

GO Committee #1
April 23, 2014

MEMORANDUM

April 21, 2014

TO: Government Operations and Fiscal Policy (GO) Committee
FROM: Marlene Michaelson, ^{MM} Senior Legislative Analyst
SUBJECT: FY15 Operating Budget for Community Engagement Cluster

Those expected for this worksession:

Fariba Kassiri – Assistant Chief Administrative Officer
Judith Vaughan-Prather – Director, Commission for Women
Bruce Adams – Director, Office of Community Partnerships
Catherine Matthews – Regional Services Center Director, Upcounty
Ken Hartman – Regional Services Center Director, Bethesda-Chevy Chase
Reemberto Rodriguez – Regional Services Center Director, Silver Spring
Ana Lopez van Balen – Regional Services Center Director, MidCounty
Jewru Bandeh – Regional Services Center Director, East County
Gerri Davis – Administrative Manager, Community Engagement Cluster
Helen P. Vallone, Senior Management and Budget Specialist

The Executive's recommendations for the Community Engagement Cluster (CEC) are attached at © 1 to 5. Responses to Council Staff questions are attached at © 6 to 14. The last monthly report of the CEC is attached at © 17 to 32. The Community Engagement Cluster was created in FY12 to combine several departments and offices, both to improve service delivery and to reduce costs through shared administrative services. The Cluster includes the five Regional Services Centers (RSCs), the Commission for Women, and the Office of Community Partnerships (OCP), including the Gilchrist Center and the Volunteer Center. The Cluster is responsible for "strengthening Montgomery County's commitment to civic engagement and community service by engaging residents, organizations, businesses and other interest groups in our communities."

BUDGET OVERVIEW

For FY15, the Executive recommends total expenditures of \$3,479,030, an increase of \$116,258 or 3.5 percent from the FY14 approved budget. Total full time equivalents (FTEs) are proposed to remain at 22.3, which is unchanged from FY14. A summary of recommended funding increases by program appears below:

Community Engagement Cluster Funding by Program				
Program	FY14 Approved Budget	FY15 Request	Change FY14 to FY15	% Change FY14 to FY15
Community Partnerships	\$1,045,597	\$1,052,664	\$7,067	0.7%
	6.5	6.5	0	0.0%
Gilchrist Center for Cultural Diversity	\$314,183	\$402,771	\$88,588	28.2%
	5.5	5.5	0	0.0%
Commission for Women	\$451,109	\$471,712	\$20,603	4.6%
	2	2	0	0.0%
Regional Service Centers	\$1,551,883	\$1,551,883	\$0	0.0%
	8.3	8.3	0	0.0%
TOTAL	\$3,362,772	\$3,479,030	\$116,258	3.5%
	22.3	22.3	0	0.0%

While the FTEs in the CEC will not change from FY14 to FY15, overall staffing is less than one-third of the total associated with these offices in FY10 (when there were approximately 65 positions). The chart above highlights the significant variation in cost changes between programs (28% for the Gilchrist Center and 0% for the Regional Services Centers). Staff asked about this discrepancy and the response appears on © 6. They indicate that an error was made in the allocation of administrative costs in the CEC programs and the Gilchrist Center should have had an FY15 request of \$336,330, while the Regional Centers should have been \$1,618,324. The total budget for the cluster is unchanged. The revised funding allocation is as follows:

Community Engagement Cluster Funding by Program				
REVISED				
Program	FY14 Approved Budget	FY15 Request	Change FY14 to FY15	% Change FY14 to FY15
Community Partnerships	\$1,045,597	\$1,052,664	\$7,067	0.7%
	6.5	6.5	0	0.0%
Gilchrist Center for Cultural Diversity	\$314,183	\$336,330	\$22,147	7.0%
	5.5	5.5	0	0.0%
Commission for Women	\$451,109	\$471,712	\$20,603	4.6%
	2	2	0	0.0%
Regional Service Centers	\$1,551,883	\$1,618,324	\$66,441	4.3%
	8.3	8.3	0	0.0%
TOTAL	\$3,362,772	\$3,479,030	\$116,258	3.5%
	22.3	22.3	0	0.0%

CEC PROGRAMS AND EXPENDITURE ISSUES

The CEC implements four programs, which are described below. Accomplishments of the past year include sponsorship or involvement in 27 community events; doubling of participation in the World of Montgomery Festival; a 27% increase in the number of referrals made by the Volunteer Center and a 37% increase in the number of volunteers from FY12 to FY13; and expansion of Gilchrist Center outreach via the establishment of new satellite locations, including the East County Regional Center and the Gaithersburg library and participation in more outreach events.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Office of Community Partnerships (OCP) is described in the FY15 budget as a bridge between community residents and organizations and the County Government. The OCP staff provides outreach and liaison services to ethnic, multilingual, and multicultural communities; works closely with the County's non-profit and faith community organizations; and partners with County departments to ensure that efficient, effective, and high quality services are provided to all Montgomery County residents. The Volunteer Center within the Office of Community Partnerships connects residents and businesses to volunteer assignments.

The staffing in the Office of Community Partnerships decreased from 14 positions in FY10 to 6.5 positions in FY14 and is recommended to retain the same level of staffing for FY15.

THE GILCHRIST CENTER FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY

The Gilchrist Center for Cultural Diversity is the County's Welcome Center for newcomers and helps to build the network of immigrant service providers in the County. The Center offers various immigrant integration services at various locations throughout the County that prepare residents to contribute to the economy and community. The FTEs for FY15 remain unchanged from FY14. As noted above, the dollar amounts shown in the budget for the Gilchrist Center are incorrect and the actual increase for FY15 is \$22,147 or 7%.

COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

The Commission for Women's (CFW) mission is to identify gender-based inequities in laws, policies, practices and procedures, and to advocate remedies by advising the public and the local, state, and federal agencies on issues of concern to women, including organizing events relating to these issues. Commission staff decreased from twelve positions in FY10 to two in FY12 and has remained at that level since that time.

In July 2013, the Commission reestablished counseling services. Three part time, temporary social workers now offer counseling in five languages three days a week to individuals of low to moderate income. The monthly update attached on © 22 indicates that they plan to transition to having counseling provided on a contractual basis.

REGIONAL SERVICES CENTERS

The County has five Regional Services Centers: Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Eastern County, Mid-County, Silver Spring, and Upcounty. The Regional Directors in each center are charged with working with their respective citizens' advisory boards, residents, community groups, businesses, and other public agencies. They proactively seek and gather information and assess community needs, problems and issues in order to provide effective and timely input, representing their regions as liaisons between the County and its residents.

Staffing in the 5 Regional Services Centers was reduced from 33 positions in FY10 to 8.3 FTEs in FY13, and the FY15 recommended budget does not propose any change in staffing.

The FY14 budget shifted from the Community Use of Public Facilities (CUPF) to the Silver Spring RSC a pilot program to increase use of the Silver Spring Civic Center (focusing on organizations that might not otherwise be able to afford fees). This issue was considered by the Education (ED) Committee in FY14, since it oversees CUPF and had monitored this issue in the past; however, this year it will be reviewed by the GO Committee.

Silver Spring Civic Building Community Use Access Pilot Project

CUPF has held primary responsibility for providing general oversight and scheduling services for the Silver Spring Civic Building and Veterans Plaza since FY12. Prior to that time, operating costs were included in the Silver Spring Regional Center's budget, supplemented by the Utilities NDA and DGS. The Interagency Coordinating Board (ICB) has developed the guidelines governing use of the Civic Building. Facility use hours have steadily increased since the building opened in FY11.

The Executive recommends maintaining \$150,000 in the County General Fund to support the Civic Building Community Access Pilot Project (CAPP). This funding was originally in the CUPF budget, but was transferred to the Community Engagement Cluster (CEC) budget for FY14 to simplify the revenue transfer and tracking process (so that CUPF does not need to both charge and pay itself).

CAPP provides financial assistance to increase opportunities for groups, organizations, and community members to use the Civic Building. CAPP participants must meet eligibility criteria and sponsor events that meet the qualified uses of the program. The program began accepting applications in October 2012, and the first awards were issued in November 2012.

In the first three quarters of FY14, 35 awards were made to 32 organizations, with \$62,417 of the \$150,000 budget expended (see © 8-9). The average award was 70 percent of the permit costs. Of the 32 groups receiving awards, 22 were for returning groups, of which 17 had received a prior award. Six groups received an award for the first time. The majority of activities are for special events (fundraisers and festivals) scheduled in the Great Hall and/or Plaza. Since the program began, 104 awards have been made to 81 applicants, for a total of \$149,373 expended in FY13 and FY14 thus far (see ©10-14).

Council Staff Recommendation: Council Staff notes that it is unlikely that the program will spend out the full \$150,000 budgeted for the program in FY14; through the 3rd quarter, approximately 41.6% of the total available funds were spent. Consequently, Council Staff recommends that the funding for CAPP awards be reduced by \$50,000 in FY15 to achieve a more realistic funding level given current usage patterns.

White Flint Downtown Advisory Board

Attached on © 15 to 16 is a memorandum from Councilmember Berliner asking that the Committee consider the White Flint Downtown Advisory Committee's (WFDAC) funding request for the FY15 operating budget. WFDAC requests that \$75,000 be included in the budget to facilitate the development of streetscaping guidelines, continued promotion of bike and pedestrian connectivity and facilities, streetscaping/street lighting improvements, and a staff member to support the White Flint district. County funding is necessary, since there is not a parking lot district that can provide revenues that are similar to the three urban districts. This request is also being supported by the Bethesda Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce. Councilmember Berliner indicated that he plans to attend the worksession to address any Committee questions.

