
114720260276	I think it would be a good idea to reduce or eliminate some programs and not increase the taxes. The yearly taxes are high enough and people are moving out of this area as a result of the higher taxes. If you reduce and/or eliminate some programs you can keep the taxes even or lower.
114720215797	I think there are programs, like having a city, that do not help Rockville residents at all. All programs should benefit Rockville residents.
114720171414	Work and efforts from every citizen should be encouraged to reduce waste, properly use resources and share good sense actions.
114720148483	Debt sounds expensive
114720114688	I don't know!
114720099494	Add hotel tax for example to be directed specifically toward park and green/sustainability and environmental projects. Add fee-based electric charging spots for example -- perhaps a private-public partnership at major shopping areas?
114720098785	Eliminate planting and watering of annuals, put a hold on new paving projects as many roads get repaved when they remain in good condition, reduce salting of side-streets, reduce the collection of household waste and yard debris from weekly to 2x a month.
114720084417	Prices for swim classes could be increased - it's amazing how accessible and affordable they are but then they're impossible to get because they're so popular
114720063032	Keep quality of life high priority Okay to adjust budget to afford what is essential to people
114720009933	Fewer new sidewalks! In many cases grinding to level is all that is needed. And limit new sidewalks - these create a huge amount of runoff increasing flooding.

114719086233	I would like to know how much REDI does for the city given their budget including salaries that the city gives a grant to.
114718676519	Growth in Town Centet
114717189833	reduce the bike path project. no one uses it and it creates more traffic
114716660240	Stop road modifications for bike riders. Waste of money, disruptive to the majority of commuters and residents.
114716639334	Cut waste and abuse.
114716603980	Increase property tax on wealthy people by a few M and share this money with needy people...
114716602297	Plenty of people in our neighborhood use the street to park their cars. Investigating into paid street parking in the city limit could increase revenue and reduce cars clogging our streets.crabb ave is 2 way but there is only ever room for one way traffic. Alternatively raising tax on empty commercial and or residential real estate.
114716570708	Any program that doesn't put excellence the top priority
114713682208	Specifically, property taxes should be raised on those with higher incomes who can afford to shoulder the burden. Don't make people on the bubble have to choose between paying higher taxes or eating.
114712663238	Property taxes are already far too high.
114711223341	No more property tax hikes between the county and the city, water, sewer, trash, condo fees, we are groaning under increased fees and taxes for years.
114710853695	Increase fees for permits and licenses. Every little bit helps.
114706495085	Income tax would also be okay.
114705930713	NO NEW TAXES
114705867623	Eliminate and/or reduce affordable housing initiatives so that existing MPDU apartments can transition to market rates, and we fill those residences with residents who will pay their share of taxes and revenue for local housing units and businesses.
114705597487	Are there programs that are not being utilized by the community? If so, could those be eliminated to reduce costs?
114702952703	Parks and areas with no humans feature high levels of illumination. Reduce the power bill by putting night lights on electric sensors and timers. Lower night lighting levels overall.
114702482081	The money should come from the county and state and stop already with the increased whatever on the community members.
114702455309	I advised city governments on finance. This is a false choice. Residences do not need to chose one. A hybrid approach of issuing debt and raise either fees or taxes should be considered.
114702181419	Recreation programs should continue to allow reduced cost or free to those with financial difficulties, especially programs for children
114702125692	The recreation fees currently are very reasonable, which I love, but I wouldn't notice a 10% increase. However, please factor in people who do rely on the low fees, I saw you offer free or discounted fees for lower income residents which is great and would want to make sure they are not affected by this. I am very happy to see that these programs are provided at low cost to people who can't afford the fees so that everyone may participate.
114701546576	See number 6
114701226529	i think it is good

114701169720	The unnecessary programs that don't benefit all but a small group of residents
114700979495	Please keep the programs.
114700954954	I'm willing to pay more tax to benefit all. That's my #1 choice
114700939861	whichever are also accessible through MoCo
114700722196	Eliminate all of those 5 things above noted as priorities. Please focus on bettering the buildings our kids go to school in. Also safety is key, thank you to the police, firefighters and emergency services. Rockville should focus on this more.
114700577872	Do we need our own police department when the county already has a police force?
114700528101	Increase tax base through aggressive redevelopment of empty office buildings into housing, hotel, and mixed use.
114700525545	Would need to see a comprehensive list of programs and utilization and /or impact report to be able to recommend which programs might be appropriate to sunset in order to make financial and resource room for new initiatives.
114700482935	Reduce initiatives above such as pedestrian bridge and acquiring additional parkland let's improve/update what we already have in place before acquiring new land and projects!
114700447598	get rid of the pedestrian/bicycle program: have you looked at how many (or rather how few!) people actually use that?
114700447638	The city should examine ALL duplicate programs with the county and eliminate them. There are way too many duplicate programs and residents pay for both.
114700447534	Stop subsidizing Peerless Rockville; grow the tax base by allowing more housing to be built by upzoning
114700445501	Annex Shady Grove metro station
114700439367	Offer discounted lesson rates if people become members of recreational programs. Would increase revenue from memberships and program participation (ie. 10% discount if swim lessons if people join the Rockville swim and fitness club for entire year)
114700172106	Please no real estate property tax increase!
114698999691	Allow more housing development with lowered parking requirements and loosened restrictions on height, but only with higher fees on developers and more requirements for affordable housing and sustainability.
114694142578	Eliminate flex ride on and reduce decoration plant budget.
114693315971	Recreation programs and senior programming could charge a tad more. Especially Fitness Center at the senior center. \$95 a year is very low, not even a dollar month.
114692810836	Potentially increase business taxes for companies valued over certain threshold. Or consider ways for businesses to reinvest locally in the community.
114692434653	The city needs more housing both high income and affordable.
114691812190	Having speeding cameras and red light cameras in busy roads and streets areas and at school zones too and issue tickets. I don't want pay high taxes.
114691658232	I believe that taxes should not increase, especially during this time of recession. It would be better to reduce/eliminate certain programs. This can include development projects, since there is enough economic support from businesses. Another possibility is to raise income taxes in richer neighborhoods, like Potomac or Kingfarm. Adding red light cameras to every intersection, full red phases, and no turn on red sign/signals will generate revenue while keeping pedestrians safe.
114690888785	See initiatives ranked 3, 4, and 5, in question 2.

114690404145	Recover funding back that we gave to Dawson Market. We should not be giving money to private entities. We should also have an efficiency board and slash all government positions that are not a net gain for the city.
114690280972	If raising property tax will increase rent for folks in apartments, then I would choose the increase in recreation programs instead.
114690121084	Hold events or other fundraisers to support existing programs. For example, a small admission fee could be added for Hometown Holidays or local restaurants and businesses could donate gift certificates for a raffle.
114690105148	stop the programs that are designed to offer more affordable housing! The primary goal should be to RAISE THE TAX BASE! New development should ALWAYS favor higher home value
114690069586	City should seek to be more supportive of lower income people, especially immigrants.
114689849164	Can we end the tax breaks given to country clubs- that would bring in much more money!! Don't know why the richest get a tax break anyway. According to the National Golf Foundation, 25.6 million people played on a golf course last year. That's less than 8 percent of the country's population and is fewer than half the number of people who bowl annually. In fact, it's only about 20 percent of the people who play miniature golf each year. Although about 6 million people under 35 visited courses last year, golf is mostly played by just who you imagine: Older, well-to-do men and some women looking to spend a sunny afternoon in beautiful surroundings, cut a few business deals, and get a little exercise (800-1,300 calories burned per round). The average American golfer is 54 and earns substantially more than the average income of most Americans. https://marylandmatters.org/2021/03/09/delegate-seeks-to-eliminate-property-tax-breaks-for-country-clubs/
114689840837	Increase payment for garbage collectors, especially the garbage collectors who have to empty the black plastic barrels containing water and dozens and dozens of bagged dog feces.
114689772436	Simplify the process and significantly reduce cycle time for permits, inspections, and related activities for new businesses, enabling shorter time to open new businesses. Offer a significantly accelerated path to occupancy for developers and builders who significantly exceed baseline green building standards.
114689769071	State and federal grants
114689720070	No increase on property tax! You are driving the middle class out!!!
114689485496	I don't know how the city budget works and if it's possible to get state and federal grants to cover certain program costs. These choices seem bleak. Is that it?
114689416176	Please manage current levels of spending better.
114689411724	Thanks
114689398844	Cut programs and budgets on DEI and restorative justice. DEI is racist and discriminatory.
114689387605	Install solar panels to offset energy costs moving forward
114689381249	I think non-resident fees should be increased. Also for programming the fees for non residents should be increased (such as swim lessons etc). Take a look at low/ non participation programs and reduce. Then last step increase debt.
114689374586	Spending needs to focus on core services. Residents cannot continue to be increasingly taxed on pet and ideological projects.

114689342530	Reduce taxes - everyone is struggling so please stop increasing real estate taxes. Hire more cops! We need to feel safe.
114689375344	I have lived here 22 years (homeowner with a mortgage). The cost of living is increasing more rapidly than my ability to make up for it. Any increase in taxes is not able to be borne by many of us. Sounds nice, but no. We can't. I like living here and always envisioned living my entire life here.... I am not quite retirement age but within kissing distance. I want to be able to live here as long as I am physically able.... I don't want to be taxed out of my home! I hate to see ANY increases. Sad to say, I'd rather cut some programs or cut back on some of the nice things like beautiful landscaping... go more minimal (but still keep it up). Green initiatives, while important and nice.... should take a back seat to helping existing residents stay in the community. Many of us are struggling who never did before. Now is not a time to expand or take on more debt. It is a time to tighten belts, stick to what is most important: community safety, maintaining existing infrastructure, finding inexpensive ways to do what we previously spent more liberally on. Hopefully the economy turns around and we can increase spending in the future. Now is not the time. Yes, I know that there are some residents who are making decent salaries who can still afford to live high on the Maslow Hierarchy, but that is not true of many..... let's hope for better days in the future.
114689338895	increasing fees for those of us outside of city limits makes sense although I know I already choose not to use the Rockville pool for instance because of the cost
114689325040	Eliminate virtue signaling programs (tree city, bike city, etc)
114689320661	How about a 1% reduction in all areas so we can give homeowners a break. With insurance costs, taxes, and water/sewer costs skyrocketing, people cannot afford to live in their homes. You will start seeing foreclosures if nothing is done. Please cut costs so we can give homeowners a tax cut.
114689316595	Police Department
114689305365	For starters, discard ridiculous plans for amphitheater at Redgate. It is unnecessary and unwanted and would spend valuable funds on a frivolous venue not easily accessible by public transportation.
114689295204	Speed cameras and road enforcement. Increase income tax in the high tax brackets.
114689293341	Increase taxes/fees on developers.
114689292143	New senior housing!!
114687733826	Please reduce the number of city staff.
114687309246	I would rather see property tax and utility price hikes before reductions to any programs
114683321757	You could probably sell a few large parcels within Redgate for development for a few million plus additional tax revenue.
114680620856	It's amazing, bordering on unbelievable, that it would only take an increase of \$100 on the taxes of a \$1M home to generate \$1.6M in revenue for the city.
114679684073	Increasing property taxes is the only one of the above options that makes sense. Increasing program/membership fees would place the burden on the most vulnerable populations, while increasing property taxes equitably spreads the financial responsibility of living in such a fantastic city.

Respondent ID	Rockville's greatest resource is you! Please share any innovative ideas you want the city to consider:
114834088644	Lowering or recalculating the membership fee for residents to enroll in community recreation centers; so that it can become a safe environment for children to learn, play and be a part of programs offered to the community.
114833832811	Expanded placemaking and public art initiatives bring communities together and encourage businesses and residents to move into the neighborhood.
114833606756	Rockville needs to distinguish itself from the rest of Montgomery County to justify people living inside the city limits and moving here in future. The city's rich history--both downtown, and neighborhoods with diverse and compelling histories of their own--is the biggest selling point available. I have long supported Greater Greater Washington's goals of sustainable, transit-oriented development. But I do NOT agree with their push for development at any cost and without regard to history--that is the unique hook Rockville has to offer, including historical sites. That makes us stand out at a time when the federal government is actively trying to erase much history in the run-up to the nation's 250th birthday. I URGE YOU TO RESTORE FULL FUNDING TO PEERLESS ROCKVILLE. IT IS THE CLOSEST THING WE HAVE TO A SALES & TOURISM PROMOTION BUREAU. And even to INCREASE funding to allow for more visibility and programming to highlight lessons learned from past struggles and dark hours.
114833570775	More trees e green spaces. Too many buildings!!!
114833470588	Turn King Farm and and the large room at the VisArts buildings into small concert venues and black box theaters... Then promote the heck out of them. It will bring positive energy and business into our city
114833360848	More law enforcement for crimes against property, more cameras in public areas to record robberies or assaults.
114833032399	More rooftop solar! All City buildings should have solar panels, to show the City cares about climate change, and to set an example for surrounding communities.
114831869008	Please consider altering the hours of Rockville Skatepark to match the city-run aquatic and fitness center down the street.
114831269764	Mayor and council should focus on the actual wants of the community, not what they personally perceive as the wants of the community. Just because one or two people want something doesn't mean it's the right thing for all. There seems to be a blurred line here amongst council and the community. Council should also focus on policy and stay out of the work that is being done by those they have hired. One can see they are easily bogged down on the details of miniscule topics by watching a council meeting. Perhaps this is why only a small part of the community actually participates in Rockville city government.
114831137051	RENT STABILIZATION!!!!!!
114830913818	Redo the Rockville map on area 3 including Farmstead neighborhood on Frederick Rd with MCPS, to send our children to Rockville schools, we don't want to send them to Washington Grove Elementary School or Gaithersburg Middle or High School. We want our children to be successful adults.
114829902492	I want to see the city prioritize infrastructure changes that will combat climate change--dense development near transit (also good because we need more housing), removing parking, road diets, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.
114829900874	If you don't upzone, you will continue to see the county's growth happen outside the borders of the city (ie North Bethesda, East County, etc)

114829586577	I think shutting off certain streets to vehicles and converting them to pedestrian only areas is a great way to help the community thrive. Specifically the strip of Maryland Ave adjacent to Gibbs St comes to mind.
114829495117	PASS RENT STABILIZATION NOW!
114826831914	Fully fund Peerless Rockville's community grant to guarantee the continued availability of quality educational programming and the curation of 1000s of historical photographs and documents of Rockville's history.
114825603694	Snow shoveling of sidewalks.
114825058721	Support historic preservation of this beautiful city
114824642783	Plant rows of cherry trees in the neighborhoods to further beautify them. Place the new logo on banners around the city center (and Rockville Pike ?).
114824543568	A public food forest, managed by R&P staff as well as volunteers.
114824541544	Rockville needs to focus on non-car-based transportation. This is a great town, but it is far too easy for people to become isolated within our modern culture. City planning must do everything it can to combat this.
114824508216	Peerless Rockville is a wonderful resource for anyone who wants to check the history of Rockville. Children need to learn their history of where they live or make the same mistakes their ancestors made.
114824505395	Please put a dog park at Elwood Smith Park.
114823755779	Please help us renters who want to keep living here. Put rent stabilization back on the table.
114823688404	Refuse enterprise fund is based on the cost of service and Senior citizen residents do not use as much of this service. Provide a property tax credit to compensate seniors who are subsidizing families.
114823138692	In general I think maintaining a pleasant quality of life for existing citizens is more important than constant improvements.
114822941952	Fully fund Peerless Rockville. They provide free educational programming and teach about Rockville's diverse past. Without them, how will the city fulfill this role?
114822763943	I'm not sure if it's budget related, but I'd love to see the bike lanes on N. Washington Street be protected in the southbound direction. Right now drivers frequently block the bike lane, which doesn't happen much going north because that side is mostly protected.
114822199070	keep the infra structure. make rockville roads clean again. there is no city dept looking at streets pot holes, bad street lights, etc. why do the residents need to be doing this job for you.
114820342580	Rent stabilization is very important to me as I am concerned about the cost of living and would like to continue to live in the community
114820333033	I was born in MoCo and I want badly to stay in Rockville but the rent is insane. I have no savings and no future here
114820322518	Improvements to existing public transit networks
114819515498	Support a county backed internship
114819494354	More housing staff
114819487908	I support rent stabilization. I am a renter who is concerned about the cost of living in Rockville. If rent increases are not limited per county law, I and many others will be forced to take this into account when city elections come around.
114819482484	rent stabilization! I will only vote for candidates in favor!

114818650074	Consider impact of federal workforce changes on local economy
114818541013	Please stop increasing property taxes. They are already unaffordable and we are all stretched too thin. Strategic trimming of existing programs is necessary or we will end up with a chaotic and nonstrategic situation similar to the what is happening with the federal government
114818209768	The city does a tremendous job maintaining infrastructure and keeping citizens informed.
114816318575	Pass rent stabilization laws that protect the renters. Private interests will run this town into ruin if we don't. I would actively lower my property value if I have to share space next to commercially owned rentals
114816198816	We need to feel scared and have a sense of urgency. Business as usual is a major risk and will leave us in a terrible position. We have to do the basics of economic development and job recruitment beyond restaurants and shops.
114815982442	Please fully fund Peerless Rockville's community grant.
114815003172	Consider bringing a manufacturing plant of some kind into the city's limits. We should be considering cutting all kinds of regulations and permits to bring business here. And bring high paying, innovative jobs to Rockville. Not more government and service industry jobs.
114814595504	I am an "all of the above" sort of guy. In my opinion, modest increases in taxes and fees are fine, but they should also be accompanied with reductions and/or elimination of programs. It is hard to reduce or eliminate things without knowing details. The new City Manager should be tasked by the Mayor and Council to present options for cutting \$500K - \$1 million in the budget. But you need to be careful. The City Manager must not be allowed to present options that he knows that the Mayor and Council would never cut. That's a game that people sometimes play. So, my recommendation is that all options should be considered, of those presented above.
114813408134	If the city pays for the ice rink, it really does not get much use.
114813344179	Stop painting "art" on the streets in Town Center. It is very disorienting for motorists, especially with all the other obstacles and lane changes. I would rather pay attention for pedestrian than navigate an obstacle course.
114812472288	Just keep Rockville safe from crime and increase pedestrian walkways.
114812396187	Keep public libraries!
114812387564	A dinner theater 🍷 company would be great
114811981674	Keep up the good work. Maintain the small town community spirit.
114808591814	City Hall is drab and the public spaces need an upgrade to be more functional. After Taft Court is settled, perhaps this should be the next project.
114805758900	Add sidewalks to streets that need them the most.
114805111027	I'd love if Rockville Pike was easier to drive through or walk around, there are many wonderful stores that are pretty hard to get to. We have some defunct malls, I hope we have some plans for them that help the community.
114799702243	RedGate Park is a very unique part of Rockville's semi-urban landscape. Please give priority to preserving the natural areas.

114797776559	I support rent stabilization because I am concerned about my family's ability to live in Rockville, and we can do better than simply asking for "gold stars" for rental spaces.
114797099041	Become intolerant of litter and graffiti. No outside entity invests in anything that tolerates these. MoCo and MD in general has become way too tolerant of same over past 3 decades; it shows. It's not a good look. It holds us back. It doesn't need to; it's self-inflicted by selfish, aberrant people.
114794504392	Implement green energy programs and energy saving programs for government buildings.
114793674204	I plan to start a nonprofit that sell shares of ecovillages house by size to fund building plastic bricks inside sealed containers by a robot, after that a website that give you biochemical supplements to prevent toxins by putting a cell sample online. It was ecovillages and toxic biochem prevention, where both can start by making birth control products by testing the human egg with chemicals and make birth control products. Ecovillages are only build for stabilize America's homeless population for making products above. I am working on the steps, Gmail toxicbiochemprevention@gmail.com for more step by step insight
114793586003	I'm sending some ideas in a separate email to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov
114792464379	An innovation the City is already doing is the planting of trees at Red Gate. Find ways to expand this tree planting elsewhere in the City is one suggest.
114792437228	Plant more trees, increase more green areas, do not cut down or level green areas to build a concrete jungle. Give respect to the environment and preserve it and respect nature and understand that we must cut emission and decrease the destruction that climate change is causing. Have educational program in schools and in the county to educate people about climate change and what they can do to slow it down.
114792414760	Save money by planting native perenials in medians, rather than planting annuals and non-native plants.
114792360904	Rockville's greatest resource are is ots Patks and Recreation programming. Parks like Redgate Park and the many neighborhood parks and playgrounds provide affordable ways for families to enjoy themselves and connect with others. They also support healthy living. The affordable recreational programming helps children and families to stay healthy and strong mentally and physically.
114792021241	Public Priva Partneships, bring private sector co-funding for key community development, community safety programs, releasing funding to invest in infrastructure and other key programs.
114791953565	See #3 above about building a place to cross Rockville Pike in the Twinbrook area.
114791929259	Increase public garbage cans on major roads. Stop allowing mega-mansions and huge apartment buildings in older neighborhoods. Promote small house ownership, not apartment renting. Help low income families in small houses increase energy efficiency. Help low income families afford their small houses by NOT increasing property taxes and by NOT ruining their neighborhoods with expensive apartments and triplexes with high rent and temporary high income residences who don't have a stake in the neighborhood.

The city should place limits on how long commercial entities can own vacant residential properties and should place taxes on those who hold them for too long.

114791914723

The city should also prioritize making wildlife corridors a community and residential project as highlighted in this article: <https://marylandmatters.org/2023/03/20/building-a-maryland-wildlife-corridor-by-the-yard/>

114791881645

More Outdoor concerts, farmer markets, craft fairs, etc. (family events) at Red Gate and other areas of the city which will bring more revenue.

114791798818

Would love to see the Rockville Farmers Market relocated to Red Gate Park where residents can shop the farmers market and enjoy the trails or nature at the park and be more of a community gathering point that just in a parking lot.

114791792871

Can't think of anything else. Thank you

114791756660

Please explore socialized housing & city owned grocery stores. Removing the profit motive from housing and food will make Rockville a much safer place to live.

114791534406

City is doing a good job. Living here 41 years.

114791387757

I live in the Preserve at Tower Oaks. I would like to have more trees planted, and for it to be more walkable.

114791307607

Safe public transportation

114791306769

All the ethnic eateries and food shops, education, arts & entertainment. The many communities coming together in vibrant, shared settings. Outdoor activities for all ages.

114791294886

Keep taxes down.

114791278670

Red Park is a city treasure, and should be promoted for health recreation and environment education

114791206963

It's time to fix Town Center. The empty large anchor restaurant spaces should be reimaged, with an eye towards public space. Perhaps a concert hall or other public performance space could occupy one.

114791177628

Please consider regulations / uniformity in the appearance of buildings on Rockville Pike. The Pike has some extremely unattractive (new) buildings that do not fit the aesthetic style of other buildings on the Pike.

114791155166

Institute a significant two-tiered residential property tax. Residential property that is a verifiable primary home residence and long-term rental properties would be taxed at a lower rate. Second homes, investment properties, and short term rental properties would be taxed at a substantially higher rate.

114791145439

Consider charging for parking for Hometown Holidays, something small like \$5

114791102480

Thank you for your continued stewardship that supports quality of life for area residents.

114791075141

Continue to support the Village concept and add more art to our cultural landscapes.

114791062336

Restrict housing development to a point at which well-paying jobs are available in or around the city. In 30 years of employment, my shortest trip (car only option) was 15 miles; my longest was 44 miles (each way, twice a day)

114791059251	Embrace free / decentralized social media like Mastodon and Pixelfed as equal to Twitter / Bluesky / Instagram to make it easier to connect to the city (and less reliant on corporate-control of communication.) See for example the Mayor of Boston is on https://mastodon.boston/ . A good home for Rockville could be https://dmv.community/ , and you could always move to another server and keep your followers if you someday prefer a different choice.
114791033352	The City has world class recreation activities which should be kept. The facilities and maintenance are also exceptional and should be maintained.
114791032536	Redgate should be reconsidered to be planned like Laytonia Park. There are not enough playing fields - especially 60/90 baseball fields since Montgomery College's baseball field was removed.
114790993560	Literally just make is legal to build housing. Organic development pays more property tax than car-dependent suburban development, and it addresses the housing crisis too. It's so astoundingly simple. It is how Rockville grew in the first place. Just make is legal to build small apartment buildings attached to each other like all the nicest neighborhoods in the world. Legalize Georgetown-style development by right all throughout the city and you'll generate 100x more property tax FOR FREE. This just requires fixing the laws. Address/remove lot size minimums, parking minimums, lot utilization requirements, too-sprawly FAR requirements, home business/ADU bans, height limits that make no sense, setback requirements, detachment requirements.
114790987819	Why are there donut holes in the map of Rockville (included in this survey above)? Maybe close those.
114790986355	Many of us who heavily interact with the City of Rockville but reside outside of its limits are sometimes unable to access its services. For example, if we live right near a City of Rockville dog park, we're greeted by a sign that says the dog park is only open to city residents. We are unable to get our dog licensed by the city based on our address, but we're subject to a heavy fine if we try to use the dog park. Either let dog parks be open to all, or let anyone pay a modest fee for annual use, or make a donation to support the maintenance of the park. Thanks.
114790985158	Create non-tax cutting incentives for large employers and high earning individuals to contribute to the building and maintenance of quality the residential communities. Such as, employee residential rental discounts to incentivize those who work in Rockville, to also live in Rockville. "Live, work, play". Another idea is to incentivize small, local businesses (such as restaurants, markets) over franchises and chain stores.
114790979640	I think Rockville is great. I hope overtime that the Pike can be modernized, but it seems that it is happening little by little every year. One thing I've thought is that one great big park on the Pike somewhere south of Town Center but North of twinbrook would be great. BF Saul's development has a little park on the north side of the development that i really like. That is what inspired the thought
114790977405	Periodic family campouts at Redgate Park !!
114790978176	As mentioned in #5, create a public bank at the city, county, and state levels.
114790967090	I think tax credits should be applied judiciously to both residential and business customers regarding green space (e.g. hardscape landscaping, tree canopy, green rooftops) to combat climate change
114790939885	Partner with private developers to turn some of the empty office buldings into affordable housing (like the old FDA building on Fisher Lane)

114790934787	Connect Redgate to adjacent parks thereby providing ways to access parks on bike that don't require cycling on Route 28 which has no bike lanes.
114790925022	I love Rockville. It is a save and peaceful place to live. And while there can always be more, I appreciate the attempt to make the city visually appealing thru planting trees, flowers, etc. throughout the city where possible. It makes a huge difference.
114790924662	Cross Walk Flashing Lights on Veirs Mill where many RM High Schoolers cross in the morning
114790920999	Clean up all the roadside trash!
114790908643	I am a senior citizen so please think about us
114790903344	Trees, trees and more trees. Everyone in City government- elected and staff- should read 'The Hidden Life of Trees' by Peter Wohlleben. It's time for people to really begin to grasp how interconnected and essential trees are to the well being of humans and life in general.
114790903293	PLEASE put an 18 hole DISC GOLF COURSE in Redgate Park.
114790900877	Needs to be safe (crime) and pedestrian-friendly. Crime is a huge problem and concern.
114790899832	Convert any unused buildings and damaged lands in usable parking space. Convert open fields and unused farm space to parks.
114785797468	Please include a cost-of-living adjustment for city retirees.
114784112255	The city should discontinue its reliance on DEI-based policymaking and eliminate the DEI position. Clearly the culture is turned off by the relentless emphasis in all spheres on identities and "communities" variously oppressed or marginalized. Empty overtures like "Latinx" repel even the populations who are supposed to be made to feel included. The City of Rockville recently sent a needs assessment survey that had more than a half dozen options for gender. Two spirits? Too much. Backlash to this cultural haughtiness has now produced a national election result truly detrimental to the progressive ideals to which Rockville aspires. Mayor and Council should definitely strive to improve the condition of all its residents, especially those who need government the most, but without an overreliance on DEI principles that exalt group identity.
114783862587	Pursuing high density residential development in the town center should be a key goal. Als land use in East Rockville should be changed. Auto centric detached singel family homes aren't the best use for that area.
114783462070	Not terribly innovative, but I would really like protected bike lanes through my area.
114783408764	I support rent stabilization because as a renter, I am concerned about the cost of living in Rockville. If rent increases are not limited per county law, I and many others will be forced to take this into account at the next city election
114783368308	Enhance traffic enforcement to provide a safer walking experience for pedestrians.
114782870533	Stop milling and paving so much!
114782756667	Eliminate the grant to Peerless Rockville. It is a member organization that should be self-sustaining. If the city needs to pay for contract research services to support preservation planning, let Peerless bid on that. A grant is inappropriate for an advocacy group.
114781103381	If the town center can't find companies to fill all those vacant spaces (that have been empty for years), please think outside of the box to utilize them somehow, what a waste of space and potential good for (whatever).

114780726611	Rockville is such a great place to live and raise a family, but it could be even better if the City focused on interconnections and moving away from being a car-based suburban area.
	Community gardens that are run by volunteers and provide vegetables for lower income families or for educational purposes for children and adults in each section of the city. Giving our youth fun activities while learning how to grow plants/food.
114780382524	Twinbrook Metro station only has 1 escalator to get to the platform, it would benefit from having another one to get down for individuals who have walking disabilities.
	Green roof spaces would reduce energy usage and give the city of Rockville a lead in net zero goals for the future.
114780075216	Please shut down and retrofit any and all intersections with slip lanes (continuous right turn lanes at stop signs). These are highly dangerous for drivers AND for pedestrians, and offer only a means for the fastest possible through-way for cars. There is no reason for a real city in 2025 to maintain such dangerous infrastructure, PARTICULARLY NEAR SCHOOLS. Indeed, Town Center is awash in these awful slip lanes, and the slip lane near Julius West Middle School and at the intersection of Maryland and Fleet Street are particularly egregious for the mixing of minor pedestrians with high-speed car traffic. These should be immediately done away with via planters (see: Gibbs St in Town Center) before fully repaving the intersections in the future.
114778819093	We need to re-imagine transportation in the city and move from having a solely car-centric city to instead facilitate realistic bike- and walk-friendly options. The additions of some bike lanes downtown was a great start but paltry in comparison to what is needed. For example there should be direct and safe biking/walking paths from every neighborhood to downtown, and interconnecting every neighborhood. From my neighborhood in King Farm, it takes 20 minutes and a 4 mile-maze to bike downtown, whereas the direct route via car is 2 miles. And it's impossible to bike to Twinbrook from King Farm safely. This is unacceptable. I understand that adding safe bike lanes may come at the expense of narrowing roadways and removing parking, but many cities have shown that once cars are removed and people realistically feel safe to bike and walk (especially with the emergence of e-bikes), then they choose that option en masse.
114778682888	Perhaps consider less frequent yard waste collection? Would it be a savings to collect every other week rather than every week? We are lucky to have it at all, people might not feel like they were losing much. another option: increase parking fees/decrease the number of hours until paid parking kicks in at rockville town center.
114778309808	Let's embrace the Montgomery College campus and create a college-campus feeling by redeveloping the underutilized parking adjacent to the campus into a walkable extension to the campus with a park, some retail, and housing.
	A marketing initiative - inventory Rockville's parks and cultural resources and identify any that could be candidates for investment to use as public venues, conference and event spaces, etc that aren't already in use. Invest in infrastructure as needed and then charge rental and usage fees.

114776805326	I recommend working with Capital Bikeshare to install additional stations along the newly added bike lanes to benefit places of interest such as the post office, the recreation center, and maryvale park.
114776129976	Well.....PAY YOUR EMPLOYEES! PASS THE COMP AND CLASS....MOVE EVERYONE UO WITHIN THEIR CURRENT SCALE....PEOPLE ARE LEAVING BECAUSE THERE ARE BETTER JOBS OUT THAT PAY MORE MONEY (Starting.....and top end)
114775262721	Keep costs low. We should not increase taxes to support optional programs. Maintenance of current infrastructure should be key and other priorities limited to current revenue.
114775157091	Read Richard Florida's books "who's your city" and "bowling alone." Make it easier for residents to engage in meaningful service projects!
114775141019	Rockville public transit should be free to low income people,
114775051679	My innovative idea is to reduce the footprint of the government in Rockville's daily life.
114774666816	I much preferred Hometown Holidays downtown rather than at RedGate. Anything that can be done to entice people to Town Square is worth doing, and RedGate is such a treasure for reasons having nothing to do with food trucks and live music. And I hope you're thinking ahead about the parking situation at what will be a Trader Joe's. It was bad enough in the Dawson's days.
114774169791	Revitalize the downtown and create a parking structure to support the amount of visitors that would patron the businesses. Otherwise everyone will go to Pike and Rose instead.
114774063101	reduce property taxes.
114774044302	Provide recreational and educational programs at Redgate park helping to build resilience, collaboration, and community in our diverse area.
114772745729	Please consider rent stabilization and greater corporate accountability as tools that must be utilized. Also, please take racial equity and social justice initiatives more important. This needs to be a priority of all decisions made by the Mayor and Council. Thank you.
114771148369	Please implement rent control...Montgomery county has rent control laws so we should too!
114770387642	Not sure but thanks for this survey and all your work!
114769994439	Enforce the existence law in traffic, parking, housing. Create an atmosphere for people to volunteer in school or government.
114769121601	Bajar las rentas de inquilinato a los arrendatarios
114767510204	It's vital to preserve open and undeveloped green space.
114767280565	There are many homeless people in town. Could more be done to help them find a next place? Many are released from the courts and wander Rockville streets. I talk to many of them and sometimes not much can be done, but some of them don't know how to get a job or directions to the metro which seems basic.
114766617742	Although I have no children in MCPS, I believe that it is in the best interest that MCPS put its resources in obtaining teachers and staff. At the same time, there should be more assistance that is affordable for baby boomers. Our best investment is our people.
114766577713	education on how to alleviate climate change

114766544493	Please work on affordable housing and fix the parking situation in rockville town center.
114766502291	Would be great if city could offer food recycling at homes that wish to participate rather than the current two drop off locations.
114766129977	PASS RENT STABILIZATION. PLEASE STOP CONTINUALLY WHITE WASHING THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE AND NAKING IT ONLY FOR THE ELITE. ROCKVILLE IS RACIST AND BIASED.
114765860198	Affordable apartments and houses
114764577731	more safety-less crime, more help for seniors.
114764487894	I live in Twinbrook, help Twinbrook! Keep making our communities safe! Widen the roads in Twinbrook, they are too small.
114764363098	Promote Rockville as the most important city in Montgomery County. We are the "capital" of Montgomery County.
114763708502	More bus lanes! More bike lanes!
114763161371	Walk in our shoes. Take public transportation. Look at sidewalks and intersections where people's landscaping grows into public pathways and reduces visibility for traffic at corners. Consider becoming a dark sky city. Thank you!
114762983857	<p>Spending a large budget on non priority project such as the senior center parking connection to gude dr. Seems like a poor strategy of budget allocation.</p> <p>In the other hand, the filling points should be a focus on future budget spending:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing services to low and middle income household (housing support, affordable children's care and recreation programs, school support, at home senior support), • increasing recreation capacity for children (some programs offered are constantly full and are in high demand, eg. Swimming and summer camps), • improving schools meals quality • increasing, promoting use/installation of renewable energy equipment for public and private building.
114762574278	I work and rent in Rockville. I think it's anti-democratic to run a city at the direction of a few powerful landlords who are willing to invest heavily in anti-rent stabilization policy for their own gain, instead of hearing the voice of renters all over the city who demand rent stabilization as a necessary step for a dignified, safe, and economically viable place to live.
114761174310	Rockville should prioritize its residents by implementing practical solutions. This is not meant to be a political statement but Rockville should not be a sanctuary city. It is overburdening schools and services. Love the diversity in Rockville but we have to have limits.
114759880939	Cut spending.
114759858823	Add botanical/agricultural , fine art, music, educational, seasonal events or ongoing to the farmstead.
114759551020	I love the composting drop off option and have been using is. But I would really love to see composting pickup offered by the city to encourage people to reduce their organic waste and use it toward nurturing plants. I think that is one indicator of a truly great-place-to-live type city that prioritizes reducing waste
114759484912	more affordable exercise for disabled and elderly
114759042697	pass rent stabilization
114758919559	Replace the James Pontius Unity Bridge and develop Lincoln Park community.

