



Memorandum

TO: City Council

FROM: Shelemiah Griffiths-Johnson
Youth Council Chair

SUBJECT: Bowie Youth Council Monthly Report

DATE: 03/31/2022

Good evening Mayor Adams, Council Members, City Officials, and Constituents. As you know, I am Chairman Shelemiah Griffiths-Johnson of the Bowie Youth Council.

On behalf of my fellow members of the BYC, I will be presenting an update on what we have accomplished this past month.

- Youth Council members continue to attend City committee meetings as time permits.
- The Youth Council is also following up on our request to get on schedule with the City Council schedule, for a meet and greet in order to establish more of a mentorship relationship with the council. We would appreciate a response from the Council on this request.
- We want to thank you all for approving our upcoming 1st ever Bowie Youth Council Townhall. We originally anticipated the date to be in March. Since our last Youth Council meeting, we voted to change the date to April 21st, 2022. We made this decision to give the anticipated changes in the COVID-19 guidelines to take effect, which will, in turn, allow us to have more attendees who have been approved for 100. We are more comfortable with the current date. Without question, each of you will receive an invitation, so please pencil in the date. We believe it will be a great opportunity for the youth to meet the City Council as well.
- The BYC Townhall subcommittee is comprised of Vice-Chair Enoch, Councilmembers Aidan, Olivia, Anabel, and myself. We are actively doing the planning for the upcoming event. This will give us an opportunity to speak directly with and involve the youth of Bowie in conversations surrounding their ideas and concerns. We do have a concern to bring to your attention. The subcommittee has been working hard. We requested that this event would be a hybrid event but due to city limitations in technology flexibility, this request could not be granted. We are truly disappointed that the city (IT and Communications) doesn't have the proper technology to facilitate this event as a hybrid event. As one of the wealthiest cities in Maryland we should be equipped with the right tools and make sure that resident tax dollars are going to areas that could enhance how best we serve our community. We are hoping this can be immediately resolved before our town hall in order to accommodate those who may want to join virtually.

Upcoming Events:

- Our first ever City of Bowie Youth Council Townhall, Youth-led on Thursday, April 21st, 2022 will be held at the Kenhill Center from 7 pm to 8:30 PM.

- The next order of business after the Youth Townhall will be the establishment of a BYC Bylaws subcommittee to create and establish bylaws for the Youth Council operations.

Thank you for your time and have a great evening.

ATTACHMENTS: None