

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: *Status Report*

DATE: November 19, 2015

1. Purchase of Road Deicing Salt

The Public Works Department has located a contract for the purchase of road deicing salt with Montgomery County (IFB# 1041647) through two (2) vendors, upon which we will be able to piggyback.

The current price for salt with Morton Salt, Inc. (Primary Vendor) is \$66.78/ton and we intend to purchase up to 1,450 tons as needed this winter. We will sign a contract and issue a purchase order to Morton Salt, Inc. in the amount of \$96,831.

The current price for salt with Eastern Salt Co., Inc. (Secondary Vendor) is \$77.10/ton. We will sign a contract and issue a purchase order to Eastern Salt Co., Inc. in the amount of \$10,000. As provided for in the Montgomery County contract, the secondary vendor would serve only as a backup salt supplier should the primary vendor be unable to fulfill a required order.

This is within the amount budgeted for FY16 in the Public Works Streets Operating Supplies Account. As provided in Section 62 of the City Charter, this will serve as the required seven (7) day notice of intent to purchase.

2. Strategic Planning

The last City Strategic Plan was completed in 2005. Council recognized that it is time to prepare a follow-up document, and funds were included in the FY16 Budget (\$25,000) to retain a facilitator.

A proposal has been submitted by Christine Becker, a Washington, DC based consultant, to assist in developing a new Strategic Plan. The proposal is within the budget allocation. Ms. Becker has recently worked with the City of Greenbelt, the Town of Berlin, and the Maryland Municipal League on similarly focused projects.

The process would launch in February 2016. It is expected to be completed by May of next year. There will be an opportunity for citizen input, senior staff involvement and, of course, Council participation.

3. Midwood Lane Pond Stakeholders Meeting

City staff and its contractor held a Stakeholders Meeting on Wednesday, November 18th at the Kenhill Center to discuss upcoming changes to the existing Midwood Lane stormwater facility. The pond drains 100 acres, of which half is impervious and includes parts of Somerset, much of Bowie High School, the Belair Swim & Racquet Club, and some smaller commercial facilities along Route 450. Due to State stormwater permitting requirements, the City is upgrading the facility to a wet pond by slightly enlarging the footprint, adding a pre-treatment pool (forebay), and regrading to make the side slopes less steep. The wet pond will reduce the discharge rate of the average (two-year) storm to the receiving waters, Millstream Branch, by nearly one-third and will also reduce the amount of pollutants like nitrogen and phosphorus that enter the stream.

More than 200 letters were mailed to nearby property owners including businesses, residents and other interested parties announcing the meeting. Four residents and a representative of the Belair Swim and Racquet Club were in attendance. After discussing the goals and plans for the project, staff answered questions about the potential for mosquitoes, stream impacts below the pond, types of vegetation to be planted, additional maintenance needs, and access to the pond by the community after construction. Currently at the 30% concept plan stage, construction cost estimates are around \$600,000 but may change.

4. Planning Board Results

On Thursday, November 19th, the Prince George's County Planning Board conducted a public hearing on the Detailed Site Plan (DSP) for the Children of America day care center (#DSP-15004). (The subject site is located in the rear portion of Free State Shopping Center, where an existing vacant bowling alley is situated. The owner/applicant, Federal Realty Investment Trust, will demolish the existing bowling alley and construct a new 12,500 sq. ft. day care center with a 10,000 sq. ft. outdoor play area.) The City Council conducted a public hearing on this case on September 8th, recommending approval with conditions. All of the City's conditions were included in the Park and Planning staff report. At the conclusion of the Planning Board's hearing, Commissioner Washington moved for approval of the DSP. Her motion, seconded by Commissioner Bailey, passed unanimously.