114752716555	More free parking in town center would bring more people to shop there.
114752643626	Improve the walkability to Shady Grove Metro, especially from the west. The I'll-maintained and narrow sidewalks and the lack of easy pedestrian passage through the parking lot discouraged use of Metro
114748906669	I have witnessed A LOT of unneeded landscaping in my area, paths that don't need repaving, grass that doesn't need cutting (sometimes there is no grass to cut), needless removal of mature flowering trees and shrubs. As far as I know, the city never asks for the opinions of my neighbors before trees are cut down. Money for these things could be spent in other areas like deer control which is a MAJOR problem in the Hungerford area.
114748885752	Not a budget thing but maybe consider allowing 2 dwelling units by right citywide? I don't live in Rockville but I grew up here and even having a masters degree and making 70k I don't feel my own hometown is affordable to me. Something has to give.
114748884433	Ineffective/non-productive employees retained in all areas. Blue collar employees not able to report ineffective employees due to retaliation. Perhaps oversight by one or two levels up - rid of ineffective employees and those retained due to favoritism.
114746503241	Improve water infrastructure and systems to improve long term cost and decrease to consumer (monthly water bill decrease)
114746257281	Adding turn light or making it no turn intersection on redland rd and Frederick rd
114744654283	Move the nature center to RedGate Park and incorporate programs as the park develops.
114744593155	Keeping part of restate as a 9 hole golf course with an all grass putt putt course and getting innovative with the rest of the land. Possibly a concert shell with a restaurant or brewery on site. So many other municipalities have innovatively repurposed city owned golf courses all over the country. It would be nice to explore some options that have worked successfully in other cities.
114744588175	Increase police presence and pursue low level criminals when possible. Lived in NY when the increase of low level crime enforcement helped reduce and deter more serious criminal activity since it was often perpetuated by many of the same people. Was affiliated with NYPD and FDNY when living there.
114743740435	Do not rely on regressive policies only.
114743731288	This document is hard to read because of the blue font. Please consider making it easier. Thanks
114743306360	As proposed by a citizens task force years ago, make access to Rockville city center attractive by providing rapid last mile transit services - connect from Metro station and bus stops on trunk lines, using automated vehicles - ensuring safety through a combination of dedicated lanes, priority at traffic lights, etc.
114742603360	Maintain focus on diversity, community and natural areas. Strong community supporting schools, smart planning (public transport and climate focus) and accessible parks
114737534358	Rent stabilization please
114737528563	I think the city should prioritize rent stabilization. The people who are unable to afford rent increases will leave the city, decreasing the amount of tax payers in the region and lowering revenue.

114737506224	Stabilize rent in Rockville. My neighbors in my apartment complex were forced to move because their rent jumped 50% when they tried to renew their lease, and this was perfectly legal and fine for the renting company to do. Please keep this from happening to Rockville renters.
114737401353	Talk to state about improving traffic flow on 355 through Gude Dr intersection. Terrible jam at rush hours.
114736987919	Have you thought about ways to save money?
114736123018	<p>I would love to see city property showcase native plants, including eliminating as much lawn as possible. People plant what they see in their neighbours yards, so normalizing native plants is key to widespread adoption (in addition to the benefits of native plants in their own right).</p> <p>2. Use perennials for the horticultural plantings on the meridians so that they don't have to get replaced three times a season. Even just use a meridian as a trial.</p>
114736088196	Any housing-economic-business-school integrated plan where you can live near your work - no need for cars.
114736087815	Mental health mobile crisis unit and outreach expansion, welcoming immigrants by supporting them in the difficult years ahead w resources, legal support, and ensuring rockville is a welcome safe place
114735560976	Aggressively pursue mixed use development, walkable areas, and denser housing
114735484160	Maximize telework for city employees to save money on unneeded office space and improve employee moral, work-life balance, and productivity. Support state initiatives to protect our environment, including protecting rare, threatened, and endangered species, non-native invasive species control measures, and banning sale of more NNI plants, since we aren't likely to get support for any environmental protection measures in the next administration and that administration seems to support states' power.
114733178791	We do not have any type of theater that compares with Round House, Olney has Black Rock, Kentlands has the Arts Barn. Our theaters are not very professional and do not appeal for a date night for a young couple or for seniors.
114732952963	Please add some benches to Wootton Mill Park near its entrances: 1. Greenplace Terrace at Fallsmead Elementary School 2. The parking lot off Hurley where the fitness channel begins 3. The Entrance off of Watts Branch Parkway. 4. At the bottom of the walking path into the park from Paulsboro Drive. This would give older people or less robust people a place to rest as they walk through the park. But it also gives a person a place to sit if they're waiting for a friend to meet them at the park to go walking. Thank you!!!

114732743434	<p>Extend the bike lane along Veirs Mill from the Twinbrook Connector Trail to the Veirs Mill/Twinbrook Parkway intersection. Cyclists and peds using the Rock Creek Trail otherwise have to take circuitous routes to get to the main intersection, which is home to many businesses and residences.</p> <p>More safety measures are needed at the crosswalk at Grandin Ave/First St. This crosswalk is close to another main intersection (Veirs Mill/First), so cars are usually speeding across all *four* lanes to clear the light and don't want to stop; often, they will attempt to go around stopped cars if they cannot see the pedestrians crossing. It is part of the direct route connecting Twinbrook to Rockville Town Center - Grandin has signage for the bike route - but it is a dangerous crossing. Flashing lights, a stoplight (like the one at Twinbrook Pkwy/Vandegrift), and/or a raised and colored walkway could go a long way for safety and accessibility.</p>
114732667968	<p>I love services and events that my child and I can safely walk or take the bus to. I chose to buy a home in Twinbrook 10 years ago because of the neighborhood's affordability and walkability. However, the shopping options and public spaces (e.g. the walking trail) off of Veirs Mill road are in decline. They also feel less safe for pedestrians.</p>
114730815226	<p>Please keep RedGate parkland as nature preserve.</p>
114729456875	<p>Coordinate with the State of MD to better time the traffic lights to stop idling at traffic lights and thereby reduce emissions by 30%. Currently, neither direction in any stretch allows clear egress.</p> <p>If Elon can land a spent booster on a floating barge, then the very capable employees of the City can accomplish controlled vehicle speeds, greatly reduced emissions, and more timely journeys with only 1 innovation.</p>
114729394923	<p>Have neighbor hood volunteers adopt areas in our community where we could replace mowed grass areas with native plants ...with an agreement for us to manage these</p>
114728561487	<p>Make (a part of) Red Gate Park a 'recreation' area. Look into adding Pickle Ball Courts; miniature golf courses (& charging a per person fee).</p>
114728295263	<p>PLEASE consider incentives to ensure Rockville city and county buildings put lights out after business hours. The number of office spaces burning the lights all night long is appalling. These are not only dangerous for migrating birds, they contribute to light pollution and just are a waste of fossil fuels. It's so easy to put motion sensors in buildings, or just turn the lights out to save money!</p>
114727886851	<p>-One way to collect money would be to ask for artist to donate their time and charge for entrance and this money can be used as donation.</p> <p>-Ask for donations.</p> <p>-Do a race/walk where each participant can pay a fee to participate.</p>
114727487804	<p>Please prioritize planting native plants/trees in parks and neighborhoods and eliminating harmful invasives like Callary ear and Tree of Heaven (host plant to invasive spotted lanternflies). Native plants are critical to local wildlife, which are also struggling with effects of climate change, light pollution, pesticides, etc. Our parks should be a safe haven for wildlife as well as humans</p>
114727431564	<p>Splash park At Twinbrook Rec</p>

114727418382	There is a gap in pedestrian/bike access on Viers Mill Road which greatly reduces accessibility. Please install sidewalk or walk/bike lane, or at least trim the overgrown trees/brush to distance pedestrians from cars, on Viers Mill Road between Twinbrook Parkway and the Twinbrook Connector Trail.
114727395704	more farmers markets festivals events clothing and food drives multiple times a year not just christmas
114727378869	Please reduce the extreme barriers to home improvement you've placed. If Twinbrook homes could be renovated or rebuilt easier, investors would flock here to improve the neighborhood, which would raise values and your tax base. For example, refusing to condemn a property that had no water, gas, or power for years and a massive hole to the crawl space is ridiculous. And now it was finally demolished, after you made it go through a 6 month process to determine if it was historic. And now we have a ditch in the ground for almost a year. Get your building and permit house in order! You don't need to raise taxes or reduce programs; just reduce the excessive burden and much of this will resolve in its own.
114727337196	Reach out to groups like WildOnes and Maryland Native Plant Society for ideas and volunteers!
114727318520	Make Route 355 safer for pedestrians.
114727218495	Please put a crosswalk light on first street at Grandin road. I've almost died there like 5 times.
114727207270	Composting made easier so we can throw less trash.
114727184581	Encourage local high schools to provide community service hours for students. They could help maintain park trails, learn to ID and remove non-native invasive plants, and plant native trees, wildflowers, and shrubs.
114727146850	Major focus on our environment. Educate residents about non-native invasive plants and the need to remove them on their property and plants native plants, not non-native plants and not cultivars, unless necessary.
114727146261	Silver Spring
114727089922	I know the speed cameras on west Montgomery Avenue are not operational. Why does the city have them out if that is the case? I find that wasteful & arrogant.
114726668458	Can we please work with MCPS to do something about the ocean of unused surface parking at Carver? It is such a waste of space on a busy thoroughfare. There must be a better use.
114726371963	Let's be a national leader in creating walkable neighborhoods that serve not just the most economically advantaged, but provide prosperity opportunities for those who are most disadvantaged.
114725503554	Is there a website where people can volunteer time or stuff that other people may need? If so, where is this advertised.
114723820739	Rockville's diversity rocks! Keep it affordable for us working folks and families.
114723679326	Rockville crime rate is worrisome eg recent shots fired in Welsch Park. This is my #1 issue.
114722874675	RedGate is already a magnet for birders and families. By emphasizing nature and expanding programming with the nature center (and maybe Rockville Science Center) the city could better monetize birders, and better serve families.
114722712478	Keep Rockville residents' kids in Rockville schools, don't send to Gaithersburg.
114722513759	Please build a covered shelter in Wootton Mills Park.
114722092517	Invest in RedGate Park with native plants.

114722072107	It is important to me to keep our natural resources and we have thoroughly enjoyed RedGate. Having Rock Creek in our area has kept us in Maryland.
114722020735	May I get back to you on this? It requires some thought.
	I would love it if I could bike with my family along the Rockville Pike/355 to all of the shopping and activities. Currently it is not safe to do. Developing protected bike lanes would be a great addition to our community. The Twinbrook pedestrian bridge would be a good start.
114721729186	Enhance the historic value of downtown Rockville with more 'Main Street' style shops (small storefronts, non-chain stores instead of modern chain restaurants and stores and outdated storefronts like those on North Washington Street, Maryland Ave, and Courthouse Sq.) to the streets surrounding the main square, thereby expanding the shopping/dining/entertainment experience beyond the square. Create more 'squares' social areas with events and activities. Consider adding playground components near downtown to make visiting more desirable to families.
114721463677	Please remove 90% of Rockville's public art and start over.
	Rockville needs an attraction that is unique to bring vitality to its soulless center.
114721030386	Deck over 355 near the Metro and build a Ferris wheel, market building, and make it a destination.
114720881456	no comment
114720789136	A focus on recreational or job training programming that integrates people of all abilities and backgrounds is an amazing way of building healthy and resilient communities. There are many great organizations within the community doing this work already. Continue to seek out partnerships to champion and support this work. This engages and uplifts citizens by recognizing and empowering homegrown initiatives that are already making a difference every day.
114720581922	Fill vacant space before building new buildings. Free parking at town center to make it vibrant. There are so many nice town centers and areas around.Ours in inconvenient and cumbersome to park. Free parking would drawl people there.
114720561971	Cut down the trees in the Town Square. They have grown too big and obscure the storefronts. They amplify the already claustrophobic feel of the space.
114720510657	Congratulations on keeping the park as "green" and wonderful for birds and plants as it is.
114720502501	I am so grateful for RedGate Park. I visit at least 5 times a week for my walk. Only want it maintained and not changed
114720451514	charge for parking at Hometown Holidays
114720366991	Let's go green! Installing solar panels, turning off lights in empty buildings, and asking City staff not to idle their engines, will save the City \$ while helping to combat climate change. Maybe even conduct a city-wide energy audit, to find other areas where waste can be reduced.
114720368043	We need to clean up the Food Scrap collection site at Rothgeb. The collection cans are disgusting. I don't know what Gaithersburg does at their collection site at Casey Community Center, but they are not covered with maggots. I would love to see more recycling opportunities. Single stream recycling is wasteful. Currently, I take my paper recycling to the Shady Grove Transfer Station.

114720316219	I don't like shooting and killing deer along the Rock Creek trail. Please find another way to keep the deer population manageable without resorting to murdering them.
114720261346	Please build a pathway from Lake Frank to Tedgate please.
114720260276	In the past year(s) I have seen so many cats (and dogs) out and about without a leash or a collar or an owner. I would like to see the fines increased for allowing your cat (and or dog) to run around the neighborhood chasing/killing other animals. Many owners feel that the current laws do not apply to them or their pet and if they are caught nothing is done. There is no follow up by animal control to see if anything has been done or fixed. There need to be more animal control officers and higher fines for violations. It is very frustrating to report something to Animal Control and then the next month the same thing happens again and again. The Animal Control officers need to follow up on complaints and fine individuals as appropriate. It seems like anything goes in Rockville and there are no fines or punishment for the violaters. Many dog owners do not pick up after their dog and there is no animal control enforcement. If the fines were higher and the penalties higher we would see the dog/cat owners pay more attention to what is going on with their pet. And last but not least there are many stray cats in our neighborhood and nothing is done to help them.... We report them but nothing is done..... A very sad situation for the stray animals. Anyways I truly hope that the current situation improves.
114720215797	I am very concerned that Rockville is getting more and more congested and green areas are being paved over. What solutions is the Rockville government working on to improve the dreadful congestion we now have. Does our city have any influence on Montgomery County government?
114720171414	Lower air conditioning and heating system use, switch off public lighting when not in use (like on stadium at night), develop the awareness about proper use of resources. This would help.
114720148483	Expand compost program?
114720112032	I love our parks, playgrounds and rec programs. Anything to fully fund or increase the budget to that department is greatly appreciated!
114720109234	I find the pet licensing process too expensive and complicated. Having to renew yearly when my dog's rabies vaccine lasts 3 years is very frustrating. Unnecessary waste of resources are spent on enforcement.
114720099494	Keep Rockville Green. On affordable housing - require developers to put aside a percentage of all new townhouse/apartment dwellings for working/low income professions. Raise the level of what is consider working/low income.
114720098785	Consider a volunteer program for composting household food (not meat) waste. This is environmentally and cost-effective way to reduce the costs of waste collection in MC.
114720097719	Solar energy
114720063032	Please support law enforcement to keep area safe for residents and visitors Thanks
114720009933	Please consider planting street trees that are native to the Rockville area to support our local ecosystems. Each year there are fewer butterflies and bees, and insects in general. Insects and seeds feed our birds and wildlife and our community is greatly diminished as these disappear.

114716756338	355 is very congested. I sometimes wish there was a light-rail style transportation to supplement the metro with stops that help transport people from neighborhoods to commerce centers.
114716639334	Hiring based on merit.
114716603980	Take care of I-270 infrastructure.
114715978338	Improve town center with stores that people want to shop at. A small Target or any other mainstream store might help.
114715895599	City of Rockville Residents should not have to pay Montgomery County taxes for services that we pay the city of Rockville for. The city of Rockville should petition that the county credit city residents for these redundant taxes.
114713682208	Explicitly prioritize the needs and voices of the disability community! We are a wide, diverse, growing population. If the city isn't inclusive of us, then that's to everyone else's detriment too. Remember, everyone ages, so everyone will be disabled in some way eventually. Lost eyesight, lost hearing, less mobility, etc. Wouldn't you want to be able to thrive in your community when it's your turn to experience those things? Why wait until it impacts you directly? Do the responsible thing now, and reap the dividends for years to come!
114712663238	Invest in hub and spoke models of economic development (i.e. community-centered planning). Having stores, cafes etc better integrated into existing communities will improve quality of life and drive economic growth, especially for small businesses. We can't keep building houses without supporting infrastructure.
114711945496	I would like to see a public running track with lights added to the city's recreational infrastructure. All running tracks in the city are associated with MCPS or MCC, and are subject to availability of those schools. Rockville has a large running community and this would be a tremendous resource to promote active living among all age groups.
114711223341	Stop the stranglehold of suburban sprawl and single-family-house zoning. How horrifying (not) to have attractive duplex, triplex, quadriplex, and small apartment and co-op housing and the transit infrastructure to support it. I mean, it really *isn't* innovative -- but it would be in certain neighborhoods that are loathe to consider this.
114710940867	bring the life sciences industry to Rockville we need another industry since the goverment workforce is remote now and AAA corprate bussiness are remote as well
114710853695	Place noise monitoring cameras along the length of West and East Gude Drive as well as Rockville Pike. Fine people who use Jake brakes, excessively speed, and roar by at all hours with manipulated engines and mufflers. The City makes money and residents can go back to living without noise pollution in our own homes. Win-win.
114710721616	Implement humane deer control
114710712046	Please replace traffic lights in Rockville with adaptive traffic lights to reduce unnecessary idling. Sitting at useless red lights with no cross traffic is so 20th Century. Please also install bicycle ramps on both staircases of the Metro pedestrian skybridge across 355 in town. Such a simple, passive help will encourage multimodal commuting and fewer car commutes.

114710044138	Stop spending money on outside contractors to perform studies and change management activities. If our existing city staff can't do these things, get them the training they need. If they still can't do them, replace them.
114708570307	Connect out bike trail to the Rock Creek Park; not that hard! Thank in advance.
114706555741	Too many leaving or empty businesses. Provide cheaper rent options for businesses to have a chance to survive
114706495085	<p>The city should implement a tree replacement program so that any trees that are cut down for safety are immediately replaced. In fact, it would be ideal to plant the next generation of trees before the big ones have to come down, but I don't know if that is feasible.</p> <p>We have terrible light pollution where I live in East Rockville. Ordinances restricting excessive light at night would be most welcome.</p>
114705918530	Upzoning. Increase the allowed residential density, particularly along corridors (Rockville Pike, Viers Mill, Gude, etc.) but also within SF neighborhoods, particular those near metro, Town Center, and First/Norbeck.
114705917580	Start a tree carving project in city park instead of removing old trees. Add art and would draw more usage
114705867623	I think the Rockville Police force needs to be systematically increased and the city systematically patrolled. Would also like to see them equipped with drones.
114702952703	The Friends of the Library has a great bookstore. Could this be brought into downtown Rockville? Could it be combined with the library? Could there be a reading area outside the library on the plaza?
114702482081	More lighted pedestrian cross walks in the entire city. / Town Center have roller skating /disco in the summer where the ice skating is in the winter. Or some other area.
114702455309	Trees and parks. This city is beautiful because of the green spaces and the tree lined streets. I would prioritize investing in maintaining and upgrading parks.
114702372667	Pedestrian Access stairs to the rt270 overpass closer to Rockshire.
114702125692	<p>LOVE all the new protected bike lanes. I frequently use the ones near town center with my elementary school children - I would feel much less safe without them. Having a safe bikeable connection to Twinbrook and Flower Valley neighborhoods from Rockville Town Center would be extremely valuable.</p> <p>Please focus on reducing intersections when designing bike paths (these are the most dangerous parts, biking along East Gude on the millenium trail is a bit scary with kids as we must come to a complete stop at each of the many crossings for safety). Would also like to see more separated bike paths through Lincoln Park area, Dover lane is marked as a bike route but it is not a good road to bike on, it is only one lane each way with no shoulder, and many small roads and driveway entrances. An off-road bike path there would be very nice (similar to on Horners lane) to safely connect that neighborhood by bike to the town center.</p> <p>Overall connecting SAFE child friendly separated bike paths is my highest priority.</p>
114701908599	Would love to see Town Center have more restaurant and shops open!!! Maybe a hardware store. There aren't any in the city!!! An indoor kids play place for families.
114701881876	Continue supporting pedestrian access, safety programs paying attention to enforcing codes such as keeping bicycles of sidewalks . . .

	<p>1. This mayor and council were elected with Rockville Town Center in mind, why is that not a priority?</p> <p>2. Transportation...bolstering mass transit, reliable bus service, supportive commuting benefits, etc etc</p> <p>3. Homeless - while it doesn't seem to be a widespread problem yet, its going to be.</p>
114701546576	<p>We dont need affordable housing in 5-7 years, we need it now. Lets start getting innovative. Hmm...there are these large vacant buildings that have multiple rooms. Wouldn't it be beneficial to retrofit these buildings into I dunno affordable apartments? I feel as though that could provide even an interim solution on affordable housing while the city waits for developers to delay delay delay and only have 1Br/1ba apartments for \$2600 p/month</p>
114701482117	Clean up lake frank
114701226529	more bike lanes more safety programs
114701169720	Reduce taxes billed to me per year. Reduce the employee level to one we can afford .
114701136234	<p>Redesign strip mall entrances and exits to improve line of sight for both drivers and walkers, to boost pedestrian safety. Right now, shrubs and signage block views and encourage drivers never to expect any pedestrians, but just to focus on speeding toward their shopping experiences. Some entrances compel pedestrians to either walk an enormously long way around, or break openings in hedges to get a safe view of drivers who are completely distracted by their phones, music, shopping schedule, etc. Similar problem for drivers trying to avoid pedestrians who are fully engaged with phones and not aware of their surroundings. Both groups end up angry and aggressive.</p>
114700979495	Please maintain your sidewalks and correct driveway aprons.
114700954954	Develop the Stonestreet corridor around Rockville metro station. Keep up the great work. I've lived in Rockville for 31 years and can't imagine living elsewhere.
114700722196	Please renovate wootton high school. It has been waiting for many many years.
114700593637	add benches in parks in areas where people walk
114700552723	Please prioritize BRT and pedestrian safety along Rockville Pike. The key issues in the Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan in Planning Area 9 are a great example of something that I would like to be brought to the forefront(p. 348-353). I think that it would make Rockville feel like a more cohesive community.
114700529519	Cement barrier Protected bike lines throughout the city please!
114700528101	Decrease focus on Planning and REDI on "placemaking" and micro-regulation; increase focus on economic development and deal-making.
114700523302	<p>I would consider doing something really innovative with the red gate golf course property. there are mini golf course properties around the United States bankrupt and have reinvented themselves. Some have built some apartment buildings and high-rise, senior, living places on part of the property and then kept nine holes of the golf course... And include an all grass putt putt course. Some of them have included a nice restaurant and outdoor music venue, which can be used for all kinds of arts and entertainment.</p>
114700522867	Fewer bike lanes!
114700519620	Please work on improving climate resiliency

114700502481	Reopen and Extend Seven Locks Road north from Wootton Parkway and integrate into Falls Road/I-270 Interchange. Annex NE corner of SGR & Montrose, & SW corner of 355 & Shady Grove Road, as well as other lands adjacent to Rockville as possible. Extend East Jefferson St. south to Wootton Pkwy.
114700482935	Please trim the trees in Rockville town center and get better lighting it's dark at night and especially with winter coming
114700452856	Please work to reduce rent for businesses! Especially in Rockville Town Square. We should be competitive with Pike and Rose... we have so much to offer!! This many chronically empty storefronts is a very bad look for our community.
114700172106	Please focus on economic growth and development within town center. There is so much potential- we need the city to focus efforts there so that we can be the next Pike and Rose.
114698999691	A youth learn-to-ride / bicycle safety program through either the after-school activity program or a summer camp run by the Parks and Recreation Department would be a great addition to its current offerings.
114696695883	Build a velodrome at RedGate Park.
114694471003	In the realm of affordable housing, following the County's lead on allowing morehousing in single family zoned land based on their distance from transit stations and growth zones would be a boon to the city and cost burdened young families.
114694142578	1) spray mosquito repellent near sidewalks, benches, and bus stops 2) add benches to all bus stops 3) Increased rat extermination 4) increase teen focused programs in Town Square 5) repair all broken crosswalk buttons
114693315971	Maintaining safety in our neighborhoods. Additional police officers
114693259296	We need street trees in our neighborhood
114692870164	Clean up park areas and remove invasive vines
114692810836	Reinvestment in schools and areas that are not as high income.
114691812190	Give tax incentives for homeowners to make their house greener examples: replacing gutters, replacing windows and doors, etc. And also need more police presence in the shopping plazas examples: Twinbrook Center and Market place. There's been a lot of activity at those two shopping plazas.
114691658232	I believe there should be more programs and tax breaks to those in the lower - middle class bracket. Right now, it is very difficult for a family of four with an income of about 90,000 a year to live comfortably in this area. It is even more difficult for a single person to afford a studio apartment without assistance. For infrastructure, pedestrian safety, roads, and bus stops should be top priority. Building a pedestrian bridge in Twinbrook is a start, but red light cameras and red light phase would be most beneficial to pedestrians and City revenue.
114690404145	We should somehow expand town center. Build up from the epicenter to increase housing. It would allow to maintain and sustain our green space. Rockville has too many town houses.
114690280972	I would like to see a city compost program. Would also love to see more parks acquired and more community garden plots set up. I currently have one at Wootons Mill and my family cherishes it. I would also love to see more pedestrian and bike accessibility throughout the city.

114690243732	I love the programs for the children
114690069586	Create a senior corps of stipended senior citizens to provide services to vulnerable residents. Promote intergenerational activities, perhaps n town square space. Seek more partnerships with nonprofit groups to address residents needs. lower recreation fees for lower income children and youth hire more seriously disabled people to work for City government. partner with MCPS for reuse of MCPS facilities and properties in city
114689849164	City should start a lending library like Seattle and other cities have, to allow citizens to lend tools, electronics, sports equipment, etc.
114689840837	Stop commercial development where we tax payers and shoppers have to pay higher prices when commercial real estate companies are left with large empty spaces they cannot rent to a tenant because of the HIGH OVERHEAD RENT. In the Towncenter, the commercial property at the intersection of East Middle Lane and North Washington Street is a perfect example. This space has remained vacant for at least FOUR years.
114689720070	You are driving the middle class out!!!?
114689486682	Offer all Rockville citizens gym membership access to health and fitness options, through sponsorship and deals with industry.
114689485496	Form focus groups to figure this out together. Too much for just one brain. B
114689480595	Increase the pedestrian accessibility of the Pike by widening sidewalks (or creating a shared use / traffic-calming median) and adding a BRT lane.
114689416176	Reorient planning to leverage existing public transportation resources and create a walkable community. Rockville neighborhoods should be linked to commercial areas and metro to reduce suburban sprawl and traffic and encourage walking.
114689411724	Allow more open space to simply relax with no sound other than through play or conversations.... Or QUIET live music.
114689400396	keep fees low for senior citizens
114689398844	Cut programs and budgets on DEI and restorative justice. DEI is racist and discriminatory. Replace DA and judges who will not punish criminals. Increase budgets of police by eliminating DEI program funding.
114689387605	Solar canopies should be installed in all outdoor parking lots. The courthouse windows should have solar. Any opportunity to decrease our carbon footprint and show that Rockville can be a leader in mitigating climate change should be prioritized.
114689381249	I'd like to see the recreation like rockville pool increase fees for non residents of rockville city, and also the lessons offered should be offered to residents to sign up for the first week, then non residents.
114689375344	Please do whatever you can to increase the economic development, support small businesses, find a balance of businesses and restaurants that attract a wide variety of consumers.... more revenue to businesses makes this a more attractive area, brings in more revenue.... we have been shooting ourselves in the foot. We need a grocery store back where Dawson's was -- or something. vacancies filled by Vis-Arts are better than a vacant space, but we need a better retail mix and a better balance of restaurants (overbalanced with Asian right now -- wonderful places, but not balanced).
114689374586	Focus on basic city services and maintenance. Try to make government more cost effective. (It isn't)

114689342530	Give police higher salaries and hire more cops!
114689338895	Having the new bike lane (on Middle lane, N Washington and in process on Beall) and decreased space for driving actually sends more potential people away from the city. Many people I know will not frequent town center because of the traffic and difficulty parking. The lot A in town center that now has a large unusable space because it's being leased is a problem
114689325040	Figure out how to blend with the County programs and take charge of the county seat.
114689320661	Homeowners need a break. It is too expensive to live here. We need a tax cut.
114689317136	More work on parks and unused land and commercial buildings to increase usage, avoid unused space.
114689305365	Reduce contracted mowing and lawn maintenance frequency. E.g., we are in a drought and the grass is not actively growing. Regardless, last week there were 3 (!) guys with LOUD gas-powered leaf blowers blowing around the dust and about 5 leaves on Courthouse Sq. What an appalling waste of money and gas while decreasing air quality. There has to be a way to not do this.
114689297338	Eco Dev: Attract Java Nation to former Eko House location in Town Square. Brand Gude area tile/cabinet/carpet/remodeling shops as a "design district", grow related tenants, and market broadly. Invest in a mid-size live music venue near Metro to bring smaller touring acts to Rockville. Ensure Rockville Regal remains an operational movie theatre.
114689296477	Greatest value to least well-off residents
114689295204	Build a sound barrier for the metro and train. More Pike and Rose style development, improve the twin Brook neighborhood by the metro. More walking options, less cars.
114689293341	Focus and spend more on the needs of current residents rather than creating more development that only increases density, traffic and stress.
114689293540	We should have a tool library for homeowners to borrow.
114689292143	Increase availability of one-level senior housing or first floor primary suites in two-level houses.
114689244645	Thank you for the city support of the village organizations. The programs are out growing the requirements for sustainability. Please increase the budget for staff.
114688472378	cut waste. go back to the basics, safety, clean streets
114687767672	Some sort of community center in West Rockville so people could meet in the winter, have book clubs, meetings, cards, etc
114687733826	Rockville needs to do a better job of connecting its trails with The County. Specifically, please consider connecting civic center trails with Rock Creek. Community trails exist but it is dangerous to cross Baltimore road there or swim Rock Creek. Also, please consider connecting Redgate park down to the Rock Creek trail. A bridge is needed to cross Rock Creek so that the dangerous Avery road can be avoided.
114687309246	While far fetched, I would love to see Rockville take over some of the state roads going through the city. the SHA has been the biggest impediment to comprehensive infrastructure updates and if a budget would allow for it taking some roads into the city's ownership would allow for better upkeep and development. Personally I would recommend Jefferson street and w Montgomery ave. These are locations within a dense part of Rockville that are especially problematic but could be made significantly better under the city's ownership.

114683321757	The N. Washington and vicinity bike lanes are a mess and don't get used enough to justify the mess.
114680620856	Encourage more mixed commercial-residential development! Completely residential neighborhoods with no walkability to businesses are financial unsustainable, bad for quality of life, and a holdover from a more racist, segregationist period of history.
114679684073	Stop building strip malls with massive parking lots in the middle and businesses all disconnected. Encourage development of walkable, mixed commercial/residential areas instead of necessitating people to drive to a single business and then leave. Also, develop community food forests with volunteers to help maintain them.

FY 2026 Proposed Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program Follow-Up Information – Q&A

◆ = General document question

■ = Operating budget question

● = Capital budget question

Councilmember Van Grack (3/1/25 email):

1. ■ As I understand the Proposed Budget, \$12,000 will be proposed as a direct grant to the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department for the water cost subsidy; however the references to the \$250,000 allocation in the FY 2026 proposed budget “recommends” a \$250,000 allocation of General Fund reserves to provide an emergency response vehicle to the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department. Can you explain the parameters which would need to be met by the City in order for this \$250,000 allocation to occur? And assuming \$250,000 allocation is solely triggered upon “reserves exceeding the target,” can you provide data as to how often over the past 10 years the City has had that condition met?

The proposed budget recommends uses of reserves totaling \$2,080,000 for the following purposes:

- *\$750,000 for a subsidy to the Housing Opportunities Fund,*
- *\$280,000 for a Green Space Management Plan,*
- *\$250,000 for a contribution to the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department for the purchase of a new vehicle, and*
- *\$800,000 for a transfer to the Capital Projects Fund to fund the construction of the Senior Center Entrance (TA24) CIP project*


The city currently has sufficient reserves to commit these resources for the one-time needs specified. The budget projects that the reserve balance will exceed the target by \$3.7 million after reductions for the proposed commitments of reserves. This can also be found on page 65 of the proposed budget. Here is a schedule of how General Fund reserve balances have compared to the target for the last ten years.

Fiscal Year	Reserve Target	Ending Unassigned Fund Balance	\$ Over Target
FY 2015	10,558,200	19,916,594	9,358,394
FY 2016	14,918,000	21,039,026	6,121,026
FY 2017	15,384,000	19,643,296	4,259,296
FY 2018	15,938,000	19,092,844	3,154,844
FY 2019	16,484,000	22,733,031	6,249,031
FY 2020	16,848,000	22,022,347	5,174,347
FY 2021	16,921,000	22,869,949	5,948,949
FY 2022	17,296,000	26,446,411	9,150,411
FY 2023	18,664,080	27,588,751	8,924,671
FY 2024	20,325,110	31,231,793	10,906,683


Note: Target was 15% in FY 2015, and then 20% starting in FY 2016 and beyond.

2. ● The CIP Appropriation of Pedestrian Bridge Replacement: Horizon Hill Park (RB22) has been on hold for a number of years. My understanding is that with the FY 2026 Appropriation, this would be fully funded and construction can begin in FY 2026. Can you confirm if this is correct?


The timing of the pedestrian bridge replacement aligns with the results and recommendations included in the City's bridge inspection report conducted by a third-party structural engineering firm. The FY 2026 budget provides construction funding for the Horizon Hill Park pedestrian bridge. Construction is estimated to begin in FY 2026 and be completed in FY 2027.

3.  The CIP Appropriation of Pedestrian Bridge Replacement: Woottons Mill Park (RD23) has been on hold for a number of years. My understanding is that with the FY 2026 Appropriation, this would only be partially funded and, with additional funding next year, construction can begin in FY 2027. Can you confirm if this is correct?


The timing of the pedestrian bridge replacement aligns with the results and recommendations included in the City's bridge inspection report conducted by a third-party structural engineering firm. The FY 2026 budget provides design funding for the Woottons Mill Park pedestrian bridge. Construction is estimated to begin in FY 2027 and be completed in FY 2028.

4.  The CIP Appropriation of Scott-Veirs Drive Shared-Use Path (TA23) is critical for pedestrian safety, especially for students at Wootton High School and Frost Middle School. My understanding is that with the FY 2026 Appropriation, this would only be partially funded and, with additional funding next year, construction can begin in FY2027. Can you confirm if this is correct? Or do we need Federal funding for this to begin? Further, if we do not get Federal Funding, can the City consider fully funding this project itself?

The FY 2026 budget recognizes a \$200K Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) grant to support the design of this project. This grant has delayed the start of the design phase as the city is still waiting to execute the MOU to start the design. The construction portion of the project is estimated at \$1,000,000 and staff are actively pursuing grant opportunities with the expectation to begin construction in FY 2027. The city will evaluate options to self-fund the construction portion of the project if the grant applications are not successful. From a timing perspective, this would be something that would be evaluated with the FY 2027 budget.

5.  The CIP Appropriation of Hurley Avenue Bridge Replacement (TE16) has been designated as a need since 2016. I understand that the City's portion of the CIP (\$1,793,010) has previously been funded but it appears that only \$237,294 has been spent. Is that correct? Additionally, what is the status of the \$4,560,000 (which I understand is due from Federal funding), and do we anticipate construction beginning in FY 2026 (which is what staff has been conveying for the past 12 months).

Design completion and construction start is estimated to occur in FY 2026. City spending through 1/28/25 is \$237,294. The design phase is managed by Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) utilizing their on call structural design consultants. Staff is presently coordinating with MDOT SHA to authorize the federal funding for the final design contract. Staff anticipates that the construction contract will be managed by the city and that the federal aid will be formally authorized upon design completion.

