

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: *Status Report*

DATE: August 6, 2015

1. Backyard Compost Bin Program Underway

To encourage backyard composting, the City will be selling 320 backyard compost bins at the discounted price of **\$20 per bin**. Retail costs of compost bins can be upwards of \$80 - \$100. A lower price is available because the City along with a local nonprofit, Newspaper in Education Institute (NIE Institute), were able to reduce the cost of bins by negotiating a bulk purchase price and subsidizing the already reduced cost. The FY 2016 Budget allocated funds for subsidizing the cost of bins. Compost bins can be purchased at City Hall any time it is open and during Special Event Days at the Bowie Farmers' Market. Payment is by cash or check, but after 5 p.m. and on weekends, payment must be made with a check: no cash will be accepted. Residents in the incorporated City limits can purchase up to two bins per address, and the bins must be placed in backyards.

2. Digital Speed Signs

Public Works is relocating the digital signs to: **Jordon Pond Lane** (fr. Peach Walker Drive); **Old Barn Road** (fr. Cherrywood Lane); **Rustic Hill Drive** (fr. Rambling Lane); **Knowledge Lane** (fr. Blackwell Lane); **Driftwood Lane** (fr. Apple Green Lane); **Pleasant View Drive** (fr. Long Ridge Lane).

3. Executive Summary from Financial Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

On July 1, 2015 the Financial Advisory Committee held a regularly scheduled meeting. The Committee decided to clear their current annual schedule to focus on an outreach program to increase community awareness and involvement, as well as what they believe is their core responsibility, the City's budget. The Committee will pursue a plan to get a booth at the 2015 Bowie International Festival in order to conduct a survey and provide informational materials.

4. Stakeholders Meeting – Children of America Detailed Site Plan (#DSP-15004)

On Wednesday, August 5th, a Stakeholders Meeting was held to review the above application. The proposal is to demolish the existing vacant bowling alley at Free State Shopping Center, and construct a 12,500 sq. ft. day care center and a 10,000 sq. ft. outdoor play area. At Wednesday's meeting, five members of the applicant's team were present. One resident, Mr. Mike Rauck, who writes a blog regarding development issues in Bowie, attended the meeting. No other members of the public were present. Public hearings for this DSP are scheduled for: Tuesday, August 25th at 7:00 p.m. (BAPB); and, Tuesday, September 8th at 8:00 p.m. (City Council).