REVENUE ISSUES

The only revenues proposed for the CEC are \$10,500 in facility rentals and \$71,042 in federal grants. The facility rental amount is the same as budgeted in FY14, and the federal grant is expected to increase 18 percent from FY14. Staff has asked for further information on the federal grant, and asked CEC staff to be prepared to address this issue at the worksession.

Community Engagement Cluster

MISSION STATEMENT

The Community Engagement Cluster (CEC) works to build stronger, more informed and inclusive communities. The Cluster is responsible for strengthening Montgomery County's commitment to civic engagement and community service by engaging residents, organizations, businesses and other community groups. The Cluster maximizes our communities' assets - time, talents, and other resources - working collaboratively to address and resolve community issues.

The cluster is a combination of the five Regional Services Centers, the Commission for Women, and the Office of Community Partnerships, including the Gilchrist Center and the Volunteer Center, that has been operating as one unit since July 1, 2011. As a cluster, these offices/functions have combined facilities, resources, and support staff while retaining staff expertise and experience, as well as most of the objectives of the separate entities involved.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The total recommended FY15 Operating Budget for the Community Engagement Cluster is \$3,479,030, an increase of \$116,258 or 3.5 percent from the FY14 Approved Budget of \$3,362,772. Personnel Costs comprise 79.5 percent of the budget for 18 full-time positions and two part-time positions, and a total of 22.30 FTEs. Total FTEs may include seasonal or temporary positions and may also reflect workforce charged to or from other departments or funds. Operating Expenses account for the remaining 20.5 percent of the FY15 budget.

LINKAGE TO COUNTY RESULT AREAS

While this program area supports all eight of the County Result Areas, the following are emphasized:

- ▶ **A Responsive, Accountable County Government**
- ◆ **Healthy and Sustainable Neighborhoods**
- ◆ **Vital Living for All of Our Residents**

DEPARTMENT PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance measures for this department are included below, with multi-program measures displayed at the front of this section and program-specific measures shown with the relevant program. The FY14 estimates reflect funding based on the FY14 approved budget. The FY15 and FY16 figures are performance targets based on the FY15 recommended budget and funding for comparable service levels in FY16.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND INITIATIVES

- ◆ **Using staff, volunteers, and contract support and with private funding raised through the Fund for Montgomery, the CEC sponsored or played a major role in 27 community events that brought in a combined participation of more than 200,300 residents of Montgomery County. The October 2013 World of Montgomery Festival doubled its turnout over 2012.**
- ◆ **Montgomery County was selected one of the Best Intergenerational Communities in the United States in 2013.**
- ◆ **The Volunteer Center strengthens the culture of giving and serving in Montgomery County by connecting volunteers with critical community needs. The Volunteer Center online database of volunteer opportunities with nonprofit and government organizations shows a 27% increase in the number of referrals made and a 37% increase in the number of volunteers when comparing FY12 to FY13. Between July 2011 and June 2012 640 agencies received 28,473 referrals from 6,927 volunteers. In FY13, the numbers increased to 746 agencies with 36,393 referrals from 9,495 volunteers.**
- ✓ **The Charles W. Gilchrist Center for Cultural Diversity is the County's Welcome Center for newcomers and helps to build the network of immigrant service providers in the County. The Center has greatly increased its community outreach by participating in more outreach events than ever before, taking its information and referral services to the community. It has also expanded into new satellite locations including the East County Regional Center and**

Gaithersburg library. The Center has also created new job skills programs to meet the needs of county residents.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Fariba Kassiri of the Offices of the County Executive at 240.777.2512 or Helen P. Vallone of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2755 for more information regarding this department's operating budget.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Community Partnerships

The Office of Community Partnerships (OCP) is a bridge between our diverse community residents and organizations and the County government. The staff provides outreach and liaison services to ethnic, multilingual, and multicultural communities; works closely with the County's nonprofit and faith community organizations; and coordinates a number of community-building events throughout the year. The Volunteer Center connects residents and businesses to volunteer assignments in hundreds of nonprofits across Montgomery County.

<i>Program Performance Measures</i>	<i>Actual FY12</i>	<i>Actual FY13</i>	<i>Estimated FY14</i>	<i>Target FY15</i>	<i>Target FY16</i>
Overall satisfaction with The Office of Community Partnerships' provision of information, access and support to ethnic, multilingual and multicultural communities (scale 1-5)	4.1	4.2	4.6	4.6	4.6

<i>FY15 Recommended Changes</i>	<i>Expenditures</i>	<i>FTEs</i>
FY14 Approved	1,045,597	6.50
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	7,067	0.00
FY15 CE Recommended	1,052,664	6.50

The Gilchrist Center for Cultural Diversity

The Charles W. Gilchrist Center for Cultural Diversity is the County's Welcome Center for newcomers and helps to build network of immigrant service providers in the County. The Center offers various immigrant integration services at various local throughout the County that prepare residents to contribute to our economy and our community.

<i>Program Performance Measures</i>	<i>Actual FY12</i>	<i>Actual FY13</i>	<i>Estimated FY14</i>	<i>Target FY15</i>	<i>Target FY16</i>
Gilchrist Center: Overall participant satisfaction with their experience at the Gilchrist Center (scale 1-5)	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7
Gilchrist Center: Overall satisfaction of participants in Gilchrist classes (scale 1-5)	4.6	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7

<i>FY15 Recommended Changes</i>	<i>Expenditures</i>	<i>FTEs</i>
FY14 Approved	314,183	5.50
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	88,588	0.00
FY15 CE Recommended	402,771	5.50

Commission for Women

The Commission for Women's mission is to identify gender-based inequities in laws, policies, practices and procedures, and to advocate remedies by advising the public and the local, state, and federal agencies on issues of concern to women, including organizing events relating to these issues.

<i>Program Performance Measures</i>	<i>Actual FY12</i>	<i>Actual FY13</i>	<i>Estimated FY14</i>	<i>Target FY15</i>	<i>Target FY16</i>
Overall satisfaction of the Commissioners with the effectiveness of the CFW's identification of needs, problems and issues for the women of Montgomery County and the advocacy of resolution of these issues (scale 1-5)	4.5	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8

<i>FY15 Recommended Changes</i>	Expenditures	FTEs
FY14 Approved	451,109	2.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	20,603	0.00
FY15 CE Recommended	471,712	2.00

Regional Centers

The County has five Regional Centers: Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Eastern Montgomery, Mid-County, Silver Spring, and Upcounty. The Regional Directors in each of the County's five regions work with their respective regional citizens advisory boards, residents, community groups, businesses, and other public agencies to proactively seek and gather information and assess community needs, problems and issues in order to provide effective and timely input representing their regions in policy discussions and in liaison between Montgomery County and its residents. The Regional Directors of the Silver Spring, Wheaton and Bethesda/Chevy Chase regions provide oversight of the operations of their respective Urban Districts.

<i>Program Performance Measures</i>	Actual FY12	Actual FY13	Estimated FY14	Target FY15	Target FY16
Overall satisfaction of Regional Citizen Advisory Boards with the effectiveness of the Centers' assessment of community needs, problems and issues (scale 1-5)	4.6	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.0
Overall satisfaction of Regional Citizen Advisory Boards with the effectiveness and timeliness of the Centers' service as liaisons between County residents and the government (scale 1-5)	4.4	4.3	4.0	4.0	4.0
Overall satisfaction of the Urban Districts Advisory boards with the effectiveness of the Urban Districts' promotion of their jurisdiction (scale 1-5)	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.0
Overall satisfaction with Urban Districts' provision of maintenance of streetscape amenities (scale 1-5)	4.3	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0

<i>FY15 Recommended Changes</i>	Expenditures	FTEs
FY14 Approved	1,551,883	8.30
FY15 CE Recommended	1,551,883	8.30

BUDGET SUMMARY

	Actual FY13	Budget FY14	Estimated FY14	Recommended FY15	% Chg Bud//
COUNTY GENERAL FUND					
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	2,065,865	1,969,977	1,980,758	2,030,392	3.1%
Employee Benefits	542,198	621,400	621,400	665,686	7.1%
County General Fund Personnel Costs	2,608,063	2,591,377	2,602,158	2,696,078	4.0%
Operating Expenses	424,555	711,205	711,205	711,910	0.1%
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	—
County General Fund Expenditures	3,032,618	3,302,582	3,313,363	3,407,988	3.2%
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	17	17	17	17	—
Part-Time	1	2	2	2	—
FTEs	21.03	21.53	21.53	21.55	0.1%
REVENUES					
Commission for Women Fees	2	0	0	0	—
Facility Rental Fees	8,570	10,500	10,500	10,500	—
Miscellaneous Revenues	20	0	0	0	—
Other Charges/Fees	-1,024	0	0	0	—
Parking Fees	-4,475	0	0	0	—
Recreation Fees	5,160	0	0	0	—
County General Fund Revenues	8,253	10,500	10,500	10,500	—
GRANT FUND MCG					
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	46,539	44,604	44,604	55,076	23.5%
Employee Benefits	11,012	15,586	15,586	15,966	2.4%
Grant Fund MCG Personnel Costs	57,551	60,190	60,190	71,042	18.0%
Operating Expenses	66,274	0	0	0	—
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	—
Grant Fund MCG Expenditures	123,825	60,190	60,190	71,042	18.0%
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	1	1	1	1	—
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—
FTEs	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.75	-2.6%
REVENUES					
Federal Grants	63,965	60,190	60,190	71,042	18.0%
State Grants	59,860	0	0	0	—
Grant Fund MCG Revenues	123,825	60,190	60,190	71,042	18.0%
DEPARTMENT TOTALS					
Total Expenditures	3,156,443	3,362,772	3,373,553	3,479,030	3.5%
Total Full-Time Positions	18	18	18	18	—
Total Part-Time Positions	1	2	2	2	—
Total FTEs	21.80	22.30	22.30	22.30	0.0%
Total Revenues	132,078	70,690	70,690	81,542	15.4%