6.  In the General Fund Expenditures by Department comparison between FY 2025 Adopted and FY 2026 Proposed for the Police Department (page 24), the percent change is only an increase of 2.2%. Is the 2.2% Police Department Expenditures increase using the FY 2025 Adopted figures before the August/September 2025 Pay Scale Increase for the Police Department (which occurred after the adoption of the FY 2025 budget) or after the August/September 2025 Post-Adoption increase?

The amounts shown for FY 2025 use the adopted budget at May 6, 2024, prior to the August/September pay scale increases.

7. ■ Similar to my previous Question, how/where is the August/September 2025 Pay Scale Increase for the Police Department (which occurred after the adoption of the FY 2025 budget) considered in the comparisons between Adopted FY 2025 figures and Proposed FY 2026 figures in the Police Department expenditure descriptions (beginning on page 199).

The best way to see the change to the pay scale is to compare the FY 2026 proposed police pay scale on page 378 to the FY 2025 adopted police pay scale. The changes to the police pay scale approximate 6% between the FY 2025 adopted budget and the FY 2026 proposed budget, which incorporates the 3.5% pay scale adjustment made in August/September and the 2.5% cost of living adjustment included in the FY 2026 budget. This 6% change is higher than the personnel changes shown on page 199 which includes changes for administrative staff within the department and is driven by actual salaries (including assumptions for vacancies).

8. ■ In the Police Department narrative (page 198), it states that the Community Services Unit “will expand outreach efforts.” Is this expansion through additional funding or different resource allocation. If through funding, how is that funding being allocated. If through different resource allocation, what is the adjustment?

The Police Department will continue to work within its allocated budget for Community Engagement. While the FY 2026 budget does not include increased funding for this effort, the Department will continue to seek community partnerships that enhance these events in a cost-effective way for the city, as was done through food donations for events during FY 2025, and will reallocate one-time savings if available for these events.

9. ● For the CIP Appropriation of Glenview Mansion Gardens Hardscape Preservation and Repairs (RB26), I understand that the only finding in FY 2026 will be the planning and assessment; however, will ADA accessibility be considered for the repairs to the retaining walls and paths to ensure?

The main purpose of the project is to repair and preserve the existing slate walkways, steps, retaining walls and archways. A secondary goal is, where practical is to add or improve access for all while maintaining the historical integrity of the site.

10. ● For the CIP Appropriation of David Scull Park Improvements (RA19), I understand that construction cost increased due to inflation; however, if so, why is there no cost allocation for that increase in FY 2026? Was that increase addressed in FY 2025? And if we’re addressing all of these increases in costs, why is construction completion being moved out to FY 2027?

The change in the construction cost is based on the original amount shown in the table (\$444,700 originally, now \$750,000). Inflationary adjustments were addressed with the FY 2025 budget. Additional design and construction costs were needed to satisfy city code requiring restrooms be connected to city water and sewer infrastructure. A bond bill that the city received during FY 2025 mitigated the impact of those added costs to the city. Staff expects that much of the construction will be completed in FY 2026 and that FY 2027 will mainly address project close out.

Councilmember Jackson (3/4/25 email):

11. ■ I am interested in how much we have in the budget for Community Empowerment Matching Grants and to where they were awarded this year. Could I get a list of awardees and those that were not funded?

The FY 2026 budget provides \$6,000 for the Community Empowerment Matching Grant program, but does not allocate this funding to specific organizations. The grant process for this program happens during the fiscal year. The FY 2025 grants are in the process of being awarded to the following recipients. All applicants received funding.

Program Name	Organization	Program Description	Funding Request	PANEL FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS
RHE FY25 - It Takes A Village	Rockville Housing Enterprises	RHE FY25 - It Takes A Village	\$1,000	\$1,000
Community improvement	Flint Ledge Estates Community Association, Inc.	Community improvement	\$1,000	\$500
Village Support Network (formerly RAVE)	RAVE- Rockville Area Village Exchange	Village Support Network (formerly RAVE)	\$2,000	\$1,350
Hospitality Program Expansion	West Rockville Connects Village	West Rockville Book Connection - West Rockville Connects Village Little Free	\$1,000	\$1,000
Lincoln Park Civic Association Outreach Initiative	Lincoln Park Civic Association	Lincoln Park Civic Association Outreach Initiative	\$750	\$750
Annual North Farm Community Day	The North Farm Citizens Association	Annual North Farm Community Day	\$500	\$500
Cambridge Heights Common Area landscaping	Cambridge Heights HOA	Cambridge Heights Common Area landscaping	\$900	\$900
FY 2025 TOTAL				\$6,000

Mayor Ashton (3/4/25 meeting)

12. ■ What are the changes to the taxable assessed property values by type for FY 2026?

The taxable assessed values increased 5.7% for FY 2026. This reflects increases in assessed values across all property categories as detailed below. These changes include the impact of new development that has been completed and occupied as of the time of the assessment.

Property Classification	% Change in AV (FY25 to FY26)
Commercial	2.0%
Industrial	5.0%
Residential	7.3%
Mixed Use	9.3%

13. ◆ What new park shelters are being considered or are in the pipeline (aligning with the PROSE Plan)?

Park shelters in the pipeline are Dawson Farm structural repair (FY25), David Scull Park (new pavilion – FY26), and RedGate Park (three new pavilions – FY27). There are four pavilion Long Range CIP projects as well: (1) Outdoor Classroom Pavilion – Croydon Creek Nature Center (new pavilion - FY31), (2) North Farm Pavilion Replacement (FY33), Calvin Park Pavilion Replacement (FY34), and Hillcrest Park Pavilion Replacement (FY35).

14. ■ What is the city planning to do for financial empowerment in FY 2026?

HCD is taking a community-focused and data-driven approach to financial empowerment. In FY25, in partnership with Truist Bank, the department is hosting four workshops on: 3/12, 3/13, 3/19, 3/20.

In FY26, once a homeownership specialist is onboarded, HCD plans to hold regular workshops on: 1) homeownership, 2) how to apply for the MPDU program (rental and ownership), and 3) financial empowerment workshops through Bank On. HCD also plans to host a tax preparation assistance day and other activities through Bank On and its partnerships. These plans are still being developed, with a focus on developing community-based and data-driven program to provide the most benefit to the community.

15. ◆ Is the city planning a fourth composting site?

Staff is not currently planning to open a fourth composting site. A third site was opened at the Twinbrook Community Center in November of 2025 and a cart was added to the Senior Center to meet additional demand. In FY 2026, staff intend to monitor tons collected from each of the three sites, adjust site capacity when needed, and increase education to minimize contamination.

16. ◆ What is the status on the solar installations and is a third solar installation being considered?

MCPS contract delays and uncertainty in federal tariffs and tax credits are impacting the finalization of SPPAs to implement solar canopy projects at Rothgeb and 6 Taft Court. Federal funding from the Department of Energy (DOE) is currently paused, impacting the implementation of the third planned solar rooftop at Lincoln Park Community Center.

17. ◆ How many calls is the RCPD receiving for the Montgomery County Crisis Center?

In 2023, RCPD responded to 365 calls for service at the Montgomery County Crisis Center. In 2024, RCPD responded to 351 calls for service at the Montgomery County Crisis Center.

Councilmember Jackson (3/7/25 meeting)


18. ■ Who will we contract with for the expanded mental health services?

Staff anticipates contracting with a licensed and insured entity that provides mental health services focused on prevention, early intervention, and treatment. The city expects that they will be capable of taking insurance (and medicare), managing third party billing, and ensuring HIPAA compliance. The provider would deliver traditional individual counseling that is billable and, with city funding provide prevention and educational workshops, group sessions and programming.


19. ■ What do we estimate the refuse rates will be looking beyond FY 2026?

The FY 2026 budget proposes an annual refuse rate of \$565 per year. This rate applies to residential properties within the city, and appears on the annual property tax bill. Staff project that the refuse rate will increase an average of 4.4 percent per year through FY 2030, up to \$665 per year by FY 2030. The Refuse Fund is an enterprise fund which does not receive any tax revenues and relies primarily on the refuse fee to sustain operations (including personnel) and the costs of capital (which includes scheduled refuse truck replacements). For additional context, the current FY 2025 city refuse fee of \$535 is less than the \$594.59 paid by Montgomery County residents who do not have the benefit of a single stream recycling program.


Councilmember VanGrack (3/7/25 email)

20.  In the past few years, many members of the communities surrounding Woottons Mills Park (such as Rockshire, Glenora Hills, Horizon Hill, and Fallsmead) have requested a covered shelter at the park. What is the rationale for not having any covered shelters proposed in the FY2026 CIP Appropriations, including, but not limited to, a covered shelter at Woottons Mills Park?


The CIP includes new park pavilions for David Scull Park (new pavilion – FY26) and RedGate Park (three new pavilions – FY27). There are a number of existing pavilions that will require major renovations and repairs, and several are included in the Long Range CIP (see question #13).

21.  Do we have any potentially proposed years for the recommendation of a covered shelter at Woottons Mills Park?

UPDATED: Currently there is no planned construction of a covered shelter in Woottons Mill Park. Staff have not received this item as a Propose-A-Project for FY 2025 or FY 2026, but did receive budget survey comments and public testimony. Staff will plan to conduct outreach and engagement in the neighboring communities during FY 2026 and will include this as a Planned Improvement Project for FY 2027 to explore accessibility and potential locations.


22.  During the most recent Budget Briefing with staff, I was informed that the recommendations emanating from the Compensation and Classification Study (to be presented at the March 17, 2025 Mayor & Council Meeting) were not included in the personnel funding percentages and amounts that are in the Budget Booklet. Presuming that the City Manager's Office recommends increasing certain salaries based on the Compensation and Classification Study, can we receive updated personnel funding percentage increased from FY2025 and funding amounts?

The FY 2026 proposed budget includes capacity for compensation and classification adjustments in Non-Departmental. This is summarized on pages 365-367. In looking at personnel totals citywide the increase in personnel from FY 2025 to FY 2026 is 7.7 percent. The compensation and classification capacity is included the personnel totals by Fund (page 58) but are not allocated to each department. During worksession #3 changes between proposed and adopted will include the department allocations for the compensation and classification study implementation.

23.  For the CIP Appropriation of Senior Center Entrance (TA24), will the \$800,000 appropriation for FY2026 be the total estimated amount for construction of the entrance and pedestrian access areas? Additionally, is it anticipated that the construction will be completed in FY2026, and if not, when is the estimated completed date?

Yes, this includes both the entrance and pedestrian access. Staff expects the design to be completed in the fall of 2025. Construction will most likely start in Spring 2026 and will be completed in FY 2027.

Mayor Ashton (3/10/25 email)

24.  What is the average projected income revenue growth for FY26 for the City of Rockville? What is the total revenue projected from income tax? Given the projected changes at the Federal level (where so many families have/will be impacted in terms of job uncertainty) what do we anticipate will be the impact in FY26 and FY27. At the state level they anticipated 4.1 percent growth for individual income taxes in September 2024. However they have reduced the anticipated growth to 2.6% in March 2025.

The FY 2026 budget reflects citywide revenue growth of 4.5 percent and assumes income tax revenue of \$21,200,000 (a 4.4 percent increase over the FY 2025 adopted revenue levels). It is important to note that the FY 2025 year-to-date revenues are trending higher than what was anticipated. The FY 2026 revenue estimate is a 2.5 percent increase over the November 2024 payment, which establishes the base for the fiscal year. This revenue source is challenging to predict because it is based on individual income tax returns each year. Factors such as employment rates, capital gains, retirement rates, and wage growth all contribute to the amount of annual revenue. The forecast assumes a conservative 3.5 percent increase each year. The average annual increase to income tax revenue over the last 5 years is 5.8 percent. This is an area that will be closely monitored given the economic uncertainties associated with changes at the federal level.

Councilmember Jackson (3/10/25 email)

25. ■ Does the City analyze which programs have the lowest participation rates? Can some programming be consolidated?

Recreation staff utilize industry-wide best practices from the Learning Education Resources Network (LERN) to systematically evaluate program effectiveness, employing metrics such as participation trends, market responsiveness, and cost recovery analyses. Programs exhibiting consistently low participation or diminished interest are assessed for possible consolidation or discontinuation. Resources gained through these strategic adjustments are subsequently reallocated toward enhancing high-performing programs, introducing innovative offerings, and ensuring a comprehensive, balanced portfolio of recreational opportunities aligned with evolving community needs.

26. ■ We have had discussions from some neighbors in East Rockville wanting to update the neighborhood plan. It hasn't been updated since 2004 (pg51). Is this something that is needed and do we need to consider budgeting time and personnel and funds for it or is it not needed because the Comprehensive Plan incorporated much of what would be an updated neighborhood plan?

The Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan, adopted in 2021, serves as an update to all city neighborhood plans, including Planning Area 2 for East Rockville. The Comprehensive Plan adopts by reference the 2004 East Rockville Neighborhood Plan, but also makes its own, newer recommendations for the neighborhood. Staff prefers that any updates to neighborhood plans or amendments to the Comprehensive Plan be considered after completion of the zoning ordinance rewrite (drafting to be completed by the end of Calendar Year 2025) since comprehensive planning staff is dedicating significant time to this project. The FY 2026 budget anticipates the completion of the zoning ordinance rewrite and this initiative will be a major focus area for CPDS in Spring 2026. Staff understands that the East Rockville Plan update may be targeted to identifying more areas in East Rockville for "missing middle" housing. If that is the case, staff could have some capacity to begin an evaluation of this project towards the end of FY 2026.

27. ● There is some concern that taking federal funds through the state would mean keeping Redgate Park as a Park in perpetuity. I believe the amount of funds was \$700,000 or so. Is that correct? Is that \$700,000 in this year's budget?

We believe you are referring to a Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant. Staff is working on this grant application and the grant application agreement will come to the Mayor and Council for approval. If approved by Mayor and Council, staff will proceed with the grant application due May 1, 2025. The city will request \$1.5 million in funding. This grant funding is not included in the FY 2026 budget, if Mayor and Council approve moving forward and the grant is awarded to the city, staff will include it in a budget amendment.

28. ■ Pg 66 – Why the huge increase in municipal infractions (2905.9%)?

The city anticipates an increase in municipal infractions revenue associated with the new Senior Zoning Inspector position which is included in the FY 2026 Proposed Budget. This position will implement the requirements of the new zoning ordinance which will include performing inspections, ensuring developments meet site plan requirements, and proactively addressing zoning violations (which results in this added revenue of approximately \$49,400).

29. ■ Pg 72 – why do we have a big increase in the Consultant spending category – 45.3% ? Likewise in the Credit Card charges – 43.7% ? And the non-city facility rental – 42.8% ?

FY 2026 increases to consultant services include funding for organizational development, a JEDI strategic plan, financial reporting software implementation, and consulting for the city's transition to WebEx calling (a cost saving transition). Credit card charges have risen consistently across all city functions, driven largely by online recreation registrations and online permitting functions. As shown on page 72, the FY 2024 ended the year even higher than what was budgeted in FY 2025 and volume continues to increase as customers prefer efficient web-based transactions. FY 2026 increases to non-city facility rentals includes added costs for Town Center condo fees and the lease costs for the city's new off-site disaster recovery location.

30. ■ Pg. 73 – What is the reason for a 1081.0% increase in the trophies and awards category? From \$10,000 last year to \$120,000 in the coming budget? Same question for Furniture and Equipment, Computer/Communication Equipment, SBITA and Lease Inception?

The FY 2026 increase for trophies and awards is a reallocation of health assessment credits and wellness rewards which were previously a component of the personnel budget (credits for health deductions). Employees will have more options on how they receive these wellness rewards going forward. The increase for furniture and equipment is largely driven by the CCTV modernization initiative and electric landscaping equipment that is included to prepare the city for county regulations concerning gas operated landscaping equipment. Increases to computer hardware includes expanded funding for the planned network refresh. Increases to the SBITA Expenses reflect a reclassification of these expenses from the software maintenance and subscriptions line, and the Lease Inception line is an accounting estimate that includes and equal offsetting revenue. This changes annually based on the timing of when new leases are executed.

31. ■ Pg 79 – Why did the Opioid Settlement Fund go from 15,690 to \$143,400?

The FY 2026 budget expands the use of the Opioid Settlement Funds to include providing funding to nonprofits who will provide substance use prevention, early intervention and treatment services for the Rockville community. This aligns with the State of Maryland Health Department approval of the city's opioid settlement spending plan, and their allocation of settlement funds to the city. The budget maintains funding for Rockville Goes Purple utilizing these special revenue funds and includes funding for community outreach efforts.

32. ◆ How are the performance metrics for REDI developed and implemented? Does the City Manager track them to ensure that they are on track to help Rockville? Can they be adjusted year to year? What happens if they don't meet the metrics assigned to them?

Per REDI: Performance metrics are tweaked from year to year and can be found in the annual report. The FY 2024 REDI Annual Report can be found [HERE](#). When a certain goal is not met, an

explanation is usually provided (for example, staffing vacancies that impacted output). The Rockville Mayor and Council are provided with an annual report and hold an annual joint meeting. REDI staff are open to additional metrics that might be tracked in the future. Proposed FY 2026 Performance Metrics can be found at [Attachment A](#).

33. ■ There was \$50,000 that I believe was in the budget to be used to look at REDI and economic development. Could we instead use those funds to look at our CPDS process and find ways to make it more efficient and speed up the process?

The FY 2026 proposed budget does not include funding to evaluate different economic development models. The budget does include an additional 4.0 FTEs which will allow for the rollout of a next day inspection program and lend itself to more timely and efficient processing of plan reviews and permits. This aligns with elements of the city's FAST 2 initiative. Page 141 of the budget notes that staff intend to implement 17 of the 33 FAST 2 action items during FY 2026.

34. ◆ What does it take to have a dedicated Housing Opportunities Fund that can only be used to pursue affordable housing, for example? I understood from our discussion that it can be touched for any reason and some people want to wall that off and maybe additional funds as well. Is that a bad idea?

After further discussions with the City Attorney's Office, staff will recommend that all General Fund contributions be segregated into the Housing Opportunities Fund and that all historical funds from developer contributions and MPDU sales be maintained in a Moderately Priced Housing Fund. Both of these will be subaccounts of the city's Special Activities Fund. This will provide a clearer delineation of where programmatic functions can occur, as it pertains to the city's housing initiatives while providing the flexibility to be nimble in an ever-changing housing marketplace and to meet the needs of tenants, developers, and other stakeholders.

35. ■ The \$250,000 for a fire department vehicle isn't in the grant program. Why did you do it that way? Wouldn't it be better to fund their grant at the requested level and then say it could be up to \$250,000 depending on conditions during the budget cycle? It seems to make it more difficult to budget for their own fiscal year due to uncertainty of receiving any or all funds. Pg 11 Also - how certain are we that the fire department will receive the \$250,000 and not a portion of it or \$0 dollars?

Staff recommend that the Mayor and Council commit reserves for the emergency vehicle as a one-time allocation. There are currently sufficient reserves exceeding the target that can facilitate all recommended reserves allocations, and still leave excess reserve balances of \$3.7 million. If the Mayor and Council commit these reserves the first budget amendment of FY 2026 will include a formal appropriation of these balances and the agreement will be executed. The adoption of the budget ordinance including this commitment will offer the RVFD full certainty of this funding in FY 2026.

36. ■ The proposed budget includes \$1.6 million allocation for REDI. How much of that \$1.6 million will be spent for economic development within Rockville and for Rockville businesses versus outside the city?

Per REDI: All economic development activities with the city's money are spent for the benefit of the city. The investment made in the MWBC is also spent within the city given all of the programming here and Shop Local. That being said – the nature of business attraction efforts is to build

relationships with businesses and partners outside of the city in order to raise awareness of the benefits of Rockville and direct businesses who are relocating or starting to consider Rockville.

REDI also received some funds from placemaking grants from the County over the last two years. Some programming was paid with those funds to businesses (small scale manufacturing) that might be outside of the city – but all of our efforts included providing prospects with information as to why choosing Rockville would be a good decision for their business.

37. ■ The budget allocates \$250,000 allocation to the HOF. And an additional \$750,000 allocation of general funds reserve to the HOF. A total of \$1,000,000. The stated goal is to promote the preservation and addition of affordable units, launch the employee homeownership assistance program and begin the development of a homeownership downpayment assistance program for the Rockville community. My question is really just the kernel of an idea – can we really do all that with \$1,000,000? Or do we need 5 or 10 or 20 times that to really have a robust HOF that can accomplish our goals? Pg 12

The \$1 million allocation for the Housing Opportunities Fund is a starting point and reflects the city's commitment to addressing housing needs. The General Fund forecast assumes annual General Fund contributions going forward which will help build upon this balance. It is also expected that as the programs are built out, resources will be funneled back into the programs over time, making them sustainable in the long term.

38. ◆ What kinds of uses has the HOF fund been used for since its creation in 1990? Pg 16. It does not have a consistent revenue source. What would staff recommendations be on the consistent revenue sources that might be adequate for all that is envisioned for the Fund?

Staff do not have access to the information on the uses of these funds going back to the 1990's. In the last ten years the funds have been used to provide grants and loans in collaboration with Montgomery County, to preserve affordable housing units within the city (ex. Fireside Park Apartments, Scarborough Square Apartments). The FY 2024 budget included a General Fund contribution of \$250,000 for an employee homeownership program, of which no funds have yet been expended. The General Fund forecast assumes annual General Fund contributions going forward.

39. ■ How much time will the City get from a mental health specialist from the County for \$30,000? Pg 14

Staff will initiate a Request for Proposal (RFP) to outline the city's specific needs, service hours, billing requirements, and reporting expectations. Of the services listed in the description in the City Manager's Proposed FY26 Budget, the \$30,000 would pay approximately eight hours per week of the non-billable services such as educational support through psychoeducational groups/workshops, seminars and classes and direct services such as individual and group counseling for uninsured residents. It could also pay for the copay for Medicare and other insurances that a resident cannot afford the pay. Beyond the eight hours per week, additional billable services would be provided by the contractor which are individual and group counseling that is billable to Medicare, Medicaid, and other health insurance. Staff anticipate these additional billable services to account for approximately five to seven additional hours per week.

The city provided similar services in FY 2021 and provided mental health services to approximately 50 seniors for the year.

40. ● The Water Treatment Plant is to receive \$800,000 to design and construct perimeter security improvements – what does this include? Pg. 15

The Water Treatment Plant Security (UB24) CIP project can be found on page 355 of the budget document. The America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (AWIA) required that water utilities conduct a system wide Risk and Resilience Assessment and prepare an Emergency Response Plan for critical water infrastructure. The Risk and Resilience Assessment completed for the city's Water Treatment Plant (certified and submitted to the EPA in December 2020) identified security improvements that are included in this project. The FY 2026 proposed budget includes appropriations of \$880,000. This will provide improved perimeter security features such as enhanced fencing and gate systems.

41. ■ The budget anticipates a new position to promote the homeownership down payment assistance program. Do we enough money in the program to warrant having someone spend their time administering it? Pg. 16

The Housing Specialist position will work closely with the homeownership programs, but will also provide financial counseling services and financial empowerment programming to meet the city's goal of poverty alleviation. This position will also be cross-trained on all aspects of the MPDU program, and serve as an added resource for providing enhanced navigation services. The Homeownership Downpayment Assistance Program is only one component of this much broader role.

42. ■ REAP – it is anticipated that the region will undergo a recession in the near term due to Federal changes in workforce, physical footprints, changes in contracting, and changing grant criteria or even existence, not to mention the ripple effects of supporting businesses and firms. Do we feel that REAP is at an adequate level for the increased demand that a recession might lead to? How might we go about shifting funds in response to such a changed environment?

Staff are closely monitoring REAP usage and needs. Budget amendments are one mechanism to replenish and increase funding to REAP if there is increased community need. Staff bring forward 3-4 budget amendments each year and work closely with staff across the organization to identify needs. The FY 2026 budget provides \$125,850 in appropriations for REAP. In prior years there was discussion about moving cannabis tax to a Special Activities program. At the direction of the Mayor and Council, this \$40,000 could be removed from the General Fund to provide additional REAP support.

43. ◆ On page 17 there is a discussion of the creation of a JEDI strategic plan. Wasn't that created already? I recall it being discussed?

The Mayor and Council received a JEDI Workplan presentation on January 9, 2023. Among the next steps referenced in that presentation was retaining a consultant to assist in the development of a formal strategic plan. The Mayor and Council considered this for inclusion in the prior budget, but ultimately did not allocate funding for this purpose.

44. ◆ For the Community Empowerment Grants, in prior years what number of grants were awarded versus the number submitted?

In FY 2023, the city received 7 grant submissions and awarded 6 grants for a total of \$6,000. In FY 2024, the city received 8 grant submissions and awarded 8 grants for a total of \$6,000. All applications underwent a panel review.

Councilmember Myles (3/13/25 email)

45. ■ Why are we decreasing proposed expenditures for special activities and refuse?

The decrease in overall appropriations for the Special Activities Fund is largely driven by the expected refinancing of Scarborough Square which would have returned \$1.2 million to the city in FY 2025. This would have been a one-time event. The total expenditures from the Special Activities Fund are planned to increase in FY 2026. This can be seen on page 78 and 79 of the budget. A table showing planned expenditures by program is shown below, consistent with page 79 of the budget.

Special Activities Fund Expenditures by Program			
	Adopted FY 2024	Adopted FY 2025	Proposed FY 2026
Art in Public Architecture	89,000	140,000	95,000
Art in Public Places	157,500	180,080	182,000
Cable TV Equipment	355,810	355,810	355,810
Farmer's Market Eat Fresh Rockville	40,000	70,000	110,000
Forest and Tree Preservation	10,000	10,000	10,000
Friends of the Arts	10,000	10,000	10,000
Glenview Mansion	20,000	20,000	20,000
Holiday Drive	60,000	72,000	72,000
Housing Opportunities	-	-	250,000
Opioid Settlement Fund	16,280	15,690	143,400
Park Maintenance	125,000	125,000	125,000
Recreation Fund	40,000	60,000	70,000
Rockville Emergency Assistance Program	70,000	70,000	70,000
Senior Assistance	25,000	25,000	25,000
Transportation Improvements	221,260	259,290	259,290
Total (\$)	1,239,850	1,412,870	1,797,500

The decrease in overall appropriations for the Refuse Fund is largely driven by reductions in planned vehicle replacements, as compared to FY 2025. Refuse fleet replacements can be very expensive, though the timing and scale of the replacements will vary by year.

46. ■ Is staff proposing increasing building permit fees for the second year in a row?

Inflationary adjustments are proposed for building permit fees in order to keep pace with the cost recovery benchmarks for these regulatory programs.

47. ■ Why hasn't the tree removal permit fee changed since 2012 or parking/traffic enforcement fees (pp307) or traffic and transportation fees (pp307)?

The city understands that there are considerable costs associated with tree removals and looks to keep the permit fee reasonable for property owners. This \$5 fee is comparable to neighboring jurisdictions and this small fee helps minimize a barrier that could result in unauthorized tree removals. Traffic fines and citations are set by the State of Maryland and cannot be adjusted by

the city. The Public Works Traffic and Transportation Fees were last adjusted in FY 2019 and staff are waiting on the results of the fee study to inform future increases.

Councilmember Jackson (3/13/25 email)

48. ■ How will the Comp and Class study impact the 2026 budget and future budgets?

The FY 2026 proposed budget includes capacity for compensation and classification adjustments in Non-Departmental across all funds with personnel expenses. This is summarized on pages 365-367. The forecast includes these personnel costs in future years, with assumed increases for salaries. (See Question #22)

49. ■ The COLA is set at 2.5% for City employees in the 2026 budget. How much of a COLA are those on pensions slated to receive?

The FY 2026 budget does not include a retiree cost of living adjustment. Per the city's actuary, a 1% retiree COLA equals \$823,700. For context, retirees received a 1% adjustment in January 2025.

Councilmember Myles (3/14/25 email)

50. ■ p16 what can funds from the HCD special activities fund be used? Will this 250K be a recurring contribution? Could we make it a fixed percentage (like the Art in Public Places fund 0.1%; could be 0.15% for HCD)?

The General Fund forecast includes the \$250,000 as an annual contribution for the Housing Opportunities Fund. Please see question #34 on recommended adjustments for these Special Activities accounts. A fixed percentage contribution is something that could be explored if it is the desire of the Mayor and Council. With the number of new programs being developed it could be worthwhile to wait to evaluate program usage and community response in order to right-size future contributions under a fixed percentage methodology.

51. ■ p18 are the non fire/police FTE's absolutely needed? Are their jobs currently being done by others? In thinking about return on investment, which of the proposed FTE's will actually generate revenue and/or be cost neutral long term? Just want to make sure we're careful about adding FTE's when we may face precarious budgetary times. Additionally, it is noted that (p21), "Major cost drivers in the city's budget include personnel (60.7 percent)" making it even more critical that we are mindful about adding FTE's. There's also a \$5M increase in proposed expenditures for Personnel (pp64)

The new positions provide capacity to better support ADA compliance across the city; enhance communications and community engagement functions; improve development review, inspections, and permitting services in support of more streamlined economic development; and provide added resources to support enhanced housing programs. The new positions also provide capacity that will support public safety service delivery, ensure compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, and expand programming at the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center. The 1.0 FTE Senior Zoning Inspector and the 0.5 FTE Program Specialist are revenue generating and the 2.0 FTE Codes Inspectors and 1.0 FTE Senior Fire Inspector support revenue generating permitting processes.

52. ■ p22 why did dental insurance increase so rapidly (27.1%)? Is it a new vs. Same insurance carrier that we've had in the past?

The city's dental insurance is with the same carrier as in prior years. Dental insurance coverage levels were increased for the dental plans and the FY 2026 costs align with those enhanced benefits that are now available to employees.

53. ◆ p43 can we move summer camps from Tier 3 to Tier 2 to improve access and affordability—particularly for communities of modest financial means? How much would it cost to make such a shift?

UPDATED: *Moving summer camps from Tier 3 to Tier 2 is ultimately a policy decision for the Mayor and Council. Doing so would reduce camp fees for all participants, but the cost to the City would be approximately \$61,680 in reduced revenue based on the FY26 proposed budget. While this shift improves affordability overall, it may unintentionally benefit higher-income families as much as, or more than, those with the greatest financial need.*

An alternative approach could be to focus on enhancing the Recreation Fund. For example:

- Increasing the income eligibility threshold would allow more modest-income families to qualify.*
- Boosting the individual subsidy amount would provide greater support to the most financially vulnerable.*
- A combination of both could be considered, though it would require further financial analysis.*

These options target assistance more precisely without reducing overall camp revenue or creating longer waitlists. In short, shifting tiers lowers costs for all but does not necessarily improve access for those who need it most. Strengthening the Recreation Fund may be a more effective and equitable way to meet the City's goals of access and affordability.

54. ■ p66 why do they propose a reduction in real & personal property tax (I'm unclear about the explanation given in the last paragraph of pp68)? Why do they predict an increase in highway user revenue given some of the pronouncements from Maryland's General Assembly about changes in some highway spending?

Real property tax is increasing \$2.8 million from FY 2025 Adopted to FY 2026 Proposed. Personal property tax is decreasing \$240,000 based on the current trends. Real property tax increases are driven by assessments, and the budget does not propose an increase to the tax rate. Highway user estimates are provided to the city from the Maryland Department of Transportation. The forecast includes significant reductions for highway user revenue beginning in FY 2028 (consistent with the current legislation).

55. ■ p72 (expenses) why are consultant & credit card charges increasing by so much?

FY 2026 increases to consultant services include funding for organizational development, a JEDI strategic plan, financial reporting software implementation, and consulting for the city's transition to WebEx calling (a cost saving transition). Credit card charges have risen consistently across all city functions, driven largely by online recreation registrations and online permitting functions. As shown on page 72, the FY 2024 ended the year even higher than what was budgeted in FY 2025 and volume continues to increase as customers prefer efficient web-based transactions.

56. [REDACTED] p75 16% increase? Please explain the reorganization & two department head expenditures further In addition to the matching Thrift plan, chartered employees and at-will employees receive an additional contribution consistent with their contracts. This contribution increased by \$45,730 to \$327,990 for FY 2026, and reflects the impact of the reorganization and addition of two new department directors.

The FY 2026 budget reflects an organizational restructuring which led to the creation of two new departments: Communications and Community Engagement (CCE) and Procurement. These functions were previously included in the City Manager's Office (CMO). This results in the addition of two new department directors who will receive additional retirement benefits, consistent with the other department directors in the organization.

Councilmember Fulton (3/16/25 email)

57. [REDACTED] (P118 of binder) The REDI line item shows an FY26 proposed budget of \$1,572,880 and an FY25 adopted of \$1,418,960. That is an increase of \$153,920 (10.8%). But the sidebar says there is an increase of \$203,920. Where is the extra \$50,000 (for marketing?) accounted for? And is my math right that if that is included, the total City expenditure for REDI in the proposed budget is \$1,622,880, an over 14% increase in spend on REDI over FY25? And the topline budget increase is only 3.9%?

There was a one-time life sciences branding project included in FY 2025 budget, which budget staff consider to be removed from the base for FY 2026. The total allocation for REDI between FY 2025 Adopted and FY 2026 Proposed is detailed below. This is a 10.8 percent change (\$153,920) in total.

	FY 2025	FY 2026
REDI Funding Levels		
Operating Costs	\$ 983,960	\$ 1,132,880
Incentive Program Funding	175,000	175,000
Small Business Impact Grants	150,000	150,000
MWBC	35,000	40,000
Rockville Rewards Program	25,000	25,000
Special Projects (Marketing)	50,000	50,000
TOTAL	\$ 1,418,960	\$ 1,572,880


Mayor Ashton (3/17/25 email)

58. [REDACTED] Please share what accounts for the special activities budget reduction on page 71 of the 3/17 agenda book. The reduction is noted as 36.7%

Please see the response to question #45.

59. [REDACTED] Please confirm that when you forecast the budget given the expansion on operating and ongoing expenses, as well as CIP, that you do not anticipate the need for a tax increase need. Please also note that the highway user revenues were previously anticipated to level off at 2.4 percent after FY27. Please look out at least 3-5 years. As noted in a previous response, the income tax increase that was previously in the Maryland state budget was forecasted down due to a potential downsizing in the Federal and contract workforce. If Rockville were to reduce the anticipated growth for FY26 to 2.6% (in alignment with the state income revenue forecasting) what impact would that have on our budget?


The General Fund forecast maintains the current property tax rate. The forecast incorporates General Fund transfers to the CIP and Debt Service Fund consistent with the planned capital spending and bond financing activities anticipated through FY 2030. As shared with the response for question #24 the FY 2026 revenue estimate is a 2.5 percent increase over the November 2024 payment, which establishes the base for the fiscal year. This means that the city's estimate for anticipated growth does align with and is even slightly more conservative than the State of Maryland.

60.  Carryover budget for Recreation and Parks and Transportation: Please confirm which if any projects that were scheduled to be completed in FY25 that have had to have carryover funds for FY26. If there are any delays, please share rationale. (Also noted in budget and on page 72 of agenda book). Can you please share what other major projects are being carried over due to delays (internal/external)


For budget purposes, projects that are not substantially complete by late March are held open through the next fiscal year to ensure that final payments and project closeout/punchlists can be fully captured within the project. This helps to ensure accurate project reporting. Capital projects that were initially scheduled to be completed in FY 2025 and are carrying over to FY 2026 include the following:

- King Farm Farmstead Electric Infrastructure (RB23) – The construction award for this project occurred in January 2025 which has delayed the original construction timeline.*
- King Farm Farmstead Fire Suppression (RB21) – This project requires coordination with WSSC and includes complex permitting requirements. Construction is expected to be substantially completed by June 2025 and FY 2026 work includes project close out*
- Lincoln Park Community Center Improvements (RA22) – The construction award for this project is occurring in March 2025 which has delayed the original construction timeline.*
- Outdoor Recreation Pool Renovations (RC18) – This project is expected to be substantially complete by May 2025. FY 2026 work includes project close out.*
- LED Streetlight Conversion (TA22) - The completion year changed to FY 2026 to allow for Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) grant agreement execution for Phase 3.*

As noted with the response to question #16 there are also delays associated with the city's planned solar installations.


