



# City of Bowie

2614 Kenhill Drive  
Bowie, Maryland 20715

## MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch *DJD*  
City Manager

SUBJECT: Prince George's County  
*Preliminary Public Safety Facilities Master Plan*

DATE: September 27, 2007

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Attached is a copy of the *Preliminary Public Safety Facilities Master Plan* produced by The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) for Prince George's County. The Plan will be the subject of a joint public hearing of the County Council and Planning Board on Tuesday, October 2, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the County Administration Building in Upper Marlboro.

On September 29, 2004, a public forum regarding the proposed *Plan* was held. The City sent the attached comment letter. City staff also attended a community meeting held at the Newton White Mansion on April 13, 2005. It would be appropriate to reiterate the recommendation previously made in the City's public forum comments dealing with alternative sources of funding for public safety facilities via a new surcharge or impact fee on commercial development, since those developments also benefit from public safety facilities and currently only residential development is required to pay the surcharge.

The *Preliminary Public Safety Facilities Master Plan* appears to address many issues raised by the City in the past regarding public safety facilities and response times. As recommended by the City, the Plan contains separate recommendations for the different land use policy tiers in the County and establishes prioritized recommendations tied to the Capital Improvement Program (CIP). It also provides guidelines for fire station size and design, rural firefighting water supply, police staffing standards and emergency response time standards.

### Recommendation

Because the *Preliminary Public Safety Facilities Master Plan* addresses a variety of issues of concern to the City, it is recommended that Council send the attached letter of **SUPPORT**.

Attachments



# City of Bowie

2614 Kenhill Drive  
Bowie, Maryland 20715

September 21, 2004

The Honorable Elizabeth M. Hewlett, Chairman  
Prince George's County Planning Board  
County Administration Building  
14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

RE: Public Safety Master Plan

Dear Chairman Hewlett *Betty*

The Bowie City Council is greatly pleased to see Prince George's County moving forward with an update to the *1990 Public Safety Master Plan*. The City Council recommended that this update be undertaken in our comments on the *Preliminary General Plan* in 2002 and at the Bowie Master Plan Public Forum held last year. There is a strong need to directly link a comprehensive, Countywide cumulative analysis of the emerging development pattern and necessary public facilities into an effective prioritization and programming of capital projects within the County's Capital Improvements Program (CIP).

The Bowie area is a classic example of how the rate of growth has greatly outpaced the ability to provide the needed public safety facilities and services. To effectively address this issue (discussed on page 8 of the Public Forum Information Brochure), the City Council believes that stricter standards for public facilities and services should be adopted and adhered to in the development process. Unique public facility standards should be created for each respective growth tier within the County, given that each of the three tiers has unique characteristics. Level-of-service standards should be developed that are based on measurable indices such as calls-for-service and persons-per-square mile. Policies should be developed that seek to offset the public sector's portion of providing public facilities, such as commercial development impact fees. Impact fee revenues should be used to resolve specific inadequacies in the area where the fees are collected.

We appreciate this opportunity to provide these early comments on the proposed *Public Safety Master Plan*.

Sincerely,

Bowie City Council  
G. Frederick Robinson  
Mayor

CC: *J* County Council Members

## **DRAFT**

October 2, 2007

The Honorable Camille A. Exum, Chair  
Prince George's County Council  
County Administration Building  
14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

The Honorable Samuel J. Parker, Jr. Chairman  
Prince George's County Planning Board  
County Administration Building  
14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

RE: *Preliminary Public Safety Facilities Master Plan*

Dear Chair Exum and Chairman Parker:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the *Preliminary Public Safety Facilities Master Plan* for Prince George's County. The Bowie City Council is greatly pleased to see Prince George's County moving forward with this important planning effort, and we support the wide range of recommendations contained in the plan. As we have stated often enough, there is a strong need to directly link a comprehensive, Countywide cumulative analysis of the emerging development pattern and necessary public facilities into an effective prioritization and programming of capital projects within the County's Capital Improvements Program (CIP). The *Preliminary Public Safety Facilities Master Plan* appears to do just that.

The Bowie area is a classic example of how the rate of growth has greatly outpaced the ability to provide the needed public safety facilities and services. The City Council appreciates the full funding of a new County Fire/EMS Facility on Health Center Drive in the Bowie Town Center area, and we look forward to the aggressive programming of funding for the proposed new station, known in the Plan as the "Woodmore Fire Station", to be located near the intersection of Mount Oak Road and Church Road. We also believe that policies should be developed that seek to offset the public sector's portion of providing public facilities, such as extending the public safety surcharge to apply to commercial development or creating a commercial development impact fee. Impact fee revenues should be used to resolve specific inadequacies in the area where the fees are collected.

The City Council appreciates your consideration of our comments, and we urge your approval of the *Plan* at the earliest opportunity.

Sincerely,

Bowie City Council  
G. Frederick Robinson  
Mayor

cc: The Honorable Ingrid M. Turner  
The Honorable Samuel H. Dean