



BOWIE BRIEF

Your Weekly Update

Thursday, August 19, 2021

Welcome to the **Bowie Brief**, our new weekly newsletter about what's going on in city government. We will also include COVID updates in this document, as needed.

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Bowie News

Movies Around the City – “The Lion King” at Allen Pond Park on August 27

Bowie's "Movies in the City" series kicks off on August 27 with Disney's original "The Lion King" at Allen Pond Park. The movie will begin at dusk (approximately 8:15 p.m.). Children and adults are welcome. Bring your chair or blanket and flashlight. Light refreshments will be available for purchase. The first three movie titles have been selected. Send your questions or suggestions for future movie showings to Special Events Manager Matt Corley at mcorley@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3078.

September 11 Day of Service

City staff members are putting the finishing touches on plans for a September 11 Day of Service to honor the memories of the lives that were lost in the terrorist attacks 20 years ago. Look for details soon on how you can get involved. If your organization is sponsoring a Bowie service project and needs volunteers, please contact Rhonda Simon at rsimon@cityofbowie.org or Lori Cunningham at lcunningham@cityofbowie.org.

Master Plan Update

The Preliminary Master Plan for Bowie-Mitchellville and Vicinity is now available on the M-NCPPC project [website](#). The Master Plan provides a vision for the City of Bowie and portions of the Mitchellville and Collington areas and describes how the plan area will grow and evolve over the next 25 years. It identifies strategies to achieve economic success for this area of Prince George's County by recommending an increased mix of land uses at the Bowie Local Town Center, expanding economic development opportunities at the Free State Shopping Center/Bowie Marketplace area along MD 450 (Annapolis Road) and at the Collington Local Employment Area, revitalizing Old Town Bowie, and strategically investing along US 301/MD 3 (Robert Crain Highway), MD 450 (Annapolis Road), and MD 197 (Collington/Laurel Bowie Road).

This is a comprehensive master plan that contains recommendations for Land Use and Comprehensive Zoning, Economic Prosperity, Transportation and Mobility, Natural Environment, Housing and Neighborhoods, Community Heritage, Culture, and Design, Healthy Communities, and Public Facilities specific to Bowie-Mitchellville and Vicinity.

The City's review process includes in-person public hearings before the Bowie Advisory Planning Board on Tuesday, September 14, at 7 p.m. and the City Council on Monday, September 20 at 8 p.m. For more information, contact the Planning Department at 301-809-3047.

Learn about Solar Options

Interested in solar power but don't want it installed on your house? Interested in community solar in general? Join us for a webinar about all of the different community solar initiatives in Maryland, hosted by Neighborhood Sun. This webinar is not an endorsement of any one company, rather a source of information for residents. It takes place on August 23 at 6 p.m. on Zoom. Register to participate at <https://bowie.fyi/commsolar>

Bowie Police Department Offering \$500 Incentive for Officer Candidate Referral

Community members are eligible to receive \$500 from the Bowie Police Department for referring an officer candidate that is hired by the department. Payment will be made upon the new hire's first day of field

training. Additionally, new hires are eligible to receive a starting bonus of \$3,000 - \$9,000. For more information, please contact the Office of the Chief of Police at 240-544-5777.

Sunday Sunset Concerts

Sunday Sunset Concerts are held each Sunday, 7 - 8 p.m., through Labor Day weekend. Concerts are canceled in case of inclement weather. View the full concert schedule on our Summer Concerts [webpage](#). Information: **301-809-3078** or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

Senior Center News

The Center is open Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for individuals 55+ with proof of vaccination and wearing a mask. Daily senior services include various activities, programs, clubs, classes, events, transportation by appointment, information and referral services, fitness gym, library, billiard room, congregate lunch program, and much more. Stop by or contact the Center for information 301-809-2300.

Bowie Rental Assistance Program

Are you experiencing difficulties staying in your home due to COVID-19?

The City of Bowie is offering relief to renters living within the incorporated boundaries of the City of Bowie who are experiencing financial difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Renters must be on-rent as of March 31, 2020 and be able to document hardship as a direct result of COVID-19.

The Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) covers the amount required by the landlord to resolve the outstanding balance, less any funds available to be contributed by the applicant or one month's rent, whichever is less. Arrearages incurred prior to April 1, 2020 will not be paid with the City of Bowie Rental Assistance funds.

To be eligible for the program, tenants:

- Must have a valid lease agreement.
- Income must be at or below 80% of the area median income guideline.
- The household must have experienced loss of income due to COVID-19.

Learn more about the program on our [website](#) or by emailing cobcares@cityofbowie.org.

Emergency Food Distribution at Kenhill Center on August 21 and 28

The City of Bowie will distribute non-perishable groceries to City residents on Saturdays in August, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (or until supplies run out) at Kenhill Center (2614 Kenhill Drive). Residents must show proof of City residency (a piece of mail or state-issued identification). Events will be drive-thru; volunteers will be wearing masks and gloves and will load food into vehicles. Residents are asked to remain in their vehicles.

Distribution will take place on the following dates:

- August 21
- August 28

Learn more at www.cityofbowie.org/cobcares or contact Program Coordinator Kay Starr at **301-809-3009** or cobcares@cityofbowie.org.

