

**City of Rockville**  
**Leadership Planning Team Meeting Notes**  
**April 13, 2026**

**Meeting Participants:**

Mayor Ashton  
Councilmember Jackson  
Councilmember Van Grack  
Jeff Mihelich, City Manager  
Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations  
Barack Matite, Deputy City Manager  
Dave Gottesman, Assistant City Manager

**Agenda Review**

**April 13, 2026 Meeting Agenda**

**Comment:** City Manager suggested moving the budget worksession scheduled for this meeting to next Monday, April 20, to better balance the agendas

**Responses:** Councilmember Jackson agrees; Mayor Ashton encouraged flexibility; and Councilmember Van Grack commented that it makes sense but wanted to make sure the correct item is being moved (budget worksession versus ZOR worksession) because of the need to do budget reconciliation

**Response:** City Manager said we should do the ZOR tonight and that will keep that process on schedule

**Response:** Mayor Ashton said the June 29 meeting with the City of Gaithersburg is flexible and there should be 3-4 weeks for the public to be able to review the draft ZOR

**Response:** City Manager said we will move the budget worksession to next week; there will be time to get it done

**Response:** Mayor Ashton requested to know the date(s) of the State-required budget-related deadline(s)

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**April 20, 2026 Meeting Agenda**

**Comment:** Mayor Ashton asked the City Manager to let the body know about the other annexation areas besides Shady Grove

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### **Review and Comment on the Six Month Agenda Planning Calendar**

**Comment:** Mayor Ashton asked to confirm that feedback from tonight on the ZOR comes back to them on May 4

**Response:** City Manager said not exactly; rather, on May 4 we are covering Articles 1-5 and asked the body to refer to the email previously sent by him that contains the entire ZOR process schedule

**Comment:** Mayor Ashton said she would like the public to have 3-4 weeks to review the draft ZOR, saying she has heard from some people that they are nervous about the time that will be allowed for review, and also that the current adoption date is right after a holiday [July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend] and we might need to use the June 29 meeting

**Response:** Councilmember Jackson agrees with the Mayor based on the size of the document, and because we want to get it right it's OK to take a few extra weeks

**Response:** City Manager agrees that we might need more time and that's OK

**Comment:** Mayor Ashton asked if we could do a Certificate of Appreciation for the District 17 Delegation; the City Clerk acknowledged the request

**Comment:** Councilmember Van Grack asked if we have any interaction with the District 39 Delegation who has a very small piece of the city in their district

**Comment:** Mayor Ashton asked if there could be coordination on next year's Arbor Day proclamation