

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Alfred D. Lott, ICMA-CM, CPM
City Manager

SUBJECT: *Status Report* DATE: April 16, 2020

Status Report

1. Sewer Foam Injection for Root Control

The Public Works Department located a Contract for sewer foam injection root control services with Baltimore City (Contract# B50005627) through Dukes Root Control, Inc., upon which we will be able to piggyback. The foam injection program has been very successful in controlling root growth inside City sewer lines and helping to prevent sewer backups. This year we have budgeted \$65,000 for this program. We will sign a Contract and issue a Purchase Order to Dukes Root Control, Inc. in the amount of \$65,000.00.

As provided in Section 62 of the City Charter, this will serve as the required seven (7) day notice of intent to purchase.

2. Gradys Walk ROW Tree Replacement Program

The FY20 budget included the first year of funding for a three year program to remove and replant ROW trees in the Gradys Walk subdivision. The Bradford Pears which were planted when the subdivision was built have proven to be a liability due to the weak structure of the branches and shallow roots that develop as the trees age. This tree is no longer an approved street tree and is being removed by both the State and County. Removal of the trees will begin in mid to late summer and new flowering trees (Cherry and Crepe Myrtle) will be planted in the Fall. A meeting designed to share details of the project with the Gradys Walk owners was scheduled for last week but had to be cancelled. In lieu of the meeting a video which explained the need for the project and the planned replacement program was posted on the City website. A follow-up letter was mailed to all Gradys Walk property owners this week advising them of the video.

3. Promoting the Census

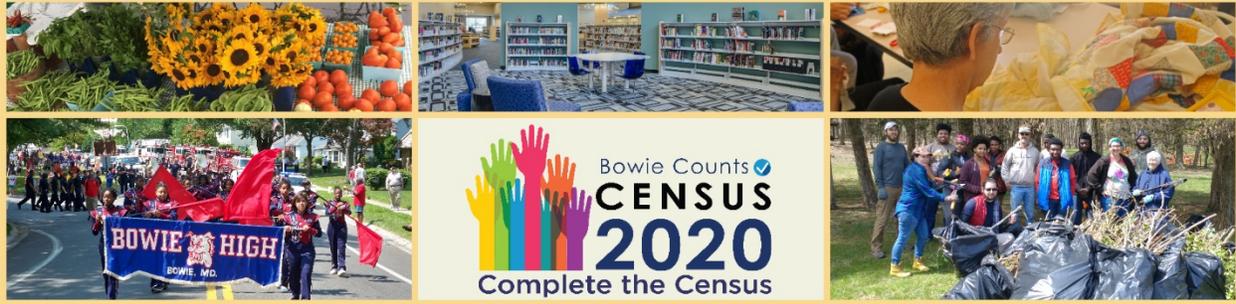
Despite the distraction of COVID-19, Bowie households are responding to the call to complete the census. The response rate for each census tract in Bowie listed below.

Census tract #	City District	Neighborhoods	% of households responding		
			12-Apr	14-Apr	15-Apr
800401	1	Idelwild, Overbrook, Saddlebrook East, Yorktown	69.7	70.4	70.6
800402	1 & 2	Belair Town, Belair Town II, Chapel Forge, Meadowbrook, Victoria Heights	67	67.8	68.1
800403	1	Old Chapel Estates, Rockledge, Saddlebrook West, Whitehall	69	70.9	71.2
800409	1 & 2	Belair Greens, Fairview, Glenridge, Grady's Walk, Highbridge Park, Old Chapel, Northridge	65.8	66.7	67.1
800410	1	Adnell Woods, Bowie Station, Huntington Crest, Northridge, Old Town Bowie, Rolling Hills	60.8	61.6	62
800504	2	Bowie Forest, Buckingham, Derbyshire, Forest Hills, Somerset	65.6	66.1	66.5
800505	2	Kenilworth	67.7	68.3	68.4
800507	3	Patuxent Overlook, Longleaf, Governor's Green	42.7	43.2	43.5
800511	4	Graystone, Lake Village Manor, Peach Preserve, Pointer Ridge North, Ridgeview Townhouses, Ternberry	63.2	63.8	64.1
800513	2 & 3	Foxhill, Longridge, Old Stage, Princeton Square, Spring Meadows, Tulip Grove, Westview	65.1	65.7	65.9
800514	2 & 3	Dixon Crossing, Stewart's Landing	59.8	60.9	61.2
800515	3	Allen Pond Townhomes, Bowie Commons, Northview, Oakpond,	55.3	56.7	57
800516	3	Enfield Chase, Evergreen Estates, Heather Hills, Heather Ridge, Palisades, Woodland Lake Condo, Bowie New Town Ctr Condos	54.7	55.8	56.2
800517	4	Ashleigh Station, Devonshire, Grovehurst, Tall Oaks Crossing, Woodson Landing	64.1	65.3	65.8
800518	3 & 4	Ashleigh, Woodmore Highlands, Woodmore Estates	58.5	59.7	60.8
800519	3 & 4	Covington Condos, Covington Manor and Towns, Glen Allen, Oak Tree, Mitchellville East, Amber Meadows, Amber Meadows II	65.4	66.3	66.7
800520	3	Covington Knolls, Pin Oak Village Townhouse, Pin Oak Village	46.9	47.9	48.6
800522	4	Collington Manor, Collington Station, Hamptons At Woodmore	62.3	64	64.4
		Average response rate for census tracts in Bowie	61.31%	62.28%	62.67%

We recognize that we have a long way to go in some neighborhoods to reach the County's goal of an 85% response rate countywide. We have had to adjust many of our original plans for census outreach because of the pandemic, but we are promoting the census on our website, social media, the government channel, and in the daily updates going to residents via Alert Bowie. We also produced a "Bowie Counts – Complete the Census" video before things started shutting down due to the pandemic. It can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/Vw5tTM-AYyc>.