FY15 RECOMMENDED CHANGES

	Expenditures	FTEs
COUNTY GENERAL FUND		
FY14 ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION	3,302,582	21.53
Other Adjustments (with no service impacts)		
Increase Cost: FY15 Compensation Adjustment	95,636	0.00
Increase Cost: Retirement Adjustment	5,160	0.00
Increase Cost: Group Insurance Adjustment	3,905	0.00
Increase Cost: Printing and Mail	705	0.00
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY14 Personnel Costs	0	0.02
FY15 RECOMMENDED:	3,407,988	21.55
GRANT FUND MCG		
FY14 ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION	60,190	0.77
Other Adjustments (with no service impacts)		
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY14 Personnel Costs	10,852	-0.02
FY15 RECOMMENDED:	71,042	0.75

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Program Name	FY14 Approved		FY15 Recommended	
	Expenditures	FTEs	Expenditures	FTEs
Community Partnerships	1,045,597	6.50	1,052,664	6.50
The Gilchrist Center for Cultural Diversity	314,183	5.50	402,771	5.50
Commission for Women	451,109	2.00	471,712	2.00
Regional Centers	1,551,883	8.30	1,551,883	8.30
Total	3,362,772	22.30	3,479,030	22.30

FUTURE FISCAL IMPACTS

Title	CE REC.					
	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
(5000's)						
This table is intended to present significant future fiscal impacts of the department's programs.						
COUNTY GENERAL FUND						
Expenditures						
FY15 Recommended	3,408	3,408	3,408	3,408	3,408	3,408
No inflation or compensation change is included in outyear projections.						
Labor Contracts	0	21	21	21	21	21
These figures represent the estimated annualized cost of general wage adjustments, service increments, and associated benefits.						
Labor Contracts - Other	0	-2	-2	-2	-2	-2
These figures represent other negotiated items included in the labor agreements.						
Subtotal Expenditures	3,408	3,427	3,427	3,427	3,427	3,427



Question #1) Explain the basis for the different increases in multi-program adjustments by program (e.g., the Gilchrist Center increases by 25% due to multi-program adjustments while the Regional Centers do not increase at all).

- Please provide more detail regarding the 25% increase for the Gilchrist Center
- Isn't some increase needed – at least for compensation - for Regional Centers?

Answer: Thanks to your question regarding the increase in the Gilchrist Center budget, we discovered that an error was made in the allocation of the administrative function in the CEC budget. The correct FY15 Recommended expenditure for the Gilchrist Center is \$336,330. The correct FY15 Recommended expenditure for the Regional Centers is \$1,618,324. There was no intended disproportionate allocation of funds to the Gilchrist Center at the expense of the Regional Centers. It was the result of a clerical error. You will see that all four program areas in the CEC continue with the same number of FTEs in FY15 Recommended as FY14 Approved. We regret the inconvenience.

Question #2) What is the basis for the increase in the federal grant?

Answer: The federal funding for the RSVP grant is \$63,965. Funding at this level is less than what is needed to cover the cost of the full-time RSVP Manager. The grant stipulates the program must have a full-time RSVP Manager. The County has been supplementing the RSVP Manager position since FY12, when the federal RSVP grant was cut by 20%. The portion of personnel costs exceeding the federal funds will be grantee match funds. The general fund will be the source of funds, pending County Council approval in the FY15 operating budget.

Question #3) How is satisfaction determined for performance measures?

Answer: Annual satisfaction surveys are sent to the members of the CEC's various commissions and advisory boards for the Commission for Women, Regional Service Centers, Urban Districts, and Office of Community Partnerships via the online survey tool surveymonkey.com. Responses are tabulated and reported by CountyStat. The understanding is that the commission or advisory board members best represent the feelings and opinions of the population that each element of the CEC is serving, and are the most knowledgeable about how their piece of the CEC functions. Survey respondents are asked to rate their overall satisfaction with the performance of the commission, office, service center, or district on whose commission or board they sit. The surveys also ask more targeted questions that the CEC can use to gauge how they are meeting specific areas of their mission (identifying community needs, strengthening non-profit capacity, etc.).

Survey responses are converted into the performance measures for the various elements of the CEC as follows:

- For the Commission for Women, the performance measure is an aggregate of the average of all scores for each of the four question asked.
- For the Regional Service Centers, there are two performance measures, one relating to assessment of community needs and one relating to timeliness as liaisons between residents and Montgomery County Government; each measure is an aggregate of the average scores to the three survey questions that reflect each concept (six questions total)
- For the Urban Districts, there are two performance measures, one relating to promotion of jurisdictions and one relating to provision of streetscape amenities; each measure is an aggregate of the average scores to the survey questions that reflect each concept (one for

- the former, two for the latter)
- For the Office of Community Partnerships, the first performance measure is an average of all responses to the first survey question, asking for overall level of satisfaction; the second and third performance measures are specific to the Gilchrist Center, reporting on satisfaction levels of all residents who interact with the center, and the satisfaction of residents who participate in classes offered by the center. (these surveys are administered by Gilchrist Center staff and reported to CountyStat)

Questions #4) Do what extend has the CEC achieved the benefits identified when the Cluster was first created?

What are opportunities for further improvement?

The Cluster was created as a budgetary unit to achieve savings and still provide administrative support to the Commission for Women, Regional Services Offices, Gilchrist Center and the Office of Community Partnerships. The CEC has implemented an operational model that provides shared administrative (budget, procurement, HR, IT...) support to all eight offices and more time is needed to evaluate its effectiveness. Continuing improvement will include modifications to this model as needed to allow CEC Directors the ability and flexibility to act quickly in addressing community problems and opportunities, and inter-departmental/agency matters.

Fariba Kassiri
Assistant Chief Administrative Officer
Montgomery County, Maryland
Offices of the County Executive
(240) 777-2512 (direct)
(240) 777-2511
(240) 777-2517 (fax)
fariba.kassiri@montgomerycountymd.gov

Fax # 24

CEC Community Access Pilot Program			\$150,000	Information not available
Utilities NDA – est.	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$120,000
DGS Maintenance costs – est.	\$205,500	\$230,500	\$230,500	\$230,500
Debt Service (\$10.4 million) -est.	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000

*Estimated amount of staff time for SSCB operations provided by 2 IT Specialist III, 3 Finance Team staff, and Director.

B. Revenue

Revenue	FY11 Actual	FY12 Actual	FY13 Actual	FY14 Approved	FY15 CE Request
Facility Use Revenue	\$334,090	\$530,717	\$634,081 (includes CAPP)	\$514,000 Q-1-3: \$496,170	\$630,000
Tri-State Ice Rink Revenue returned to General Fund	\$ 46,490	\$85,450	\$80,662	\$9,000	\$90,000

Hours of Use	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14 Q1-3 (includes CAPP)*
All Fees Paid	4,474	6,011	7,442	5,623
Staff fees only – no Facility Fee Paid (“Free”)	3,604	3,637	2,501	2,154

*Data from FY13 Q1-4 indicated 4,276 paid hours and 1,602 Free or staff costs only.

5. Please provide an update on the Silver Spring Civic Building Community Access Pilot Program (CAPP). For FY14 to date, please provide the amount of funding expended; a list of awards made (including organization, program, award amount, percent of CUPF fee paid by CAPP, the number of prior awards, and event year); and the number of applications received.

Steps were taken to streamline the processing of applications so that the program could be administered by regularly assigned SSCB staff. These changes included:

- waiting to confirm the event date until after the funding decision is made unless a funding commitment of 25% of the projected facility fee was provided
- implementation of a consolidated building use and funding application form
- requiring payment prior to the scheduled event as a major focus
- telephone conference meetings to facilitate more timely award decisions
- standard processing of all applications in accordance with established practices

In the first three quarters of FY14, 35 awards were made to 32 organizations, with \$62,417 of the \$150,000 budget expended thus far. The average award was 70 percent of the permit costs. Of the 32 groups receiving awards, 22 were for returning groups, of which 17 had received a prior award. Six groups were receiving an award for the first time. The majority of activities are for special events (fundraisers and festivals) scheduled in the Great Hall and or Plaza.

When the FY14 applications are added to those funded in FY13, 104 awards have been given to 81 applicants, with a total \$149,373 expended.

A list of applications process during FY13 and first three quarters of FY14 are attached. A dozen new applications are pending review by the review committee. The review committee consists of representatives form the Community Engagement Cluster, CUPF and County Executive's Office.

