

Bowie News Flash Update

September 16, 2016

News

Whitemarsh (Jesuit Property) Stakeholders Meeting – September 26

The City of Bowie will host a Stakeholders Meeting at City Hall on Monday, September 26 at 7 p.m. about a rezoning application submitted by Elm Street Development. The company has contacted the City of Bowie about its interest in building a residential development on three parcels of land on the north and south sides of MD 450, east of Race Track Road on the Whitemarsh Property. This area is commonly known as the Jesuit property. The proposed development would consist of 440 single-family detached and townhouse units.

The developer has submitted a rezoning application to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission to change the zoning from R-E (Residential Estate) and R-A (Residential Agricultural) to R-S (Residential Suburban) Comprehensive Design Zone (CDZ) for single family detached and single-family attached dwelling units. This zone is the same planned development technique used in the existing communities of Northridge, Highbridge, and Bowie Town Center.

The Zoning Map change is only one of several review processes that the developer will need to go through before being granted permission to build on these parcels. The review processes are County ones; however, the City of Bowie does provide input to the County before decisions are made. The one aspect of the development that is within the City of Bowie's authority to decide is access to water and sewer service. The property is not within the municipal limits of Bowie. The developer will be requesting connection to the City's water and sewer facilities in order to build the development. The development must be annexed into the City in order to connect to City water and sewer facilities.

This Stakeholders Meeting is being organized by the City of Bowie to make sure that residents are kept informed about this proposed development. For more information about the Stakeholders Meeting on September 26th or about the various review processes that Elm Street Development will be required to go through for this project, please contact the City of Bowie Planning Department at 301-809-3047.

Houses of Worship Tour – Sunday, September 18, noon to 5 p.m.

From the earliest days of Bowie, our history has been intertwined with the houses of worship that were established here. From Sacred Heart Chapel, to the churches that were constructed on land donated by the Levitt Corporation in the 1960s, to Temple Solel, which hosts the only remaining Jewish congregation in Bowie, houses of worship have been part of making developments into communities for decades, and in the case of Sacred Heart Catholic Church and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, for centuries.

This Sunday, September 18, from 12 to 5 p.m., 10 local houses of worship will participate in a Bowie Houses of Worship Tour. Visitors will have the rare opportunity to visit several different

houses of worship that afternoon, learn about their history, view the special features of their structures, and perhaps find out about how they are involved in supporting the local Bowie community.

Visitors can make their way to the participating houses of worship on their own. The shuttle bus service for the tour has been canceled due to a lack of interest. A list of the participating houses of worship will be available that day at the Senior Center or can be viewed at www.cityofbowie.org.

Water System Testing Will Cause Outages for Some

From September 20 - 22, the Public Works Department will be carrying out water pipe investigations in several part of Levitt Bowie. The work will require service disruptions during the day for the streets listed below. Residents on streets near the testing may notice some temporary discoloration of their water. We apologize for the inconvenience. If you have questions about the work being done, please call the Public Works Department at 240-544-5686. This work is related to ongoing examination of the City's water distribution piping. The impacted areas and dates include:

Tuesday, September 20:

Faith Lane (between Collington Road and Foxhill Lane)
Buckingham Drive (between Beaverdale Lane and Belair Drive)
Heming Lane (Heming Lane and Hemm Place)

Wednesday, September 21:

Sussex Lane (between Belair Drive and Stonybrook Drive)
Millstream Drive (between Annapolis Road and Majestic Lane)
Madeley Lane (between Moylan Drive and Melody Turn)

Thursday, September 22:

Rustic Hill Drive (between Reston Lane and Rocky Spring Lane)
Idlewild Drive (between Race Track Road and Irongate Lane)

New City of Bowie Website

We invite you to check out the City's new website. It has a new look, some new features, and a lot of behind the scenes changes to make it easier to update. The most important improvement is that the site is now completely responsive, meaning that it will automatically detect what type of device you're using to access the site, and will reformat each screen to make it easy to view and to navigate.

You might also notice that more information is available on the home page. We've used website traffic data to put the most popular information and functions front and center there, such as paying bills, applying for jobs, requesting a service, and contacting the Police. And since service is at the core of what City government is all about, we've added another menu option at the top of the home page to bring you directly to pages with details about the various City services.

We also want to make it easier for you to keep up with what's going on in your City. There's a News Flash section for announcements, a Community Events Calendar, a Meetings Calendar,

and a special feature section at the bottom of the home page that will spotlight a variety of upcoming events, projects, and initiatives. We've also added a "Keeping in Touch" option on the home page that will make it easier for you to stay connected to your City government.

Your feedback is important to us. Please let us know what you think of the new site and how it can be improved. You can email publicinfo@cityofbowie.org or give us a call (301-809-3032).

Jobs

The City of Bowie is currently seeking applicants for the following positions:

- Water Plant Operator/Water Plant Operator Trainee - Public Works Department (closes 10/3/2016)
- Senior Equipment Operator - Utility Division, Public Works Department (closes 9/30/2016)
- Ice Arena Supervisor – Community Services Department (open until filled)
- Solid Waste Collector – Public Works Department (closes 9/23/2016)
- Solid Waste Driver/Collector – Public Works Department (closes 9/23/2016)
- Part-time Bus Driver - Senior Center (closes 9/30/2016)
- Part-time Senior Services Program Assistant (closes 9/30/2016)

For details or to apply, please visit www.cityofbowie.org/jobs.

