

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: **Status Report**

DATE: October 18, 2012

Status Report

1. Auditor

The City currently has an agreement with the Reznick Group to conduct an audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. The audit is underway and is scheduled for conclusion on or about October 31, 2012.

On October 10, 2012, the Reznick Group announced the official merger of its firm with J.H. Cohn LLP. The new firm's name is CohnReznick LLP. Staff is confident that the audit will be completed within the agreed upon time and that the merger will not impact the agreement currently in place with the City.

2. Signal Modification

The signal light on Northview Drive at New Haven Drive and Evergreen Parkway has been modified to provide a protected left turn phase for traffic turning left into New Haven. The work was primarily funded by the Harmony Place Settlement Agreement. The signal change had been an item sought by the neighbors who were Parties of Record in the case.

3. Speed Signs

The speed signs will be moved from the current locations on Felter Lane, Westwind Drive and Perrell Lane to new locations on Starlight Lane, Gulliver's Trail and Alderwood Lane.

4. Fall Stream Team Cleanup Results

On Saturday, October 13th, more than 120 residents, students, Scouts, and other groups managed some very chilly morning temperatures to clean eight streams across the City. The total trash collected weighed 900 pounds and total recycling

collected was 1,225 pounds. Some of the larger items included a total of 15 tires, a shopping cart, a 5-gallon water jug, two rusted reel mowers, and several plastic lawn chairs. A Girl Scout Troop found a laptop bag with a passport, building and restaurant permits and other official papers (but no computer), as well as a different person's driver's license, and other items behind Free State Shopping Center. These items were given to the police.

Several of the streams that were just cleaned had been done at some point in the

past two years, and they seem to be staying relatively free of trash. Between now and the spring cleanup, currently scheduled for Saturday, April 6, 2013, staff will be reassessing the need for twice annual cleanups and will be looking for other streams that need to be cleaned.

5. The Great Southeast Shakeout Earthquake Drill

The City participated today in the Great Southeast Shakeout, the largest earthquake drill ever held. Employees were briefed on what to do in the event of an earthquake and those in buildings were asked to think about where they could "drop, cover, and hold on" if the building started shaking. Many actually tried out their safe spaces for size! Those in the field were reminded to move away from trees, power lines and structures that might fall in an earthquake. At the Senior Center, the County cable news channel (CTV) recorded able-bodied seniors and staff taking shelter under tables and desks, and those that couldn't get down on the floor were shown how best to protect themselves while staying seated.

The drill was announced by intercom systems at City Hall and other facilities. It was helpful in getting people to think about their safety in an earthquake and in identifying some minor refinements that need to be made in our safety procedures.

6. Planning Board Results - Preliminary Subdivision Plan for CVS, Mitchellville

Today the Prince George's County Planning Board conducted a public hearing on Preliminary Subdivision Plan #4-11032, which proposes to consolidate three (3) lots in to one building lot for the purpose of constructing a 13,225 sq. ft. CVS pharmacy/retail store. The subject site will contain 2.68 acres, is located on southbound U.S. Route 301 at its intersection with Mitchellville Road (northern corner), and is zoned C-M (Commercial Miscellaneous). The proposed use is permitted in the C-M zone as a Special Exception. The City Council conducted a public hearing on this application on July 9, 2012, voting unanimously to recommend approval.

At today's hearing, City staff spoke in support of the application and noted concurrence with the Park and Planning staff recommendation and conditions. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Planning Board voted to approve Preliminary Plan #4-11032. The motion for approval, made by Commissioner Washington and seconded by Commissioner Bailey, passed unanimously.