Our Streets Our Future – “Fun in the Park” Community Engagement Event

The City of Bowie is partnering with the Prince George’s County States Attorney’s Office to host a community engagement event at Allen Pond Park on Thursday, August 26 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. This event is designed to raise awareness around the issue of gun violence and promote unity and healing by bringing together the community and local public safety officials. There will be speakers, music, informational tables, giveaways, free food, and more. [View flyer](#)



Farmers' Market

The Market is open 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. in the Bowie High School parking lot (15200 Annapolis Road), each Sunday through October 31. A variety of vendors offer fresh, locally grown produce, fruit, plants, breads, pastries, jams and jellies, eggs, beef, pork and poultry. For information, contact Matt Corley at **301-809-3078** or mcorley@cityofbowie.org.

County Schools Offer Backpack Giveaways

The Prince George’s County School System is hosting “Back2School Drive & Dash” events on August 21, from 9 a.m. to noon at the following locations:

- **Charles H. Flowers High School**
10001 Ardwick-Ardmore Road, Springdale
- **High Point High School**
3601 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville
- **Oxon Hill High School**
6701 Leyte Drive, Oxon Hill

COVID-19 vaccinations will also be available at Charles H. Flowers HS during the event.

Employ Prince George’s Offers Assistance to Job Seekers

Prince George’s County residents can receive employment and job training assistance from Employ Prince George’s. They can help with career and skills assessments, guidance on career development strategy, career counseling and coaching, resume preparation and interview skills training, and much more. Visit www.employPG.org or call 301-618-7094.

COVID Business Relief Programs

- Information on all COVID-19 federal programs and services www.usa.gov/coronavirus or www.gobierno.usa.gov/coronavirus (en español).
- The Maryland Commerce Funding and Incentives Maryland Covid -19 Relief programs: <https://commerce.maryland.gov/fund/maryland-small-business-covid-19-emergency-relief-fund-programs>
- Prince George’s Economic Development Corporation updates: www.pgcedc.com
- FSC First Updates: www.fscfirst.com
- Watch Live Events from CO— by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce (uschamber.com), including a recent program addressing tax credits available to local businesses: [Small Business Update: Family Vaccine Tax Credit \(uschamber.com\)](#)
- Small Business Administration Shuttered Venue grants <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/covid-19-relief-options/shuttered-venue-operators-grant>

Upcoming Calendar of Events

Friday, August 20

[Wine and Design at Belair Mansion](#) | 7 – 9 p.m.

Saturday, August 21

[Emergency Food Distribution](#) | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Sunday, August 22

- [Bowie Farmer’s Market](#) | 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- [Sunday Sunset Concert](#) by Big Band Theory of Baltimore | 7 - 8 p.m.

Monday, August 23

[Sustainability Webinar – Learn about Community Solar](#) | 6 – 7 p.m.

Wednesday, August 25

[Fairy Tale Fun at Belair Mansion](#) | 10 – 11 a.m.

Thursday, August 26

[States Attorney’s “Fun in the Park”](#) | 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Friday, August 27

[“The Lion King” at Allen Pond](#) | dusk (approx. 8:15 p.m.)

Visit www.cityofbowie.org/calendar for details about other upcoming events sponsored by the City of Bowie.



Maryland Adds New Vaccine Requirements for Healthcare Workers and Nursing Home Staff
Effective August 18, all employees of the state’s 227 nursing homes and all employees of Maryland hospitals will be required to show proof of vaccination or adhere to ongoing COVID-19 screening and testing.

[View new order.](#)

Prince George’s County and Bowie Vaccinations

The CDC vaccination data by county is based on the percentage of the eligible population.

Prince George's County Fully Vaccinated Residents (as of 8/18, 4:50 p.m.)	
Total #	504,291
% of Total Population	55.5%
# of Age 12+	504,252
% of Age 12+ Population	65.4%
# of Age 18+	474,464
% of Age 18+ Population	67%
# of Age 65+	105,197
% of Age 65 + Population	83.3%

Vaccination Resources

Visit covidvax.maryland.gov, or call 1-855-MD-GOVAX (1-855-634-6829) for information on vaccinations. The state-operated mass vaccination site at Six Flags has closed permanently.

Prince George’s County is operating one vaccine clinic and three mobile units. Individuals 12 and older who live or work in Prince George’s County are eligible to be vaccinated at these sites. Visit the [county vaccination webpage](#) for details.

CDC Vaccination Card

If you were vaccinated at a Prince George’s County Health Department site and did not receive a CDC vaccination card and you would like one, please email COVID19_VaxCard@co.pg.md.us with your name, address, date of birth, contact information, and the date and location of your vaccination. The Health

Department will process the request and produce a vaccination card. It may take the Health Department several days to process the request, but once your vaccination card is ready, staff will follow up via email.

MARC Commuter Trains

All three MARC Train lines will return to [full service on August 30](#). See each individual line for schedule changes.

Travelers Still Required to Wear Masks on Public Transportation

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has extended its mask mandate for travelers on commercial flights, buses and trains through Tuesday, January 18, 2022. The mandate was set to expire Monday, September 13.