Flea Market and Children's Swap Meet

The City Gymnasium will host its first City-wide Flea Market and Children's Swap Meet on Saturday, September 24th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This event will be conducted rain or shine. The flea market will offer local residents an opportunity to clear out their homes and garages of any excess items and hopefully make a little money! They can also sell or trade children's items at the swap meet. Our location, at the corner of Health Center and Northview Drives and directly across from the Bowie Town Center, provides a premium, high visibility location for this City-wide event. A 6 x 8-foot space is available for \$10. A 6-foot table can be included for an additional \$10 fee. Refreshments will be available. Please contact the Gym at 301-809-2388 to reserve your space.

Bowie Marketplace Grand Opening Ceremony – Thursday, October 6

Berman Enterprises will host a Grand Opening Ceremony for the Bowie Marketplace shopping center on Thursday, October 6 at 5:30 p.m. After years of lying vacant, and then a very aggressive construction schedule, the center will celebrate its opening with a fun event featuring cash drawings, face painting, musical entertainment and more! The Bowie City Council has worked with the developer to fast track this project and replace an eyesore with an attractive new place to eat and shop in Bowie.

The Tommy the Turtle statue that used to sit prominently at Belair Shopping Center (the original shopping center at that location) has been re-created and makes its return to the site. Please refer to the attached flyer to learn more about the event and how you can take photos of Tommy during the first few days of October and submit them for cash prize drawings at the opening event on October 6th.

Note:

As of this date, site plans for construction of apartments at Bowie Marketplace have not been submitted, but they are expected to be filed by the end of September. Once plans have been filed, a public hearing will be scheduled at City Hall, before the Bowie Advisory Planning Board. At least two weeks' notice will be provided for the public hearing, and notice letters will be mailed to all persons of record and to all properties within 500 feet of the development site. In addition, the City will post signs around the property advertising the public hearing date.

After a recommendation has been made by the Advisory Planning Board, a City Council public hearing will be scheduled. Separate notice will be provided for the City Council public hearing. Under the terms of a Development Agreement, the City Council has sole and absolute discretion regarding approval of a Conceptual Site Plan, and Berman Enterprises is precluded from requesting approval of plans from Prince George's County unless the City has first approved them. Two informational Stakeholders Meetings were held with neighborhood residents in the spring of 2016. Additional information is provided on the City's website at www.cityofbowie.org/marketplace.

Upcoming Events

9/17 – Veterans Appreciation Day 12 - 5 p.m. at the American Legion, Disney-Bell Post on Laurel-Bowie Road. Veterans and their families are invited to this fun event hosted by local veterans' organizations. There will be food, fun, children's games, and information about veterans' benefits. For information, call 301-464-9814.

9/18 – “Farm Day” at Bowie Farmers’ Market 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the parking lot of the Bowie Center for the Performing Arts at Bowie High School. Farm animal petting zoo, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. For more information, please contact Matt Corley at 301-809-3078 or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

9/19 – City Council Regular Meeting 8 p.m. at City Hall. On the agenda is Emergency Planning, a proposed Navy Federal Credit Union on US 301 near On the Border Restaurant, and selection of a Centennial sculpture. Details at www.cityofbowie.org/agendas.

9/20 – Kids Kaboose 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Bowie Railroad Museum. Railroad fun and games for youngsters ages 1 - 11. Free. For more information, email museumevents@cityofbowie.org.

9/21 – Walk Wednesdays – Whitemarsh Park (6300 Crain Highway) 7 p.m. 40-minute walk. For more information, contact Kristin Larson at 301-809-3044 or klarson@cityofbowie.org.

9/22 – Beautification Award Program 7:30 p.m. at City Hall. Winners of the annual Beautification Awards will be announced at this event.

9/24 – Weed Warrior Work Day at Whitemarsh Park 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Volunteer to help remove English ivy from Whitemarsh Park. As an invasive, non-native plant, English ivy spreads quickly and is very destructive to native ecosystems. To participate, contact

klarson@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3044. For more information, visit www.cityofbowie.org/weedwarriors.

9/24 – Children’s Swap Meet and Flea Market 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the City Gym. For information or to reserve a space, call 301-809-2388.

9/24 – Fall Plant Sale 8 a.m. to noon in the parking lot at Bowie High School.

9/24 – 1860s Picnic at Belair 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Belair Mansion. Members of the Atlantic Guard Soldiers’ Aid Society will be hosting an 1860s picnic at the Mansion. Join the members in typical picnic activities of the time period, including games for both children and adults. Admission is free.

9/24 – Dance Performance by *Fundacion Elena Ballet Folklorico* 7 p.m. Bowie Center for the Performing Arts. The City of Bowie is sponsoring this 90-minute show which will feature dances from various Mexican states, including Yucatan, Guadalajara, Jalisco, San Luis, and Oaxaca. *Fundacion Elena Ballet Folklorico*, also known as “FE” is a non-profit organization, founded in May 2012 for children, teens, and adults. For more information, call 202-821-2459.

9/26 – Stakeholders Meeting on Proposed Residential Development on MD 450 near Sacred Heart Church 7 p.m. City Hall. For more information, call 301-809-3047 or visit www.cityofbowie.org/jesuitprop.

9/28 – Walk Wednesdays – Governor Bridge Trail (7600 Governor Bridge Road) 7 p.m. 30 - 40-minute walk. For more information, contact Kristin Larson at 301-809-3044 or klarson@cityofbowie.org.

10/1 – Bowie International Festival Allen Pond Park 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Enjoy food and entertainment from around the world and be sure to visit the arts and crafts vendors and the children’s activity areas. This year’s event features Native American dancers, a Caribbean steel band, a Dragon Team from Japan, bagpipers, and much, much more. See view the entertainment program and the event program soon at www.cityofbowie.org/internationalfest.

10/6 – Bowie Marketplace Grand Opening Ceremony 5:30 p.m.