- How much is budgeted for CAPP in FY15?

The funding for CAPP in FY15, as was the case in FY14, is included in the Community Engagement Cluster budget. CUPF staff has contacted CEC to see if their FY15 request will maintain the budget at \$150,000. Confirmation is pending.

6. Please provide an update on the following:

- Childcare in schools rebidding process including estimated timeline for completion;

The before and after school childcare rebid process was discontinued in FY12 after the Circuit Court found that, in spite of the ICB's role in facilitating the childcare selection process over the years, the ICB Resolution of 2007 that established the competitive childcare rebidding process was not the proper legal instrument for that activity. The court further ruled that the rebidding process should be adopted by County regulation before the ICB can conduct any further rebidding activities. On January 8, 2013 the BOE as the entity endowed with the responsibility, officially delegated the administration of the rebid process to the ICB/CUPF. A committee representing MCPS and the County representatives drafted an executive regulation.

CUPF staff convened a meeting of all the before and after school providers in schools and asked for feedback. A workgroup from among the providers coordinated a response and made recommendations. Feedback was also provided by the Montgomery Child Care Commission, which advocated for consolidation of selection of providers for age groups (infant, early childhood, including infants, and school aged program) using County and BOE space under DHHS.

In addition to creating the regulation, an administrative procedure was also to be developed and provide greater specificity. A larger workgroup was formed to include representation from among the before and after school childcare providers, Montgomery County Child Care Commission, DHHS, MCPS, Council, CE, and CUPF.

Upon completion of the draft administrative procedure, both documents will be reviewed by the County Attorney's Office and forwarded to the Council. Staff anticipates that the draft will be sent to the OCA later this month.

In the intern, MCPS Facilities Management staff, with technical assistance from CUPF staff, has been advertising and selecting before and after school childcare providers in schools without services. Four selections were made in FY13 and MCPS will be advertising for a provider at the soon to be opened Wilson Wims Elementary School in Clarksburg.

CUPF currently issues permits to 1xx before and after school childcare programs. When the rebid resumes, CUPF will select 21 sites where the original placement decisions were made between 2000 and 2004.

FY13 and FY14 (July-March) Awardees

Applied	Processed in	Organization	Program	Award	New?	PCT by CAPP	to occur
FY14	FY14	Advance Church/Raba Leadership Inst	Trunk or Treat Food Drive	\$234	Returning	73%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Advance Church/Raba Leadership Inst	Raba Leadership Inst /Food collection	\$553	Returning	88%	FY13
FY13	FY13	African Immigrant Refugee Foundation	Annual Youth Conference	\$ 497	New	92%	FY13
FY13	FY13	African Immigrant Refugee Foundation	Conference & Awards Luncheon	\$ 953	Returning	77%	FY13 &14
FY13	FY13	Agatha Foundation, The	Health Fair	\$ 1,700	New	54%	FY13
FY14	FY14	All Cameroonian Cultural & Development Foundation	Pana Fest 2014	\$ 6,502.75	Returning	74%	FY15
FY13	FY13	All Cameroonian Cultural & Development Foundation	Pana-Fest 2013	\$ 4,063	Returning	86%	FY14
FY13	FY13	All Cameroonian Cultural & Development Foundation	Pana-Fest 2012	\$ 900	Returning	31%	FY13
FY14	FY13	Asian American LEAD	Fundraiser	\$ 1,907	New	83%	FY14
FY14	FY14	Asian American LEAD	Fundraiser	\$ 1,113	Returning	63%	FY14
FY14	FY14	AYUDA, Inc.	Hispanic Heritage Mo. Celebration	\$ 585	New	71%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Beacon Newspaper, The	50+Expo Fair	\$ 783	New	57%	FY14
FY14	FY14	Bethel World Church	Gospel Fest	\$ 1,337.60	Returning	76%	FY15
FY13	FY13	BSA Troop 275	Blue & Gold Banquet	\$ 455	New	64%	FY13
FY14	FY14	Carpe Diem	Dance & Sing Along	\$ 2,970	Returning	66%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Carpe Diem Arts Production	Dance & Sing Along	\$ 2,446	Returning	82%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Carpe Diem Arts Production	MLK Celebration	\$1,880	Returning	66%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Carpe Diem Arts Production	Monthly dances	\$ 2,134	Returning	70%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Chrisma Charities	Fundraiser	\$ 579	New	55%	FY13
FY14	FY13	Clancy Works Dance Company	Join in the Dance (Silent Action & Performance)	\$ 544	New	69%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Class Acts	FIESTA 2013 (Fundraiser)	\$1,889	Returning	72%	FY14
FY14	FY13	Coder Dojo	Weekly Computer classes	\$ 1,755	Returning	97%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Coder Dojo	Weekly Computer classes	\$ 941	New	82%	FY13

FY13	FY13	Community Bridges	Annual event & Board Meeting	\$ 1,866	Returning	90%	FY13
FY14	FY14	Create Arts Center	After School Art class (free)	\$ 552	New	69%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Delta Sigma Theta Sorority	Aids Awareness Day	\$1,010	New	92%	FY13
FY14	FY14	Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc	World Aides Day Conference & testing	\$ 1,097	Returning	69%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Diversity Theatre Co	Breaking the Fourth Wall Production (Community Theatre)	\$ 598	New	54%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Docs in Progress	Silver Spring Stories	\$ 413	New	70%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Ethiopian Sports Federation	Welcome/Cultural Celebration	\$ 1,083	Returning	78%	FY13
FY14	FY14	Ethopian Festival (Blessed Coffee)	Festival	\$ 2,176	Returning	78%	FY14
FY14	FY14	Ethopian Society in N. Am.	Adwa Celebration	\$ 1,590.75	New	63%	FY14
FY14	FY14	Flora Singer Elementary School PTA	Fundraiser	\$ 1,612	Returning	79%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Flora Singer Elementary School PTA	Fundraiser	\$ 2,286	New	86%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Gandhi Brigade	Youth Voices (weekly activities)	\$ 559	Returning	92%	FY13 & 14
FY13	FY13	Gandhi Brigade	Digital Workshop	\$1,180	Returning	75%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Gandi Brigade	Youth Media Festival	\$ 992	Returning	80%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Gap Busters	SAT Boot Camp (Prep Classes)	\$ 957	Returning	68%	FY14
FY14	FY14	Ghandi Brigade	Youth Media Festival	\$ 2,546	Returning	83%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Girl Scout Council of Nat.- Troop 5471	Meetings	\$ 497	New	68%	FY13
FY14	FY14	HavServ	Fundraiser	\$ 1,504	New	73%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Health and Human Services Latino Health Initiative	Health Fair	\$ 1,325	Returning	52%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Holy Cross Hospital	Planning Meeting	\$ 212	Returning	52%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Impact Silver Spring	Conference & Luncheon	\$1,978	Returning	90%	FY13
FY13	FY13	International Minority Affairs	Student Workshop	\$ 267	New	84%	FY13
FY14	FY14	International Minority Affairs Cooperative	Instrumental class	\$ 160	Returning	71%	FY14
FY13	FY13	International Rescue Committee	Job Fair	\$ 1,182	New	84%	FY13
FY14	FY14	Isadora Duncan School for Movement & Dance	Dance Classes	\$ 402	New	47%	FY14
FY14	FY14	Jack & Jill of America, Inc.	Youth Summit & Town Hall	\$ 5,086	Returning	90%	FY14

FY13	FY13	Jack & Jill of America, Inc.	Children's Inaugural Celebration	\$ 2,869	Returning	62%	FY13
FY14	FY14	Jesus House	Health Fair	\$ 2,164.50	Returning	65%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Jesus House	Calab Crew Youth Outreach Fashion Show	\$ 507	Returning	66%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Jesus House	Festival	\$ 2,552	Returning	76%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Jesus House	Health Fair	\$ 2,447	Returning	68%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Jesus House, Daniel Leadership Institute	Toastmasters Club	\$ 518	Returning	80%	FY14
FY13	FY13	KID Museum	A Maker Faire (Children's technology fair)	\$ 2,814	New	66%	FY14
FY13	FY13	La Main Tendue	Economic & Cultural Festival (local business expo)	\$ 2,986	New	67%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Leadership Montgomery	Community meeting	\$ 1,295	New	84%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Liberty's Promise	After school activities	\$ 606	Returning	76%	FY13
FY14	FY14	Liberty's Promise	After School Classes	\$ 572	Returning	62%	FY14
FY14	FY14	Live Garra Theatre	Rehearsals & Performances	\$ 2,192	Returning	74%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Live Garra Theatre	Community Theatre	\$ 338	Returning	57%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Live Garra Theatre	Community Theatre	\$ 1,658	Returning	80%	FY13
FY14	FY14	Maryland Chess Association	Youth Chess Tournament	\$ 3,449	New	57%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Maryland Dispute Resolution	Quarterly Meeting	\$ 87	Returning	52%	FY13
FY14	FY14	Maryland Multicultural Youth Center	Youth Job Fair	\$ 1,388	Returning	80%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Maryland Multicultural Youth Center	Youth Job Fair	\$ 1,040	Returning	49%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Maryland Plant Society	Board Meetings	\$ 80	New	58%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Maryland Plant Society	Board Meetings	\$ 104	Returning	62%	FY13
FY14	FY14	Maryland Youth Ballet	Annual Gala and Fundraiser	\$ 4,721.50	Returning	71%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Maryland Youth Ballet	Gala & Fundraiser	\$ 2,893	Returning	66%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Michael Ward	Cloud Hands Tai Chi (weekly)	\$ 628	Returning	90%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Mid-county United Ministries	United Ministries Annual Fundraiser	\$ 1,072	New	72%	FY13

