



Memorandum

TO: City Council

FROM: Alfred Lott, City Manager

SUBJECT: Resolution R-20-22 Establishing the Bowie Race Track Property Task Force

DATE: 05/12/2022

Attached please find a copy of draft Resolution R-20-22 establishing the Bowie Race Track Task Force.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council adopt the attached Resolution (R-20-22).

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 20220516 - Resolution R-20-22
2. 20220516 - Exhibit A

RESOLUTION
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND
ESTABLISHING THE BOWIE RACE TRACK PROPERTY
TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 590 of the 2020 Laws of Maryland (Racing and Community Development Act of 2020), on or before December 31, 2023, the City is expected to become the record owner of the property known as the Bowie Race Course Training Center (the “Bowie Race Track Property”), which includes approximately 180.844 acres consisting of all of the land located at 8311 Race Track Road, 8406 Race Track Road, 8408 Race Track Road, 8410 Race Track Road, Bowie, Maryland, 20715; and

WHEREAS, as required by Chapter 590, the City and Bowie State University have agreed, through a Joint Use Agreement dated December 8, 2020, to cooperate in the planning for the development of future recreational uses on the property; and

WHEREAS, City and Bowie State University representatives mutually recommend the formation of a citizen task force, which would greatly assist in preliminary development planning and facilitating community input and dialogue concerning possible future uses, activities and events intended for the Bowie Race Track Property; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires the input and recommendations of a citizen Task Force as part of its long-term, inclusive planning process for recreational development of the Bowie Race Track property; and

WHEREAS, the recommended composition of the Task Force should include an executive steering committee to provide ongoing oversight, as well as representatives from area Homeowners Associations, City Committees and Bowie State University students, faculty and organizations; and

WHEREAS, a clear definition of the Task Force’s charge and estimated timeline will provide essential guidance and establish expectations for the group’s anticipated performance and outcomes.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland, that there is hereby established a Bowie Race Track Property Task Force, which shall be comprised of the following:

Executive Steering Committee – Representatives of the City and Bowie State University and a staff member of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC).

Bowie Community Engagement Subcommittee - Representatives from up to three homeowners/community associations in the vicinity of the property, as well as representatives from up to three city-wide community groups.

City Committees Subcommittee – A total of six representatives from the Community Recreation Committee, Environmental Advisory Committee and Green Team Executive Committee.

Bowie State University Subcommittee – A total of six representatives consisting of BSU students, faculty and/or staff, as appointed by the President of the University.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Bowie Race Track Property Task Force shall have the following specific charge:

- Review the results of the environmental investigation of the site.
- Develop a list of desired uses and their associated space needs by each entity.
- Develop a concept plan for the activation of the Bowie Race Track property, including programmatic elements, timeline for improvements and cost of improvements. As part of the concept plan, develop a prioritized list of desired uses and their associated space needs.
- Determine methodology for renewed community engagement efforts and serve as the central forum for community engagement and public input into the process.

AND, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Bowie Race Track Property Task Force shall complete its work generally over a 10 month period, as depicted on the Proposed Timeline contained in the attached Steering Committee Charge document (Exhibit A), with a final report submitted to the City Council by no later than July 1, 2023.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland, at a Regular Meeting on May 16, 2022.

Timothy J. Adams, Mayor

Attest:

Awilda Hernandez, City Clerk

EXHIBIT A to R-20-22
Bowie Race Track Property
Steering Committee Charge

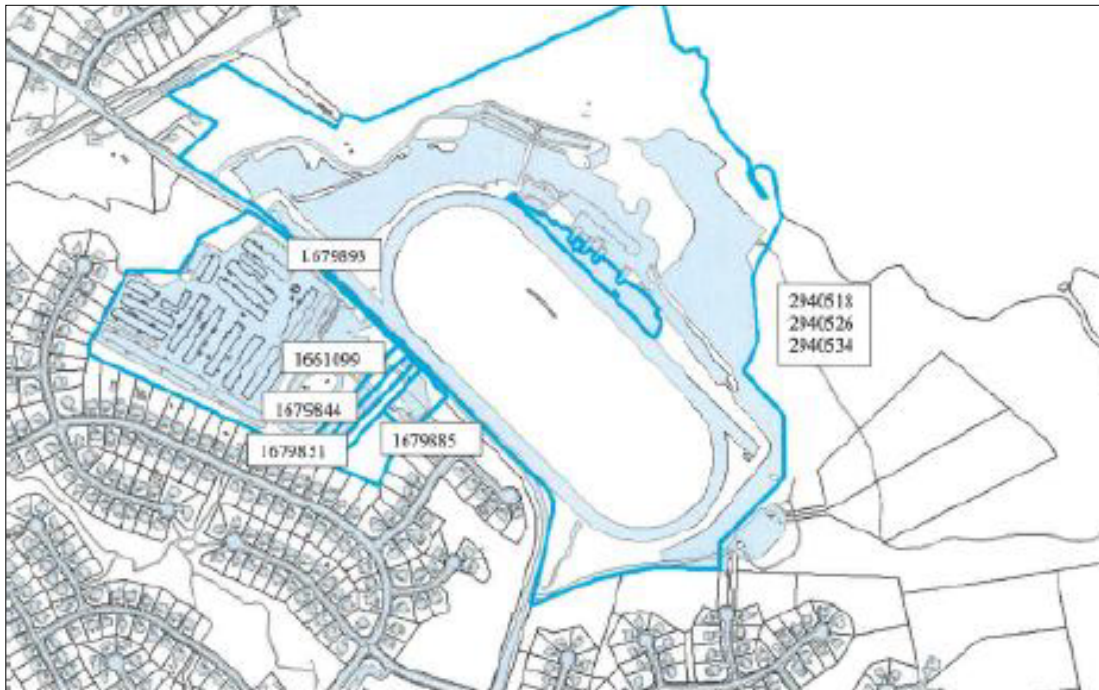
Overview

On or before December 2023, the City of Bowie (“the City”) is anticipated to take ownership of the Bowie Race Track property – a 180-acre parcel of land that previously was utilized as a horse racing facility. As part of the state legislation authorizing the transfer of the land, the City and Bowie State University (“BSU”) have entered into a Joint Use Agreement, outlining the desired uses of the property, improvements to the property and a high-level process for the City and BSU to work together on activation of the site. The Joint Use Agreement was executed in December 2020.

In order to begin the planning process, a steering committee made up of individuals jointly appointed by the City and BSU has been established. The purpose of this document is to establish a charge for the Steering Committee that will provide advice, feedback and guidance on the planning efforts to reuse the Bowie Race Track Property. The result of this steering committee will prepare the materials and feedback needed to execute a vision for the racetrack property that will become an amenity for both the City of Bowie and Bowie State University.

Map

A map of the Bowie Race Track property, the bounds of which makes up the geographic area of focus for the Steering Committee, is provided below.



Bowie Race Track Property

Steering Committee Charge

The Steering Committee, charged via resolution by the City of Bowie City Council, will include representatives from the City and BSU who will collaborate on planning efforts for the Race Track property. Specifically, the Steering Committee will:

- Review results of the environmental investigation of the site.
- Develop a list of desired uses and their associated space needs by each entity.
- Develop a concept plan for the activation of the Bowie Race Track property, including programmatic elements, timeline for improvements and cost of improvements. As part of the concept plan, develop a prioritized list of desired uses and their associated space needs.
- Determine methodology for renewed community engagement efforts and serve as the central forum for community engagement and public input into the process.