61.  Regarding tax duplication, where will the additional funds we secured from the police reimbursement be allocated? Can we adjust to recognize this additional revenue before budget approval?

The adopted budget will show this additional \$473,400 in tax duplication revenue within the General Fund. The Mayor and Council will see this as part of the final balancing exercise and summary of changes between the proposed and adopted budget.

62.  Please share how much the City of Rockville has spent on outside consultants to develop strategic plans in the past 4-5 years.

Over the past five years the city has funded consultant support for one department-level strategic plan: the Recreation and Parks Strategic Plan (\$106,532, adopted in 2020). In addition to this strategic plan the city has utilized consultants to assist with more technical or objective components of city planning efforts including, but not limited to, the Comprehensive Plan (\$73,499,

adopted in 2021), the Climate Action Plan (\$23,500 adopted in 2022), and the RedGate Park Master Plan (\$118,356, adopted in 2022). In these cases consultants provided support to varying degrees, but staff were heavily or primarily involved in the plans' development.


63.  Where do we stand on exploring health insurance options for employees? The last few years there have been substantial increases.

Benefit renewals occur on the calendar year. The calendar year 2025 renewal rates were overall (based on employee participation among the two insurance carriers) below the national estimated average of 7% as follows:

Aetna: CY 2025 Renewal Increase: 7.0%

Kaiser: CY 2025 Renewal Increase: 3.8%


Overall Average: CY 2025 Renewal Increase: 5.8%

64.  Please share a history of total annual reserve funds over the past 5 years, and note percentage.

A ten year history can be seen with the response to question #1. A five year history with the total percentage is below. The city has consistently maintained reserve levels above the 20% target.

Five-Year History of General Fund Reserves

Fiscal Year	Reserve Target	Ending Unassigned Fund Balance	\$ Over Target	Ending Unassigned Fund Balance %
FY 2020	16,848,000	22,022,347	5,174,347	26%
FY 2021	16,921,000	22,869,949	5,948,949	27%
FY 2022	17,296,000	26,446,411	9,150,411	31%
FY 2023	18,664,080	27,588,751	8,924,671	30%
FY 2024	20,325,110	31,231,793	10,906,683	31%

65.  Please share more details on the rationale for the \$650K noted in association with the Shady Grove annexation. The narrative notes the rewritten zoning ordinance. Can this be done in-house?

The General Fund budget includes \$650,000 as an addition to reserves. This is the amount of revenues that exceed expenditures for FY 2026. This represents budget capacity that could be utilized for the additional personnel and operating costs associated with the Shady Grove Metro annexation. The city anticipates that an additional 6 police officers will be needed to manage the calls for service from the metro station with Year 1 costs approximating \$1 million. The forecast includes an additional \$400,000 in personnel costs beginning in FY 2027 assuming that the onboarding of additional officers would be phased in.

The zoning ordinance rewrite is well underway and the associated consulting costs were included in the FY 2023 budget.

66. ■ We know the refuse rates need to be reset. What is the rationale for the level of increase of 5.6%?

Please see the response to question #19.

67. ■ Can we leverage the portion of funds from tax duplication reimbursement that is not yet accounted for in this budget to support the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department public safety needs for the new safety vehicle. This would allow us to use funds from this general fund source instead of pulling from reserves.

This additional revenue will be part of the final balancing during the April 7th budget worksession. The Mayor and Council may direct any surplus capacity to replace the reserve recommendations, however staff would recommend maintaining the \$650,000 net addition to reserves to ensure sufficient budget capacity in the event that the elected body wishes to proceed with the immediate annexation of the Shady Grove Metro property.

68. ■ Please note that this question was originally asked on 3/4/25: Following our FY25, Montgomery County budget testimony related to the volume of calls at the Crisis Center responded to by Rockville City Police Department, it was shared that the County would implement some measures that would improve security and their handling of calls for service and transport. What is the estimated cost savings associated with this for the City of Rockville and how can those savings support future police and public safety needs?
- a. RCPD also requested a new mobile command center as the current one has outlived its usefulness. Is this planned for FY26/27?

Please see the response to question #17 regarding call volume for the Crisis Center. If Montgomery County takes over all calls for service this will provide the RCPD with additional bandwidth that will be directed towards direct response within the city. The estimated annual cost associated with the Crisis Center calls is \$37,550, which assumes that each call takes an hour and has two responding officers.

The Mayor and Council approved the new mobile command trailer with the February 2025 budget amendment, so this is already funded and getting underway.

69. ◆ How are we doing on hiring and remaining competitive to retain and attract officers?

The RCPD has 13 police vacancies with 14 police applicants currently in various stages of the hiring process. The signing bonus was recently increased to \$20,000 for entry level and lateral police hires. Staff have noticed an increase in the number of applicants over the last 2 months.

70. ■ The summary notes that the FY2026 budget supports funding for increased new hire bonuses for Police Officers, which will enhance ongoing recruitment efforts for the RCPD. The bonuses have been recently increased in FY25. Can you share an update on what is new?

This is new as compared to the FY 2025 adopted budget.

71. ■ There is a budget increase in the speed camera budget. Please share if there are additional speed cameras accounted for given the 5.4 percent increase or is this just an increase to cover the operating expenses. Are there plans to move the cameras throughout FY26 to areas where they may be needed more to support safety?

The operating expenditure category in the Speed Camera Fund is relatively flat compared to FY 2025 and does not assume more cameras within the city. The primary driver of the increase in total expenditures comes from the administrative fees. New speed camera locations can be implemented in order to support safety in FY26. RCPD just recently implemented a new location (Gude Drive) and is continually assessing safety needs related to automated enforcement.

72. ● It looks like the sidewalk construction is back down to \$200K per year. There are approximately 50 miles of sidewalk gap in the city and 458 different sidewalk gap segments. As part of Vision Zero (pedestrian/bike/mobility safety) and the outstanding missing segments, is sufficient? How long will it take to complete the missing segments that are feasible at this pace?

In FY23 DPW began implementing a new approach to sidewalk construction with a goal of increasing the pace of construction of missing sidewalk links. The approach is to tackle more than one or two sidewalk segments per year and instead take them in designated groups of 4-6 per years with each group going through a 3-year cycle (Year 1 – feasibility; Year 2 – design; and Year 3 – Construction). When fully implemented this will result in one group in each phase at any given time. In FY25, Group 1 sidewalks are being constructed.

In FY 25, DPW recognized the need to try to increase the pace further, but to do so needed additional staff. Therefore, the Department requested, and the Mayor and Council approved, and additional Transportation Engineer in the FY25 budget. Despite, several months of advertising and interviewing the Department has not been able to fill the position. This is consistent with the region-wide difficulty in hiring engineers. Additionally, as we begin completing the first group of sidewalks in FY25, we are beginning to obtain more data to advise the program moving forward. The percent of segments that move forward from feasibility, the cost of design and construction of the sidewalks. Previously, staff was choosing the highest priority sidewalks with a high likelihood of constructability, therefore we did not have feasibility rate data and the cost of design and construction was often more predictable and lower, given there were less conflicts and design issues. Beginning in the FY27 budget, we will begin to have better data to advise the pace and cost of the program moving forward (and hopefully have our new staff member on board).

There are two main reasons that only \$200k is requested in FY26 for the Sidewalk CIP project (TE26) despite staff ramping up the project. First, there is significant (\$2,157,492) prior appropriations still available to spend and second is that this amount includes \$965,000 that was previously appropriated by the City, but for which the City is now expecting reimbursement from the County Impact Tax Fund. This frees up the \$965,000 in City appropriations to be used for Group 1 and 2 sidewalks. Additionally, the \$3,707,259 in funding for FY21-25 includes a significant amount (\$1,395,040) of outside funding from grants, developer funds and the previously mentioned County Impact Tax funding. If the outside funds is removed from the FY21-FY25 funds, it leaves \$2,312,219. DPW is continuing to pursue outside funding, but does not recognize it in future years budgets until it is secured.

Therefore, it is likely that additional CIP funds will be needed, but until staff reviews the program over the next year or so, they will be able to better project the pace and cost of construction in future years.

73. ● What is the status of the Twinbrook Pedestrian Bridge? Given the significant time for this project, where do we stand on the working with WMATA to open up access? They currently close the station pathway at night and residents can't cross?

DPW staff are finalizing a Request for Proposal (RFP) to hire a consultant to conduct a feasibility study and 30% design and will send it for FHWA review in early April. After incorporating changes requested by FHWA, staff will advertise the RFP. One option to be assessed in the feasibility study is opening the tunnel 24/7. WMATA will be conferred with during the study.

74. ◆ Lakewood Elementary School Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge Access has been requested by RBAC. Can staff state feasibility of this effort/ update on review?

A connection between the Carl Henn Millennium Trail and the pedestrian bridge was identified as a shared-use path connection in the Pedestrian Master Plan that goes directly to the bridge entrance. The plan recommends evaluating the shared-use path (SUP) connection and was supported by RBAC and RPAC. Staff expects to identify SUP connections over the next year to evaluate for feasibility, including the Millenium Trail to the Lakewood Pedestrian Bridge and the Millenium Trail to Yale Place. These two locations are reasonably short connections, and staff can evaluate them with the current budget.

75. ◆ 2026 will be the 250th anniversary of our nation and Montgomery County. The budget does not note planning for this effort. Can the City work with our HDC, Recreation and Parks, Montgomery County, the state of Maryland, and other partners on this effort?

Staff recognizes the importance of the 250th anniversary of our nation and Montgomery County and is committed to celebrating this milestone through existing events and programs. While the budget does not include a dedicated line item for this effort, Special Events is internally funding enhancements to support the commemoration.

Staff will align efforts with organizations such as the HDC, Montgomery County, the state of Maryland, and other groups to promote this milestone through City events in 2026. This approach ensures that our community can participate in and recognize this historic occasion within the framework of our established programming.

76. ◆ Thank you for implementing Envisio to show our initiative progress to the public. In addition, we have a new FOIA system. During FY25 we discussed getting:
- Permitting on a system across planning and DPW. Has that been completed? If not, will that be accounted for in FY26?
 - A CRM (customer relations management) tool for Report a Concern so that we can better track, respond to, and see patterns of resident concerns and needs. This would also allow tracking on the progress and responses to resident concerns. Will that be accounted for in FY26?
 - Asset Management tool – Where does this stand?

As part of the FAST action item to create a virtual one-stop shop for all development related applications, DPW has begun working with CPDS to set up DPW permits in the MyGovernmentOnline (MGO) system. This is the same online system currently used for CPDS permits. This is covered under the existing agreement with MGO.

Procurement for an Enterprise Asset Management and Customer Relations Management software solution is ongoing. Nine proposals were received in response to the City's RFP and an interdepartmental evaluation committee are reviewing proposals, interviewing vendors and checking references. The committee expects to select a preferred vendor in spring, with contract award expected in summer 2025.

77. ♦ What additional ways do the efforts planned for FY26 support efficiency and transparency?

The ongoing development and expanded use of Envisio will be one of the key areas which promotes greater transparency into the status of various plans and projects across the city. The onboarding of the customer relations management and asset management tools will also provide added efficiencies in city operations. The FY 2026 addition of vehicle telematics (real-time GPS tracking) for snow and ice operations is another example of a tool that will result in efficiencies and added transparency, due to the public portal features. As the city launches its Pilot AI initiative, there is much interest in evaluating opportunities for automation which would also promote operational efficiencies.

78. ♦ How do our budget survey responses compare to last year in terms of number and representation? What is the increase in participation over the past 5 years?

As of mid-March the FY 2026 survey has received approximately 90% of the responses that it had this time last year on the FY 2025 survey. From the FY 2021 survey to the FY 2025 survey, we increased participation by approximately 400% (226 responses to 889 responses).

79. ♦ There is a significant participation from folks who do not live in the City. Is there a way to segment responses from those in the City and those who are sharing feedback from outside of the City? The outside respondent total is close to areas 1, 2, and 4. This would be particularly helpful for the comments section.

Staff will explore options to indicate which responses/comments are from respondents living outside city limits on the final report, to be provided after the public record closes.

80. ♦ What additional composting site will be added in FY26?

Please see response to question #15.

81. ♦ Is it possible to check on the Hungerford pond? There were some comments about maintenance.

Hungerford pond is a stormwater management facility that undergoes regular inspections and routine maintenance. Staff inspected the pond after receiving this comment, and confirmed that the pond is functioning as designed and that there are not maintenance issues that need to be addressed.

82. ♦ How are we doing on senior and youth programming? Do we have long wait lists? Can you share the wait list for the summer camps and how many are on them?

Youth Programs

The City's youth programming for FY2025 continues to be a strong and valued community offering, with high participation rates and significant interest across various activities categories. The City remains committed to providing diverse opportunities for youth engagement while also recognizing the challenges of space and staffing availability, particularly in nature and aquatics programs.

Key Insights:

- *High Demand and Participation: Youth programs continue to be well-utilized, with many participants across a variety of activities.*

- *Waitlists Indicate Strong Interest: Some programs, such as Learn to Swim, Summer Travel Camps, Nature Programs and Camps, have generated high levels of interest, reinforcing the need for ongoing evaluation of program capacities.*
- *Capacity and Resource Considerations: While the City strives to meet community demand, certain programs, particularly in nature, aquatics, and travel, are inherently limited by available space and staffing constraints. The department continues to work within these parameters to provide safe and high-quality programming.*
- *Program Utilization: On average, as a whole, youth programs are operating at ~90% capacity, with some exceeding enrollment expectations, demonstrating strong community involvement.*
- *The City's youth programming remains a pillar of community engagement and enrichment, and staff will continue working diligently to align resources with demand while maintaining program excellence.*


Summer Camps 2025

The demand for Rockville's summer camps outpaces supply, as evidenced by significant waitlists across multiple programs. This year (FY2025), the capacity of slots for camps is 5,644 and 4,621 registrations were successfully enrolled. To date there are 1,023 camp slots available. Many camps still have space in various programs just not always the preferred option.

Senior Programs

When comparing year over year participation rates for senior programs, registrations are a little higher year to date in FY25. Summer, fall, and winter program participation is slightly higher this year with approximately 200 additional registrations compared to last year at this time.


There are only a small number of in-person senior-filled classes with waitlists. Using Fall, (FY25), 8% of classes offered were filled with waitlists (293 classes offered, and 24 had waitlists). This year in the fall season less than three percent of the total number of registrants were on a wait list (105 people on wait lists, out of 3,700 people taking classes). Most of these wait lists are due to room size or bus size in the case of trips, and we physically cannot take additional registrants. In some cases, classes are offered virtually, so people on the in-person wait list can participate at home.

83.  Can you share an updated timeline for Phase I of Red Gate?


The design RFP solicitation is in final review and is expected to go out to bid within the next month. Once the design contract is awarded, staff anticipate the design process will take approximately one year.

84.  What would the total cost be to help support the development of a park in the Talbot Center?

The Talbott Street Park (RB25) CIP project was introduced with the FY 2025 budget and is estimated to cost \$950,000. This can be found on page 306 of the FY 2026 proposed budget.


85.  To follow-up on my questions on pavillions/ park shelters since 2022, please share the schedule of the park pavillion placements. We have areas of the City without them and they are important community gathering spaces.

Please see the response to question #13.


86.  What elements of the PROSE/ Park Strategic Plan are advanced through the FY26 budget? Can we schedule an update on this progress since it has been several years since the release of the plan?

R&P Strategic Plan Level of Service Standards identified needs with updates since the plan was adopted:


- Neighborhood Parks – need exists for additional 34 acres –In the LRCIP is a project to enhance a ten-acre property that is currently a city stormwater facility within the King Farm neighborhood and add paths and benches. This will be new park land.*
- Destination Parks – need exists for additional 25 acres – No progress in FY26 – Talbott Park identified in the CIP .16 acre in FY28 (will move up if State Bond Bill is awarded)*
- Multi-use Trails – need exists for additional 6 miles – Trails are identified in the RedGate Park Master Plan for implementation.*
- Natural Trails – need exists for additional 2.84 miles – Trails are identified in the RedGate Park Master Plan for implementation.*
- Park Shelters – need exists for additional 5 shelters – David Scull (1) FY26, RedGate Park (4 – one in Dog Park and three stand-alone pavilions) identified in RedGate Park Master Plan – also renovate 3-5 park shelters identified in LRCIP.*
- 90' ball fields – need exists for additional 2 – staff does not recommend due to baseball enrollment decline and need for rectangular fields*
- Rectangular Multi-purpose fields – need exists for additional 5 fields – David Scull project will replace diamond field with rectangular field (FY26)*
- Outdoor Volleyball Courts – need exists for additional 5 courts – Courts have been renovated at Glenora, Woodley Gardens Park, College Gardens and Dogwood Parks and PIP is included in the FY26 budget to add four between 2027-2028 with locations to be determined.*
- Pickleball (dedicated) – need exists for additional 7 courts – Since the strategic plan was adopted Broome has added four dedicated pickleball courts. Staff is assessing locations for compatibility with park amenities and surrounding neighbors for additional dedicated courts.*
- Dog Parks – need exists for additional 1 dog park – Progress since adoption of plan has been to open the Preserve Parkway Dog Park and RedGate Park and Arboretum Dog Park.*
- Indoor Amenities: Recreation/Aquatics (Square Feet) – need exists for additional 57,612 square feet – In LRCIP King Farm Farmstead (~22,000 square feet), RedGate Park and Arboretum Visitor Center, PIP included for Montrose Community Center and Park Feasibility Study for FY27.*
- Special Use/Cultural Facilities (Square Feet) – need exists for additional 7,019 square feet – In LRCIP King Farm Farmstead (~22,000 square feet)*

87.  What is the status of soccer goals in Israel Park?

The soccer goals for Isreal Park will be installed by May 1. Staff is waiting on the delivery of the safety mechanism that prevents goals from tipping over.

88.  Can you please share whether the following projects are on schedule as they were previously included in FY25 are also in FY26: Lincoln Park Community Center Improvements (RA22), and F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre ADA Improvements (RA20)

There have been no changes to the project schedule for F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre ADA Improvements (RA20) as compared to the FY 2025 adopted budget. The construction completion timing was shifted out from FY 2025 to FY 2026 for the Lincoln Park Community Center Improvements (RA22). The award for this project is occurring in March 2025 which has delayed the original construction timeline.

89.  Quality neighborhoods is listed as a priority by residents. What are some examples of budget allocation listed to improve neighborhood quality?

The survey aligns quality neighborhoods with planning, property standards, code enforcement, tree and forest maintenance, and open green space. The FY 2026 budget includes enhanced funding for zoning enforcement activities, contract services to address non-native invasive species, the new neighborhood signage initiative, and grant supported tree planting. There are also significant increases to the Concrete Repair and Replacement (TC26) CIP project which is focused on ADA sidewalk reconstruction and is expected to be a benefit to neighborhoods across the city.

90. ■ Please note if the \$15K for neighborhood signs will be only for standards or can we move to implementation with these pilot funds?

The \$15,000 includes the installation of 3-4 new neighborhood signs.

91. ◆ There are comments about quality of housing. As a follow-up to our housing workshop, how long will it take to improve rental inspections so that it doesn't take 5 years to fully inspect a multi-family building?

Based upon the existing workload and staffing, additional resources would be needed to have all the units inspected in less than 5 years. The additional two building inspectors and fire inspector in this year's budget is to address building permit inspections.

92. ■ Will the distressed housing program be implemented in FY26?

If the "distressed housing program" is referring to CPDS's mitigation fund to financially support residents with addressing code enforcement items, then yes. The mitigation fund is included in the FY 2026 budget. The fund has been set up this year and will be implemented as well in FY 2026.

93. ◆ The rental license includes information about rental history. We discussed during our housing workshop developing a transparency initiative so that renters can see the history of rent increases as well as fees. Is the housing team able to get this implemented in FY26?

While this is not a stand-alone strategy, HCD expects to review this as part of the Chapter 18 rewrite. The department will be seeking input from the Mayor and Council during that process in FY 2026. The input received may influence the chapter rewrite, program development, and the FY 2027 budget.

94. ■ Can you share how the 2 requested additional FTEs will advance the housing initiatives requested by M&C during the housing workshop? What will their specific roles be?
- a. Part of the descriptions notes grants management. Grants management was previously managed by DHCD. Is staff shifting an FTE from the City Managers office and putting these responsibilities back to the housing department or is this truly a net new position?

The proposed budget includes the addition of 2.0 FTE positions that support the housing focus area. The new 1.0 FTE Collective Impact Manager position will work closely with the housing and neighborhood services team to ensure that there is alignment in strategy, consistency in data collection, continuous communication, and reinforced collaboration with community partners and grant recipients. The new 1.0 FTE Housing Programs Specialist position will promote the effective administration of the homeownership down payment assistance program, provide financial coaching services, and receive cross-training to support the Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit (MPDU) program. This position will also track and report program outcomes and participant progress, which will allow the Department of Housing and Community Development to continually assess and improve programs based on data and feedback. These are both new positions.

95. ■ Given some of the uncertainties for many families (i.e. federal workforce, contract, and grant transactions that impact available jobs in the region), do we have enough allocated in the rental assistance program? What about working with the state and county on foreclosure prevention to help families in need?

The Rockville Emergency Assistance Program (REAP) has funding of \$125,850 in the FY 2026 proposed budget. The city often uses budget amendments to provide additional resources to this and other need-based programs when an increase in program usage is identified during the year. During the FY 2025 budget process there was some interest in assigning the cannabis sales tax revenue as a funding source for REAP or the Recreation Fund. The FY 2026 cannabis sales tax revenue is estimated at \$40,000 and could be assigned as a REAP revenue source at the direction of the Mayor and Council.

Councilmember Valeri (3/17/25 email)

96. ■ What effect would the potential 3.5% property tax increase by County officials have on our budget?

This would have no impact on the city's budget. Any changes to the property tax revenue for Montgomery County is an impact to the Montgomery County budget.

97. ■ Special Activities Fund Expenditures by Program - Opioid Settlement Fund. This jumped significantly from FY25, from 15,690 143,400. Can you explain this a bit?

Please see the response to question #31.

98. ■ Given the length of time needed to fill the position, and the negotiating with the County on the contract, can we begin to set aside funds for a second mental health specialist to share the workload and assist with Victim Advocacy?

RCPD cannot justify the need for a second mental health specialist at this time; however, if demands on the current mental health specialist increase, the RCPD would expand the program and make the associated budget increase requests as part of the budget process (or through a budget amendment).

99. ■ RCPD has indicated that the current Mobile Command Unit is past overdue to be replaced. Where would this expenditure be placed within the budget? Can this be brought forward to Mayor and Council for discussion?

The Mayor and Council approved the new mobile command trailer with the February 2025 budget amendment, so this is already funded and getting underway.

100. ◆ Was an assessment done of the health insurance broker to determine if they are the best fit for the City's needs? If so, can this be shared with Mayor and Council?


The current benefits broker was selected through an extensive RFP and evaluation process based on the criteria set forth by the city, in 2020. USI provides the city with ongoing support throughout the year as well as targeted support and guidance through the benefits renewal process.

101. ■ Where are we on the LED conversion of City buildings? What cost savings are we not taking advantage of due to phased approach?


The following is the status of plans to retrofit 14 of the largest, occupied, and highest energy consuming facilities that total approximately 408,412 square feet (SF) of building space:

- 5 facilities are complete, totaling 127,374 SF of building space (Senior Center, Twinbrook Community Center, City Hall, Water Treatment Plant, Lincoln Park Community Center).*
- 4 facilities are currently being assessed by the lighting contractor for potential conversions in FY 2025, totaling 111,836 SF of building space (Thomas Farm Community Center, F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, Croydon Creek Nature Center, and Rothgeb Maintenance Facility (Fleet, Stockroom and Carpentry Shop)). Although only Thomas Farm Community Center is budgeted for FY 2025, the contractor identified that several facilities are currently eligible for higher Pepco incentives. Staff is working with the contractor to determine if it is possible to accelerate conversions by using a combination of funds from the FY 2025 budget (\$92,000), Pepco incentive rebates issued to the contractor to reduce upfront costs (amount to be determined), and the \$63,000 MEA grant. Thomas Farm Community Center upgrades are estimated to generate \$16,144 in energy savings, while some areas at the Theatre/Social Hall may generate up to \$6,252 in savings. More information on the feasibility to implement these projects and the potential energy savings is expected in April.*
- 2 facilities are partially complete as part of phased renovations and facility upgrades, totaling 101,521 SF of building space (Swim and Fitness Center (indoor pools, locker rooms and parking lot complete) and 6 Taft Court (north wing complete)).*
- 3 facilities are identified for future retrofits but are not scheduled, totaling 67,681 SF (Police Station (constructed in 2012), Glenview Mansion (some historic lighting may be limited), Recreation Services (long range CIP plans renovations in 2033)).*


Additionally, the Streetlight LED Conversion (TA22) is partially complete. 1,900 lights in Phase 1 were converted, 650 lights in Phase 2 are anticipated to be converted in 2025, and 650 lights in Phase 3 are anticipated to be converted in 2026. Upon completion, electricity savings is estimated to be \$105,000, but is subject to future changes to Pepco tariffs.

102.  For CIP Sidewalks: FY26-FY30 (TE26) – the total funding is \$2.3 million. For the previous period (TE21) the total funding was \$3.7 million. Why is this decreased when Vision Zero is still a strong priority for Mayor and Council?

Please see the response to question #72.

103.  The Parking District tax rate has remained flat since 2017, not adjusting for inflation. Is there any benefits to keeping this flat?

The properties in Rockville Town Square pay the additional Parking District Tax which provides some support for the debt service payments associated with the construction of the Town Square garages. Changes to that tax rate would need to be considered as part of a broader discussion around Town Square and economic development activities.

104.  Unfulfilled yet still asked for by the community is the Community Walkable Dog Park in Twinbrook – located within a park on either the north or south side of Veirs Mill. This amenity is in line with the City's goal of creating more dog parks in various parts of the City. Would this qualify as a CIP?

Staff do not currently have any plans for a dog park within the Twinbrook community. Several years ago, staff were asked to identify possible locations. Staff looked at three; the Twinbrook

Community Recreation Center and two locations within Rockcrest Park. Challenges at these three locations include ADA access, parking, and proximity to residents. Rockcrest Park was the best candidate but the residents around the location were not excited about the area. R&P are happy to explore potential dog park locations in the Twinbrook area if identified by the community.

Councilmember Van Grack (3/17/25 meeting)

105. ◆ How have police pay and benefits been adjusted to make the RCPD more competitive?

The city developed a Police Staffing Action Plan in December 2023 which included the following:

- 1. The creation of a Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) for Police Employees*
- 2. An updated and more generous final average earnings (FAE) pension benefit calculation for officers*
- 3. Salary adjustments allowing for new hire officers to come in at a Step 2 on the scale and lateral hire officers to come in between Step 2 and Step 7, creating more equity between officers and acknowledgment of career service. Equity adjustments were provided to all officers to reflect this realignment of hiring ranges.*
- 4. The commitment to the Compensation and Classification study*
- 5. Hiring bonuses of \$6,000 and \$10,000 for entry level and lateral hire officers, respectively*
- 6. A hiring referral bonus of \$5,000 for any officer that refers a new hire officer*
- 7. The addition of six (6) police officers to address the reduced support from the Montgomery County Police Department*

The FY 2025 Adopted Budget incorporated all of the above items and included a new police specialty pay differential for officers with specialized training and certifications.

Following these actions, the city took further steps in August 2024 by increasing all officer salaries by 3.5%. This compensation adjustment was provided in addition to the 2% cost of living adjustment and annual step increments included in the FY 2025 Adopted Budget.

The FY 2026 Adopted Budget will incorporate the results of the Compensation and Classification study. This includes an 8% adjustment to the police salary ranges, providing officers with more salary growth opportunities. In addition, hiring bonuses have been increased to \$20,000 per officer.

To compare the starting salary of a new entry-level officer from FY 2024 Adopted to FY 2026 (after Compensation and Classification Adjustments) please see the schedule below. From FY 2024 to FY 2026 the starting salary of an entry level officer will have increased 16.7%:

	FY 2024 Adopted	FY 2024 - Dec. Adj.	FY 2025 Adopted	FY 2025 - Aug. Adj.	FY 2026 Adopted
	PL110-1	PL110-2	PL110-2	PL110-2	PL110-2
Entry Level Officer	\$ 63,245	\$ 65,121	\$ 66,423	\$ 68,748	\$ 73,779

106. How do the proposed building permit fees compare to the County and Gaithersburg?

A detailed building fee comparison was conducted leading up to FY24 which identified that Rockville was, in FY23, an average of 20% below Gaithersburg in our fees. We were also significantly below Montgomery County as stated in the March 17th meeting. So this proposed increase should not impact our competitiveness with nearby jurisdictions. Since the FY 2024 budget

the increases to building permit fees have been inflationary. It is also important to note that Gaithersburg has a different fee structure which can make the fee comparison more involved. There is a comprehensive fee study underway which will include benchmarking. This information will be used to support future fee adjustments

Councilmember Myles (3/20/25 email)

107. ■ pp598 Is part of the increase to caregivers a factor of increasing the contribution in line with the inflationary target goal previously set?

The FY 2026 budget incorporates a 22.3 percent increase for community services and enrichment grants following a refreshed process that consolidated what had previously been two separate grant programs. This increase is more than the inflationary increases that have been allocated over the last few budget cycles. These increases reflect the refreshed grant program and the potential for expanded community needs in response to economic uncertainties.

108. ■ pp610 why is there a decrease in the water cost subsidy?

The FY 2025 total for the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department included a one-time \$65,000 contribution for a vehicle. The water subsidy portion of the grant was \$12,000 consistent with the amount shown for FY 2026. The FY 2026 proposed budget does recommend a \$250,000 allocation of General Fund reserves to provide an emergency response vehicle to the Rockville Volunteer Fire Department (in alignment with the public testimony received on March 17).

Councilmember Fulton (3/21/25 email)

109. ■ If base to base is 150, when/how was the 50k for branding allocated? Do I understand that it was a 50k additional to be spent in FY25 that was not in the adopted budget and does not carry into FY26?

The schedule below shows the FY 2025 Adopted allocations along with reductions for the one-time branding development initiative, and the additions as requested by REDI. The additions include \$100,000 for a Business Development Associate, \$48,920 for increases to operating costs, \$5,000 for fixtures and maintenance for Shop Local, and \$50,000 (ongoing) for marketing costs for implementing the new life sciences brand. No payments are distributed to REDI beyond what was included in the adopted budget.

	FY 2025 Adopted	Reductions: One- Time FY 2025 Items	FY 2026 Funding Enhancements	FY 2026 Proposed
REDI Funding Levels				
Operating Costs	\$ 983,960	\$ -	\$ 148,920	\$ 1,132,880
Incentive Program Funding	175,000	-	-	175,000
Small Business Impact Grants	150,000	-	-	150,000
MWBC	35,000	-	5,000	40,000
Rockville Rewards Program	25,000	-	-	25,000
Special Projects (Marketing)	50,000	(50,000)	50,000	50,000
TOTAL	\$ 1,418,960	\$ (50,000)	\$ 203,920	\$ 1,572,880

Councilmember Valeri (3/23/25 email)

110. ■ What is the total cost of landscaping at City facilities? In particular, the cost of annuals, non-native trees, and labor associated with annual planting.

Flowering Annuals:

- *Annual Cost: Approximately \$62,810, plus 450 labor hours.*
- *Details:*
 - *131 flower beds across the city, totaling around 98,000 square feet.*
 - *Plant Material: \$30,000*
 - *City Facilities Planting/Maintenance: 450 labor hours (in-house work).*
 - *Right of Way Planting/Maintenance: \$32,810 annually (contracted).*

Flowering Bulbs:

- *Annual Cost: Approximately \$12,500, plus 300 labor hours.*
- *Details:*
 - *Plant Material: \$12,500*
 - *300 labor hours*

Non-Native Trees:

- *Annual Cost: \$70,483 for non-native tree planting.*
- *Details:*
 - *On average, 460 trees are planted annually.*
 - *Average Cost per Tree: \$406 (includes plant material, planting, watering, pruning, mulching, and a 2-year warranty for replacements).*
 - *Native vs. Non-Native Planting: Approximately 50% of trees are native, while the other 50% are non-native.*

111. ■ Please provide a breakdown of the total expenditures, across all departments, for outside consulting. Ideally, a short sentence on what the purpose was for hiring an outside firm should be included.

Many of the items included in the consultant services line is considered routine and ongoing in nature. This includes, but is not limited to things like the city's state lobbying services, support for animal review hearings, third-party specialized inspection services, and facility energy audits. The major changes included in this line, as compared to last year is summarized with the response to question #29. The consulting services line makes up 0.6% of the operating budget and totals \$906,810 in the FY 2026 Proposed Budget. A summary of items included on the consulting line is provided in the table below.

Dept Name	FY 2026 PROPOSED	Purpose
City Manager	207,860	Community Survey, Emergency Operations Training, State Lobbying, JEDI Strategic Plan
Communications & Comm. Engagement	1,320	Translation Services
CPDS	14,530	Retreats and Leadership Development, Intepretive Sign Development, Master Plan Support
Finance	14,050	ERP Professional Support and Software Implementation Services
Human Resources	50,000	Organizational Development
Information Technology	135,500	ERP Professional Support, IT Research and Advisory Support, WebEx Calling Implementation
Mayor and Council	35,000	Internal Audits, Strategic Goal Setting
Non-Departmental	11,000	Ad-hoc Services
Police	13,150	Animal Review Hearings
Public Works	410,200	Consultant Inspection Services, Water and Sewer Modeling, Stormwater Drainage/Landscaping Review, Facility Energy Audts, Mosquito Management, Water Backflow Inventory Collection, Emergency Spill Cleanup, Underground SWM Facility Inspections, Site Surveys
Recreation and Parks	14,200	Health Consulting Services, Energy Consulting Services
TOTAL	906,810	

112. ♦ White respondents are greatly over-represented among respondents. Did staff monitor the demographic breakdown at the mid-way point? Were there efforts to correct this? What was done to correct this? How will this be corrected for next year's survey?

The community budget priorities survey is not a statistical survey. The demographic information is helpful in providing context on the ways in which the responses may differ from what would come from a statistical survey. Budget staff develop an outreach plan each year to promote the survey among those who are under-represented. For FY 2026 this included direct outreach to participants of city ESL classes, recipients of Rockville holiday drive packages, and outreach efforts in rental communities with an emphasis on Area 5 where responses were under-represented in the FY 2025 budget survey. After this survey closes, staff will evaluate under-representation of participants, and use this information to help plan outreach efforts for the FY 2027 survey.

113. ♦ After reviewing every survey respondent's comment, there is confusion regarding County vs. City vs. State when it comes to levying taxes. Can we include a short paragraph on the Budget webpage that outlines this distinction, and shares the last year that the City increased taxes?

The city maintains a page www.rockvillemd.gov/taxes which describes the city's property tax rates and how tax bills can be found. In addition, the city's Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) contains a wide range of helpful financial information about taxes including a graphic on how property tax is allocated between the State, County, and City. The full report can be found [HERE](#). The graphic from the PAFR is shown below. In addition, the Rockville Reports articles on the budget frequently state that the city has not raised the property tax rate since 1995.

Who receives my property tax?

Real property tax is assessed by the State of Maryland, Montgomery County, and the City of Rockville. For each \$1 paid by a Rockville resident, approximately 22 cents comes to the City of Rockville to fund municipal programs and services. Property tax revenue made up 44% of General Fund revenue in FY 2024, the largest single revenue source.



114. ◆ Can staff provide the survey responses broken down by Area? I would like to know which comments came from outside the City.

The survey report provides trend analysis for questions based on Area, when prevalent trends begin to emerge. It is difficult to break down the comments by Area. This is something that may require more review.

