

WESTERN MONTGOMERY COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD



4/1/2012

2011 Annual Report

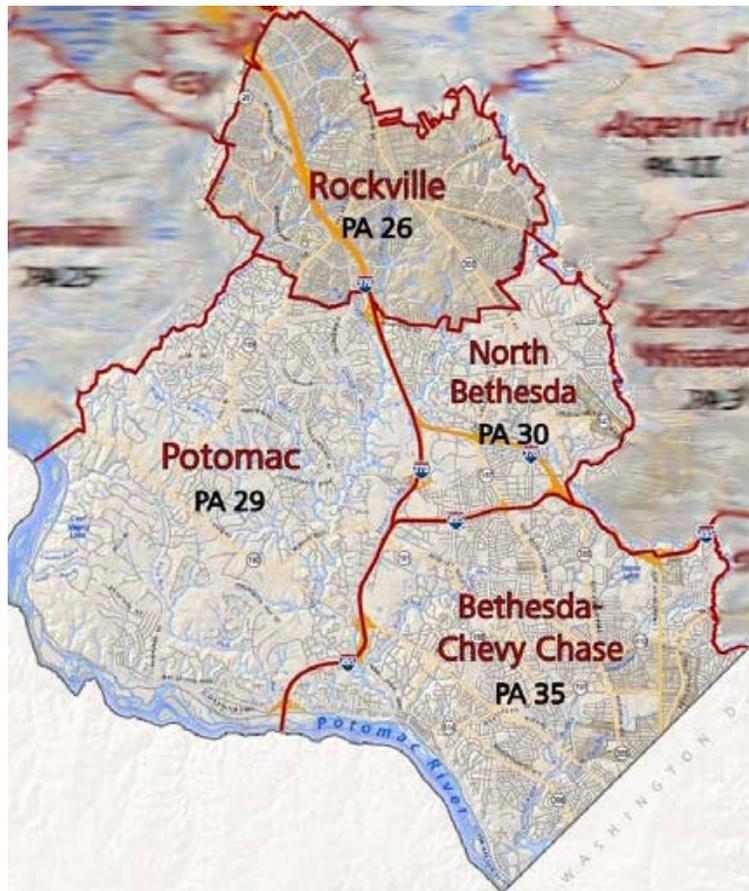
The Western Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Board

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2011 ANNUAL REPORT

BACKGROUND

The Western Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Board (WMCCAB) advises the County Executive, County Council, and Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center Director on issues facing the community and serves as an advocate for the priorities of local residents and businesses. Established as the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Citizens Advisory Board in April 1980, the Board's area of coverage grew in 1997 to include Potomac and North Bethesda and the name was changed to the Western Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Board. In 2008, the regional services area was further expanded to include the City of Rockville. The Advisory Board has nineteen representatives from the residential, business, and non-profit communities located in Bethesda, Cabin John, Chevy Chase, Friendship Heights, Garrett Park, Glen Echo, North Bethesda, and Potomac, Rockville and Twinbrook. Members are appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council.



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Neighbor,

The members of the Western Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Board are pleased to represent the priorities of our communities to the County Executive and County Council. This annual report is intended to provide you with a summary of our activities over the last year.

As you know, our 19 members are drawn from and represent the diversity of our neighborhoods and businesses in Rockville, North Bethesda, Potomac, and Bethesda-Chevy Chase.

In 2011, the Advisory Board provided timely and substantive input to our County leaders on a number of local topics, including: County capital and operating budgets; master planning and transportation in the MD355 corridor; and homelessness.

2011 AREAS OF INTEREST

Pedestrian Safety

Bikeshare

Rapid Transit

White Flint Redevelopment

Woodmont Triangle Development

Public Safety

Chevy Chase Lake

Brickyard Road Soccer Field Proposals

BCC Cluster Middle School Site Selection Process

City of Rockville Plans for Rockville Pike

Montgomery County Budget and Economic Development

BRAC and NIH Developments

Bethesda Metro South Entrance

CR Zone

Homelessness in Bethesda

Affordable Housing

Curfew Proposals

I want to thank Ken Hartman, Director of the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center, and volunteer Jim Mercurio for the ongoing support and guidance they provide to Advisory Board members.

I hope you will take the opportunity to participate in our regular meeting held on the third Monday of each month. The participation of our fellow community leaders helps us be more effective representatives of our part of the County. If you cannot attend the upcoming meetings, we welcome your input by email to: bethesda.citizen@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Jeff Hearle, 2011 Chair

2011 MEETINGS

January 6th, 2011 – Joint meeting of the WMCCAB and the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee

February 22nd, 2011 – Presentation regarding the redevelopment of Lot 31 in Bethesda

March 22nd, 2011 – Meeting held at the Rockville Library with presentations from Rockville Mayor Phyllis Marcuccio and Rockville Police Chief Terry Treschuk

April 11th, 2011 – Standard business meeting at the Regional Services Center

May 16th, 2011 – FY2012 Budget Meeting with Councilmembers Roger Berliner and Phil Andrews; BRAC updates from Phil Alperson

June 20th, 2011 – Planning Update from Planning Director Rollin Stanley; Presentation on homelessness in Bethesda by John Mendez of Bethesda Cares

July 18th, 2011 – FY 2012 Capital Improvement Program Budget presentation with breakout sessions

September 19th, 2011 – Presentation from Councilmember George Leventhal; Emergency Preparedness presentation from Michael Goldfarb

October 17th, 2011 – Meeting hosted by the Town of Garrett Park; presentation from Councilmember Nancy Floreen

November 21st, 2011 – Presentations from David Anspacher from MCPPC regarding the Purple Line, Tedi Osias the Housing Opportunities Commission regarding homelessness and affordable housing, and Ann Root from MCDOT regarding Bikeshare

MEETINGS OF THE WMCCAB

Meetings of the WMCCAB are held on the third Monday of each month, except August and December. Generally, meetings are held at the B-CC Regional Services Center at 4805 Edgemoor Lane. Timely information about meetings may be found at the WMCCAB website, or at the Regional Services Center's Facebook page.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Quality of Life - In 2011, the Quality of Life focus for the committee was on homelessness throughout Montgomery County. The Committee met with representatives of government agencies such as the Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Department of Health and Human, and Housing Opportunities Commission as well as community groups such as Bethesda Cares. Through the work of the committee, the CAB weighed in with the County Executive and County Council on policies to reduce both chronic and temporary homelessness. The committee also studied the issue of artificial turf fields and expressed its views to the County. On the Public Safety side, the committee welcomed a new police commander to Bethesda, Captain David Falcinelli. The committee also explored the issue of youth crime, hearing from many advocates on the curfew issues as well as other solutions such as an increased police presence or anti-loitering legislation.

Land Use/Transportation - In 2011, the Land Use and Transportation focus for the committee was major planning initiatives in White Flint, Chevy Chase Lake, and Bethesda. The committee also heard from Planning Director Rollin Stanley regarding the Commercial-Residential Zone and the zoning rewrite project. The new bikeshare program in the County also received significant attention and support from the CAB. The CAB placed liaisons on external committees monitoring White Flint and Woodmont Triangle development. Two transit projects also demanded attention: the Purple Line and Rapid Transit. The committee and/or full CAB got presentations on both.



Citizens Advisory
Board Meetings

<http://tinyurl.com/6edcjux>



B-CC
Regional Services
Center Facebook

<http://tinyurl.com/3dopaxj>

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