Structure & Committee Make Up

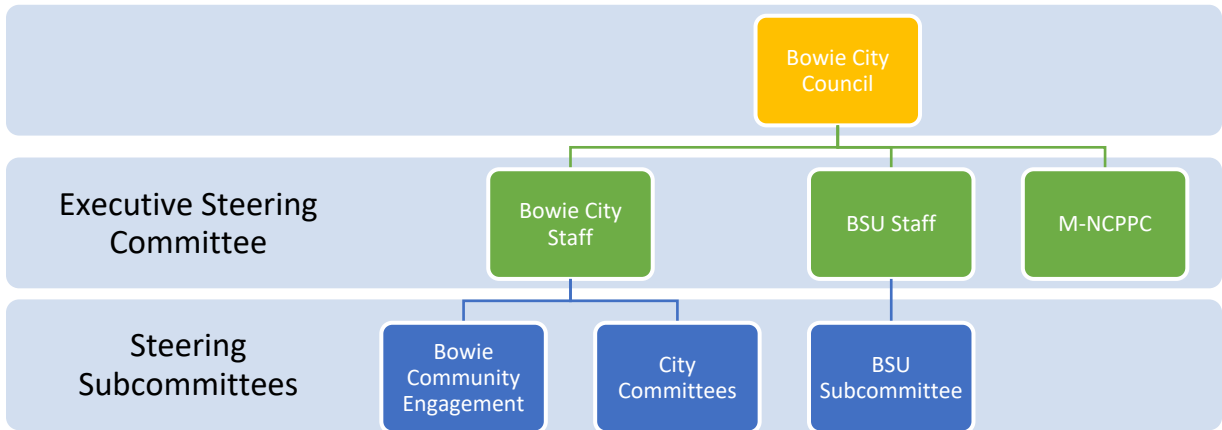
The Steering Committee will be governed by an Executive Committee that is overseen by the City Council. The Executive Committee will lead the effort in the actions and milestones necessary to fulfill the charge of this group. In order to maximize involvement in this process, the Executive Committee will also delegate tasks to a series of subcommittees to support specific actions.

The Executive Committee will be made up of representatives from the following groups:

- The City of Bowie - City Council
- The City of Bowie – Staff
- Bowie State University – Staff
- Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission
- Subconsultants to either entity as directed by the City or BSU

To engage further with Bowie residents and BSU students/faculty, a series of subcommittees will be formed who will operate under and report to the Executive Committee. Three initial subcommittees have been identified; the number of subcommittees may change in the future to best meet the charge and goals of the Steering Committee.

- **Bowie Community Engagement Subcommittee** - Representatives from up to three (3) homeowners/community associations in the vicinity of the property, as well as representatives from up to three (3) city-wide community groups.
- **City Committees Subcommittee** – A total of six (6) representatives from the Community Recreation Committee, environmental Advisory Committee and Green Team.
- **Bowie State University Subcommittee** – A total of six (6) representatives consisting of BSU students, faculty and/or staff, as appointed by the President of the University.



Steering Committee Structure

Proposed Timeline

Due to the preliminary nature of this Charge, the team has begun to pull together a timeline with milestones being the key measure of the progress being made. Overtime, durations and dates will be associated with this timeline, but currently the group is tracking through milestones only and estimated beginning and completion.

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Milestones	Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4	Month 5	Month 6	Month 7	Month 8	Month 9	Month 10
Approve funding for predevelopment activities on the race track property to the City of Bowie's FY23 budget.	X									
Complete environmental testing on the site		X	X	X	X	X	X			
Develop a remediation plan and cost estimate for the site.								X	X	X
Create a joint, prioritized list of desired uses with their associated space needs.	X	X	X							
Identify potential funding mechanisms for improvements from sources such as the State, the County, M-NCPPC, research grants, etc.		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Determine any additional partners to the effort and incorporate those individuals into the Steering Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate.				X	X					
Determine methodology for renewed community engagement effort.	X	X	X							
Begin renewed community outreach on the site.			X	X	X	X				
Develop concept plan for site improvements.						X	X	X	X	X