

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: *Status Report*

DATE: June 25, 2015

Status Report

1. Huntington Community Center Transportation Program

The City of Bowie has volunteered to provide transportation on Friday and Saturday evenings from July 10 thru August 15 for the upcoming Extreme Teen Safe Summer Program. The City will pick up youth at the Huntington Community Center at approximately 9:30 p.m. and deliver them to the Bowie Community Center directly, with a return trip pick up at 11:45 p.m. back to the Huntington Community Center. On Saturday evenings, the pick- up will occur at 7 p.m. from Huntington Community Center, and travel directly to the Bowie Community Center with a return trip back to Huntington Community Center at 11:45 p.m. At this time staff anticipates one senior center bus will be needed for this effort each evening. Total City costs, payroll and fuel combined are approximately \$1,100.

2. Walmart SE #4734 Approved by District Council

At their Monday meeting, the Prince George's County District Council approved an Order of Approval for the Walmart Special Exception application. The vote was 7-2 (Tavares and Toles opposed). Council Member Toles reiterated her issue that the existing Walmart store site should be used for the larger store. Council Member Todd Turner moved approval of the Order of Approval, Council Member Davis seconded the motion. Wal-Mart is required to obtain approval of a Special Exception for a department or variety store over 125,000 square feet in the C-S-C (Commercial Shopping Center) zone. Walmart intends to construct a 186,933 sq. ft. Walmart store on a 24.90-acre site, which is part of the 73.98 property known as Mill Branch Crossing, located in the northeast quadrant of US 301 and Mill Branch Road. There will be a 30 day appeal period (that will start from the date of the notice of the decision) for any person of record to file an appeal to the Circuit Court.

3. Backyard Habitat Tour and NWF Certification Reimbursement Program Results

The City of Bowie supported the Bowie Gardens for Wildlife fourth "Annual Backyard Habitat Tour" on June 13th. For the tour, a few residents opened their yards and habitats to the public to show how they are providing food, water and shelter for wildlife. Green Team Executive Committee members staffed a tour location at the Monarch Waystation garden that was planted

next to City Hall last year. There were 82 attendees that visited at least one tour site. The habitat tour is part of a larger effort for the City of Bowie to become a National Wildlife Federation (NWF) Community Wildlife Habitat and, in order to achieve that status, at least 200 residents in Bowie need to certify their yards as NWF Wildlife Habitats. There are now about 175 total homes certified in Bowie. In FY15, the City Council agreed to reimburse the \$20 certification fee for up to 50 homeowners. This year's program has concluded, and there were 41 residents that applied and received reimbursement from the City.

4. FY15 Bowie Energy Audit Program Update

All \$10,000 allocated to fund 100 BGE residential energy audits for interested Bowie homeowners was spent in FY15. Collectively, energy savings estimates from installs provided during the energy audits (CFL light bulbs, low-flow shower heads and aerators, pipe insulation, etc.) are 37,184 kWh and 608 therms saved or roughly \$5,206 in electricity and \$790 in gas saved. There will be the potential for more energy savings from the program if participants choose to apply for additional BGE energy efficiency rebates within one year. Those additional rebates are provided for completing home improvements such as adding insulation, air sealing, upgrading heating and cooling equipment, etc. Further energy savings information for those improvements will be provided to the City from BGE. The Bowie Energy Audit Program for FY16 will begin in July 2015.

5. Private Residential Stormwater Management Inspection

This week Public Works sent out notices and inspection forms to 64 homeowners in the Hamptons at Woodmore Community whose lots contain rain gardens. In accordance with our Stormwater Management Ordinance, these homeowners are required to have their rain gardens inspected by a licensed landscape architect or professional engineer once every three years to insure that they are functioning as intended. These reports are due back to Public Works by September 4, 2015. Staff will make a presentation at the July meeting of the HOA to explain this process and answer any questions.

6. City Election

Resident Karl H. Stehmer filed his candidacy paperwork for District 1 Council seat on June 23, 2015.

7. Autozone Preliminary Plan of Subdivision

Today, the Prince George's County Planning Board conducted a public hearing on Preliminary Subdivision Plan #4-13027 for a proposed AutoZone retail store in the western portion of the Home Depot parking lot. The City Council conducted a public hearing on this case on June 15th, recommending approval with conditions. At the conclusion of today's hearing, the Planning Board voted unanimously to approve this Preliminary Plan. The Board's action included both of the City's conditions. Commissioner Washington moved for approval; her motion was seconded by Commissioner Bailey.