

**City of Rockville
Leadership Planning Team Meeting Notes
May 19, 2025**

Meeting Participants:

Mayor Ashton
Councilmember Jackson
Councilmember Shaw
Councilmember Valeri
Jeff Mihelich, City Manager
Robert Dawson, City Attorney
Sara Taylor Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations
Barack Matite, Deputy City Manager
Dave Gottesman, Assistant City Manager
Linda Moran, Assistant to the City Manager

Agenda and Mock Agenda Review

May 19, 2025 Meeting Agenda

Comment: The City Manager reviewed the May 19 agenda.

Comment: Mayor Ashton noted the timing of 35 minutes for the 41 Maryland Avenue Project Plan briefing and the cannabis item is an underestimation. The discussion will need to be brief. She shared an article with her colleagues regarding the County's approach to cannabis regulation. She noted it would be helpful to have staff's opinion on the County's approach.

Comment: Councilmember Valeri supports the Mayor's comments. The 41 Maryland Avenue Project Plan briefing will be a long discussion. She would also allot more time on the agenda for the cannabis item.

Comment: Mayor Ashton noted a reminder that the fourth grade Mini Mayor will be at the meeting tonight and the Mayor and Council are excited about welcoming her.

Comment: Councilmember Valeri noted the scheduling of the worksessions is aspirational. At a minimum, she would schedule the REAP worksession for one hour and the Elections worksession for one hour.

Comment: Mayor Ashton indicated that she supports Councilmember Valeri's comments.

Response: The City Manager thanked the elected officials for their comments.

June 2, 2025 Review of Mock Agenda

Comment: The City Manager reviewed the June 2 agenda.

Comment: Councilmember Valeri asked if the mental health specialist Consent item relate to the current agreement or the possible expansion.

Response: The City Manager stated it is the renewal of the current agreement.

Comment: – Councilmember Valeri mentioned for the public that it should be noted that several members of Mayor and Council have brought up the accessibility of affordable childcare as an issue of interest. The childcare worksession relates to that request. She also asked if the Green Buildings Regulation worksession relates to LEED certified.

Response: The City Manager will follow-up on the question relating to LEED certification.

Review and Comment on Six Month Agenda Planning Calendar

June 9, 2025 Meeting

Comment: The City Manager reviewed the agenda. There were no questions or comments.

June 16, 2025 Meeting

Comment: The City Manager reviewed the agenda. He noted that the Mayor and Council have three opportunities to discuss Election Code Reform: May 19, June 16, and July 21. There were no questions or comments on this agenda.

July 7, 2025 Meeting

Comment: The City Manager reviewed the agenda. There were no questions or comments.

July 14, 2025 Meeting

Comment: The City Manager reviewed the agenda. There were no questions or comments.

General Comments on Agenda Review:

Comment: There were comments expressing interest in seeing Consent items scheduled on the six month calendar or separately for the public and elected to see. Staff was asked to provide additional information on what it would take to add the items.

Response: The City Manager noted in his experience in using the six month calendar in other jurisdictions, adding Consent items cluttered the calendar and made it challenging to see which items were coming up. He thanked the elected officials for their comments.

Comment: Mayor Ashton noted the REDI Agreement and the Town Center Management Agreement agenda need to be scheduled and completed by June 30, 2025.