FY13	FY13	Montgomery County Council of PTA	Performing Arts Festival	\$ 922	New	77%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Montgomery County/Maryland Chapter of Delta Alumni	Annual Mtg & Luncheon	\$ 776	Returning	74%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Montgomery Sister Cities, Inc.	Fundraiser	\$1,127	Returning	97%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Montgomery Sister Cities, Inc.	Reception	\$ 712	Returning	84%	FY13
FY13	FY13	National Center for Children and Families	Fundraiser	\$5,085	Returning	90%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Nigerian Youth Association	Fest Africa 2013	\$6,475	Returning	84%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Office of Community Partnership Committee for Ethnic Affairs	Ama Tu Vida Health Fair	\$ 980	Returning	86%	FY13
FY14	FY14	Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc	Achievement Week Banquet	\$ 600	Returning	75%	FY15
FY14	FY14	Organizing for Action	Climate Change Town Hall	\$ 992	New	96%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Pain Connection	Chronic Pain Outreach	\$ 1,009	New	66%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Park Hill Civic Association	Quarterly Meetings	\$115	New	90%	FY13
FY14	FY14	Passion for Learning, Inc.	Fundraiser	\$ 894.25	New	70%	FY14
FY13	FY13	Positive Reinforcement of Youth through Music	Fundraiser, Music Concert & Drama	\$ 1,118	New	80%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Primary Care Coalition	Oral Health Workshop	\$ 197	Returning	66%	FY13
FY14	FY14	SEIU Local 500, MCCSSE-was 336	Community Engagement Conference	\$ 234.00	Returning	45%	FY14
FY14	FY13	Senior Connection	RSVP Banquet	\$ 776	New	74%	FY14
FY14	FY14	Silver Spring Day School	Fundraiser	\$ 1,840	New	55%	FY14
FY14	FY13	Silver Spring Green	Green Fest	\$ 298	New	73%	FY14
FY13	FY13	SSTCI	Blues Week Kick-off Party	\$ 806	Returning	80%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Suburban Washington Resettlement Center	Celebrating World Refugee Day	\$ 675	New	66%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Tatitu Cultural Center	Monthly Poetry & Drama Presentations	\$ 587	New	49%	FY13 & 14
FY14	FY14	Tayitu Entertainment Cultural Center	Poetry Night	\$ 853	Returning	79%	FY14
FY14	FY14	The Chastaing Foundation	Taste of Africa	\$ 1,457.50	Returning	59%	FY14
FY14	FY14	The Chastaing Foundation	World Music Festival	\$ 1,457.50	Returning	59%	FY15
FY13	FY13	Washington Region Transplant Community	Transplant Awareness	\$ 1,419	New	54%	FY14
FY14	FY14	Washington Region Transplant Community	Organ Donation Awareness	\$ 4,854.50	Returning	70%	FY15

(13)

FY13	FY13	Washington Revelers	SunFest (Festival, Dance & Arts Vendor expo)	\$ 2,461	New	61%	Withdrew
FY13	FY13	Wheaton Seventh-Day Adventist	MLK Service Projects	\$ 749	New	66%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Young Democrats	Safe Silver Spring-Gun Violence	\$ 229	Returning	51%	FY13
FY13	FY13	Youth and Family Services of the YMCA	Youth Forum	\$ 842	New	74%	FY13



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

ROGER BERLINER
COUNCILMEMBER
DISTRICT 1

CHAIRMAN
TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM

April 14, 2014

TO: Nancy Navarro, GO Committee Chair
Cherri Branson, GO Committee Member
Hans Riemer, GO Committee Member

FROM: Roger Berliner, Councilmember, District 1

SUBJECT: Operating Budget Request from White Flint Downtown Advisory Committee

I am writing to you to ask for your consideration of the White Flint Downtown Advisory Committee's (WFDAC) funding request for the FY 15 Operating Budget.

The White Flint Downtown Advisory Committee was established in order to advise the County Executive and the County Council on public services in the White Flint Sector Plan that promote and market area businesses and residential opportunities, enhance a sense of place for the White Flint community, enhance maintenance and augment beautification efforts, and promote walkability and bike accessibility throughout the plan's boundaries. While the WFDAC has made great strides since its inception, especially with the leadership and assistance of Ken Hartman, BCC-RSC Director, progress has been limited due to lack of funding for these efforts.

Last spring, the Council generously provided the WFDAC with an addition \$10,000 which has been used to develop a comprehensive website for the White Flint area similar to the excellent website available from the Bethesda Urban Partnership. The launching of this website will be an asset by offering a one-stop place for information on residential offerings, dining and shopping, and details on developments and road projects in the pipeline. One of the tasks of this committee is to determine the desirability and viability of an urban district-like entity for White Flint, but unfortunately, the lack of a Parking Lot District like those found in Bethesda and Silver Spring, will make this vision much more difficult due to the lack of a dedicated funding source.

Nevertheless, as the White Flint Sector Plan continues to build out - perhaps more rapidly than anticipated - the need for comprehensive services and consistent streetscaping in the area will be great. For 2015, the WFDAC has requested \$75,000 to facilitate the development of streetscaping guidelines, continued promotion of bike and pedestrian connectivity and facilities, streetscaping/streetlighting improvements, and a staff member to support the White Flint district.

This request is also being supported by the Bethesda Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce as you heard in Chair Andy Schulman's testimony last week. I believe that this funding would be put to good use as the committee continues to explore the most prudent path forward for continued service delivery in the White Flint Sector Plan area. Your support for placing this request on the reconciliation list would be greatly appreciated.

I plan on attending the Government Operations Committee discussion of the Community Engagement Cluster next week where I hope this request can be discussed. In the meantime, please let me know if you have any questions.

cc: Craig Rice, Council President
Cliff Cohen, Co-Chair, WFDAC
Francine Waters, Co-Chair, WFDAC
Steve Farber, Staff Director, Montgomery County Council
Ken Hartman, Director, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Center
Fariba Kassiri, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer, Montgomery County Executive
Marlene Michaelson, Senior Legislative Analyst, Montgomery County Council
Joy Nurmi, Special Assistant, Montgomery County Executive
Nkosi Yearwood, Area 2 Planner, M-NCPPC

Community Engagement Cluster - Monthly Updates

April 2014

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center

April 2014

Night Time Economy

Met with residents of the Fairmont Condominiums in Bethesda concerning noise and disruptive behavior at two restaurants in Bethesda. Held follow up meeting to connect residents with police and DLC. Issues discussed included police staffing in CBD at time establishments close, and proactive DLC enforcement of food-alcohol ratio. Residents have subsequently asked for a meeting with the CE to request that downtown Bethesda be designated as a "Noise Sensitive Area" under Chapter 31 of the County Code.

Glen Echo Cooperative Agreement

GEPPAC board is requesting a renewed effort to replace the 2002 Cooperative Agreement with NPS. Initial discussions with NPS on County assistance in the event of a Federal Government shutdown have stalled. Sara Morningstar and I are meeting with GEPPAC on April 11 to discuss next steps.

WSSC Contractor use of Elm Street ROW

DPS has revoked the permit for Metra, a WSSC contractor, for use of the Elm Street ROW. Metra has until April 18 to restore ROW.

Construction activity in Bethesda

A number of projects are underway in Bethesda including private development, utility projects, and State Highway projects. I have received comments and complaints from the Urban Partnership, businesses, and residents about impacts to pedestrian access, traffic, and appearance of the CBD. Following up with DPS on specific concerns.

Bethesda Gateway Sign

State Highway has circulated plans for modifying the intersection of Woodmont and MD355 which will require the relocation of a large "Welcome to Bethesda" gateway sign. We have tried unsuccessfully to schedule a meeting with SHA to review the design. Members of the State Delegation are writing to SHA regarding the design and impacts to the sign.

Drug Dealing Arrests

At the Request of MCP and the States Attorney's Office, I have written a letter to the Circuit Court concerning the sentencing of an individual arrested for dealing drugs in the plaza outside the RSC and impacts to the community. The individual is one of four arrested for dealing last fall. Our plaza continues to be a magnet for suspicious individuals who interact with teenagers after school. Police are continuing to focus on this area.

NIH Master Plan Update

NIH held a public meeting concerning the DEIS for a master plan update. NIH expects to add 3,000 employees to its campus over the next 20 years. Community members are concerned about the adequacy of the traffic analysis (which states no impact); a proposed entrance on Cedar Lane; and the location of the meeting – the Little Falls Library.

Wyngate sidewalks

A sidewalk battle is underway in the Wyngate neighborhood concerning sidewalks proposed for Wyngate Drive and Lindale Drive. Residents opposed say impacts to trees and landscaping are unacceptable, while those in favor say the sidewalks will provide a much-needed connection between

existing sidewalks (that stop mid-block) and are necessary for child safety. The Principal of Wyngate Elementary originally supported the sidewalks, but has withdrawn her support following feedback from residents. The Civic Association also drew fire for requesting feedback on the sidewalk proposal – at the request of DOT. I am following up with DOT about the need to provide language and a format for civic associations to use to help them falling into neighbor-to-neighbor disputes.