115. ◆ What does staff do with the submitted requests and ideas from the public? Are these ever integrated into the budget? What is the process used by staff to circle back with community members/organizations who have submitted an idea that would qualify as a CIP/PIP? What is the status of Vision Zero non-CIP feedback from last year's budget survey?

Staff review all the submissions from the Propose-A-Project process. All individuals/groups who make Propose-A-Project submissions are notified that their submissions will be included as public testimony with the budget and are encouraged to track budget discussions. The neighborhood signage initiative that is included in the FY 2026 budget was previously a Propose-A-Project. The comments that come from the survey primarily serve to inform the Mayor and Council given the timing of the survey running concurrent with the budget process. Staff are not developing action plans based on the survey comments but do look to see how the budget is aligning with high-level priorities.

116. The following items were submitted by the public; they align with many of this elected body's goals and core values. Please share any information that staff have on the item, whether it was considered for CIP status, and whether they are considering inclusion of the item in the budget – either within their own department's budget or for consideration as a CIP/PIP.

- a) Safe pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure from surrounding neighborhoods to RedGate

Yes. The city was awarded the Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program grant award last year. The project is to evaluate feasibility and prepare a preliminary design for a bike/ped facility from Maryvale Park to RedGate Park via First St and Taft Ct/St. While the grant

was awarded, the city has not received any agreement from FHWA. When staff last spoke with FHWA, they did not indicate that this program was cancelled, just that it was taking time to get moving (it is a new program for them).

b) Restrooms at parks – especially ones with playgrounds

Open restrooms in parks have long been an issue for the Recreation and Parks Department. The current practice is to lock bathrooms when there is no city supervision on site. Leaving bathrooms unattended in parks presents several risks, primarily related to safety, hygiene, and maintenance. Unmonitored bathrooms are more susceptible to vandalism, illegal activities, and damage to fixtures. They can also become unsanitary quickly, when not monitored. Overflowing toilets, broken plumbing, and inadequate supplies further contribute to unhygienic conditions, while trash and litter can accumulate without proper waste disposal measures. Unattended bathrooms pose privacy risks and can lead to environmental problems, such as water wastage and excessive trash. Without supervision, these bathrooms are also more likely to present physical hazards, like broken tiles, or slippery floors. Overall, leaving park restrooms open and unsupervised creates a negative experience for visitors and increases the likelihood of safety issues.

City code only allows the use of portable toilets for construction sites and special events, however portable toilets are movable and can be strategically placed in areas with higher foot traffic. These units are less prone to causing physical hazards and generate less opportunity for waste. Many surrounding jurisdictions utilize portable toilets, and this could be further evaluated if a code change is considered.

If a restroom facility were provided at every playground location, it would require additional review but could be approached as follows:

- Playground with an adjacent Rec Center or other city facility: 7 locations – These locations the visitor can use the restroom in the adjacent facility (no cost or change)*
- Playground with a closed shelter/facility: 18 locations – These locations have permanent shelters; however, they are locked. At these locations, staff would have to devise a way to lock and unlock the facilities, provide security check, and provide daily custodial services, including the weekends. (Costs will include custodial staff, security either through police, park ranger or private security, weekend coverage, technology for locking system)*
- Playground with no facility: 20 locations – These locations would require the construction of a restroom facility which will vary significantly by location. The cost for each facility would start at \$300,000 and require ongoing operating costs.*

c) Installation of Doggy Stations at entrances to all City parks

Currently the city has approximately 30 mutt mitt stations scattered throughout the park system, not including the units in the three off-leash dog parks. Each station averages \$500 per year. To install a station at every park entrance would require 120 stations with an initial cost of \$60,000. Recreation and Parks staff recommend residents be responsible for bringing their own bags. Theft of bags is common, and then the city receives complaints when the stations are empty.

d) Soccer goals for Isreal Park - *Please see the response to question #87*

e) Security improvements at City Hall – Metal detector

Staff will evaluate options for security improvements in connection with planned improvements to City Hall following the relocation of staff to the 6 Taft Court. As it relates to metal detectors, the installation of a metal detector would require that an officer be stationed at the entrance to respond whenever the detector is triggered. Current staffing levels do not include a dedicated security resource for City Hall or other city facilities.

- f) Invasive vine removal on City Property – including King Farm retention pond

An additional \$30,000 is included in the proposed FY26 budget to supplement existing funding for the management of all non-native species.

- g) Transitioning use of annuals (one and done plants) and non-native trees on City property to native plants and trees

Transitioning from use of annual and non-native trees on City property to all native plants is a policy decision. Current efforts to incorporate native plantings include the incorporation of new native plantings at City Hall and trials of new native street trees. Recreation and Parks staff is assessing changes to the Master Street Tree Plan to include more native species. Native perennials are also being trialed at two right-of-way flowerbeds this spring.

Pros and Cons of transitioning to Native Plants and Trees:

Pros: Environmental benefits - Native plants support local wildlife, pollinators, and ecosystems. Improved soil health, the promotion of biodiversity and the attraction of beneficial insects are all benefits.

Cons: Rockville's urban setting presents challenges for native plants to thrive, due to temperature shifts, increasing impermeable surfaces, and a large deer population. As an example, last year 56% of native trees were established successfully, compared to 79% of non-native trees. Perennial plants, while they can potentially be long-lasting, require just as much maintenance as annuals. The pool of native plants suitable for right-of-way planting is limited, as they must meet specific criteria related to roadway conditions. It is easier to plant native species in parks. Deer in the community present a challenge and they prefer native plants. In addition, when perennials get a pest or disease, it will require treatment.

- h) Deer mitigation strategy

This is a policy decision for the current Mayor and Council. Significant staff time and resources will be required to develop a mitigation strategy beyond what was directed in April of 2021.

Mayor and Council approved a pilot deer culling program which occurred on November 21 – 29, 2020, December 19 – 27, 2020 and January 9 – 16, 2021. Staff shared the results of the program with the Mayor and Council on April 26, 2021. Please refer to agenda item #15 from the Mayor and Council's April 26, 2021, meeting to view the staff report and recommendations: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/04262021-6228>.

At that meeting, the Mayor and Council decided to end the culling portion of deer management efforts within Rockville. Moving forward, deer management in Rockville has included participation on the Montgomery County Deer Management Work Group; annual review of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources – Wildlife and Heritage Division annual report and

White-tailed Deer Management Plan; monitoring the results of the Howard County pilot tick study; and conducting an annual educational lecture on deer for homeowners held at the Croydon Creek Nature Center. For further information you can visit www.rockvillemd.gov/1084/Wildlife-Management.

The most informative study on managing White-tailed Deer was conducted by Cornell University - [Managing-White-tailed-Deer-Cornell.pdf](#). Pages 27-29 highlight the most common non-lethal measures, fences, changing plant material, and repellents up to less common fertility controls. There continues to be no silver bullet to managing urban populations of white -tailed deer.

If the Mayor and Council are proposing the use of fertility controls significant staff time, consulting, permitting and financial resources will be required to develop a strategy.

Councilmember Jackson (3/27/25 email):

117. ■ The \$50,000 for special projects (marketing) for REDI. Is that for the life-sciences branding initiative? Wasn't that supposed to be done by now?

The life sciences branding project was a one-time (\$50,000) effort included in the FY2025 allocation for REDI. The FY 2026 allocation replaces that funding with a new \$50,000 for marketing and deploying the newly developed brand. Additional information can be found with the response to question #109.

118. ◆ Do we have a way to update goals/outcomes for REDI? Obviously where we are now economically is very different than last year. Is there a mechanism for the City to reflect that new environment in the work REDI is tasked with doing?

Staff recommend coordinating with the City Attorney's Office to evaluate options for including goals and performance metrics for the amendment to the agreement.

119. ■ I know that the City talks about 20% in reserves and whatever is "excess" will go toward funding various projects. But isn't this a little disingenuous? We are including these projects in the budget. They just are the first ones to be cut or eliminated if the revenue doesn't perform like we expect – correct?


Consistent with the FY25 budget, any amounts approved for uses of reserves are appropriated on the first budget amendment of the year. These uses of excess reserves are not contingent upon the city's financial performance. The city currently has these excess reserves available. This is consistent with previous responses provided with question #1 and question #35.

120. ■ What is the purpose of the \$8,000 for the Women Who Care Ministries? Is it for a sponsorship of their annual luncheon or is it for programmatic uses as well?


Women Who Care Ministries provides more than 6,000 meals to low-income families and children according to their application. The funding supports their annual Restore The Joy Empowerment Luncheon/Conference. More information on the details of the request can be found in the grant binder.

121. ■ I'm confused over Peerless' \$125,000 ask and subsequent grant of \$95,000 – especially as their rental income is increasing by \$40,000. Would appreciate a little explanation.

The funding recommendation of \$95,000 was made by a panel consisting of 21 reviewers, 8 from boards and commissions (HSAC, HRC, Youth, Senior, Arts, Recreation and Parks) and 13 staff (from DPW, CPDS, DHCD, CMO, CCO, R&P). The grant allocations are subject to Mayor and Council approval. More information on the details of the request can be found in the grant binder.

122.  How do we “work with landlords, tenants, and common ownership communities such as condominium associations and homeowner’s associations to help resolve issues between landlords, tenants, common ownership communities and their members, and business owners”? Is it a formal process or informal? How much staff time is taken up by it? How many cases or disputes do we handle in a given year? This sounds very much like the description of the CCOC which common ownership communities pay a yearly assessment for similar services. Can you help me and others differentiate between the two or are the processes fundamentally the same?

This question is under review.


123.  I would very much appreciate some options for making the Housing Opportunity Fund better funded (like the County's Housing Production Fund) and able to do the work assigned but also to act quickly to take advantage of opportunities.

Strategies to consider include but are not limited to:


- o Gradual increases to the annual allocation to the Housing Opportunities Fund*
- o Considering excess reserves for allocation to the Housing Opportunities Fund*
- o Considering excess reserves for funding arrangements in support of preserving or expanding affordable housing units*

The County is a much larger organization than the City of Rockville, however the city’s proposed annual allocation of \$250,000 to the Housing Opportunities Fund is approximately three times as much as the County’s annual contribution to their Housing Production Fund, as a percentage of each respective total operating budget. Please see the responses to question #37 and question #50 for additional context.

Mayor Ashton (4/7/25 email):

124.  Regarding RedGate, can you share an update on where we are now that we are more than half-way through FY25. Are we on track? When is the design scheduled to be completed? When will the dog park that was constructed be opened? It was open and then closed, previously. When can it be reopened?

Design RFP is being finalized with the Procurement Department and we expect release of the RFP within the next month. Once the project is awarded, design is estimated to take 12 months. Construction of first phase park infrastructure, pathways, community garden, playground, arboretum signage and amenities would begin the following year. The dog park was reopened last spring (2024) and has been open ever since. Temporary accessible paths have been installed. The design will include permanent accessible routes and add shade, water line, and other amenities to the dog park.

125.  Regarding RedGate, when will the community garden be created? We currently have three community gardens, all of which are on the West side of the City, and have none on the East side.

The community garden is included in the first phase amenities to be constructed. We anticipate the community garden being constructed in 2027/2028.

126. ● Regarding RedGate, when will the educational markers for the 100K trees be placed so that the space can more fully become an arboretum?

Two signs (see below) have been installed along the path of the phase one plantings. Two additional signs will be planted at the phase two location in the near future. The signs are being fabricated with the new brand. Additional interpretive signage will be included during the design phase. The RFP identifies an arboretum specialist be retained by the design team. The arboretum specialist will provide guidance and recommendations on interpretive signage and the levels of an arboretum.



127. ● Regarding RedGate, has the City received the Park and Open Space money that is passed on from the state via the County?

The State of Maryland Department of Natural Resources Program Open Space (POS) funding designated for RedGate Park in the amount of \$2 million is scheduled to go to the State Board of Public Works in April 2025. POS funding is administered by M-NCPPC. The POS grant is a reimbursement grant. Once the city has spent the funding, staff provide the paperwork to be reimbursed.

128. ● Regarding RedGate, has the City marketed the tree and bench sponsor program to support the revenue that will be needed to support the Red Gate Masterplan.

Both the POS and the LWCF grant applications include benches and trees as part of the funding requests. We have not marketed the city's bench and tree memorial program for RedGate Park until a design is finalized. The design team will recommend locations and quantities for benches and trees throughout the park.

129. ● Regarding RedGate, what new activities beyond what was already included in FY25 is planned for FY26?

We are working to implement what was included in the FY25 budget – park infrastructure and first phase design. This process and associated activities will carry into FY26.

ATTACHMENT A**ROCKVILLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – PROPOSED MEASURES FY2026**

Performance Measures	Actual FY2022	Actual FY2023	Actual FY2024	Proposed FY2025	Proposed FY2026	Proposed Numbers w/Added BD Position
Number of strategically placed print ads in regional/national publications *	2	0	4	2	2	
Reach of REDI advertising/marketing communications	71,400	267,868	700,289	50,000	75,000	
Number of digital posts promoting Rockville as a place to do business	81	158	149	75	85	
Number of business visits/meetings	115	119				
Number of visits/meetings w/existing businesses			95	75	75	150
Number of business visits w/potential prospects			60	25	40	120
Number of new businesses attracted to the City (grantees)			13	15	15	30
Number of business expansions (grantees)			0	15	15	20
Business Incentive Grant recipients (Move/Expansion) and Small Business Impact Fund recipients	4	11	17	9	15	30
Square footage of new space leased by grantees	32,458	45,045	18,915	35,000	35,000	50,000
Aggregate average annual salaries for grantee firms	\$90,000	\$97,000	\$85,000	\$95,000	\$95,000	\$95,000
Number of full-time jobs added to Rockville through grantees	84	73	34	70	70	80
Capital Investments from Grantees	—	\$665,000	\$760,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$600,000

Number of Maryland Women Business Center (MWBC) workshops offered to entrepreneurs	73	107	128	120	125	
Number of MWBC workshop attendees	2,540	1,569	1,372	1,500	1,500	
MWBC Capital Infusion in Rockville*	\$2,600,000	\$1,360,000	\$1,400,000	\$750,000	\$900,000	
Minority Businesses assisted	493	418				
Montgomery County	330	246	214	250	250	
City of Rockville	65	53	166	83	100	
Number of Rockville companies promoted through social media	579	435	175	200	200	
Number of broker/economic development event sponsorships where REDI receives brand recognition	7	9	8	8	8	
Number of industry sector events hosted/promoted	34	25	15	20	20	
Number of external articles posted that share news about Rockville's industry sectors	69	92	60	75	75	

** Much of the funding received by MWBC clients in FY2022 and FY2023 was from the federal Paycheck Protection Program and Economic Injury Disaster Loans obtained due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and other available relief programs.*



MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORKSESSION Meeting Date: May 5, 2025

Agenda Item Type: WORKSESSION

Department: CPDS - ZONING REVIEW & OTHER

Responsible Staff: JIM WASILAK

Subject

Work Session No. 3 on the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite (ZOR): New zones, including Town Center; Revisions to Existing Zone Standards; Height Transitions; and Comprehensive Map Amendment (Part 2)

Department

CPDS - Zoning Review & Other

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council hold a work session to discuss and provide direction on the ongoing Zoning Ordinance Rewrite and Comprehensive Map Amendment.

Change in Law or Policy

The adoption of the new Comprehensive Zoning Map will replace the existing zoning map in its entirety. The adoption of the new Zoning Ordinance will replace the existing Zoning Ordinance in its entirety.

Discussion

Background

The city is undertaking a comprehensive rewrite of the city's Zoning Ordinance to modernize this chapter of the City Code so that it better accommodates the changing living, working, and recreation trends of the 21st century. In conjunction with the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite (ZOR), the city's zoning map will be updated through a Comprehensive Map Amendment (CMA) that will implement the rezonings recommended in the Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

The following objectives have been identified for the project:

- Implement many of the recommended land use actions identified in the *Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan*, including implementing the Plan's zoning recommendations.
- Accomplish goals from the city's ongoing FAST Initiative, making the development review and permitting process Faster, Accountable, Smarter and Transparent.

- Incorporate planning and zoning best practices that have become common in the field of urban planning and in other similarly situated communities.
- Incorporate the city’s commitment to equity, resilience, and sustainability, as described in the 2021 Mayor and Council social justice resolution and the 2022 Climate Action Plan.
- Ensure compliance with current federal and state regulations.
- Create a modern ordinance that can accommodate the changing living, working, and lifestyles of the 21st century.
- Create a user-friendly, accessible, and well-organized document that provides appropriate graphics and information to aid in its understanding.

The May 5 work session is intended to focus on the following elements of the ongoing Zoning Ordinance Rewrite and Comprehensive Map Amendment project:

- New zones (including the Mixed-Use Residential Office (MXRO), High-Density Residential (RHD), and Town Center zones)
- Revisions to the development standards of existing zones
- Proposed height transition regulations, and
- Follow-up from the January 27, 2025, Mayor and Council work session focusing on the rezonings recommended by the Comprehensive Plan.

Additional work sessions are scheduled for July 21 (focusing on uses and parking) and September 15 (a review of remaining topics, including parkland dedication, historic preservation, and signs, etc.). The scheduled adoption for the new Zoning Ordinance and Comprehensive Zoning Map Amendment is Spring 2026.

Community Engagement

Community engagement and outreach for the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite and Comprehensive Map Amendment project began in Summer/Fall 2024 and is planned to continue through Summer 2025. A full report on community engagement for this project is found in Attachment 1 above – Community Engagement Summary.

New Zones

Mixed-Use Residential Office (MXRO)

The Comprehensive Plan recommends that certain properties within Planning Area 4 (West End and Woodley Gardens East-West) be rezoned to a new zone that limits uses to residential and office only. The properties recommended to be rezoned are in the eastern portion of Planning Area 4, adjacent to Town Center, and are largely currently zoned Mixed-Use Transition (MXT). A new zone, the Mixed-Use Residential Office (MXRO) Zone, is proposed to be established on these properties. The new zone will limit uses as recommended by the Comprehensive Plan, while aligning the height, setback, access, and design standards with the MXT zone. Proposed development standards for the MXRO are found in Table 1, below.

Table 1. Proposed Mixed-Use Residential Office Zone Development Standards

Standard		Requirement
Lot Frontage (Min.)		10 ft.
Building Location		Buildings must be located at the front property line(s), including on corner lots
Setback Abutting Public Right-of-Way (Min.)		10 ft.
Side Setback	Abutting Residential Land (Min.)	10 ft.
	Abutting Nonresidential Land or Residential Uses with a Height of 45 ft. or greater (Min.)	None.
Rear Setback	Abutting Residential Land (Min.)	20 ft.
	Abutting Nonresidential Land (Min.)	None required. 10 ft. min. if provided
Building Height (Max.)		35 ft.

Residential High Density (RHD)

The Comprehensive Plan recommends that a new, high-density residential zone, limited to residential uses, is appropriate for certain properties within Planning Area 10 (Montrose and North Farm). The properties recommended to be rezoned are those where the Rollins Park and Congressional Towers apartment communities are located. These properties are currently zoned primarily Residential Medium Density-25 (RMD-25), with one parcel zoned Residential-75 (R-75). A new zone, the Residential High-Density (RHD) zone, is recommended by staff to be established on these properties.

The RHD zone is proposed to have an allowable density of 50 dwelling units per acre (twice that of the RMD-25), which would be similar to the highest density residential-only zones in Gaithersburg and Montgomery County (54 and 43.5 dwelling units per acre, respectively; currently, the allowable density in the RMD-25 is 25 dwelling units per acre, while the R-75 requires a minimum of 7,500 square feet per lot, which is approximately 6 dwelling units per acre). The maximum height is proposed to be 75 feet, which is the same as the RMD-25, while the R-75 has a maximum height of 35 feet. To respond to resident concerns and to ensure appropriate height transitions from single-unit residential, staff is recommending that buildings be limited to a maximum height of 45 feet within 100 feet of the property line when the property abuts or confronts a lot that is zoned for and developed with single-unit residential uses. Side and rear setback requirements, as well as design and access requirements, are proposed to be consistent with those of the mixed-use zones that currently allow for higher-density residential.

Proposed development standards for the RHD are found in Table 2, below.

Table 2. Proposed Residential High Density Zone Development Standards

Standard	Requirement
Density (Max.)	50 dwelling units/acre

Standard	Requirement
Lot Frontage (Min.)	10 ft.
Front Setback (Min.)	25 ft. when abutting or confronting a lot zoned for and developed with single-unit residential uses 10 ft. in all other locations
Side Setback	10 ft.
Rear Setback (Min.)	10 ft.
Building Height (Max.)	75 ft. When abutting or confronting a lot zoned for and developed with single-unit residential uses, buildings are limited to a max. height of 45 ft. within 100 ft. of the property line.
Access	For apartment dwellings, the mixed-use site access requirements apply.
Design Standards	For apartment dwellings, the mixed-use design standards apply.

Town Center Zones

On January 27, 2025, the Mayor and Council adopted the *2025 Rockville Town Center Master Plan* (TCMP), as an amendment to the *Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan*. The TCMP amends the Land Use Policy Map for Planning Area 1 and includes land use recommendations for three “character areas” within Town Center: the MD-355 Corridor, the Core, and the Edge. Specifically, TCMP Actions 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 recommend increased building heights and associated incentives, as well as no minimum parking requirements.

In the interim, Mayor and Council approved the use of floating zones to implement the TCMP recommendations for these three character areas earlier this year. With the future adoption of the new Zoning Ordinance, staff is proposing a more permanent change by creating new zones. Staff proposes to use the ZOR and CMA to expand the Mixed-Use Transit District (MXTD) Zone to become a “family” of zones with height restrictions corresponding to the three TCMP character areas (Table 3, below). The MXTD zones are proposed to be distinguished by the allowable base heights recommended in the TCMP through Actions 1.1.1 and 1.1.2, and named MXTD-235, MXTD-200, and MXTD-85, accordingly. All zones within the MXTD family will have the same uses, setbacks, design, and other such standards, tailored to be more walkable and less auto oriented (the implementation of no minimum parking for these zones will be addressed at the July 21 work session on Uses and Parking). Specifically, no new drive-through would be allowed in these zones.

Table 3. Proposed MXTD 'Family' of Zones

Character Area	Proposed Zone	Base Height	Bonus Height
MD-355 Corridor Character Area	MXTD-235	235 feet	100 feet
Core Character Area	MXTD-200	200 feet	100 feet

Edge Character Area	MXTD-85	85 feet	50 feet
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Revisions to Existing Zone Standards

Several revisions to development standards for existing zones to resolve issues, address inaccuracies and nonconformities, and to simplify and clarify, will be included with the release of the draft Zoning Ordinance. More substantive proposed changes are addressed below.

Residential Medium Density-Infill (RMD-Infill)

Revisions to the RMD-Infill Zone are proposed to ensure that the zone is effective in producing the outcomes intended by the Comprehensive Plan (which recommends flexibility for this zone to allow a diverse range of housing types) and to further align with the Mayor and Council’s Social Justice Resolution. Proposed revisions are also informed by meetings with community organizations, a focus group with affordable housing organizations, and individual conversations with small infill builders.

The APA *Equity in Zoning Policy Guide* Zoning District Policy 1 is to “Establish new residential zoning districts or amend existing residential districts to allow more types of housing by right.” Further, the *Guide* recommends:

“Avoid districts limited to only single-household detached dwellings when that will limit housing opportunities for historically disadvantaged and vulnerable populations. Evidence shows that single-household only residential zoning has a disproportionate impact on the ability of historically disadvantaged and vulnerable groups to access attainable housing and quality schools and services. Revise zoning to allowing a broader range of building forms, lot sizes, lot widths, and residential types in low-density residential neighborhoods.”

Under the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite, development within the RMD-Infill is proposed to be allowed on lots of any size and frontage width within the zone, so long as the development proposal meets the development standards.¹ The proposal would continue to allow the development of duplexes, triplexes, and fourplexes, and townhouses, and is proposed to also allow for the development of “cottage courts” (small-scale residential developments that consists of a cluster of small, detached or semi-detached cottages arranged around a shared courtyard). To achieve this type of housing, different setbacks, lot size, and other single-family type regulations need to be reduced. Development of no more than six units would be allowed on a single lot. Front yard coverage requirements would be removed, as these are more appropriate for the single unit detached zones, and is atypical when compared to surrounding jurisdictions. The rear setback would be reduced from 20 feet to 5 feet; and building height maximums would be revised to the following:

¹ This is recommended both to increase flexibility in developing on smaller, infill lots, which pose unique challenges, but also to increase equity. The American Planning Association’s *Equity in Zoning Policy Guide* notes, “[W]hen the Supreme Court invalidated overt racial zoning, many communities realized that zoning based on permitted forms of housing or minimum lot size could achieve the same result by making many neighborhoods less affordable to less white, less abled, and less wealthy households. While originally adopted as a successor to overtly racial exclusion targeting Black and Asian people, zoning has had the effect of excluding much broader segments of the American population from many residential areas and job opportunities.”

- 30 feet for cottage court development
- 35 feet for duplex and triplex development (retained from the current Ordinance)
- 40 feet for fourplex development

Revisions to the zone's limited design standards will also be recommended. Proposed development standards for the RMD-Infill are found in Table 4, below.

Table 4. Proposed RMD-Infill Development Standards

Standard		Requirement
Density (Max.)		Min. 2,000 square feet per tract area per DU, but no more than 4 units per lot <u>1 DU/2,000 sq. ft. but never more than 6 DUs per lot</u>
Lot Size (min)		Min. Lot Area of 4,000 square feet <u>n/a</u>
Lot Frontage (Min.)		40 ft. <u>n/a</u>
Front Setback		20 15 ft. or the established setback, whichever is less
Side Setback	Abutting Street (Min.) ⁴	15 ft.
	Abutting Land (Min.)	5 ft. Side setbacks can be reduced from the normal requirement of 5 ft. provided that the sum of both side setbacks is a minimum of 10 ft.
Rear Setback (Min.)		20 ft. <u>5 ft.</u>
Building Height (Max.)		<u>30 ft. for cottage courts</u>
		<u>35 ft. for duplexes and triplexes</u>
		<u>40 ft. for fourplexes</u>
Front Yard Coverage	Single Frontage and Through Lots (Max. per front yard)	40%
	Corner Lots (Max. per frontage)	20%

Light Industrial (I-L)

The height maximum for the Light Industrial zone is proposed to increase from 40 feet, to address the Comprehensive Plan recommendation to “[p]reserve light and service industrial land and uses to ensure that productive businesses thrive and provide employment and services to area residents” (Economic Development Element Policy 8) and related Action 8.1, “Ensure that City policies and regulations are supportive of the retention and growth of light and service industrial uses, where suitable.” Industry is an important component of the city's economy, providing jobs, key services to the community, and relatively affordable spaces for small businesses and entrepreneurs. In recent years, growing market pressure for mixed-use and residential land uses has resulted in a loss of industrially zoned land in many municipalities. The city has limited land

within the Light Industrial zone, and industrially zoned land can be highly sought-after. An increase in height could provide for additional potential floor area in the Light Industrial zone; preliminarily, staff is recommending a height of 60 feet. A final recommendation will be included in the draft Zoning Ordinance. Transitions as described below in this staff report would be required, along with landscaping to buffer any incompatible industrial uses from residential uses.

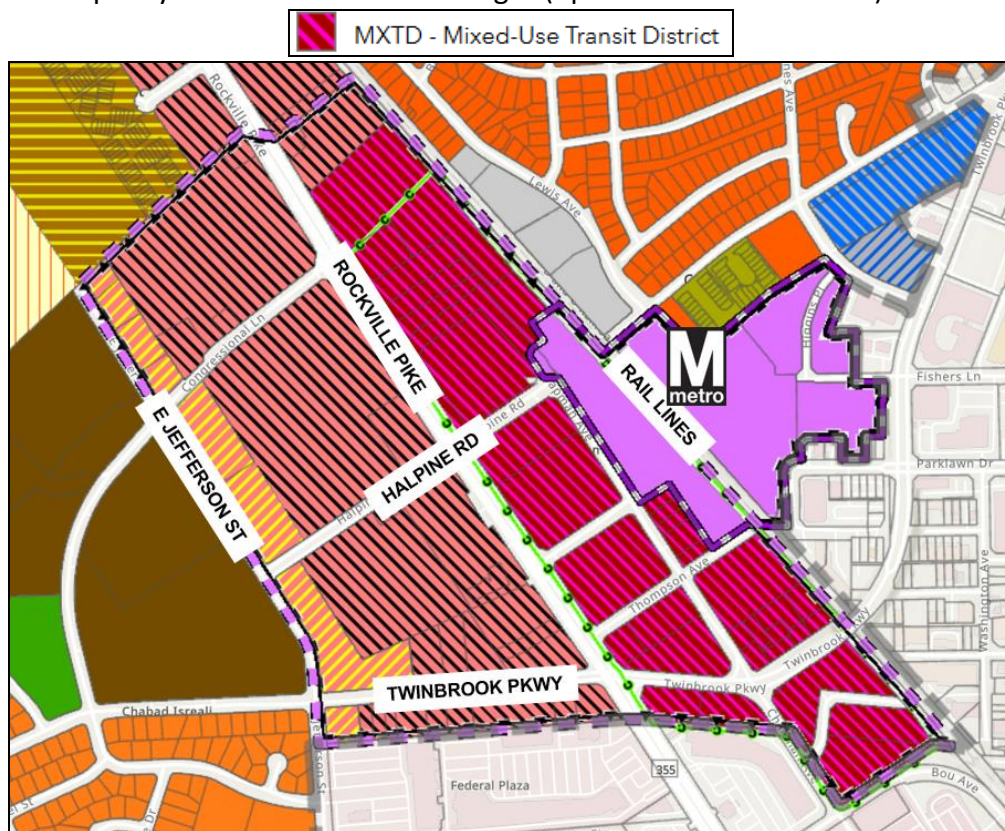
Height Maximums

Mixed-Use Transit District (MXTD)

In addition to the properties zoned or proposed to be zoned within the MXTD family of zones in Town Center, properties near the Twinbrook and Shady Grove metro stations are also zoned MXTD (

Figure 1 and

Figure 2). Currently, the base height in the MXTD is 120 feet, with a 30-foot bonus (for a total of 150 feet) that may be applied under certain conditions.² Champion Projects in the MXTD Zone in the South Pike qualify for an 80-foot bonus height (up to 200 feet maximum).



² Conditions required to receive the 30-foot height bonus are listed in Sec. 2513.05.b.2(a)(ii) of City Code, as follows:

- A. The public use space requirement must be provided on the site, except in the Rockville Pike Neighborhood Plan area, where the public use space requirement can be met either on site or through fee-in-lieu payment;
- B. The building footprint cannot occupy more than eighty (80) percent of the net lot area;
- C. The building design exceeds the urban design recommendations of the applicable master plan; and
- D. The building must exceed any energy conservation standards set forth in this Code.

Figure 1. MXTD Zone Near Twinbrook Metro

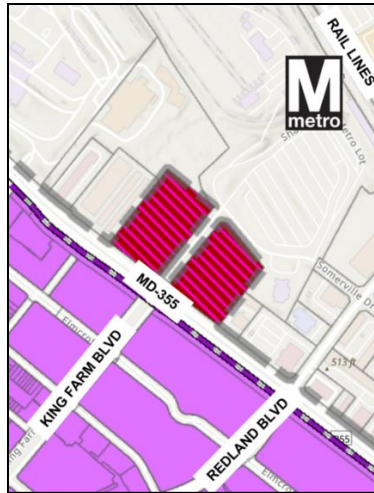


Figure 2. MXTD Property Near Shady Grove Metro

As noted above, the MXTD zone is proposed to be expanded to a new “family” of zones that will be used to implement the recommendations of the recently adopted Town Center Master Plan. As described above, the family of MXTD zones is proposed to have base and bonus heights consistent with the recommendations of the Town Center Master Plan (Table 3). In conjunction with the creation of the MXTD family, staff recommends that the MXTD-235 zone be applied to the MXTD properties near the Twinbrook and Shady Grove metro stations. This would effectively increase the base height of these properties from 120 to 235 feet. Staff also proposes that the 100-foot bonus height apply not only to projects in the MXTD-235 that include 20% or more affordable housing, but also to projects in the South Pike that qualify as Champion Projects.

Increasing the MXTD height would ensure that these properties are positioned to be similarly competitive to those in Town Center, and more competitive with transit-oriented properties in Montgomery County outside of the city. It would also better implement the Comprehensive Plan’s principle to “Steer the most-dense development to mixed-use, transit served locations” and the Climate Action Plan’s Action C-16 to “Implement the Comprehensive Plan to steer the densest development/redevelopment to mixed-use, transit-served locations, reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and emissions, and conserve/restore environmental areas.”

Housing Expansion and Affordability Act

The State of Maryland’s Housing Expansion and Affordability Act (HB 538; HEAA) went into effect on January 1, 2025. Qualified projects under this act can be allowed to exceed allowable units under our zoning ordinance and/or be exempted from certain requirements. The HEAA has several components, including benefits for “qualified projects” (generally, projects located on historic former state- or federal-owned campuses³; projects located within 0.75 miles of a passenger rail station; or projects controlled by a nonprofit or located on land owned by a

³ No properties within the city qualify as historic former state- or federal-owned campuses.

nonprofit). Qualified projects located within 0.75 miles of a passenger rail station must be deed-restricted to include 20% of housing units that are affordable for a period of at least 40 years, while projects developed by nonprofits must be deed-restricted to include 25% of the same.

Qualified projects are entitled to additional density, above what base zoning permits. In an area zoned for single family residential use, a qualified project may include middle housing units; this will be reflected in the updated Zoning Ordinance. Qualified projects are also entitled to an increase in allowable density in areas zoned for multifamily and mixed-use. Generally, the statutory language involving a density increase in multifamily and mixed-use zones states:

- In an area zoned exclusively for multifamily residential use, a qualified project shall have a density limit that exceeds by 30% the allowable density in that zone.
- In an area zoned for mixed-use, a qualified project may include 30% more housing units than are allowed in that zone.

While the medium- and high-density residential zones control intensity through a standard “density” calculation based on the number of dwelling units allowed per acre, most the city’s high-density residential development is occurring in the mixed-use zones, which do not control intensity by utilizing a density calculation of dwelling units per acre but instead control intensity through setback and height restrictions. To address HEAA density increase requirements, staff propose bonus heights of 30% above what the base zones allow in all MX zones. In the MXTD family of zones within Town Center, qualified projects would be afforded bonus heights above those required by the HEAA, as they would receive the height bonuses described in the New Zones section of this staff report.

Design Requirements

Under the current Zoning Ordinance, certain zones (most notably the mixed-use zones) are subject to not only development standards (building height, setbacks) but also design requirements that go beyond what can be built to address what buildings should look like and ensure high quality design. These standards address façade treatments, architectural elements, roof design, materials, and similar features.

While the design requirements contained within the Zoning Ordinance help to ensure visual appeal of development within the mixed-use zones, staff have identified that improvements need to be made to increase the clarity, specificity, and enforceability of design requirements. The requirements are currently a combination of “standards” (required items, typically denoted by “must,” “will,” “permitted,” or similar; e.g., Sec. 25.13.06.b.5, “Building design *must* include design elements which clearly indicate to customers where the entrances are located”) and “guidelines” (encouraged items, typically denoted by “should”; e.g., Sec. 25.13.06.b.2, “Roof design *should* provide variations in rooflines *where appropriate*”). Standards are legally enforceable, whereas guidelines can be understood as suggestions and preferences which lack the force of law.

The new Zoning Ordinance proposes to convert the design guidelines to standards and to increase the standards' clarity and specificity. This will increase the clarity and enforceability of the design-related elements of the Zoning Ordinance. To this end, the ZOR is working to identify and retain necessary and useful design requirements, and to replace subjective language with objective criteria. For example, terms such as "aesthetically pleasing" and "visual character" are proposed to be replaced with requirements that clearly define what is desired (e.g., Sec. 25.13.06.b.5, "Building design must include design elements which clearly indicate to customers where the entrances are located and which add aesthetically pleasing character to buildings by providing highly visible customer entrances" is proposed to be revised to "The primary building entrance must be clearly defined and accessible. Primary building entrances must include design features such as canopies, awnings, or porches that enhance the pedestrian experience and offer shelter.").

