

January 8, 2010

Dear Resident:

BGE has contacted the City about removing trees in the area that runs along the western side of Race Track Road from just south of Old Barn Road to the Hilltop Plaza Shopping Center. This area of proposed cutting is adjacent to your property.

Approximately 168 trees with a diameter greater than 8" will be removed as part of this project. Also, additional trees that are less than 8" that are ultimately expected to grow into the power lines will also be removed. The trees with a diameter greater than 8" proposed to be removed are marked with a ribbon. The trees to be removed are either hazardous trees (dead or dying) or are trees that are prone to cause power outages. Prince George's County, which has responsibility for street trees along County right-of-ways, has reviewed this proposed action and has issued a permit to BGE for these removals.

The removal of these trees will have a significant impact along this section of Race Track Road. The removal of this vegetation is necessary as part of the Bowie Electric Reliability Action Plan Improvements. For residents whose property backs up to Race Track Road, these removals are in addition to the removal of trees on your property that BGE representatives have hopefully already spoken with you about.

To partially compensate for the loss of these trees, BGE has committed to provide 55 replacement trees along Race Track Road. Prince George's County has also proposed additional trees for replanting. Prince George's County is preparing a tree planting sketch plan for this replanting. This replanting will cluster trees in certain areas along this roadway. Trees for replanting will be selected so they do not ultimately grow into the power lines again. We anticipate this replanting to take place in the spring.

The City will provide a heavy-duty, bush hog type mowing along this area several times per year, depending on growth, to keep this area under better control than it has been in the past. Prince George's County will maintain their existing level of maintenance along this right-of-way.

It is anticipated that work will take place starting January 25th and take approximately one week to accomplish. City staff supports this proposed action. We would encourage you to view the area along Race Track Road and become familiar with the action that is being proposed in this area.

Should you have any questions about this proposed cutting, please contact Rick Kellner, the City of Bowie Forester at 240-216-1134 or myself at 301-809-3075.

Sincerely,

John L. Fitzwater
Assistant City Manager

cc: Bowie City Council
David J. Deutsch, City Manager
Rick Kellner, City of Bowie Forester
Wayne Lucas, Prince George's County
Chad Devine, BGE Forester
Sean Spera, Lewis Tree Service