Citizens Advisory Board

- No meeting was held in March due to snow. The Board's **Annual Report** was completed via email and transmitted to the County Executive and County Council.
- **Nayyera Haq**, a resident of Chevy Chase, was confirmed by the County council on April 1. Ms. Haq replaces Lisa Neuder on the Board.
- The Board's ad hoc budget committee met on April 7 and drafted **testimony to the County Council**, based on an earlier letter to County Executive Leggett regarding the FY15 Operating Budget. The testimony was approved via email and delivered to the County Council. Testimony focused on Libraries, RSCs, SROs, Ride-On, Ped Safety, and Planning.
- The Board's Transportation/Land Use committee also met on April 7 and received a presentation from JBG regarding **development near the Twinbrook Metro Station**.
- The **next full Board Meeting is scheduled for April 21** and will include a presentation by Councilmember Berliner and discussions of the Bethesda Downtown Plan and Villages.

White Flint

- The **White Flint Downtown Advisory Committee** met last on April 8. The Agenda included a presentation from the developer of the destination website and a presentation by Committees for Transit concerning Rapid Transit on Rockville Pike. The Committee approved an annual report and testimony to the Council regarding the FY15 Operating Budget. The Committee meets next on May 13.
- In testimony to the County Council, the White Flint Downtown Advisory Committee has asked for **additional funds** (\$75,000) to work on a streetscape plan for White Flint, hire contract support for marketing and outreach, and provide spot improvements in the ROW.
- DOT is beginning **demolition of County-owned buildings on Maple Ave** (Soon to be Chapman). This is the location of the future White Flint Fire Station/Police sub-station/urban district.
- Working on a **destination web portal** for White Flint, which will consolidate development information, retail directory and dining guide, apartment and condo listing, and a news and events feed. We have completed a retail/dining directory, history of White Flint with archive photos, and a map of development activities. The portal will be called metrowhiteflint.org to address developer concerns over the use of the name "White Flint".
- The Advisory Committee's **Marketing Committee** is meeting on April 16. On the agenda is the finalization of neighborhood names, web portal color scheme, and logo.
- The Advisory Committee's **Maintenance committee** is reviewing sample MOUs from the State Highway Administration for property owner maintenance and beautification of ROW along Rockville Pike. Federal Realty Investment Trust has offered to improve the ROW connecting Pike & Rose with the White Flint Metro Station.



- Continuing work on the **POR of Station 23** with DGS staff. The POR should be finalized in 2-3 weeks. The project will include space for a future Urban District and housing.

Bethesda

- The next **Woodmont Triangle Action Group** meeting is scheduled for May 9 and will include a presentation by Christ Lutheran Evangelical Church regarding their plans development of apartments and a community center.
- The **B-CC Rescue Squad** is considering a redevelopment of their property which would include a new station and apartments.
- Kettler is beginning demolition of the corner of Old Georgetown/Commerce. Kettler will build a 15-story apartment building.
- "The Lauren" a 25-unit condominium building on Woodmont Ave. is at permitting.
- Conducting interviews of candidates for the residential vacancy on the BUP Board of Directors. This vacancy will be filled by the County Executive. The Citizens Advisory Board acts as the interview committee.
- BUP board members met with Planners concerning possible recommendations about the future role of BUP. Planners have suggested that BUP could assume a greater role in economic and retail development.

Other

Avenel Community Association asked me about how the County budgets for **repairs to the ROW for damages caused by snow removal activities**. DOT has been very responsive to specific repair needs and ACA has offered to provide support. I will follow up with DOT.

The **Coalition for the Capital Crescent Trail (CCCT)** is building a bike way-station on River Road at the Capital Crescent Trail. They are overwhelmed by the planning and parks permitting process and reached out to me for suggestions. I am following up with Parks and DOT Highway Services for assistance in moving the project forward including estimates of costs, permitting, and getting contractors perform to the work with funds raised by CCCT.

Police are conducting a series of **enforcement activates at marked crosswalks** in Bethesda. On April 2, enforcement of the Wisconsin Ave crosswalk at Stanford resulted in 20 citations for failure to yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk, 2 for drivers without a license. Additional crosswalk enforcement in Bethesda is scheduled over the next few weeks.

DOT is kicking off a **public education campaign for pedestrian safety** in Bethesda. We are assisting in outreach to community associations and businesses and meeting with BUP and the Chamber to discuss.

Community Engagement Cluster – Monthly Update

Commission for Women
Judith Vaughan-Prather
April 2014

1. Community Issues:

The state legislature established a **Child Custody Decision Making** Task Force that has been meeting and holding hearings around the state. Concern has been raised about this issue. Delegate Kathleen Dumais, who serves on the task force, will brief the CFW on its work at the CFW's meeting in May.

2. Advisory Board Activities/Issues:

The CFW's **Policy and Legislative Action Committee** has written, through the county's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, to the Maryland General Assembly on a number of bills.

March was **Women's History Month** and the CFW engaged in a number of related activities:

- Created a display on "Women of Character, Courage and Commitment" for the Rockville Memorial Library lobby
- Participated in the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame ceremonies in Annapolis for the induction of the MC CFW's nominee, Henrietta Lacks
- Received a proclamation of Women's History Month from the Montgomery County Council
- Participated in the Women's and Gender Studies Scholarship Awards ceremony at Montgomery College
- Posted information about Women's History Month on the CFW's website and Facebook page.

In response to concern in the community, the CFW wrote to the County Executive proposing the establishment of an interdepartmental task force on **human trafficking**. The proposal recommended the inclusion of the departments of Police, Health and Human Services, Sheriff, State's Attorney, Circuit Court, Office of Community Partnerships, Commission for Women, Human Rights, the County Executive Office, service providers and advocacy groups in the private sector. The County Executive has indicated that he will establish such a task force.

Two seminars were provided as the CFW's contribution to **diversity seminar series** organized by the Department of Human Resources' EEO Compliance and Diversity Management Division. On March 29, the CFW sponsored a seminar on *Senior Women: At the Intersection of Cultural Perceptions of Sex and Age*; and on April 8, the CFW provided a seminar on *Muslim Women: Delivering Culturally Competent Service in a Post 9/11 World*. Both seminars were well attended and well received.

The CFW established its first **Facebook page** in March, and is exploring other avenues in the development of its social media strategy.

The next CFW meeting is Thursday, April 10 when it will receive a briefing from the Community Action Board on women and poverty and the Earned Income Tax Credit.

3. Other:

Update of CFW Women's Rights Brochures: Work is almost complete on updating the CFW's three multi-lingual brochures on workplace rights (pregnancy rights, sexual harassment and domestic workers' rights) and on violence in relationships and the legal process of separation and divorce.

CFW Counseling Services: We continue to work toward the transition of the counseling service to one provided on a contractual basis.

**Community Engagement Cluster
Monthly Report – April 2014**

**East County RSC
Jewru Bandeh, Director**

Community Related

Installation of a Traffic Light at New Hampshire Ave and Quaint Acres: The long awaited installation of the signal light within the Quaint Acres community began last week. The signals are up and covered and the median has been removed and temporarily patched. Although the County can get the lights activated by the end of the month, the determining factor in completing the project will be the availability of hot asphalt, with the plants still on winter shutdown. We are working with MCPIO and MCDOT to hold a public "Switch the Light On" event/ceremony at the site involving the County Executive in coordination with the Quaint Acres Civic Association and area residents who have been advocating for a long time for the signal lights.

Community Concerns: Use of the East County Community Recreation Center as a Winter Overflow Homeless Shelter. For the past six years the MCDHHS have in partnership with the Recreation Department housed the winter overflow homeless shelter for men at the (ECCRC) center. With growing concerns about loitering homeless men within the Briggs Chaney community and concerns for the safety for children, residents has made it clear that they do not want the overflow shelter here and that it should be rotated to other parts of the county. The Directors of DHHS and Recreation met with area residents through two IMPACT Silver Spring Parents' Circle and Greencastle Elementary PTA community meetings to discuss the concerns and to identify short and long term solutions to the concerns.

The ECCR Center is only utilized when other shelters are full to capacity. The facility usually houses about 30-50 homeless men between 10:00 pm and 7:00 am. MCDHHS's vendor (MC Coalition for the Homeless) is responsible for all the operational functions, including staffing, supervision and transporting the men in and out, so that they do not hang on in the community. The only requirements for an overflow shelter are availability of bathrooms, showers and access to public transportation for those men who have to get to work early in the morning from the site. A work group (consisting of representatives from DHHS, DGS, RSC, (Recreation) will be convened to help find a long term permanent solution, with DHHS as lead.

2014 Summer Youth Job Fair- Transportation for East County Youth. The ECRSC, in collaboration with Recreation, OCP and ECCAB we offered transportation to/from the Job fair held in Silver Spring on April 5 to ensure that East County youth can participate in the annual event. Four pickup and drop off locations were established to serve the Briggs Chaney, White Oak, Good Hope and Burtonsville communities. Unfortunately, fewer than expected took advantage of the opportunity.

Third District Police Station: An internal work group has been established to plan the ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of the Third District Police station, which is almost complete. A tentative date has also been established for the move. Police and PIO will, in due time, determine the date and time for the ribbon cutting ceremony. A strategy is also being developed to notify the public of the move-relocation of the Third District Police Station.