With the proposed increased clarity and stringency of design requirements, the ZOR also proposes to introduce provisions for "alternative compliance." Alternative compliance provisions allow flexibility for architects and designers to meet the intent of design standards through alternate proposals that provide equivalent or greater levels of design. Alternative compliance ensures that designers can exercise creativity and innovation and accommodate unique site conditions. As a point of reference, the East Rockville Design Guidelines include alternative compliance provisions.

Height Transitions

The Zoning Ordinance Rewrite recommends updated requirements for height transitions between single-unit residential and higher-intensity uses. These new requirements would replace height transitions regulations in several sections of our current ordinance including replacement of the “layback slope” regulations. The proposal is intended to ensure appropriate transitions between higher-density development and single-unit detached neighborhoods, while balancing policies from the Comprehensive Plan, Town Center Master Plan, and Climate Action Plan regarding intense development around Metro stations, as well as housing production goals.

Under the proposal, any building greater than 50 feet in height within higher-intensity zones would be required to incorporate a height transition along the façade(s) that abut or confront lots⁴ zoned for and developed with single-unit residential in lower-intensity zones (

Table 5, below). Buildings subject to transition requirements would be required to incorporate one or two building setbacks (or “step backs”) along the façade(s) that abut or confront residential (as described above), depending upon the height of the building. A step back is an architectural design feature where a building’s upper floors are recessed from the lower floors, thereby creating a stepped or recessed building profile.

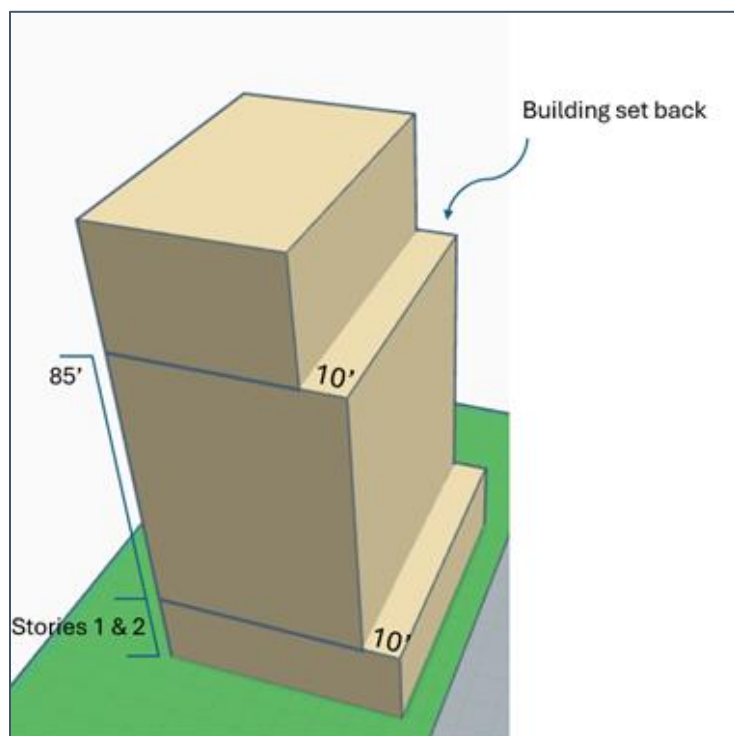


Figure 3. Proposed Building Height Transition Requirements

For buildings exceeding 50 feet tall, a ten-foot step back would be required above the second floor. This step back is intended to correspond to the roofline of smaller nearby structures, reducing the scale of the proposed building while emphasizing its ground-level elements. For buildings that exceed 85 feet tall, an additional step back would be required at 85 feet to further ease the transition. The step back would apply along the portion of the building facade that abuts or confronts properties as listed in

Table 5. Buildings under 50 feet tall would not be required to have the step back, as a height of 50 feet provides a logical transition from the 35- to 45-foot height maximums of the residential zones. The ZOR

⁴ *Abutting* properties are those “having a common point or border,” while *confronting* properties are “properties directly opposite each other, and separated only by public right-of-way” (Sec. 25.03.02).

proposes that height transitions would not apply to lots that confront one another across the Metro/CSX right-of-way, MD-355, or I-270, as these rights-of-way serve as significant physical barriers between development.

Table 5. Proposed Application of Height Transitions Requirements

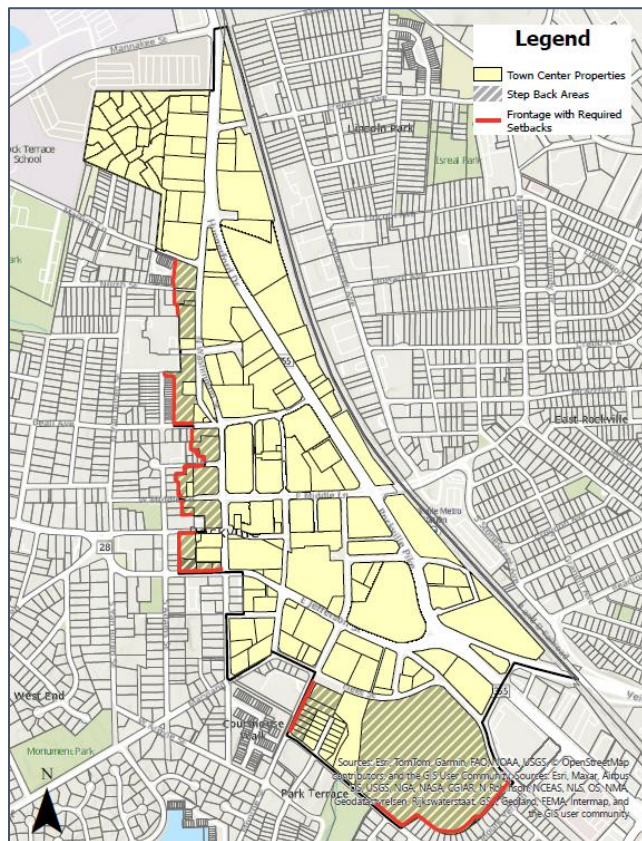
Height Transitions Apply to:	When abutting or confronting properties developed with single-unit, duplex, or townhouse dwellings in the...
MXTD-235	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R-400 • R-200 • R-150 • R-90 • R-75 • R-60 • R-40 • RMD-Infill • RMD-10 • RMD-15
MXTD-200	
MXTD-85	
MXCD	
MXCT	
MXE	
MXB	
MXNC	
RMD-25	
I-H	
I-L	

Staff does not recommend requiring a height transition to or from the MXC, MXT, MXRO, or Park zone. Currently, the MXC and MXT do not require and are not subject to a layback slope; the MXRO is a new zone to be modeled on the MXT and to be implemented primarily on properties currently zoned MXT; and a layback slope from the Park zone is applied only to abutting RMD-25 properties. The MXT (Mixed-Use Transition) Zone itself has historically served as a transition zone between lower and higher intensity uses, and the built form of the zone is not anticipated to change because of the proposed rezonings to MXRO. Staff anticipate that the park buffer requirements currently included in the city's *Environmental Guidelines* will be retained and does not recommend applying height transitions from Park zones.

As an example,

Figure 4 below shows the full extent of properties within the Town Center planning area that would be subject to this requirement, should the MXT and MXRO be included.

Figure 4. Town Center Properties that would be Subject to Proposed Height Transitions (MXT and proposed MXRO included)



he recommended height transition requirements would take the place of conflicting transition requirements currently existing within the city's Zoning Ordinance, most notably including:

- Layback slopes (generally, a line extending 30 degrees from grade at the property line of an abutting or confronting residentially-zoned lot onto a mixed-use, industrial, or RMD-25 property; Figure 5Figure 4, below)
- Setbacks that are based on the height of a proposed building (e.g., development within the Mixed-Use Transit District/MXTD must have rear and side setbacks of the normal 25 feet *or the height of the proposed building, whichever is greater* when abutting residential property)

The layback slope and setback existing requirements place difficult restrictions on

properties that are intended for dense development, and undermining the ability to achieve the residential densities included in the city's adopted plans. Additionally, the layback slope is difficult to understand and interpret – not only for applicants, but also for city staff and members of the public.

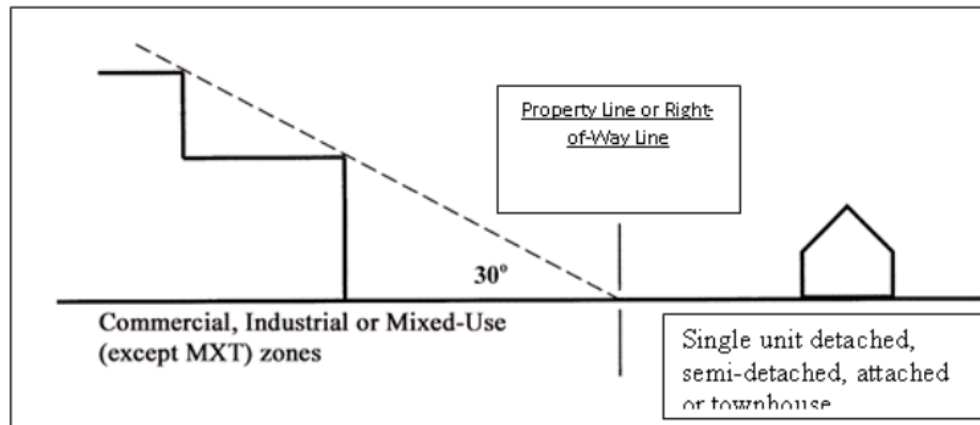


Figure 5. Layback Slope Example (Image 13.1 from the Current Zoning Ordinance)

Below is an example of applying the layback slope to a property allowed to have a building height of 85 feet with a bonus height of 50 feet based upon the recently adopted Town Center Master Plan. With the layback slope from the adjacent townhouse property, an 85-foot-high building could only be located on the front 1/3rd of the property with no ability to achieve the bonus height.



Distance from Abutting Property Line	Allowed Height with Layback Slope	Equivalent Number of Stories (estimated)
10 feet (existing setback)	5.7 feet	0
20 feet	12 feet	1
61 feet	35 feet	2 - 3
78 feet	45 feet	4
112 feet	65 feet	5 - 6
147 feet	85 feet	7 - 8
233 feet	135 feet	11 - 12

To build to the 45' height currently allowed with MXNC zoning, would need to be 78' in from the western property line (roughly 2/5 into property).

To get to 85' height proposed under the MXTD-85 zoning, would need to be 147' (roughly 3/4) into property.

It would not be possible to construct to maximum bonus height.

Proposed Rezoning: January 27, 2025, Work Session Follow-Up

During the January 27, 2025, Mayor and Council work session on the Comprehensive Map Amendment, Mayor and Council’s requested additional information on select rezonings proposed in the following planning areas:

- Planning Area 3 (Hungerford, New Mark Commons, Lynfield, and Fireside Park)
- Planning Area 4 (West End and Woodley Gardens E-W)
- Planning Area 6 (Lincoln Park)
- Planning Area 8 (Twinbrook and Twinbrook Forest)
- Planning Area 10 (Montrose and North Farm)
- Planning Area 16 (King Farm and Shady Grove)

Requested information related to these rezonings, as well as an overview of the role of Mayor and Council and community feedback in the CMA is found in Attachment 2 above – Comprehensive Map Amendment Work Session Follow-Up Information.

Mayor and Council also requested that additional community outreach be conducted. An initial email had been sent to all neighborhood associations with a proposed rezoning within or adjacent to their boundaries in October 2024, and in February 2025, they were sent a follow up email to keep them aware of proposed rezonings in or adjacent to their neighborhood association boundaries, and to offer to meet and discuss the project. As a courtesy, primary contacts for these neighborhood associations were sent confirmation emails to subscribe to project updates through Engage Rockville. The full list of neighborhood associations contacted can be found in Attachment 1 – Community Engagement Summary. Many of the neighborhood associations who had not yet responded to staff emails were contacted via phone to ensure they were aware of the effort.

The February 2025 distribution list was also widened, incorporating rental communities identified by Mayor and Council during the January 27 work session (some of which also received emails in October 2024). In addition to emails, these residential communities were also contacted by staff via phone to explain the project, and fliers were provided to these communities to be placed in mail areas, community rooms, on bulletin boards or other places where residents tend to gather. Table lists the residential rental communities that were engaged in this manner.

Table 6. Residential Rental Communities Engaged Following January 27 Work Session

Residential Rental Community
Bethany House Congressional Towers David Scull Courts Rollins Park The Flats at Shady Grove The Stories

The community groups and neighborhood associations that have accepted staff’s offer to meet are listed in Table 7, below, along with past or planned meeting times. Meetings that have occurred since the January 27 work session are listed in bold. This list is also found in Attachment 1 – Community Engagement Summary.

Table 7. Meetings With Neighborhood Associations and Community Groups

Association/Group	Meeting Date
East Rockville Civic Association	June 11, 2024
Lincoln Park Civic Association	October 12, 2024 April 12, 2025
Twinbrook Community Association	October 15, 2024
West End Civic Association	November 14, 2024
Montrose Civic Association	December 10, 2024 April 30, 2025 (planned)
Jerusalem Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church	March 6, 2025
Hungerford Civic Association	April 26, 2025 (planned)

Jerusalem Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church and Lincoln Park continued to express concerns about the Comprehensive Plan’s recommendations for rezonings proposed on their properties and in their community (respectively). More information on the proposed rezonings and community input can be found in Attachment 2 – Comprehensive Map Amendment Work Session Follow-Up Information.

Mayor and Council History

Mayor and Council approved a project charter for the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite Project in October 2022. Since the project was initiated, staff have provided periodic updates on the project via email. The first Mayor and Council work session for the project, which focused on the Comprehensive Map Amendment, was held on January 27, 2025. A second work session, focusing on process improvements, was held on March 3.

Public Notification and Engagement

A detailed accounting of public notification and project engagement to date can be found in Attachment 1 – Community Engagement Summary.

Boards and Commissions Review

The ZOR and CMA will be reviewed by city boards and commissions as per the project charter upon release of a draft ordinance and zoning map. To date, the Planning Commission has

received regular updates on project progress, with the most recent update occurring on December 11, 2024. The Environment Commission also requested and received a general briefing on November 7, 2024. A briefing with the Transportation and Mobility Commission is planned for May 27, 2025. Briefings with city boards and commissions will continue to occur as the draft ordinance and zoning map are developed and released for review.

Next Steps

The Mayor and Council are scheduled to hold an additional work session on the ZOR and CMA focused on uses and parking on July 21, 2025. Additional community engagement is ongoing and will continue through Summer 2025. Both ZOR and CMA are scheduled to be considered for adoption in Spring 2026.

Attachments

ATTACHMENT 1 Community Engagement Summary, ATTACHMENT 2 Comprehensive Map Amendment Work Session Follow-Up Information, ATTACHMENT 3 Descriptions of Existing and Proposed Zones, ATTACHMENT 4 Work Session Presentation

Zoning Ordinance Rewrite and Comprehensive Map Amendment: Community Engagement Summary

April 2025



Introduction

The City of Rockville is undertaking a comprehensive rewrite of the city's Zoning Ordinance to modernize this chapter of the city code so that it better accommodates the changing living, working, and recreation trends of the 21st century. Zoning is a system of laws and regulations that local governments use to control how land is used in different areas of the city.

Zoning divides land into different “zones” or “districts,” each with specific rules about what can be built and how the property can be used. For example:

- **Residential zones** allow for individual houses, apartments, and related uses
- **Industrial zones** allow for warehouses, automobile repair, self-storage, etc.
- **Mixed-use zones:** allow a combination of residential and commercial uses (businesses like shops, offices, or restaurants)

Zoning rules also control things like building height, parking requirements, how close buildings can be to the street or to one another, and the processes by which development can be approved. The goal is to organize growth, reduce conflicts between different land uses, and support public health, safety, and community planning.

This Zoning Ordinance Rewrite follows the adoption of the Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan (Comprehensive Plan) in 2021. One of the primary goals of the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite is to implement the Comprehensive Plan's land use and zoning goals and policies, and those of supporting plans. In addition to implementing the Comprehensive Plan, along with other goals listed in the Project Objectives portion of this report.

At the same time as the text of the Zoning Ordinance is being updated, the city's zoning map will be comprehensively amended through a Comprehensive Map Amendment (CMA). The rezonings proposed through the CMA were identified and recommended in the Comprehensive Plan and are already adopted policy but have yet to be incorporated into the city's zoning map. The process of updating the Zoning Ordinance and the zoning map, though separate, are running concurrently to one another and are joined as two parts of the same project. As such, this report includes community outreach and engagement for both portions of this project (the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite and the Comprehensive Map Amendment).

Project Phases

The project consists of the following phases and anticipated timelines:

- **Project Kickoff:** Fall 2023

- **Diagnose Phase:** Winter 2023/2024

During this phase, the project team reviewed and identified the issues and strengths of the current Zoning Ordinance and analyzed whether and how the Zoning Ordinance is aligned with goals and policies of the Comprehensive Plan.

- **Calibrate Phase:** Summer 2024 – Winter 2024/2025

Using guidance provided by the Comprehensive Plan along with community input, this phase identified and proposed effective base standards of the updated Zoning Ordinance and solved for issues identified in in the Diagnose phase.

- **Drafting Phase:** Winter 2024/2025 – Fall 2025

Following on the proposed new standards, this phase develops a user-friendly, concise, and well-written Zoning Ordinance, as well as an updated zoning map.

- **Adoption Phase:** Winter 2025/2026 – Spring 2026

The adoption phase will consist of facilitated review by the Planning Commission and Mayor and Council, public hearings, and ultimately adoption of the updated Zoning Ordinance and map amendment.

Project Objectives

The following objectives have been identified for the ZOR and CMA project:

- Implement many of the recommended land use actions identified in the Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan, including implementing the Plan's zoning recommendations.
- Accomplish goals from the city's ongoing FAST Initiative, making the development review and permitting process Faster, Accountable, Smarter and Transparent.
- Incorporate planning and zoning best practices that have become common in the field of urban planning and in other similarly situated communities;
- Incorporate the city's commitment to equity, resilience, and sustainability, as described in the 2021 Mayor and Council social justice resolution and the 2022 Climate Action Plan.
- Ensure compliance with current federal and state regulations.
- Create a modern ordinance that can accommodate the changing living, working, and lifestyles of the 21st century.

- Create a user-friendly, accessible, and well-organized document that provides appropriate graphics and information to aid in its understanding.

Methodology and Process for Getting Feedback

The initial community engagement that forms the basis for the ZOR and CMA took place several years ago, during the Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan process. Throughout the Comprehensive Plan process, dozens of community meetings, workshops and charrettes were held to identify the community's vision for Rockville's future. Extensive community engagement efforts for the Comprehensive Plan started in 2015 and continued over the course of six years. The outcome of these meetings are the policies in the Comprehensive Plan, adopted by the Mayor and Council in August 2021, which formalize Rockville's dedication to bringing the community's vision to life. Many of the changes to the text of the Zoning Ordinance through the ZOR project are based on this shared community vision, along with other policy guidance adopted by the Mayor and Council, including the Climate Action Plan, Pedestrian and Bikeways Master Plans, and the Mayor and Council's Social Justice Resolution. Other changes to the Zoning Ordinance through the ZOR are a result of national best practices, clarifying language, fixing identified issues and nonconformities, or reorganizing the code for ease of use.

In addition to changes to the text of the Ordinance, the project will also change the city's zoning map through a Comprehensive Map Amendment. The proposed zoning changes (or "rezonings") result directly from the specific land use and zoning recommendations called for within the Comprehensive Plan and the Town Center Master Plan.

Building on initial community engagement exercises from the Comprehensive Plan, Community Planning and Development Services staff developed a targeted engagement plan to ensure the community is aware of the ZOR and CMA project, what changes the project may present, and opportunities for community members to learn more and provide feedback. A summary of the methodology used during the five project phases are detailed in this section.

Engage Rockville Website

A [project page](#) on the Engage Rockville website has been the main tool for spreading information on this project. The Engage Rockville page was published in September 2024 and consists of several key features and widgets:

- **Project Timeline:** A visual representation of project process and timeline.
- **Key Dates:** Information about upcoming meetings and project deadlines.
- **Project Documents:** Links to key documents involved in or produced throughout the project.

- **Project Resources:** Links to background information on zoning and related city initiatives.
- **Frequently Asked Questions:** A series of common questions about zoning and the project as a whole.
- **News Feed:** A series of short articles providing project updates and opportunities for feedback.
- **Survey:** A short survey was posted in fall 2024 to gauge the public's background knowledge on this project, and as an opportunity to express interest in participating in a focus group or other event to stay engaged with the project. This survey was advertised through Rockville Reports and social media, as well as during all public meetings.

Engage Rockville also has the ability for users to “subscribe” to receive periodic updates via email. As of April 2025, the ZOR and CMA project had a total of 168 subscribers on Engage Rockville. Subscribers have received up to four emails with updates on the project delivered directly to their inbox, depending on when they subscribed.

Public Workshops

Two public workshops were held in October 2024 to kick off the public-facing portion of the project and educate the community on what to expect as the project progresses. At these workshops, the project team introduced the project and provided background information, laid out the project timeline, shared project milestones and progress to date, introduced the Engage Rockville page and hosted a question-and-answer session for meeting attendees. The workshop held on October 17 was held virtually via Webex. The workshop on October 22 was held in person, at Rockville City Hall. Approximately 20 people attended these meetings.

Focus Groups

To identify any issues with the current Zoning Ordinance, it was important to hear firsthand from users to understand their experience. To do this, city staff hosted a total of 12 focus groups over six months with different stakeholder groups. These focus groups were intentionally curated to remain small to facilitate discussion amongst participants. Many of the participants in the focus groups opted in to additional engagement with the project via the survey tool on Engage Rockville referenced above in the Engage Rockville Website portion of this report. Most of the focus group participants represented themselves, their interests and their lived experiences, while some focus groups were primarily attended by individuals representing an organization they work for. Table 1 lists the focus groups hosted in this phase of the project.

Table 1: Focus Group Meetings and Attendees

Focus Group	Meeting Date	Number of Attendees
Twinbrook Library Conversation Club	October 21, 2025	8
Rockville Urbanists Group	November 8, 2024	7
Commercial Property Owners and Brokers	November 18, 2024	5
Disability Community	November 18, 2024	4
Homeowners	November 19, 2024	5
Renters	December 2, 2024	2
Open Invitation*	December 3, 2024	7
	December 10, 2024	4
	December 12, 2024	7
Design Professionals/Developers	March 3, 2025	9
Land Use Attorneys	March 5, 2025	10
Affordable Housing Organizations	April 4, 2025	4
Infill Housing Builders	April 4-8, 2025	3

* Three “open invitation” focus groups were hosted in December 2024. Offers to attend an open invitation focus group were extended to all those who expressed interest (through the public survey or otherwise) in attending a focus group, but who had not attended an earlier focus groups. All open invitation focus group attendees were individuals who rented or owned homes within the City of Rockville.

Property Owner Meetings

Approximately 600 properties are recommended for rezoning in the Comprehensive Plan and proposed to be implemented through the Comprehensive Map Amendment. Because these recommended rezonings have been the city’s adopted policy since 2021, many property owners are aware of the Comprehensive Plan’s recommendations to change their property’s zoning district to meet the Plan’s vision. Other property owners either were not living in the city during the Comprehensive Plan process from 2015 – 2021, or may not have participated in that effort, so may not be aware of the proposed rezonings. As a result, extra effort was given to ensure the owners of these properties are aware of the ZOR and CMA project, its timeline, and the potential implications for their properties.

In October 2024, a mailing was sent to owners of all properties recommended for rezoning in the Comprehensive Plan, as well as all properties within 100 feet of a property recommended for rezoning. (The August 2024 memo updating Mayor and Council on the project committed staff to informing property owners and adjacent property owners, but staff ultimately decided to exceed this.) This resulted in approximately 1,100 letters being mailed to Rockville residents and businesses. The letter informed property owners of the project and invited them to attend one of three meetings targeted to those whose properties are proposed to be rezoned. The property owner meetings took place on November 12, November 13, and November 14, 2024, and were scheduled at different times of the day to accommodate different

schedules. A total of 69 people attended these meetings. At the meetings, an overview of the project was shared, then zoning recommendations from the Comprehensive Plan for each planning area were presented. The meeting concluded with an opportunity for attendees to ask questions and provide feedback to staff.

Mayor and Council express a desire that staff notify a wider audience of the proposed rezonings in the future. Following a May 5, 2025, work session with Mayor and Council, staff plans to host another meeting with community members related to the proposed rezonings and will send a new mailing to property owners at a slightly greater distance from the proposed rezonings. Additionally, this meeting will also be advertised more broadly via social media, Rockville Reports, and through an e-blast to Engage Rockville project page subscribers. Staff anticipate the next mailing to affected property owners and their neighbors will take place in Summer 2025.

Neighborhood Association and Multifamily Residential Communities

In addition to outreach to individual property owners, the city also ensured that neighborhood associations such as homeowner's associations, condominium boards, and civic associations were aware of the project and proposed rezonings either within or adjacent to their neighborhoods.

In October 2024, Community Planning and Development Service staff sent an email to leadership of all Rockville neighborhood associations that have rezonings proposed within or adjacent to their association boundaries, as well many rental communities recommended for rezoning or adjacent to land proposed for rezoning. This email introduced the project, offered an opportunity to meet with city staff to discuss the project in more depth, and encouraged communities to follow along by subscribing to the Engage Rockville page. Some neighborhood associations and residential communities took staff up on this offer, while others declined the opportunity.

Table 2 provides a complete list of the neighborhood associations and residential communities contacted in Fall 2024. Table 3 lists the neighborhood association that expressed interest in meeting with staff, along with the date of their meeting(s) with staff.

Table 2: Neighborhood Associations and Residential Communities Contacted in October 2024

Neighborhood Association / Residential Community
Beall's Grant Apartments
Bethany House Apartments
Burgundy Knolls Neighborhood Alliance
Cambridge Walk I Homeowners Association
Cambridge Walk II Homeowners Association
Congressional Towers
David Scull Courts / Rockville Housing Enterprises
East Rockville Civic Association

Heritage House Apartments
Heritage Park Co-Op
Hungerford Civic Association
Residences at Congressional Village
King Farm Citizens Assembly
Lincoln Park Civic Association
Montrose Civic Association
New Mark Commons Homeowners Association
Preserve/Protect West End
Rockcrest Courts Community Association
Rollins Park Apartments
The Forest Apartments
Twinbrook Citizens Association
West End Citizens Association
Woodley Gardens Civic Association
Wootton Oaks Homeowners Association

Table 3: Neighborhood Association Meetings

Neighborhood Association/Group	Meeting Date
East Rockville Civic Association	June 11, 2024
Lincoln Park Civic Association	October 12, 2024 April 12, 2025
Twinbrook Community Association	October 15, 2024
West End Civic Association	November 14, 2024
Montrose Civic Association	December 10, 2024 April 30, 2025 (planned)
Jerusalem Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church	March 6, 2025
Hungerford Civic Association	April 26, 2025 (planned)

In February 2025, a follow up email was sent to all neighborhood associations listed in Table 2 to ensure they are tracking the project and aware of proposed rezonings in or adjacent to their neighborhood association boundaries. As a courtesy, primary contacts for these neighborhood associations were sent confirmation emails to subscribe to project updates through Engage Rockville. Many of the neighborhood associations who had not yet responded to staff emails were contacted via phone to ensure they were aware of the effort.

The February 2025 distribution list was also widened, incorporating rental communities identified by Mayor and Council at a January 27, 2025, work session (some of which also received emails in October 2024, as listed in Table 4). In addition to emails, these residential communities were also contacted by staff via phone to explain the project, and fliers were provided to these communities to be placed in mail areas, community rooms, on bulletin boards or other places where residents tend to

gather. Table 4 lists the additional residential communities who were engaged by city staff about the project.

Table 4: Residential Communities for Targeted Additional Outreach

Residential Community
Bethany House Congressional Towers David Scull Courts Rollins Park The Flats at Shady Grove The Stories

As the project continues, staff will continue coordinating with interested neighborhood associations and other residential communities to provide them with updates and recommendations of the project. The next round of outreach to these groups is anticipated in Summer 2025.

Boards, Commissions, and Task Forces

As the quasi-judicial body in Rockville tasked with formulating the city's master plan and making recommendations to the Mayor and Council on map amendments, the Planning Commission is involved in this project. To date the Planning Commission has hosted briefings on the project, which took place on January 10, 2024, October 9, 2024, and December 11, 2024, in addition to regular staff updates. These briefings provided project information ahead of a series of work sessions scheduled to take place between January and September 2025, and the start of the formal review and recommendation period, anticipated in December 2025. All Planning Commission meetings are open to the public and recordings of meetings can be viewed online.

Staff also provided a general briefing to the Environment Commission on November 7, 2024, and a briefing with the Transportation and Mobility Commission is planned for May 27, 2025. Briefings and facilitation of feedback from city boards and commissions will continue as the Zoning Ordinance is developed and released for review.

Summary of Preliminary Feedback

Though a draft of the Zoning Ordinance is not yet complete, staff have gathered insights and feedback on the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite portion of the project through public meetings and focus groups, both with members of the public and 'heavy code users' (generally, design professionals, developers and builders, and land use attorneys). Members of the community also shared feedback on the Comprehensive Map Amendment that will rezone properties in alignment with the Comprehensive Plan recommendations through meetings with neighborhood

associations, interested groups, and property owners. Themes identified for each portion of the project are summarized below.

The feedback provided below is based on the community engagement efforts thus far in the process. Therefore, it is subject to change as engagement for this project is ongoing throughout the process. Staff anticipate a revised version of this document to be provided with the full draft of the Zoning Ordinance and zoning map.

Zoning Ordinance Rewrite

During focus groups with members of the community (including homeowners and renters and members of the disability community) and heavy code users (designers, developers and builders, and land use attorneys), individuals provided general and specific guidance on topics related to the rewrite of the text of the Zoning Ordinance.

When considering development generally, residents value walkability and proximity to amenities (including transit, schools, parks, and retail/restaurants) and want to see the local business community supported through the Zoning Ordinance. Many residents want to see the City support development generally, specifically citing support for density and transit-oriented development and noting that Rockville's height requirements around metro are lower than Montgomery County as a whole. Many like the development that is currently happening, and some expressed that development is happening too slowly. Some participants encouraged the City to think broadly about people who don't yet live in Rockville when rewriting the Zoning Ordinance. There is a perception that zoning can be overly restrictive, and there is a need for flexibility within the ordinance to achieve housing and economic development goals. Some individuals expressed concerns about potential increases in traffic and parking (including some who thought that parking enforcement should be heightened), while others thought the City has too much parking and parking requirements are too high, citing concerns about its impact on walkability, rental prices, and building costs.

When considering diverse housing types, residents generally liked the look of 'missing middle' housing types (duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes, and cottage courts). They expressed that City plans should encourage small, affordable housing and think that, depending on the size and architecture, missing middle housing types could fit into many Rockville neighborhoods; however, some questioned if these types of housing would be one's 'forever' home, while others expressed concerns about parking, particularly that residents did not want to see too much parking on residential lots. Renters desire to continue living in Rockville but are concerned about affordability and see missing middle housing options as a possible pathway to homeownership. However, some renters noted that not all renters want to eventually become homeowners,

Some perceive that conflicting or complicated requirements have led to difficulties in enforcing regulations and suggest creating clearer requirements and simpler

processes. Some recommend that greater consistency with Montgomery County's regulations would be useful. Some suggest utilizing more color, diagrams, and tables in the Ordinance.

Comprehensive Map Amendment

The rezonings proposed to be implemented through the Comprehensive Map Amendment are adopted policy, either in the Comprehensive Plan or the Town Center Master Plan. During meetings with community members (generally neighborhood associations meetings and property owner meetings), individuals asked questions and provided thoughts on the rezonings. Community input provided during these meetings may also have an impact on future City projects, and City staff will continue to coordinate with communities throughout Summer 2025.

Many community members support the Comprehensive Plan's recommended rezonings to support housing goals, transit, and walkability; while others expressed concerns about issues perceived to be exacerbated by the Comprehensive Plan's recommended rezonings, particularly related to traffic, property taxes, property investors, pedestrian infrastructure, new residents moving to the city, changes in neighborhood 'character', loss of green space, and the implementation of zones with higher building height maximums. There was concern raised about the potential consequences of the proposed rezonings, including whether rezoning a given property would obligate the redevelopment of that property or otherwise force the owner to make changes. (Staff reassured community members that any redevelopment would be voluntary, that a rezoning would allow changes if desired but not require them.)

One concern voiced at many community meetings related to equity. Individuals questioned why more of the recommended rezonings from single-unit detached to RMD-Infill (which allows a diverse range of 'missing middle' types, including duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, townhouses) were proposed east of MD-355, and whether additional rezonings in areas west of MD-355 would be proposed.

Proposed Rezoning: January 27, 2025, Work Session Follow-Up

The below information is provided in relation to Mayor and Council's requests for additional information during and immediately following the January 27 work session.

General

Following the January 27 Mayor and Council work session, questions were raised related to the role of Mayor and Council and the community feedback in the Comprehensive Map Amendment process, given that the proposed rezonings are already adopted policy, either in the Comprehensive Plan or the Town Center Master Plan.

The Zoning Ordinance Rewrite (ZOR) and Comprehensive Map Amendment (CMA) can be thought of as two separate but interrelated exercises: the first is the task of updating and modernizing the language, structure, and regulations in the Zoning Ordinance; the second is the task of amending the zoning map. The ZOR & CMA have multiple goals, one of which is to implement the Comprehensive Plan. This goal is primary when considering the recommended rezonings included in the Comprehensive Plan that are proposed to be implemented through the CMA, which were the subject of the January 27 Mayor and Council work session. For the most part, the Plan's rezoning recommendations are very specific, so implementation of the plan is rather straightforward (e.g., when the Plan recommends that a property be rezoned from MXCD to MXB, there is very little room for interpretation). In the case of these highly specific recommendations, Mayor and Council's options are to either move forward with implementation through the CMA or defer to a later time.

The Plan also includes recommendations for rezoning to new zones which have not yet been created. New zones proposed to be adopted and applied through the CMA are 1) a zone for residential and office use; and 2) a zone for high-density residential only. Because the recommendations in the Plan are adopted policy, input from the community will not impact the existing Plan recommendations; however, the Plan's recommendations do not specify all the regulations for these zones, so this is an area where input from community members and Mayor and Council comes to bear. For example, input from Planning Area 10 (Montrose and North Farm) community members has had an impact on staff and consultants' proposal for the high-density residential zone. (Also of note, because of community engagement with Planning Area 10 residents, CPDS has worked to connect community members with DPW and Recreation and Parks staff who have been able to speak to community concerns that fall outside the scope of the ZOR and CMA.)

Generally, this portion of the project (the implementation of Comprehensive Plan recommended rezonings through the CMA) provides less room for interpretation when compared to others.

