

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: *Status Report*

DATE: July 23, 2015

1. Wal-Mart Special Exception Appeal to Circuit Court

On July 16, 2015 the opposition in Special Exception 4734, through their counsel, G. Macy Nelson, filed a Petition for Judicial Review in the Circuit Court for Prince George's County. On June 22, 2015 the Prince George's District Council voted 7-2 (Toles, Tavares opposed) to approve the Special Exception application. 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. Wal-Mart intends to construct a 186,933 sq. ft. 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.

2. FY16 Hydrant Replacement Program

The Utilities Division of the Public Works Department is in need of 4' 6" complete hydrants and 4' 6" hydrant inserts as part of its FY16 Hydrant Replacement Program. Staff located a contract for Kennedy Hydrants with HD Supply Waterworks, LTD through the City of Rockville (RFP #20-12), upon which we will be able to piggyback. A purchase order will be issued to HD Supply Waterworks, LTD in the amount of \$24,817.50. This is within the FY16 budgeted amount of \$35,000. As provided in Section 62 of the City Charter, this will serve as the required seven (7) day notice of intent to purchase these hydrants and inserts.

3. County Legislation Update

On Tuesday, July 21st, the Prince George's County Council took action on several legislative bills of interest to the City. The County Council approved CB-27-2015, a bill providing for alternate development regulations as to the location, density, size, height, and other provisions for buildings and structures in the M-X-T zone. The bill also deletes existing language of Footnote #7 of the Use Table, which establishes a cap on the number of townhouse units shown on a Detailed Site Plan to no more than 20% of the total number of units in the total development. This proposal will affect many properties in the M-X-T zone, but the most obvious applicability is to the recently rezoned Amber Ridge site, which is adjacent to the City. CB-27 passed unanimously, and the motion included a clause making the bill effective upon its approval. A similar piece of legislation, CB-53-2015, presented by Council Member Derrick Davis, raises the cap on

townhouse development in the R-S (Residential Suburban) Comprehensive Design Zone from 20% to 35%, under certain circumstances. Another bill, CB-60-2015, concerning multi-family development in the C-S-C (Commercial Shopping Center) zone was presented by Council Member Todd Turner. This is the legislation that will allow Berman Enterprises to construct residential units at Bowie Marketplace more expeditiously than under current regulations. City Council supported this effort when it was described by Brian Berman at the May 18th City Council Meeting. The bill will go through the public review process in September. Another bill, CB-61-2015, presented by Council Member Andrea Harrison, requires a reevaluation of adequate public facilities tests for transportation which are more than ten years old. According to the County Council agenda, the anticipated first County Council Session after the August recess is September 9th and the anticipated first District Council Session after the August recess is September 21st.

4. Bowie Fire Department Training at 13104 10th Street - Saturday, July 25th

On Saturday, July 25th the Bowie Fire Department will be conducting training utilizing the vacant building located at 13104 10th Street in the Huntington section of Bowie. This joint effort, between the City of Bowie and the Bowie Fire Department, provides realistic and valuable training that could otherwise not be recreated using a fire training facility. The training will begin at 8:00 a.m. and is expected to be completed by 4:00 p.m.

In order to prepare the property for the training, several risk mitigation measures have been taken. Asbestos siding and shingles have been abated, debris has been removed from around the building, the porch to the rear of the structure has been reinforced, and access to the basement has been restricted.

Due to other risk factors that could not be diminished, there will be no use of live fire during this training event. Units from the Bowie Fire Department will use non-toxic smoke generated from a smoke simulating machine to create a realistic environment for the firefighters. During the training, there may be some visible evidence of the synthetic smoke but it will cause little to no disruption to any of the adjacent residents.

Training for the firefighters will include:

- Advancement of hoselines
- Search and Rescue
- Roof ventilation
- Laddering techniques
- Pump operations

Every effort will be made to reduce any inconvenience for the residents along 10th Street. The greatest potential for disruption will be restricted movement of traffic due to the fire apparatus. The Bowie Fire Department prepared a letter to be distributed to the residents surrounding 10th Street and delivery of those letters began on Tuesday, July 21st.

5. City Election

Resident James Scott Hessberger, Jr. filed his candidacy paperwork on July 17th for Council District 3.

Attachment



The Bowie Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad Incorporated

6710 Laurel Bowie Rd #990
Bowie Maryland 20718
301-809-0122 voice 301-809-0123 fax

July 21, 2015,

Dear Local Resident:

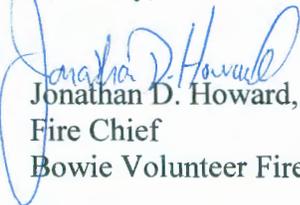
The Bowie Volunteer Fire Department will be conducting a training exercise in your neighborhood on Saturday, July 25, 2015, from 8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. Specifically, the house located at the following address will be used for training through the use of controlled training exercises to include simulated smoke from a smoke machine. Ultimately, the house will be demolished.

The house is located at 13104 10th Street.

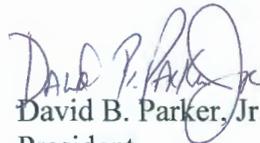
This exercise might produce a minor inconvenience to you. Among them could be: traffic congestion along 10th Street, or discoloration in your water while the exercise is going on, due to the use of a fire hydrant along 10th Street. This exercise in no way will involve live burning or any associated smoke from burned material.

We appreciate your support during this valuable training experience. If you have any questions regarding the event, please do not hesitate to contact me at any one of the contact points listed below.

Sincerely,


Jonathan D. Howard, Sr.
Fire Chief
Bowie Volunteer Fire Department

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President
Bowie Volunteer Fire Department

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