IDA Sector Police and Community Meeting was held in March. This meeting provided an opportunity for Police to provide an update on crime trends within the IDA Sector and discuss police-community collaboration in crime prevention, raising public awareness and promoting public safety in the home and at the neighborhood level.

Developing an Infrastructure for Delivery of Human Services-East County Community Capacity Building: The ECRSC, OCP and DHHS are working together to develop a sustainable infrastructure for the delivery of human services for Eastern Montgomery County. The initial planning meeting scheduled for April 21 will bring together key leaders and service providers to provide perspectives in the process of establishing a sustainable community based human services infrastructure essential in improving the quality of life in East County relative to:

- Connectivity and access to social services, including a Neighborhood Opportunity Network strategy
- Promoting workforce development and economic opportunity
- Enhanced community outreach, organizing and capacity building

This work group will include representatives from DHHS, CEC-ECRSC/OCP, ECCAB, Family Services, Impact Silver Spring, Muslim Community Masgids/Services, Lutheran Services, and Interfaith Works.

East County Citizens Advisory Board Related

David Spears, Senior Vice President and Karla Silvestre, Director of Community Engagement, Office of Advancement and Community Engagement, Montgomery College were guest speakers at the **March 2014 meeting**.

For about six months, the ECRSC has been working very closely with Montgomery College on a plan that would help establish its presence in East County. The plan will expand Montgomery College Community Engagement efforts by providing financial aid, admissions and academic counseling information, workforce preparation classes and community events in East County, as reflected in the recommendations developed by the ECCAB at its October 2013 Leadership Summit. The ECRSC and the College will partner with other county agencies, community organizations to provide wrap-around community services and events to residents as well.

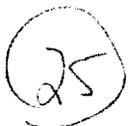
Goals of ECRSC/Montgomery College Collaboration

- Montgomery College and ECRSC will pilot classes and services known to be in high demand at various levels of the academic/workforce preparation/certificate attainment spectrum.

- Help strengthen the civic infrastructure of East County by helping to bolster the center into a vibrant community hub with strong connections to the network of service providers and businesses in the area.
- Utilize Montgomery College and Montgomery County Foundation's resources with a regional focus.
- Conduct extensive outreach to promote community capacity building and to make the College's presence is a household name in East County.

In Montgomery College's analysis of six potential locations for a college community engagement center in underserved neighborhoods, quantitative data on income, literacy and education levels of residents reflects East County as the location with the second greatest need behind Gaithersburg. East County has one of the largest concentration of residents who are not English proficient at 15.1%, according to the College's analysis.

Beginning this summer, we plan to begin implementation of the plan with limited presence in the form of few classes (computer literacy, English language and Workforce preparation classes/workshops) and events with two part time staff located at the ECRSC. The center staffing and resources will be funded through College resources as planned.



1. Community Issues:

- **Aspen Hill Fire:** 3 buildings were impacted that night but only 3 units of one 14 unit building have long-term housing needs. Local MCPS staff are helping the families with the necessary assistance. In the meantime, the Red Cross is interested in co-hosting a conversations about developing resources for large displacements like this in the future.
- SHA completed the first of their community meetings on pedestrian safety in Wheaton. Much of the time was spent discussing issues such as placement of bus stops, lack of median barriers, improved crosswalk lighting and striping, all on the 3 state roads that pass through Wheaton. They expect to have recommendations to present back to the community by this fall and they hope to move towards implementation over the next year.
- BRT—many in the Olney community are expressing concerns related to the project as they foresee becoming a transit hub for the system. They also dislike the idea of the special taxing district. As developments or changes become available to the project, it will be important to update each of the communities along the proposed corridors.
- **Aspen Hill Minor Master Plan: the April 1st community meeting reflected the mixed views of the project with those for and against the Walmart. Planning staff were addressed with hostility particularly by those against the Walmart. Next community meeting will take place May 13th.**
- Wheaton Redevelopment update: many residents and community groups are unclear as to the budget process related to the redevelopment project. I am working with them to clarify misunderstandings as well as next steps related to community engagement.

2. Advisory Board Activities/Issues:

- MCCAB—concerns were raised at the last meeting around transportation priorities especially as it pertains to the BRT and SHA projects in mid-county along Georgia Avenue. The Land Use, Zoning and Transportation subcommittee is working on issues pertaining to the BRT, bikeability throughout the region, and speed cameras. On biking in mid-county, both committees discussed what might be needed to promote bike use in down county (from wider shoulders to a secure barrier between cars and bikes) to bringing Bikeshare to Forest Glen/Wheaton/Glenmont. The Quality of Life subcommittee has been working on issues related to towing (they are working on a letter to be jointly submitted with WUDAC) funding for Brookside's current projects and what will happen to the carousel at Wheaton Regional Park, MPDUs (their overarching concern is the fact that MPDUs do not adequately meet the needs of residents currently occupying Affordable Housing who are displaced by development, even though MPDUs are included).
- WUDAC— overall the committee is very concerned about the Wheaton Redevelopment project and the funding needed to move forward with design. They have submitted a letter to council expressing their concerns. In addition, DOT came to their last meeting and discussed strategies related to improving commuter services and pedestrian safety. DOT & DHCA also came to the design subcommittee to discuss efforts each department undertakes in support of businesses. Information will be used in a brochure for the Wheaton business

community. DEP will be coming to their next subcommittee meeting to discuss their efforts. As for the Economic Development subcommittee, they are working on a new Fall Festival to take place at Veterans Park. Lastly, the committee as a whole is working on a second walking tour to take place June 14th from 10am-1pm.

3. Other:

- Urban District Efforts:
 - UD staff has been working with DPS to begin promoting signage compliance with Wheaton businesses.
 - Preparing for the Taste of Wheaton—taking place on June 8th
 - Solar trash/recycling trash compactors should be issued by April 21st
- 2014 ULI-COG Technical Assistance Panel (TAP) Program selected the Glenmont Shopping Center as one of three projects selected to move forward to receive a TAP.

**Office of Community Partnerships
Bruce Adams, Director
April 2014 Report**

Community Issues

Advisory Group Activities/Issues

- OCP staff participated in a White House meeting hosted by George Selim, Director for Community Partnerships on the National Security Council. The purpose was to discuss the "Montgomery County Model" that is seen as unique and worthy of emulation for promoting social cohesion in a diverse community, advancing public safety, and reducing violence. Participants included Bruce Adams, Director of the Office of Community Partnerships; Brette Steele, Senior Council to the Deputy Attorney General; Isiah Leggett, County Executive; Rev. Mansfield Kaseman, Interfaith Community Liaison; Dr. Hedieh Mirahmadi, President of WORDE and Co-Chair of the Faith Community Working Group; Dr. Joshua Starr, Superintendent of Montgomery County Public Schools; Thomas Manger, Police Chief of Montgomery County; George Selim, Director for Community Partnerships on the National Security Council; Uma Ahluwalia, Director of the Department of Health and Human Services; and Darryl McSwain, Assistant Police Chief for Montgomery County.
- Faith Community Working Group activated Neighbors in Need Working Group with Rabbi David Shneyer and Claire Waggoner as Co-Chairs and established Healthcare and Hunger Relief Task Forces;
- Clergy Response Committee of FCWG reviewed current engagements including emergency assistance and planning the training for religious leaders in MC in Recognizing and Responding to Persons with Mental Illness on Thursday, April 24, 1-5 pm at the Civil Building in Silver Spring;
- County Executive's Latin American Advisory Group met on March 9 with Human Resources director Joe Adler to discuss how to increase Latino representation in County government and Housing and Community Affairs director Rick Nelson to discuss affordable housing;
- Members of the African Affairs Advisory Group attended the first African Legislative Night. This event was organized by the Governor's Commission on African Affairs and it was an opportunity to meet leaders in other African communities in Maryland, network with elected and appointed officials, and most importantly to discuss the most important legislation which impacts Africans;
- Caribbean American Advisory Group is planning an April 28th Education Summit at the East County Regional Services Center;
- MLK Commemorative Committee representatives met with the CE's Boards/Committees staff to review the executive order that created the MLK Committee, reviewed membership, the CERB recommendations;
- Middle Eastern American Advisory Group met on March 24 at the Gaithersburg Library to see the new Farsi book collection.
- Commission on Aging committees: Senior Fellow attended meetings of two committees discussing how OCP Liaison with the Interfaith Community could assist in facilitating communications and information on senior issues, as well as work with the new Village Coordinator in assisting low and moderate income communities in developing villages.

