

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: *Status Report*

DATE: March 21, 2013

Status Report

1. Invasive Species Management Study

City Council approved funds in the Budget for a consultant study of invasive plant threats on several City properties, including Whitmarsh Park, Tanglewood Park and several City-owned properties that have been planted with new trees as mitigation sites. The purpose of this study was to assist the City in evaluating the extent to which invasive species are located on the parcels and to recommend how the City can manage these species to achieve successful afforestation and improved forest condition. The City hired Biohabitats, Inc. to perform the analysis and make management recommendations, along with preliminary cost estimates. The final report has been received and has been placed on the City's website on the Planning Department page under Recent Publications. Staff is using the results of the study in formulating parts of this year's Budget request. The Environmental Advisory Committee and Green Team are especially interested in the results of the study, especially as it may pertain to additional volunteer opportunities, such as "weed warrior" programs.

2. Sustainable Maryland Certified Status

The City's application for certification under the Sustainable Maryland Certified program has been approved. The Program's website <http://www.sustainablemaryland.com> already includes the announcement and a copy of the City's documentation. The City joins three other municipalities that have achieved certification in this round, including Gaithersburg, Bladensburg and Frederick. The reviewers were particularly impressed with the City's energy audits of public buildings. These audits were performed by Environmental Resources Management, Inc. as part of the City's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy.

3. Planning Board Results

Today the Prince George's County Planning Board conducted a public hearing on Revision of Site Plan #ROSP-4368/01 and Departure from Parking and Loading Spaces #DPLS-381 regarding the Chick-fil-A restaurant property located adjacent to U.S. Route 301 northbound. The applicant is proposing to construct a 550 sq. ft. addition onto the existing building and to modify the drive through operation to include a dual drive through. The staff letter recommending approval of this case was on the

Council's February 19th Consent Agenda. At the conclusion of today's hearing, the Planning Board voted unanimously to approve this application. The motion for approval, which included all of the City's conditions, was offered by Commissioner Washington and seconded by Commissioner Shoaff.

Attachment



March 19, 2013

Mr. Joseph Meinert
Director of Planning and Economic Development
City of Bowie
15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, MD 20716

Dear Joe,

We are thrilled to inform you that the Sustainable Maryland Certified Executive Committee has approved the City of Bowie's application for certification.

Congratulations! Bowie is one of only eight municipalities in Maryland to achieve this distinction.

The City of Bowie accumulated 180 points and completed the required mandatory and priority actions necessary for certification. Bowie should be extremely proud of its efforts and position at the forefront of sustainability in Maryland.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joanne M. Throwe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "M".

Joanne M. Throwe
Director
Sustainable Maryland Certified
Program of the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland
www.sustainablemaryland.com