

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: *Status Report*

DATE: February 6, 2014

1. Community Climate Action Series

From October 2013 to January 2014, residents, business owners, homeowner associations, and local organizations had the opportunity to provide feedback on what items they wanted to see included in a community climate action plan that City staff and the Green Team are developing. Community members could post comments on the City website or had further opportunity to offer their comments and ideas at three educational presentations that centered on climate action. Altogether, the presentations were called the Community Climate Action Series. The first presentation of the series conveyed how climate change will affect Bowie and the region in the future. The second focused on BGE energy efficiency incentives available to residents to reduce their energy usage, and the last on educating residents about trails and public transit opportunities in the area.

After each presentation, attendees had the chance to be city leaders and use play money to decide which climate actions they wanted to spend the most money on implementing. Although many different actions were valued in the activity, residents most strongly showed support of actions that involved renewable energy, green building, and reducing vehicle miles traveled. Residents also were able to voice any other suggestions about climate actions in the City during an open discussion following the activity. In total, there were 40 attendees over all presentations and 104 comments collected through presentations and the City website. Moving forward, resident comments will be evaluated before presenting a final plan to City Council.

2. Bowie Business Shuttle Bus Service Ended

The Bowie Business Shuttle Bus (the BizBus) service ended with the last run-of-the-day on Friday, January 31, 2014. Ridership had not reached a level that justified our monthly cost of over \$16,891. Ridership for each of the five months of operation was: September = 17; October = 12; November = 13; December = 15; January = 13. The City spent \$84,455.35 for the five-month trial period.