Community Engagement

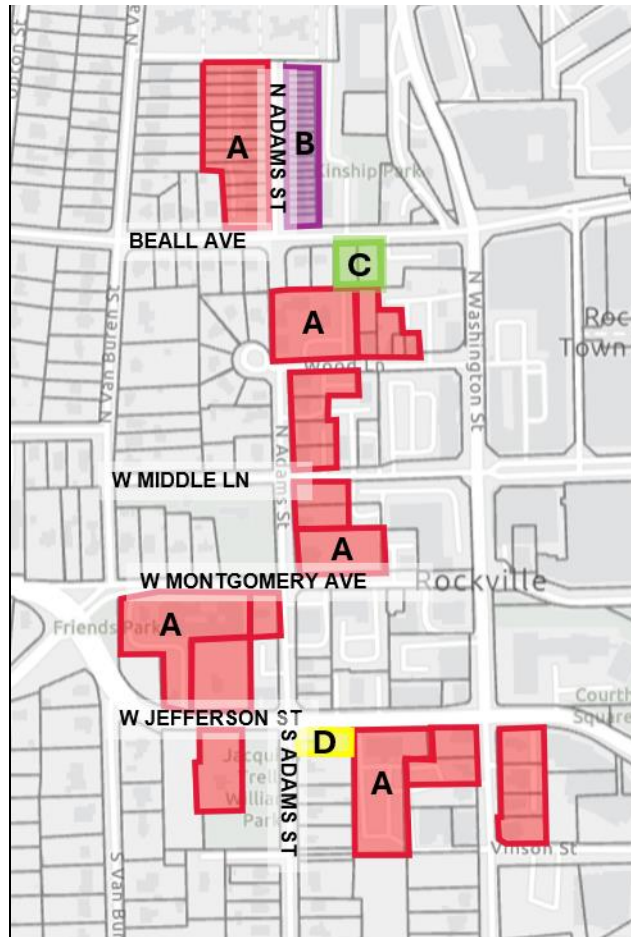
Prior to the January 27, 2025, work session, staff had contacted all neighborhood associations where rezonings were proposed within or adjacent to the association's boundaries. During the January work session, Mayor and Council requested that staff make special efforts to contact the communities. Following the work session, CPDS staff reached out to these communities of interest by both email and phone, and also dropped fliers off to the identified apartment communities. Additional information on

Planning Area 3 (Hungerford, New Mark Commons, Lynfield, and Fireside Park)



- At the January 27 work session, Mayor and Council expressed a desire to hear input from the Hungerford community on the proposed rezoning on a portion of the Woodmont County Club property. Staff contacted a community representative via email and phone, and will be attending a meeting with community members on April 26, 2025.

490



Focus Area: C (Focus areas not assigned in Planning Area 4; staff assigned letter 'C' to areas outlined in green)

- Current zone: **MXT (Mixed-Use Transition)**
- Comprehensive Plan recommendation: Change the zone for these two properties to R-60
- Staff proposal: Rezone to **R-60 (Single Unit Detached Residential)**

At the January 27 work session, Mayor and Council requested more information on the proposed rezoning of property owned by Jerusalem Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church. The Comprehensive Plan includes the following rationale regarding this rezoning:

“Jerusalem Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church Properties, Wood Lane / Beall Avenue

The multi-lot property includes the church, the old parsonage building, the Hebron Print Shop, vacant parcels fronting Beall Avenue, and a vacant parcel between the church and Beall Avenue. The church and parsonage are designated historic; the Hebron Print shop is not currently. This plan’s land use designates the church at 21 Wood Lane, the vacant lot behind the church, the former parsonage at 17 Wood Lane, and the former Hebron Print Shop at 11 Wood Lane as Residential and/or Office (RO); and two parcels behind the church on Beall Avenue as Residential Detached (RD). The land use for the property at 12 Beall Avenue is Residential Detached. It abuts an existing single-unit detached house.”

Staff met with the Jerusalem Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church to discuss the Comprehensive Plan recommendation to rezone the church's two undeveloped properties on Beall Avenue from MXT to R-60 on March 6, 2025. Staff explained the Plan recommendation and the resulting ZOR and CMA process, and church representatives indicated that they are opposed to the rezoning (as it would further limit development of the property). They do not have specific plans for the property, but have considered several options, including church parking and senior/affordable housing. As noted during the January 27 work session, staff perceive that this recommended rezoning may be inconsistent with the broader housing goals of the Comprehensive Plan.

Planning Area 6 (Lincoln Park)



Focus Area: A4

- Current zone: **R-60** (Single Unit Detached Residential)
- Comprehensive Plan recommendation: Rezone the properties in this area from R-60 (Single Unit Detached Dwelling) to a new zone that allows a diverse range of housing types, including duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, and rowhouses, in addition to single-unit detached dwellings. Fourplexes should only be allowed on corner lots in the zone. Multiplexes of greater than four units are not appropriate in this area.
- Staff proposal: Rezone to **RMD-Infill**

At the January 27 work session, Mayor and Council questioned whether the existing infrastructure (particularly Ashley Avenue) could support the proposed rezonings. The city's Department of Public Works expressed that they anticipate any traffic increase that may occur related to the proposed rezonings will be well-distributed in the street grid, and that Ashley Avenue will continue to operate as designed. As

development occurs, DPW staff can evaluate roadway traffic on Ashley Avenue and N. Stonestreet Avenue. They also noted several improvements proposed within nearby rights-of-way, including:

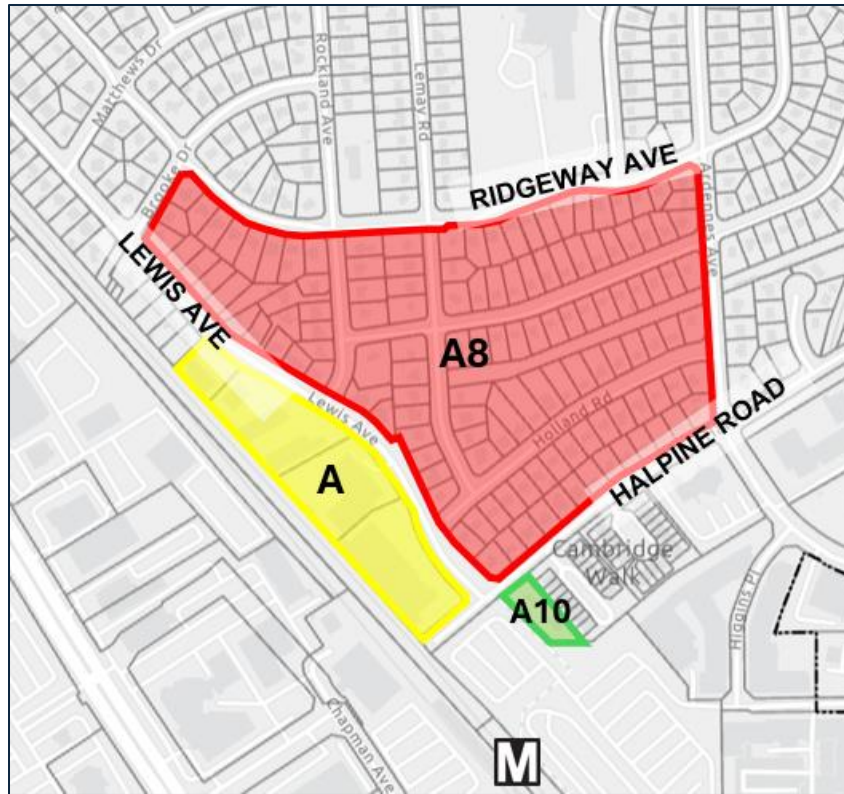
- A pedestrian connection along the north side of Frederick Ave. from N Stonestreet Ave. to Westmore Ave.; and curb extensions at Lenmore Ave.
- A complete streets design of N Stonestreet Ave. from Lincoln Ave. to Park Rd.

In the intervening time between the January 27 work session and the drafting of this staff report, CPDS staff met with the Lincoln Park Civic Association a second time, on April 12, 2025 (the first meeting was on October 12, 2024). During this meeting, Civic Association members expressed strong concerns regarding the proposed rezonings. The proposed rezoning is recommended within the Comprehensive Plan (2021) and resulted from community conversations during the Stonestreet Small Area Study (2018). The APA's *Equity in Zoning Policy Guide* includes Zoning District Policy 1, which generally supports the establishment of a flexible RMD-Infill zone:

“Establish new residential zoning districts or amend existing residential districts to allow more types of housing by right. Avoid districts limited to only single-household detached dwellings when that will limit housing opportunities for historically disadvantaged and vulnerable populations. Evidence shows that single-household only residential zoning has a disproportionate impact on the ability of historically disadvantaged and vulnerable groups to access attainable housing and quality schools and services. Revise zoning to allowing a broader range of building forms, lot sizes, lot widths, and residential types in low-density residential neighborhoods” (18).

Notably in the case of the proposed rezonings within Lincoln Park, the final line of Zoning District Policy 1 states: *“However, if the residents of historically disadvantaged and vulnerable neighborhoods want to preserve single-household zoning to discourage speculative investment and displacement, those desires should be respected”* [emphasis added]. Staff has committed with continuing to meet with Lincoln Park community members throughout the CMA process. In light of APA guidance, staff is investigating options of whether and how the Comprehensive Plan recommendation for these properties should be implemented, either through the CMA or at a future date.

Planning Area 8 (Twinbrook and Twinbrook Forest)

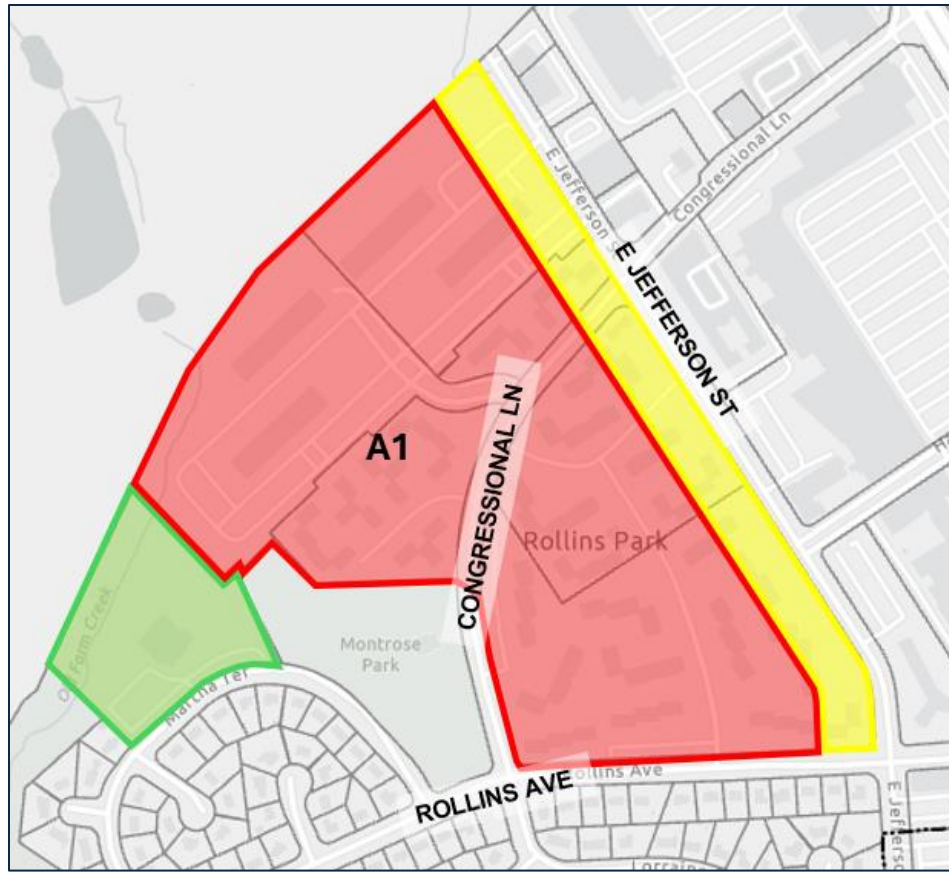


Focus Area: A (This area is not identified in the Comprehensive Plan as a Focus Area; staff assigned letter 'A' to areas outlined in yellow)

- Current zone: **IL** (Light Industrial)
- Comprehensive Plan recommendation: Rezone to **MXB** (Mixed-Use Business) to permit a wider mix of uses.
- Staff proposal: Rezone to **MXB**

At the January 27 work session, Mayor and Council questioned whether the proposed rezoning of the existing Light Industrial properties between Veirs Mill and Lewis Avenue (recommended in the Comprehensive Plan to be rezoned from Industrial, Light/IL to Mixed-Use Business/MXB) could receive a comparable treatment to properties recommended for rezoning near the Rockville Metro Station (recommended in the Comprehensive Plan to be rezoned from Mixed-Use Neighborhood Commercial/MXNC to Mixed-Use Corridor District/MXCD). While in many instances, the Comprehensive Plan includes broad policy guidance that allows some flexibility in interpretation, this recommendation is not one of those instances. Instead, the Comprehensive Plan recommends, "Change the Light Industrial (IL) zone on south Lewis Avenue to Mixed Use Business (MXB), to permit a wider mix of uses" (Land Use Element action 16.3, p. 43).

Planning Area 10 (Montrose and North Farm)



Focus Area: A1

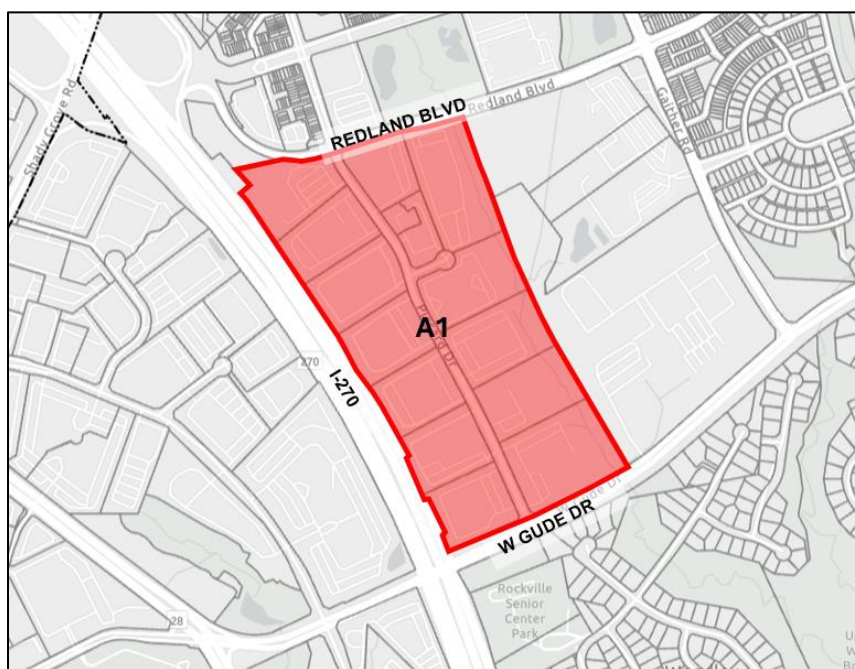
- Current zone: **Multiple**; all properties outlined in red and yellow are zoned **RMD-25** (Residential Medium Density); property outlined in green is zoned **R-75** (Single Unit Detached Residential)
- Comprehensive Plan recommendation: Rezone the strip of land along the west side of East Jefferson Street [outlined in yellow] from RMD-25 (Residential Medium Density) to MXCT (Mixed-Use Corridor Transition), to allow for development with a mix of commercial and residential uses. This new zone would mirror the zoning adopted on the east side of East Jefferson Street, as an implementation of the *2016 Rockville Pike Neighborhood Plan*. A new, higher-density residential zone, limited to residential uses, is appropriate for the remainder of the site [outlined in green and red] to permit new investment and upgrades, though it should not result in residential displacement.
- Staff proposal: The Comprehensive Plan's recommendation for A1 in Planning Area 10 can be understood as two recommendations: 1) The recommendation pertaining to the approx. 200-foot strip along the west side of East Jefferson Street (rezone from RMD-25 to MXCT), and 2) the recommendation pertaining to the rest of the property (a new, higher-density residential zone is appropriate).
 - Area outlined in green: Rezone to a new, higher-density residential zone, limited to residential uses.
 - Area outlined in red: Rezone to a new, higher-density residential zone, limited to residential uses.

- Area outlined in yellow: Rezone to MXCT Staff's

At the January 27 work session, Mayor and Council requested to see visual mock-ups of the new high-density zone, specifically the height. Information on the proposed Residential High-Density/RHD zone can be found in the New Zones section of the staff report.

Staff has also scheduled a second meeting with the Montrose community, to occur on April 30. Staff members from Community Planning and Development Services (Zoning) will be joined by staff from the Department of Public Works (Traffic and Transportation) and the Police Department. Presentations will address proposed rezonings, traffic updates, and enforcement, respectively.

Planning Area 16 (King Farm and Shady Grove)



Focus Area: A1

- Current zone: **MXE (Mixed Use Employment)**
- Comprehensive Plan recommendation: Rezone these properties from MXE (Mixed-Use Employment) to MXCD (Mixed-Use Corridor District) to allow for a greater mix of land uses and community destinations.
- Staff proposal: Rezone to **MXCD (Mixed Use Corridor District)**

At the January 27 work session, Mayor and Council expressed a desire to better understand the different uses permitted within the Mixed-Use Employment/MXE and Mixed-Use Corridor District/MXCD zones, as the proposed rezoning in Planning Area 16 would rezone property from MXE to MXCD to allow for a greater mix of land uses and community destinations. Generally, the MXE allows more flexibility for industrial uses (e.g., alcoholic beverage production, light industrial, self-storage), whereas the MXCD allows more flexibility for auto-oriented and residential uses (e.g., car wash; apartments, townhouses,

etc.). The proposed use permissions for the MXE versus the MXCD are outlined in Table 1. Uses which are proposed to be permitted by-right are denoted by a 'P'; uses which are proposed to be subject to certain conditions are denoted by a 'C'; uses which are proposed to require special permission from the Board of Appeals are denoted by an 'S'; and uses which are proposed not to be permitted under any circumstances have no letter assigned. (Additional information on uses and use permissions generally will be provided during the July 21 work session on Uses and Parking.)

Table 1. Comparison of Proposed MXE and MXCD Uses

Proposed Use	MXCD	MXE
Adult Day Care	P	P
Adult Oriented Establishment		
Alcoholic Beverage Production		C
Alcoholic Beverage Production, Limited	C	C
Alcoholic Beverage Retail Establishment	P	P
Ambulance service	P	P
Animal Boarding Establishment	C	C
Animal Grooming Establishment	P	P
Dwelling, Apartment	P	C
Artisanal Craft Production	P	P
Auctioneer and commercial gallery	P	P
Automobile Filling Station	S	S
Automobile Repair Establishment	C	C
Automobile and Recreational Vehicle Sales or Rental Establishment	C	C
Automobile towing establishment		
Backyard Chicken Coop	C	C
Bank	P	P
Bed and Breakfast	C	C
Car Wash	P	
Cemetery		
Charitable or Philanthropic Institution	P	P
Child Care Center	P	P
Child Care Home	P	P
Cottage Court (NEW)		

Crematorium		
Cultural Institution	P	P
Data Center or Data/Crypto Currency Mining		
Dormitory		
Drive-Through Window	C	C
Dwelling Unit, Accessory	C	C
Dwelling, multiplex	P	P
Dwelling, Single-Unit Detached	C	C
Dwelling, Townhouse	P	C
Eating and Drinking Establishment	P	P
Educational Institution, Private	P	P
Electric Vehicle Charging Station	P	C
Event Spaces, Clubs, and Lodges	P	P
Food preparation establishment	P	P
Funeral home	C	
General Warehousing		
Group Home, Large	S	S
Group Home, Small	P	P
Health and Fitness Establishment	P	P
Home-Based Business Enterprise	C	C
Home Maintenance Service	P	P
Hospital	P	P
Hotel	P	P
Industrial, Heavy		
Industrial, Light		P
Instructional Facilities	P	P
Junk Yard		
Housing for senior adults and persons with disabilities	P	P
Life Care Facility	P	P
Live/Work Unit	P	C
Medical Clinic	P	P
Medical or dental laboratory	P	P

Mobile Commercial Use	C	C
Mobile Use	C	C
Office	P	P
Outdoor sales & storage	C	C
Park	P	P
Pawnbroker		
Personal Care Facility	P	P
Personal living quarters	P	P
Professional Services	P	P
Public Utility Structure	P	P
Recreational Facility, Indoor, Commercial	P	P
Recreational Facility, Outdoor, Commercial	P	P
Religious Assembly	P	P
Renewable Energy Systems	C	C
Research and Development	P	P
Retail Establishment	P	P
Self-Storage Facility		C
Shooting Gallery		
Shopping Center	P	P
Structured Parking Lot, Off-Street	C	C
Studio	P	P
Surface Parking Lot, Off- Street	C	C
Swimming Pool	C	C
Temporary Uses	C	C
Theater	P	P
Tobacco and vape shops	C	C
Veterinary Services	P	P
Walk-up Windows	P	P
Wholesale Establishment	C	C
Wireless communication facility entirely within an existing building or on the roof or side of a building, or attached to an existing structure	C	C
Wireless communication facility not located entirely within an existing building or on the roof or side of a building, or attached to an existing		

structure, including, but not limited to antennas on a freestanding ground mounted antenna support structure	
Wireless communication freestanding ground mounted antenna support structure	S S

Descriptions of Existing and Proposed Zones

This document provides brief descriptions of Rockville's existing and proposed Euclidean zoning districts. Additional information for zones as they currently exist can be found in the city's Zoning Ordinance at library.municode.com/md/Rockville.

Existing Zones

Industrial, Heavy (IH): Higher impact industrial zone. Max. base height of 70'.

Industrial, Light (IL): Lower impact industrial zone allowing live-work units. Max. base height of 40'.

Mixed-Use Transit District (MXTD): Intended for use in areas near Metro stations, it allows for high-density development of retail, office, and residential uses consistent with the recommendations of the Plan. Max. base heights of 120'.

Mixed-Use Employment (MXE): Intended for areas that are either currently developed or are recommended for development primarily for office, light industrial, industrial park, and similar employment-generating uses, this zone also allows for medium to high density development of office, retail, and residential uses. A mix of office and residential uses, including live/work units, is encouraged. Max. base height of 120'.

Mixed-Use Corridor District (MXCD): Intended for areas along major highway corridors outside of the Mixed Use Transit District Zone areas, it allows for medium density development of retail, office, and residential uses. Because of the nature of highway corridor areas, the zone provides flexibility in the siting of buildings relative to major roadways and other site requirements to accommodate service drives and required parking. Max. base height of 75'.

Mixed-Use Corridor Transition (MXCT): Intended for areas that are located between areas currently developed or recommended for development as medium to high-intensity development and areas developed or recommended for residential development or parks within residentially zoned areas. This zone allows for medium density development of residential and office uses, as well as neighborhood-serving retail and service uses. Max. base height of 75'.

Mixed-Use Business (MXB): Intended for areas that are either currently developed or recommended for development primarily for retail sales, neighborhood services, home improvement services, and compatible residential development in areas convenient to both higher-density commercial zones and single-unit detached residential uses. This zone allows for a range of densities as determined by the applicable master plan and permits retail, service, office, and residential uses. Max. base height of 55'.

Mixed-Use Neighborhood Commercial (MXNC): Intended for sites that are either currently developed or recommended for development primarily for local retail and service uses in areas either within or in close proximity to single unit detached residential uses. This zone allows for low to moderate density development of retail, service, office, and residential uses. This zone is not intended to provide for major employment, so office uses are limited. Max. base height of 45' to 65'.

Mixed-Use Transition (MXT): Intended for areas that are located between moderate or high-density development and single-unit detached residential neighborhoods. This zone allows for development of low density multi-unit, attached and townhouse residential development, and may include other neighborhood-serving uses. Max. base height of 35'.

Mixed-Use Commercial (MXC): Intended for sites that are either currently developed or recommended for development primarily for local retail and service uses in areas either within or in close proximity to single-unit detached residential uses. This zone allows for low density development of retail, service, office, and residential uses. This zone is not intended to provide for major employment, so office uses are limited. Max. base height of 30'.

Park (PARK): A zone placed on all city parks and recreation areas to provide for open space, recreational, and other compatible uses.

Residential-400: Allows single unit detached dwellings with a 40,000 square feet minimum lot area. Max. base height of 40'.

Residential-200: Allows single unit detached dwellings with a 20,000 square feet minimum lot area. Max. base height of 40'.

Residential-150: Allows single unit detached dwellings with a 15,000 square feet minimum lot area. Max. base height of 40'.

Residential-90: Allows single unit detached dwellings with a 9,000 square feet minimum lot area. Max. base height of 35'.

Residential-75: Allows single unit detached dwellings with a 7,500 square feet minimum lot area. Max. base height of 35'.

Residential-60: Allows single unit detached dwellings with a 6,000 (or 5,000) square feet minimum lot area. Max. base height of 35'.

Residential-40: Allows single unit detached and duplex dwellings with a 4,000 square feet minimum lot area. Max. base height of 35'.

RMD (Residential Medium Density)-Infill: Allow a diverse range of housing types, including duplexes, multiplexes (up to four units), and townhouses, in addition to single-unit detached dwellings. Proposed to allow cottage courts. Max. base height proposed to be 30' for cottage court dwellings, 35' for duplexes and triplexes, and 40' for fourplexes.

RMD-10: 20,000 square feet minimum tract area; Allows single-unit detached, semi-detached, townhouses, two-unit, and multiple-unit residential dwellings up to 10 dwelling units/acre. Max. base height of 35'.

RMD-15: 1-acre minimum tract area; Allows detached, attached, two-unit, and multiple-unit residential dwellings up to 15 dwelling units/acre. Max. base height of 40'.

RMD-25: 2-acre minimum tract area; Allows detached, attached, two-unit, and multiple-unit residential dwellings up to 25 dwelling units/acre. Max. base height of 75'.

Proposed Zones

- A new, high-density residential zone, limited to residential uses, is appropriate for the remainder of the site to permit new investment and upgrades, though it should not result in resident displacement. Max. base height proposed to be 75'.
- A new zone to allow only residential and office uses, with multi-family residential a conditional use on properties with existing residential structures to avoid demolition of existing historic structures. Proposed to be called the Mixed Use Residential-Office ("MXRO") zone. Max. base height of 35'.
- A new 'family' of MXTD zones (see description above), to be called the MXTD-85, MXTD-200, and MXTD-235. Max. base heights proposed to be 85', 200', and 235', respectively.



Zoning Ordinance Rewrite & Comprehensive Map Amendment

Work Session #3:

New zones; Revisions to existing
zone standards; Height transitions;
and Comprehensive Map
Amendment (Part 2)

May 5, 2025

Presentation Outline



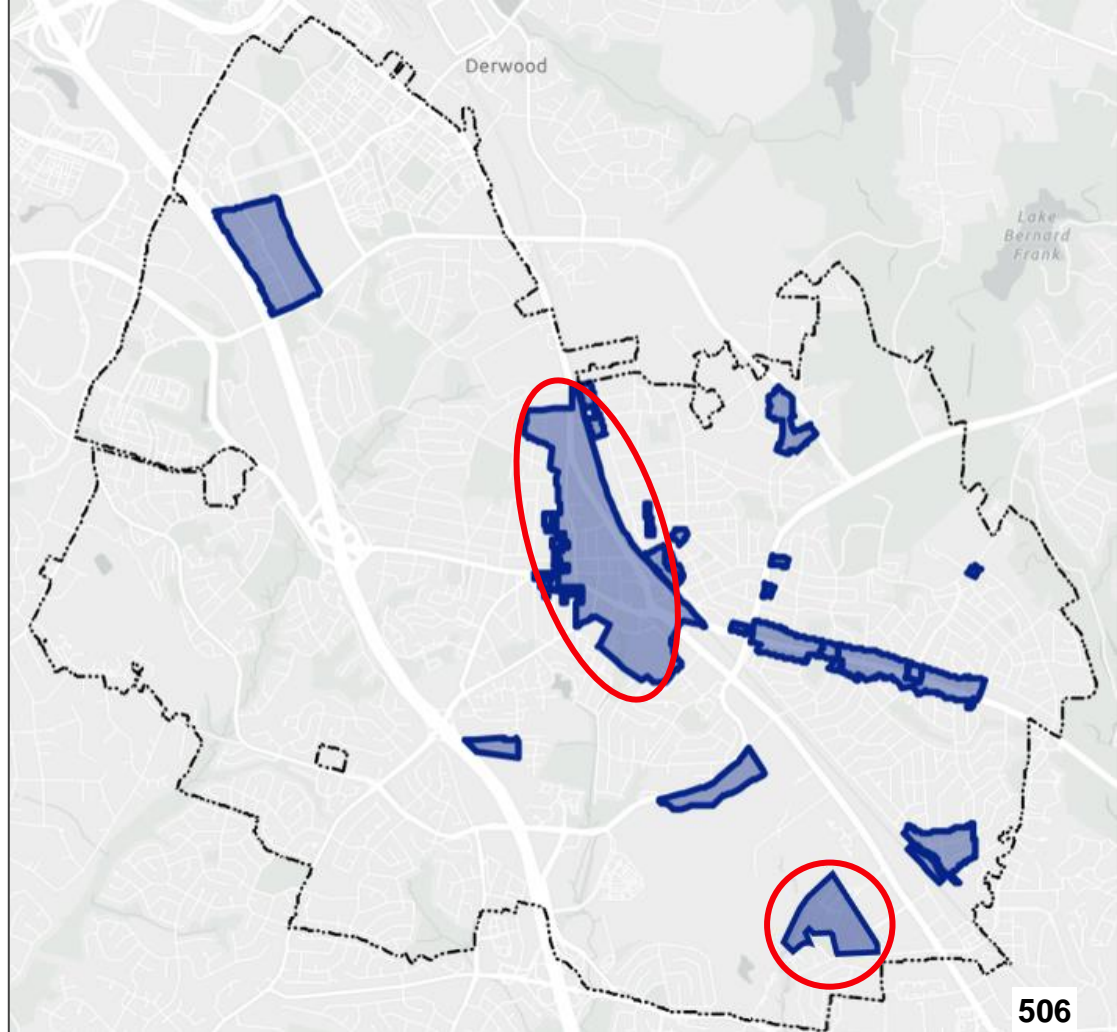
- ▶ Project Timeline
- ▶ Review of Previous Work Session
- ▶ New Zones (Town Center, High-Density Residential)
- ▶ Building Height Transitions to Residential Zones
- ▶ Revisions to Existing Zone Standards
- ▶ Comprehensive Map Amendment (Part 2)

Project Timeline



Previous Work Session

- ▶ Proposed Comprehensive Map Amendment
- ▶ Received general support for most areas with a need for additional outreach
- ▶ **Now:** Review new zones (including Town Center), existing zones, and specific proposed rezonings



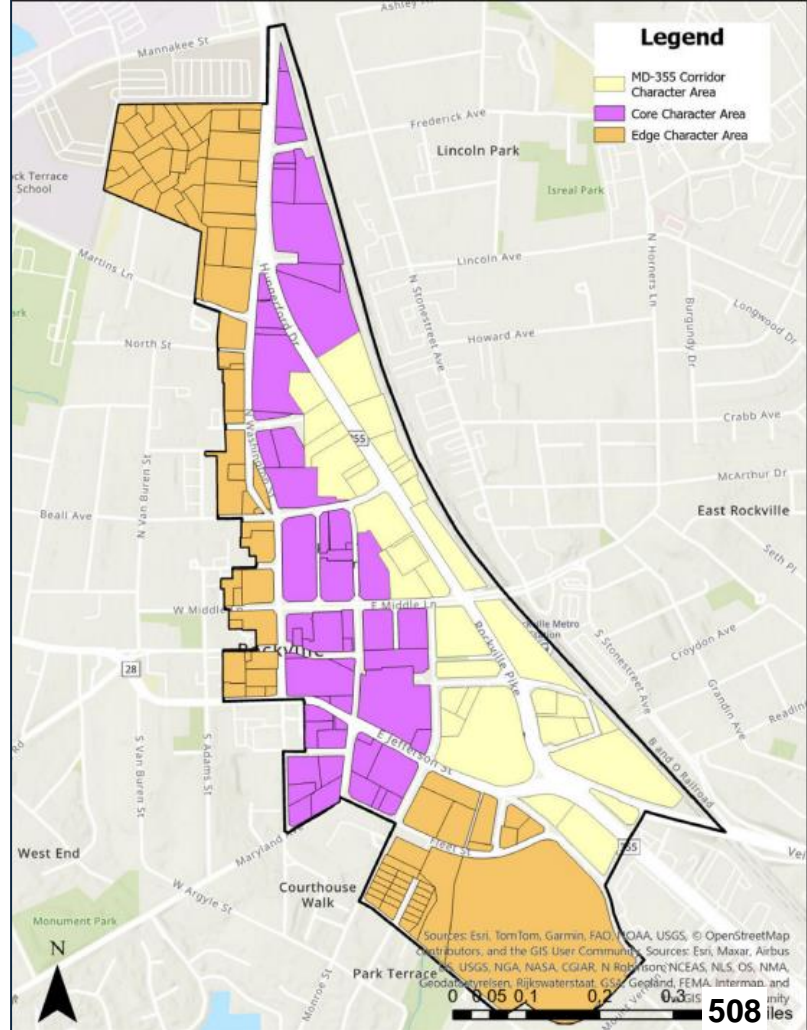
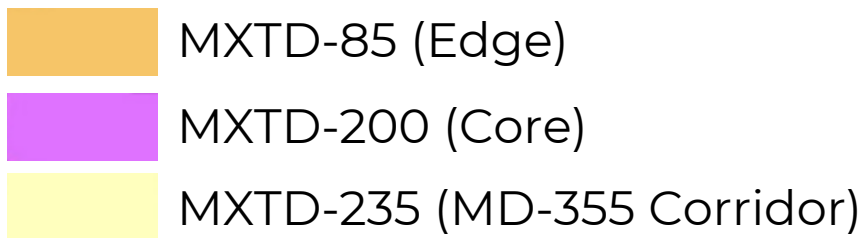
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New Zones


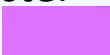

New Zones

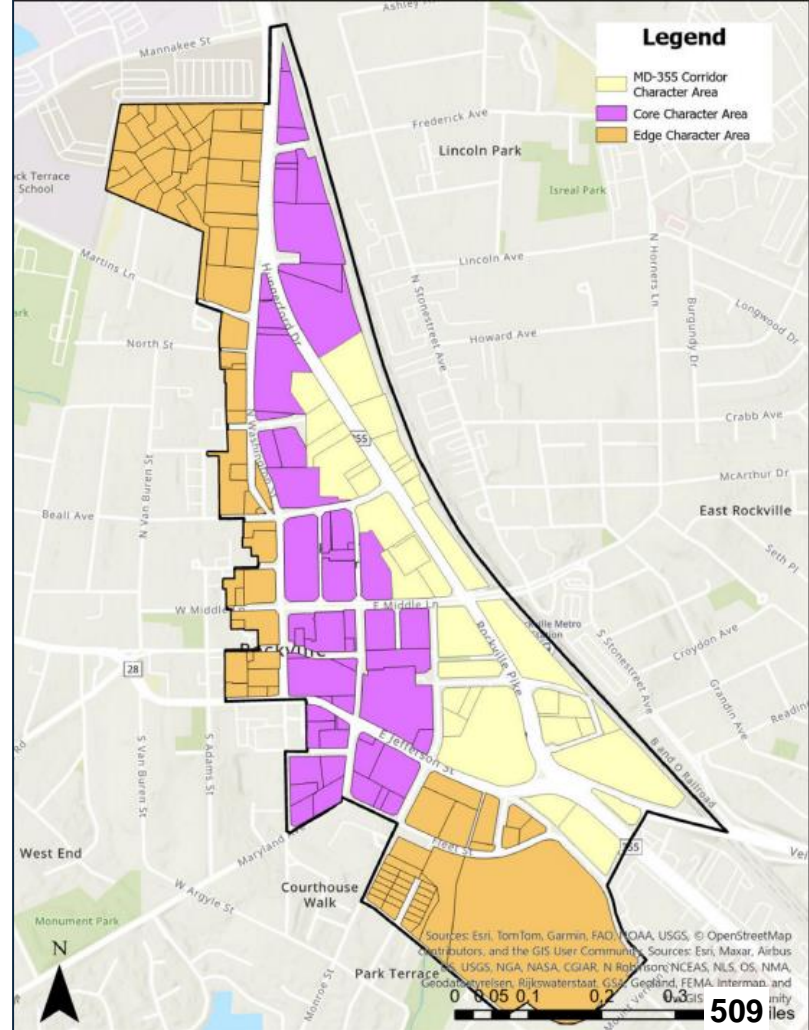
A 'Family' of Mixed-Use Transit District (MXTD) Zones

- ▶ Most walkable, transit-oriented zone
- ▶ Expand MXTD to 3 new zones to correspond with TCMP character areas



New Zones

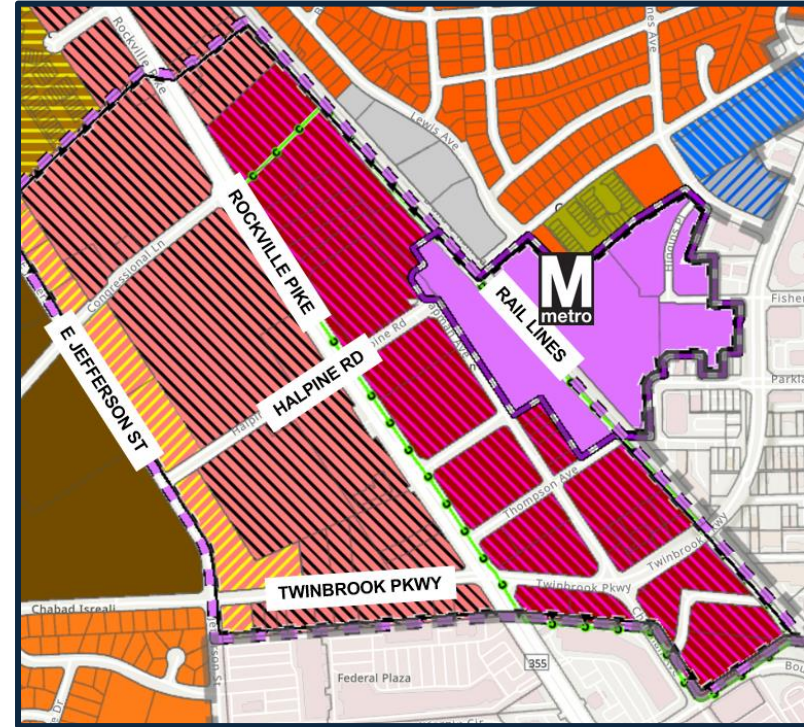
Character Area	Proposed Zone	Base Height	Bonus Height
Edge Character Area 	MXTD-85	85 feet	50 feet
Core Character Area 	MXTD-200	200 feet	100 feet
MD-355 Corridor Character Area 	MXTD-235	235 feet	100 feet



MXTD-235 (Twinbrook and Shady Grove)



- ▶ Recommended due to Town Center zoning
- ▶ Supported by Comprehensive Plan
- ▶ *Base height:* Increase from 120' to 235'
- ▶ *Bonus height:* Increase to 100' for affordable housing or Champion Project



New Zones



A 'Family' of Mixed-Use Transit District (MXTD) Zones

1. Is a 'family' of MXTD zones, varied by height, appropriate for Town Center?
2. Should the MXTD-235 be applied to the MXTD properties at Twinbrook and Shady Grove?