Staff would like to reach out to homeowners associations, houses of worship, parent-teacher organizations, community organizations, city committees, and other groups asking them to push the census with their memberships, using letters similar to the ones attached to this report. Flyers are also being distributed at each of the senior facilities in the city this week and we will also be working with volunteers to get flyers in grocery stores and food establishments still providing take out service. Staff will also be contacting the management offices at local apartments to discuss other ways they can encourage their tenants to complete the census

ADL: lfr
Attachments



Dear HOA Presidents, Civic Leaders, and Property Managers:

We are asking for your help in getting the word out about filling out Census forms. So far, 62% of households in Bowie have responded but we need to do better! We want to make sure that each and every person counts. Please share the letter attached with residents in your communities and encourage them to complete the 2020 Census.

In 2010, Prince George's County, home to a sizable population of minorities, suffered the largest net undercount of any county in Maryland and one of the nation's largest undercounts for counties of 100,000 or more residents.

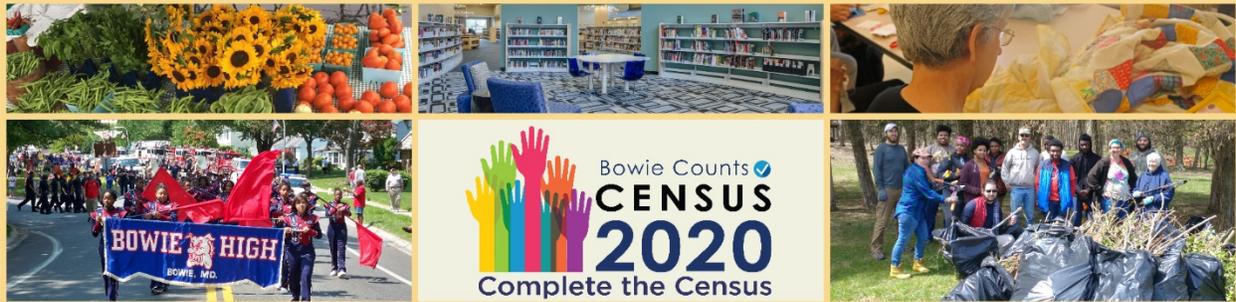
Each person counted equates to about \$18,500 dollars in funding over ten years. The numbers help to decide how an [estimated \\$660 billion a year](#) in federal funding is distributed for schools, roads and other public services in local communities. The demographic data also helps businesses make decisions, such as where to build a grocery store or locate an office building.

Please help us in our efforts to make sure Bowie gets counted by forwarding the attached letter to your membership or by posting the graphic below to your organization's website or Facebook page. Now more than ever, we are dependent on electronic methods for publicizing this important information. Please contact Communications Manager Una Cooper at 301-809-3032 or email ucooper@cityofbowie.org if you have questions or need assistance.

We hope you are healthy and coping well during these extraordinary times. Thank you for helping to make sure that Bowie Counts.

Sincerely,

Bowie City Council
Timothy Adams, Mayor



Dear Bowie Residents:

The 2020 Census is underway! Over 70 million households have responded to date, representing over 48% of all households in America. Here in Bowie, approximately 60% of households have completed their forms, but we know we can do better! Every response means more funding for our community. Did you know each person counted equates to approximately \$18,500 in funding over ten years?

As the nation battles the spread of COVID-19, population data is being used to help identify where there are concentrations of seniors and to calculate how widespread the disease is in our communities. If, and when, a vaccine becomes available, it is likely that it will be allocated at least in part, by population. The Census Bureau's ongoing surveys of businesses will also assist in measuring the economic impact of COVID-19 and other emergencies and will help in the country's eventual recovery. We want to make sure that everyone in Bowie gets counted and that Bowie residents receive the resources and services they need, now and in the future.

Thanks to those who have already completed their census form. **If you haven't done so yet, please take 10 minutes and fill out your census form today and encourage friends and neighbors to do the same.** Responding is simple, secure, and required by law, whether or not you are a citizen.

Prince George's County was one of the most undercounted areas in 2010, resulting in millions of dollars in lost funding. Please do your part to make sure that does not happen again. Respond at www.2020census.gov or by phone at 844-330-2020 (*Spanish language #: 844-468-2020*).

In closing, we hope you are healthy and managing the challenges of daily life in the time of pandemic. Your city government continues to operate, with some modifications for social distancing. Please call 301-262-6200 if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Bowie City Council
Timothy J. Adams, Mayor