

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: *Status Report*

DATE: April 11, 2013

1. Stream Cleanup Results

On Saturday, April 6th, 49 volunteers cleaned four (4) streams across the City, removing trash and recycling during the 11th Stream Cleanup. The sites were East Saddlebrook Park, Stewart's Landing, and two streams adjacent to trails in Covington. Volunteers collected a total of 510 pounds of trash and 675 pounds of recycling in bags plus a number of larger items, including: a bike tire, two vehicle tires, a trash can, two shopping carts, and the wooden frame of a sofa.

These numbers are significantly lower than any cleanup in the past – both in terms of debris and volunteers. Staff spent two full days visiting nearly 15 sites looking for streams with adequate access and enough trash to support teams of at least ten members each. In fact, potential sites were still being investigated just two days before the clean-up. Over the summer, staff will spend time assessing the need to continue with twice annual cleanups versus holding cleanups only in October and another volunteer event in April.

2. Bowie Heritage Trail Grant Approval

A major milestone has been reached, as Governor O'Malley has announced the City was awarded a State matching grant of \$574,747 for construction of Phase 1 of The Bowie Heritage Trail in Old Town Bowie. The grant will help the City construct the main corridor of the planned Heritage Trail system; the project includes approximately 1,900 linear feet of 10-foot wide hiker-biker trail between Zug Road and 10th Street. The trail segment abuts the Railroad Museum, and construction will include a train watching platform, a pedestrian underpass of the MD 564 bridge, and development of a new park on the vacant land and cul-de-sac of 10th Street located near the bridge. The design plans for Phase 1 are already 30% engineered. We are hopeful that the work on this anchor segment will invigorate the design and completion of many other related improvements in the planned Bowie Heritage Trail system. The grant application was approved under the State's Transportation Enhancement Program, which was recently renamed the Transportation Alternatives Program. City matching funds are included in the proposed FY 2014-2019 Capital Improvements Program.

3. Carnival at Bowie Town Center

Reithoffer Shows Inc. has applied for a City permit to operate a carnival in the Bowie

Town Center. Prince George's County has already issued a permit for this event. The carnival is proposed to operate from Thursday, April 18th to Sunday, April 28th. Proposed hours of operation, which conform to those allowed under the City Code, are: Monday-Thursday, 5 PM-10 PM; Friday, 5 PM-11 PM; Saturday, 1 PM-11 PM; and Sunday, 1 PM-10 PM. The carnival operator proposes to use off-duty City Police to be on the premises during hours of operation. The carnival is proposed to be located in the parking lot behind the Old Navy store, where this organization has held carnivals in past years. This location has been identified for special events in Simon's draft Media/Event Opportunities plan, which was presented to the City Council in February 2009, and is in the process of being finalized. Simon's on-site manager has granted permission to the carnival operator to hold the event as described above.