New Zones



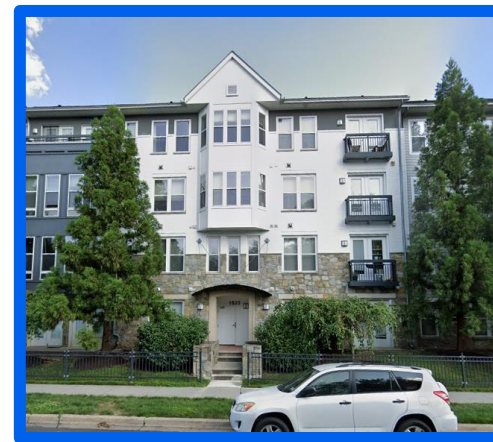
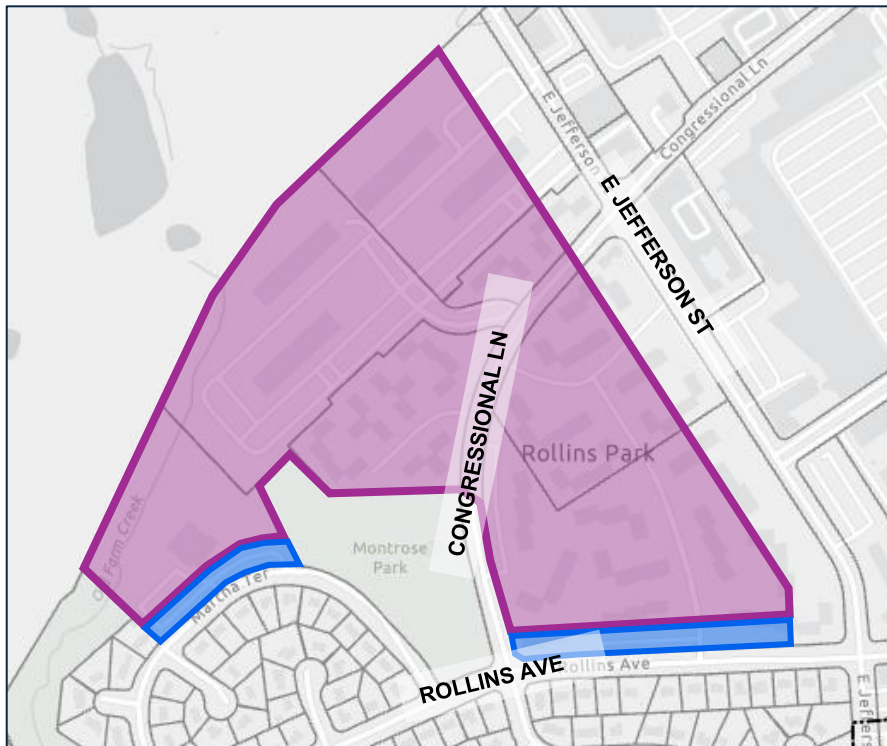
Residential High Density (RHD)

- ▶ Recommended by Comprehensive Plan
- ▶ Revised from initial proposal
- ▶ Residential uses
- ▶ Height:
 - ▶ 75' max
 - ▶ 45' within first 100' from property line when abutting/confronting single-unit residential
- ▶ Density:
 - ▶ 50 dwelling units/acre



New Zones

Residential High Density (RHD)





New Zones

Residential High Density (RHD)

Are the density and height transitions recommended for the RHD appropriate?

Height Transitions

Current Height Transitions



Provisions for transitions, typically from single-unit residential
“Layback slope” required from lower- to higher-intensity uses

- Undermines/inconsistent with Comprehensive Plan objectives, Climate Action Plan, and Town Center Master Plan recommendations

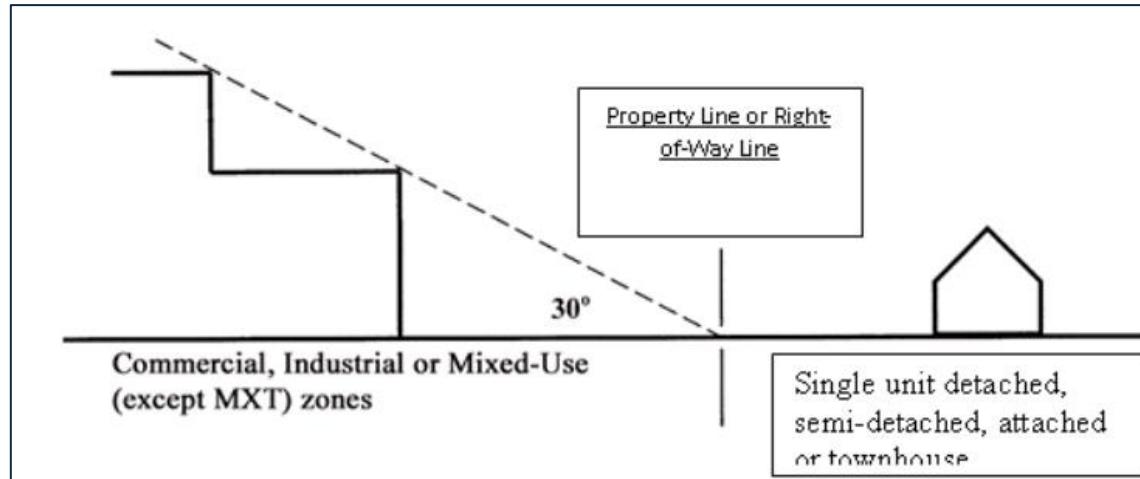
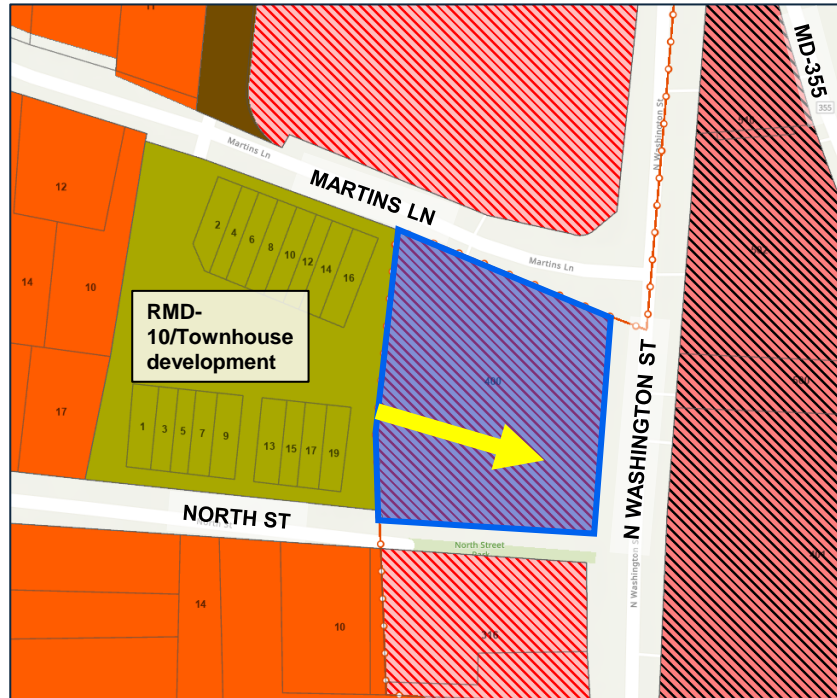


Illustration of Issues with Layback Slope

400 N. Washington Street Case Study



- ▶ Size: 1.07 acres
- ▶ Width: 205'
- ▶ Zoning:
 - ▶ Current: MXNC
 - ▶ Proposed: MXTD-85
- ▶ Allowable height
 - ▶ Current: 45-65'
 - ▶ Proposed: 85' (135' with bonus)
- ▶ Layback slope prevents development in accordance with plan recommendations



Distance from Abutting Property Line	Allowed Height with Layback Slope	Equivalent Number of Stories (estimated)
10 feet (existing setback)	5.7 feet	0
20 feet	12 feet	1
61 feet	35 feet	2 – 3
78 feet	45 feet	4
112 feet	65 feet	5 - 6
147 feet	85 feet	7 - 8
233 feet	135 feet	11 - 12

To build to the 45' height currently allowed with MXNC zoning, would need to be 78' in from the western property line (roughly 2/5 into property).

To get to 85' height proposed under the MXTD-85 zoning, would need to be 147' (roughly 3/4) into property.

It would not be possible to construct to maximum bonus height.



Distance from Abutting Property Line	Allowed Height with Layback Slope	Equivalent Number of Stories (estimated)
10 feet (existing setback)	5.7 feet	0
20 feet	12 feet	1
61 feet	35 feet	2 – 3
78 feet	45 feet	4
112 feet	65 feet	5 - 6
147 feet	85 feet	7 - 8
233 feet	135 feet	11 - 12

To build to the 45' height currently allowed with MXNC zoning, would need to be 78' in from the western property line (roughly 2/5 into property).

To get to 85' height proposed under the MXTD-85 zoning, would need to be 147' (roughly 3/4) into property.

It would not be possible to construct to maximum bonus height.

Proposed Height Transition

Modern proposal to ensure transitions from lower- to higher-intensity buildings

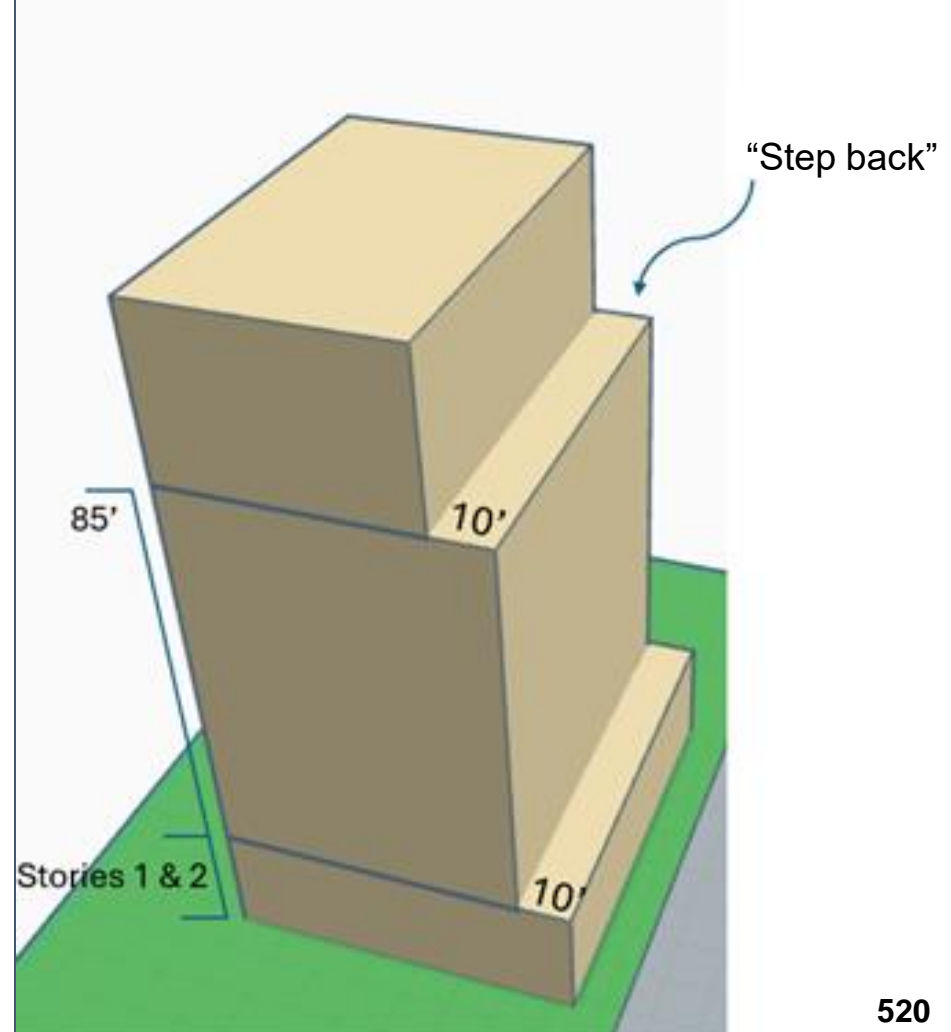
Facilitate the achievement of Plan policies and goals

Allows developments to reach allowable heights while mitigating impact

Proposal

Buildings of 50' or greater must "step back" 10'

- ▶ After the second story
- ▶ At 85'

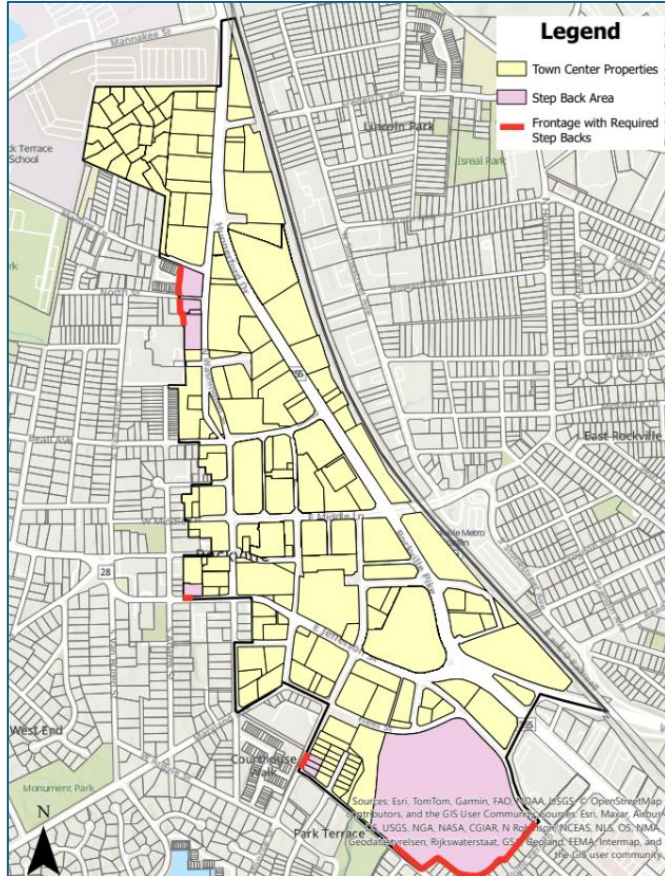


Proposed Height Transitions – When it Applies

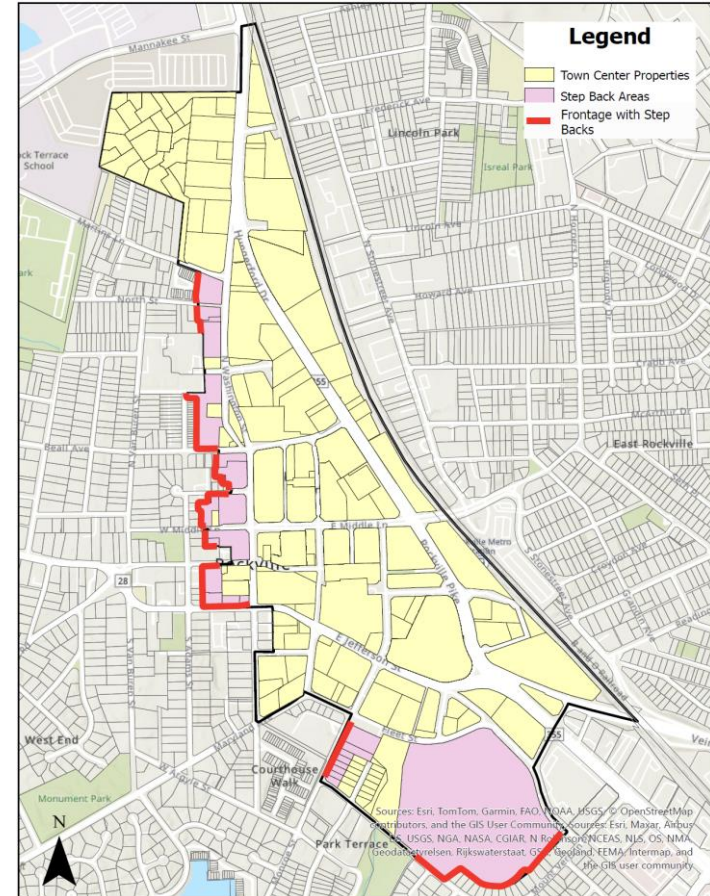


Height Transitions Apply to:	When abutting or confronting properties developed with single-unit, duplex, or townhouse dwellings in the...
MXTD-235	
MXTD-200	• R-400
MXTD-85	• R-200
MXCD	• R-150
MXCT	• R-90
MXE	• R-75
MXB	• R-60
MXNC	• R-40
RMD-25	• RMD-Infill
I-H	• RMD-10
I-L	• RMD-15

If not applied from MXT, MXRO –Staff's Proposal



If applied from MXT, MXRO



MXTD Height



1. Are the height transitions appropriate?
2. Should a height transition apply from the MXT or MXRO zone?

Revisions to Existing Zone Standards

Housing Expansion & Affordability Act (HEAA)



Qualified project	If you provide...	HEAA benefit
Located within 0.75 miles of a passenger rail station	20% of housing units deed-restricted affordable for min. 40 years	30% height bonus
Controlled by a nonprofit or located on land owned by a nonprofit	25% of housing units deed-restricted affordable for min. 40 years	

Revisions to Existing Zone Standards



Light Industrial: Increase base height from 40' to 60'

- ▶ Ensure regulations support retention and growth of industrial uses
- ▶ Allow more flexibility for limited/highly sought-after I-L land

Design Requirements

- ▶ Increase clarity, specificity, and enforceability
 - ▶ Facades, materials, architectural treatment, windows, doors, etc.
- ▶ Add provisions for alternative compliance

RMD-Infill



Allows for a diversity of 'missing middle' housing

- ▶ Single-unit detached and other 'house-scale' dwellings (duplex/triplex/fourplex, townhouse)
- ▶ Proposed to add 'cottage courts'

Development allowed on lots of any size

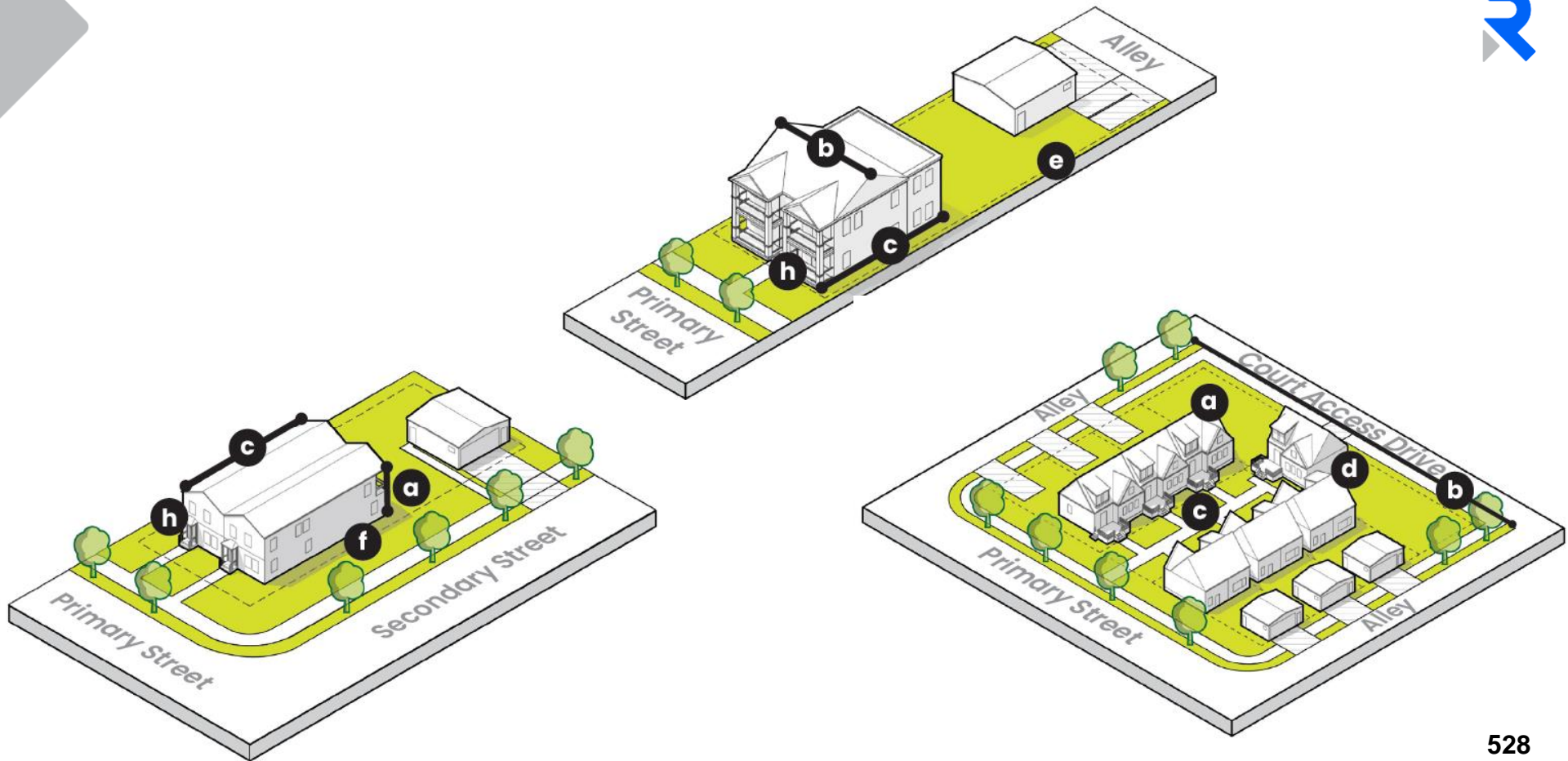
Limited design standards

Height

- ▶ Cottage court: 30'
- ▶ Duplex, triplex: 35'
- ▶ Fourplex: 40'

Setbacks

- ▶ Front: 15'
- ▶ Side: 5' (can be reduced)
- ▶ Rear: 5'





Revisions to Existing Zone Standards

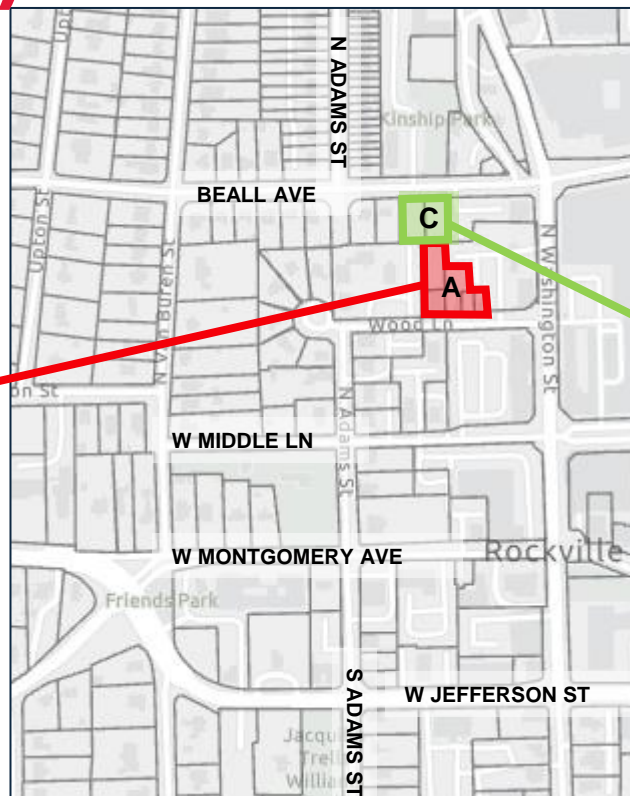


RMD-Infill

Do you continue to be supportive of the RMD-Infill zone as proposed?

Comprehensive Map Amendment (Part 2)

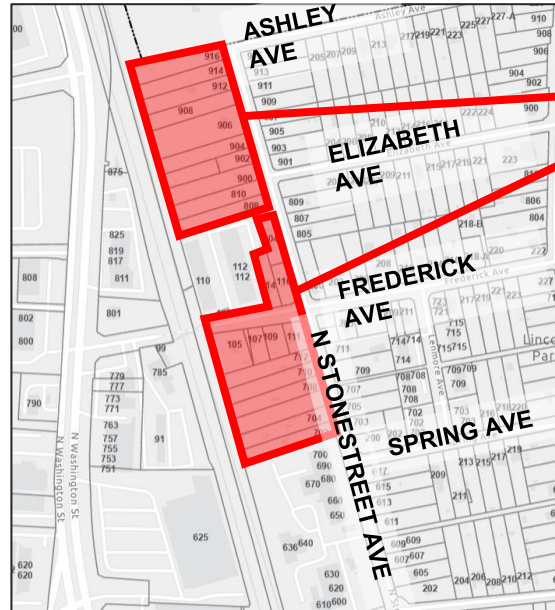
Planning Area 4 (West End and Woodley Gardens E-W)



Current Zone: MXT
Comp Plan Rec: New
zone
Proposed Zone: RO

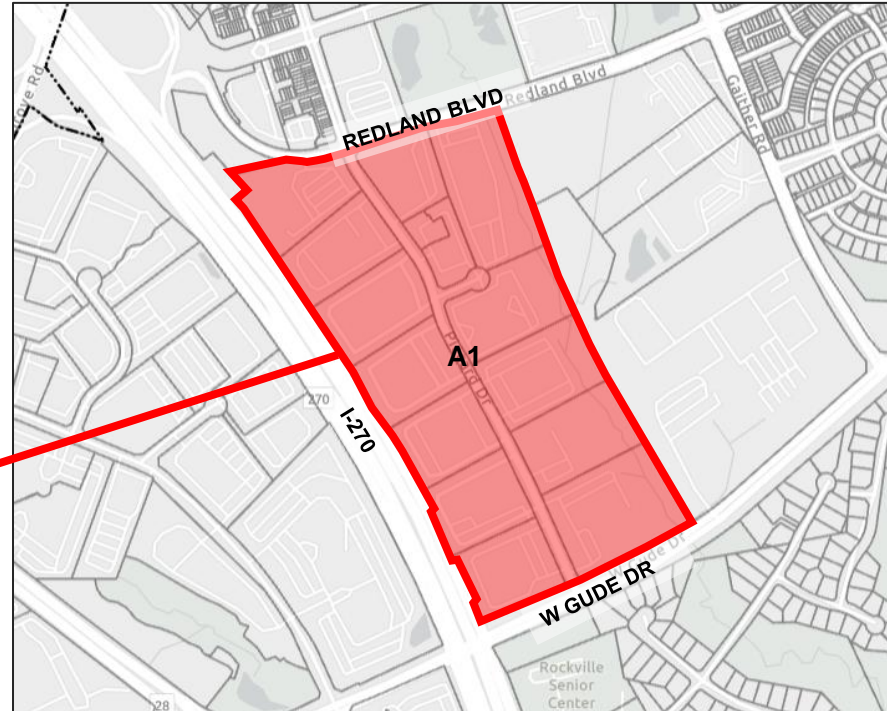
Current Zone: MXT
Comp Plan Rec: R-60
Proposed Zone: R-60

Planning Area 6 (Lincoln Park)



Current Zone: R-60
Comp Plan Rec: New
zone
Proposed Zone: RMD-Infill

Planning Area 16 (King Farm & Shady Grove)



Current Zone: MXE
Comp Plan Rec: MXCD
Proposed Zone: MXCD

Comprehensive Map Amendment (Part 2)

Are there any remaining concerns or questions related to the Comprehensive Plan recommended rezonings that the Mayor and Council requested to revisit?

Questions?



MAYOR AND COUNCIL Meeting Date: May 5, 2025

Agenda Item Type: MOCK AGENDAS

Department: CITY CLERK/DIRECTOR OF COUNCIL OPERATIONS OFFICE

Responsible Staff: SARA TAYLOR-FERRELL

Subject

Mock Agenda

Recommendation

Staff recommends the Mayor and Council review and provide comment.

Attachments

Mock Agenda 5.12.25 (Rev.2).pdf



MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Meeting No. 13-25
Monday, May 12, 2025 - 5:30 PM

MOCK AGENDA

Agenda item times are estimates only. Items may be considered at times other than those indicated.

Any person who requires assistance in order to attend a City meeting should call the ADA Coordinator at 240-314-8108.

Translation Assistance

Individuals who wish to participate in-person at Mayor and Council meetings during Community Forum or Public Hearings and who may need assistance with translation service other than English, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280, 3 business days prior to the meeting date (the Wednesday before the Monday meeting) or email at cityclerk@rockvillemd.gov, or by using this form: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/FormCenter/City-Clerk-11/Sign-Up-for-Translation-Assistance-at-Co-368>

Note: In-Person Speakers will be called upon to speak before those who have signed up to speak virtually for Community Forum and Public Hearings.

In-Person Attendance

Community members attending in-person who wish to speak during Community Forum, or a Public Hearing, should sign up using the form at the entrance to the Mayor and Council Chamber. In-person speakers will be called upon in the order they are signed to speak and before virtual speakers.

Viewing Mayor and Council Meetings

The Mayor and Council are conducting hybrid meetings. The virtual meetings can be viewed on Rockville 11, Comcast, Verizon cable channel 11, livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11, and available a day after each meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand.

Participating in Community Forum & Public Hearings:

If you wish to submit comments in writing for Community Forum or Public Hearings:

- Please email the comments to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov no later than 10:00 am on the date of the meeting.

If you wish to participate virtually in Community Forum or Public Hearings during the live Mayor and Council meeting:

1. Send your Name, Phone number, For Community Forum and Expected Method of Joining the Meeting (computer or phone) to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov no later than 10:00 am on the day of the meeting. Each speaker will receive 3 minutes.
2. Send your Name, Phone number, the Public Hearing Topic and Expected Method of Joining the Meeting (computer or phone) to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov no later than 10:00 am on the day of the meeting.
3. On the day of the meeting, you will receive a confirmation email with further details, and two Webex invitations: 1) Optional Webex Orientation Question and Answer Session and 2) Mayor & Council Meeting Invitation.
4. Plan to join the meeting no later than approximately 20 minutes before the actual meeting start time.
5. Read for <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/38725/Public-Meetings-on-Webex> meeting tips and instructions on joining a Webex meeting (either by computer or phone).
6. If joining by computer, Conduct a WebEx test: <https://www.webex.com/test-meeting.html> prior to signing up to join the meeting to ensure your equipment will work as expected.

Participating in Mayor and Council Drop-In (Mayor Ashton and Councilmember Shaw)

The next scheduled Drop-In Session will be held by phone or in-person on Monday, May 19 from 5:15-6:15 pm with Mayor Ashton and Councilmember Shaw. Please sign up by 10 am on the meeting day using the form at: <https://www.rockvillemd.gov/formcenter/city-clerk-11/sign-up-for-dropin-meetings-227>

1. **Convene - 5:30 PM**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Proclamation and Recognition - 5:35 PM**
 - A. Proclamation Declaring May 4-10, 2025, as National Public Service Recognition Week
 - B. Proclamation Declaring May 11-17, 2025, as National Police Week in Rockville, Maryland
 - C. Proclamation Declaring May 11-17, 2025, as Women's Health Week in Rockville, Maryland
 - D. Proclamation Declaring May 11-18, 2025, as Taiwanese American Heritage Week
 - E. Proclamation Declaring May 19-23, 2025, as National Public Works Week
 - F. Proclamation Declaring May 17, 2025, as National Kids to Parks Day in Rockville, Maryland

- G. Proclamation Declaring May 19, 2025, as Greek Genocide Remembrance Day in Rockville, Maryland
- H. Proclamation Declaring May 2024, as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland
- I. Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month
- J. Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Building Safety Month in Rockville, Maryland
- K. Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as National Bicycle Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland
- L. Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Jewish American Heritage Month
- M. Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Lyme Disease Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland
- N. Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Mental Health Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland
- O. Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Older Americans Month in Rockville, Maryland
- P. Proclamation Declaring May 2025 as National Preservation Month in Rockville, Maryland
- Q. Proclamation Declaring May 2025, as Stroke Awareness Month in Rockville, Maryland

4. Agenda Review - 6:30 PM

5. City Manager's Report - 6:35 PM

6. Boards and Commissions Appointments and Reappointments - NONE

7. Community Forum - 6:45 PM

8. Special Presentations - 7:05 PM

- A. District 17 2025 State Legislative Session Wrap-Up Presentation

9. Consent Agenda - 7:50 PM

- A. Award and Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with Mead & Hunt, Inc., a Wisconsin corporation, in the Amount Not to Exceed \$686,972.02 for an initial term through December 31, 2026, with the option to renew for two additional years, subject to approval as to legal form by the City Attorney.
- B. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Real Estate Permit with Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to Install Window Decals on the Pedestrian Bridge Over MD-355

- C. Award and Authorize the City Manager to Execute, a Rider Contract with Motorola Solutions, Inc., of Chicago, IL, in substantially the form attached, as approved by the City Attorney, in the Amount Not to Exceed \$1,129,061.80, for the Purchase and Delivery of Replacement Portable and Mobile Radios in accordance with the Pricing Structure, Terms, and Conditions of Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Contract #21-069.

10. Public Hearing - NONE

11. Action Items - NONE

12. Worksession - 7:55 PM

- A. Annexation Petition ANX2023-00147 - Conduct a Work Session on the proposed Annexation Plan with a presentation from the Fiscal Impact Consultants for the Shady Grove Metro Station and CSX Transportation Properties.

13. Mock Agenda - 8:55 PM

14. Old / New Business - 9:00 PM

15. Adjournment - 9:15 PM