

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Alfred D. Lott, ICMA-CM, CPM
City Manager

SUBJECT: ***Status Report*** DATE: March 24, 2022

Status Report

1. Economic Development Strategy

Staff received a first draft of the Economic Development Strategy from our consultants. Staff will meet with the consultants next week to review questions and comments from our initial review. The consultants will subsequently prepare a second draft. This project remains on-track.

2. Latest American Community Survey (ACS) Data for Bowie

On March 17th, the Census Bureau released the 2016-2020 American Community Survey Five-Year Estimates. The 2020 data reflect the Five-Year sample period ending December 31, 2020. Some of the demographic information available for Bowie is shown in the table below. The Five-Year Estimates are produced each year and are based on a sampling of the population over the previous five-year period. The data collected in the Five-Year Estimates is similar to the content of the “long form” previously used in the decennial census, and it is normalized to correspond to the December 31st release date. The 2016-2020 ACS estimates show a slight decline in City population and housing units. *Following pandemic-related data collection disruptions, the Census Bureau revised its methodology to reduce nonresponse bias in data collected in 2020. After evaluating the effectiveness of this methodology, the Census Bureau determined the standard, full suite of 2016–2020 ACS 5-year data are fit for public release, government and business uses. The revised methodology improves the 2020 weighted survey responses by comparing characteristics for responding and nonresponding households using administrative, third-party and decennial census data. This provides key insight into how those who participated may be different than those who did not and allowed an adjustment to make the data more representative of the entire population. The resulting 2020 input data were then integrated with the inputs from 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 (processed using standard ACS methodology) to produce the 5-year data products. The City’s population, according to the 2020 Redistricting data, included 58,329 people as of*

Census Day (April 1, 2020). If you have any questions about the ACS or have other Census informational needs, please contact the Planning Department.

ACS Variable	2013-2017 ACS	2014-2018 ACS	2015-2019 ACS	2016-2020 ACS
Total Population	58,290	58,368	58,481	58,158
Total Housing Units	21,330	21,678	21,874	21,458
Median Age	41.4	42.6	42.7	42.7
Population 65+ Years	14.1%	14.6%	14.8%	14.9%
One Race	96.4%	96.1%	95.6%	95.1%
% White (one race)	36.3%	36.4%	34.5%	31.9%
% Black or African American	53.2%	52.4%	53.2%	56.4%

3. Mill Branch Crossing Detailed Site Plan (DSP)

Today, the Prince George’s County Planning Board voted unanimously to approve the Detailed Site Plan for the residential component of Mill Branch Crossing. The DSP application includes construction of 408 multi-family apartment units and 190 townhouse dwelling units on approximately 71 acres of land located in the northeast quadrant of US 301 and Mill Branch Road. The Planning Board spent considerable time discussing green building techniques and workforce housing and encouraged the developer to address these elements in their project, to the extent possible. In addition, the Planning Board accepted the developer’s proffer to provide pet waste stations within the development. Commissioner Washington moved approval of the staff recommendation of approval, which was seconded by Commissioner Geraldo. Today’s Planning Board meeting was the last meeting for Chairman Elizabeth Hewlett, who is expected to be replaced next week by former County Council Member and current Revenue Authority Director Peter Shapiro. Chairman Hewlett thanked City staff for their participation in Planning Board hearings over the many years of her tenure.