Gilchrist Center

- Center staff revised the Center's Vision, Mission and Goals and its Organizational Chart;
- Center is preparing for the end of the Winter session and the upcoming registration for the Spring session, including pre-registration for English classes, collecting program evaluations, issuing certificates, etc. Due to the inclement winter weather, some classes are ending in the first week of April (the report for the winter ESL and computers classes will be included in the April report);
- Center sent out its electronic newsletter "Community News & Announcements" weekly in the month of March. It is now easier to subscribe, thanks to the links that have been incorporated on our website and newsletter;
- Center continues to work on setting up the Gaithersburg Library site;
- Design Team of the new Wheaton Library/Community Center/Gilchrist Center resumed bi-weekly meetings on March 13;

Volunteer Center

- Montgomery Serves Awards winners selected and planning for April 28 event continues;
- Tax Aide Program is in operation with more than 100 volunteers working at 20 locations to prepare taxes for low to moderate income taxpayers;

- Volunteer Center Website/Database: 376 agencies received 3,198 referrals from 985 volunteers through the website during March 2014. 210 new volunteers registered for a total of 7,703 with accounts on our site. 13 new agencies registered. 20 people attended the monthly orientation for agencies;
- Number of newsletter subscribers: 19,201;
- Pro Bono Consultant Volunteer Program: February and March reports 5 projects submitted, 6 new consultants interviewed and the three matches made;

Sister Cities

- OCP staff attended the 2014 US-China Sister Cities International Conference on March 26-28. Met with representatives from Xi'an and members of the Northwest Chinese American Association of Greater Washington to discuss moving our sister city relationship forward. We were told that our sister city agreement has been approved on a provincial level and that a delegation from Xi'an may come to Montgomery County in May for a signing ceremony;
- Planning continues for County Executive's Joint Mission Sister City and Economic Development trip to India in November; DED hired consultant;
- Allison Ray, MPP student at the University of Maryland, is working with the Gondar Sister City committee to develop a strategic plan towards effective outreach and program development;

Other

- Hired Nestor Alvarenga as liaison to Latino community and Gilchrist Center upcounty representative;
- Hired Mimi Hassanein as Senior Fellow and liaison to Middle Eastern community;
- OCP/VC/Gilchrist Center hosted table at March 29 Poverty Conference cosponsored by A Wider Circle and OCP;
- April Seniors Today cable show features a discussion of poverty among Montgomery County seniors with the Communication Action Agency, as well as with the Jewish Council for the Aging on its annual Over 50 Employment Expo and issues pertaining to senior employment;
- Montgomery Corps Language Bank specialist recruited 10 new Language Bank volunteers;
- OCP/OHR conducted an innovation in cultural competency training to managers on March 11;
- Down County Network meetings are quarterly opportunities for County service providers (public and private) to network, share resources, best practices, and keep each other informed about important issues in our neighborhoods. Wednesday, March 12 meeting was on Free Tax Assistance and Financial Literacy. Sharon Strauss, Executive Director, Community Action Agency, talked about the County's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) program. VITA provides free tax help and free electronic filing (e-filing) to moderate income individuals and families earning less than \$52,000 a year; Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) also serves people over 60. They have 29 locations throughout the County this tax season, with the support of 311 and County facilities, Libraries, and Volunteer Center. Partners include the IRS, RSVP/AARP, DHHS Community Action Agency (with the Cities of Gaithersburg and Rockville, Family Services Inc and CAFÉ Montgomery, University of Maryland's Cooperative Extension, the Maryland CASH Campaign, Maryland Hunger Solutions, and Spanish Catholic Charities); Community Tax Aid; Chinese Cultural and Community Services Center; and, Ana Mendez University. Trained and certified volunteers help taxpayers to access the full amount of refunds and to access all credits they may be eligible for, such as the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, and Credit for the Elderly or the Disabled. Others on the panel were Tom Harr, Executive Director, Family Services, and Michael Richardson, Vice President of Community Relations, Mid-Atlantic Federal Credit Union.

1. Community Issues

Outdoor Celebrations and Festival Times Are Here! With Spring arriving, the level of outdoor and public activity throughout the Regional Area pick ups. We have developed a list of many of the community celebrations and festivals scheduled for the balance of the year. The list includes not only the events directly supported by the Regional Center and Urban District (Taste the World in Fenton Village in the Spring, Summer Concert Series, Jazz Festival in September, and Thanksgiving Parade in November), but also some of the many other events done by others in downtown Silver Spring. The list affirms the increasing vitality of the Area. We are constantly working with our private and public sector partners to ensure these events happen in a way that are family friendly, are welcoming of all, and build community.

Taste the World in Fenton Village A major effort that is serving to bring the community together is "The Taste the World in Fenton Village" event scheduled for Sunday, May 4th. This 'restaurant crawl' in Fenton Village – now in its fourth year – brings attention to the southern part of downtown Silver Spring, helping affirm the area's diverse restaurant and retail options. The event is led by volunteers and organized by the Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board's Commercial Economic Development Committee.

Upcoming "Small Group" Community Engagement Opportunities We have been working diligently in preparing for a series of targeted "small group" dialogues in certain topics of interest in the Regional Area. These include

- ◇ Summer Placement of Youth With Area Businesses for 6 Weeks (collaborating with TransCen and MontgomeryWorks)
- ◇ Problem Solving in Diverse Communities (collaborating with Conflict Resolutions Center of Montgomery County)
- ◇ Silver Spring Faith Community Dialogue (collaborating with Interfaith Community Liaison of the Office of Community Partnership)

Our intent is for these small dialogues to support many of the other activities going on in the area – and provide opportunities for new relationships and innovative approaches to emerge.

Purple Line With the Purple Line increasingly becoming more of a reality, we continue participating in meetings with area businesses, residents, associations, and coalitions in collaboration with other County Departments and Agencies. Park and Planning's Mandatory Referral Hearing and the University of Maryland Purple Line Corridor Coalition event ("Beyond the Tracks") both presented a wealth of information and provided opportunities for testimony and input. Two specific issues that are subject of subsequent meetings include the sub-stations at the Dale Avenue station, where some in the community continue to express apprehension about the solutions presented to date; and, the survivability of the small business cores during and after construction, where concerns continue regarding sustainability.

2. Advisory Groups

Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board (Monday, April 14): This month the SSCAB will complete its series of presentations on major developments and transportation infrastructure projects impacting the Area. Tom Street, Special Assistant to the County Executive will present the latest regarding the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. They will also hear about the work Silver Spring Town Center, Inc., is doing helping program some of the happenings in the Civic Building and Veterans Plaza. ... The Transportation, Energy, and Environment Committee will focus on pedestrian mobility and the various projects going on and being considered; the

Neighborhoods Committee has invited Purple Line representatives to share an update regarding multi-station emerging issues; and, the Commercial Economic Development Committee will be putting their finishing touches on The Taste the World in Fenton Village event. (All Committees meet Monday, April 28.)

Silver Spring Arts & Entertainment Advisory Committee (Tuesday, May 12) This Committee meets every other month. Next month they will focus on emerging ideas regarding busking; and they have asked MTA to come discuss the arts component of the Purple Line.

Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Committee (Thursday, April 17): Last month the Committee heard from Jeff Dunckel, point person for the County's pedestrian and bicycle mobility efforts; and discussed the sign plan presented to the Sign Board by the developers of the CityPlace redevelopment. This month they will be joined by Lily Qi from the County Executive Office to discuss the "NEW Montgomery Initiative" and how Silver Spring is an integral part of it. Next month (May) SHA will be asked to come back to discuss updates on their various projects throughout downtown. In July, the Committee will join others in a workshop regarding the Fenton Street resurfacing project (MCDOT) and the plans for the project along US29 (Colesville from the Beltway in; south on Georgia Avenue to the DC line.)

Silver Spring Youth Advisory Committee (Usually meets every other Wednesday) They have begun to get ready for the 'end of year' celebration when all 5 YACs come together.

Silver Spring Transportation Management District (Thursday April 10.) The TMD will be getting an update on the Bikesharing program.

Community Engagement Cluster – Monthly Update

Upcounty Regional Office
Catherine Matthews, Director

April 2014 Report

Community Issues:

Clarksburg Historic District – The County Executive and Council President plan to sign a joint letter on April 18 requesting WSSC's assistance in bringing sewer to Clarksburg's historic district that is adjacent to the town center. We have invited key members of the community such as owners of properties in the district, the Clarksburg Historical Society, the Clarksburg Chamber of Commerce, and the Clarksburg Civic Association.

Clarksburg Town Center - Developer Third Try, Inc. plans to submit an amended site plan to Planning this spring. There is concern among some residents and Parks Dept. staff that the developer does not intend to include some items that were agreed on in arbitration that resulted in the 2006 Compliance Plan for the town center (i.e. two playgrounds in local parks, seating, a trail system within the Greenway, certain streetlights with banners, enhancements at Murphy Grove, etc.). As a result, Parks staff are planning a community meeting to at least confirm what the community wants in Piedmont Woods Park. The developer has told the community that they expect to have retail in place sometime in 2018.

Positive Youth Development – I am working with HHS, Police, and others in developing a grant proposal for the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program to address youth issues in the Upcounty. The area of focus will be either Germantown or Damascus.

Montgomery Village Golf Course – The Montgomery Village Foundation approved Monument Realty's concept plan for redeveloping the golf course with up to 598 residential units, dog parks, trails, playgrounds and community gardens. The developer plans to submit their plan soon.

Montgomery Village Foundation – New officers were elected and the new President is John Driscoll, long-time MVF Board member.

Great Seneca Science Corridor - The Implementation Advisory Committee will meet on April 15 to hear another development proposal for that master plan area.

City of Gaithersburg – The City will hold their annual State of the City Address on April 24.

Advisory Board Activities & Issues:

UCAB held a joint committee meeting to hear an update from Lily Qi on efforts to reposition the county, and from Dan Hoffman on some innovation projects.

The next meeting will be on April 28. The board will conclude their discussion on Midcounty Highway, and Parks will present plans to redevelop Ovid Hazen Wells Park in Clarksburg.

Other: None.