

## 5.18.2023 MCCAB Minutes

7:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Welcome

Meeting Protocols

Introduction

Aquilla Ridgell Chair

Objective: Welcome, Review of protocols for online meeting, Guest introduction

7:05 p.m.

Agenda Accepted

Minutes April accepted

Aquilla Ridgell, Chair

Objective: Acceptance of agenda and April minutes

7:10 p.m.

Mid County Director Report Luisa Cardona MCRSO Director

Objective: Update on the Mid County Regional Area

Planning board confirmations, county budget confirmed, county tax confirmed. All the requests that were for language and translation and human trafficking group went through. All other requests were cut from the budget, because the tax was lower than proposed. We are experiencing a fentanyl crisis, more teenagers in public spaces skipping school, doing and dealing drugs. See this as an intervention crisis. In downtown Wheaton there were 3 overdoses in one week, no deaths but all were under 16 with narcan administered. Have called together a team to address this in the Glenmont and Wheaton areas (Glenmont McDonalds). Creating a collaborative group to go out in communities and pipeline them into better opportunities. We want to continuously offer services, but unless they're willing to receive treatment we can't force them. There was a shooting in the Wheaton area earlier, but our teams are working hard to address what's going on. There is spring fling this weekend, hope you can make it. Free fun activities, ice cream, flower giveaways, bouquet giveaways.

Looking for several people in the Glenmont/Wheaton area.

7:15 p.m.

Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee Report

Rob Fox WUDAC Liaison

Objective: Updates

7:20 p.m.

Recognition of Any Elected

Officials TBD

Objective: Provide an opportunity to any elected officials or preservatives that wish to give brief updates.

David Lorenzo for CM Glass the 10% proposal was reduced to 4.7% property tax increase for funding \$210m to the school system, one of the largest increases in years. Had a table at Montgomery hills street fest, and was reached out to about live wires left behind by Comcast. Feel free to reach out on constituent services to their office.

Kathia for CM CFG: Luisa and David covered a number of things. Doing a safety walk with the governor is confirmed, and we'll have more details soon and will share those. The council a week ago approved the capital improvement projects tax increase for schools. If you need anything from our office we handle constituent services, so reach out.

7:25 p.m.

Public Safety Update Lt. Adam Currie MCPD, 4th District

Objective: Provide an overview of public safety in MidCounty and per committee request information on speed cameras and mailbox theft.

Revenues from automated traffic go into general fund for public safety, vision zero, pedestrian safety and such. To request a camera e-mail [ateu.manager@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:ateu.manager@montgomerycountymd.gov) <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/pol/howdoI/request-speed-camera.html>

Gary: Do dummy camera boxes help slow speeds and does the county use them?

Lt. : No we don't.

Gary: I'd recommend them.

Lt.: We'd need to order them separately because the contractor wouldn't provide us with a box without a camera inside. Even an empty box needs to be mounted so as to not become a street hazard.

School zones will only allow cameras to be turned on during limited time windows, so we prefer to place them outside of school zones for weekend coverage.

Arquilla – how do you prioritize where cameras go?

Lt: We look at the data, once a request comes in from anywhere we look at if there's a school zone, church, hospital, what does the crash data and citations tell us? We want to have 85% of the vehicles passing that location going more than 12mph over the speed limit. We have to get a permit from DOT and SHA.

Arquilla – I know when there were a couple of fatalities speed cameras got put up quickly. Does that impact things?

Lt: Yes, it does.

Luisa – what's your highest grossing camera?

Lt: 28 at Muncaster and Bower, right past the church. That was due to fatalities, and they reduced the speed limit but once they reduce the speed limit we won't do an analysis for a year. It wouldn't be fair to immediately put up a speed camera after changing the limit.

Serge – what roads are the most high speed roads in the county?

Lt: We're limited by MPH, we can only put cameras on roads 35mph or less. We tried to get it increased to 45 but that didn't go through.

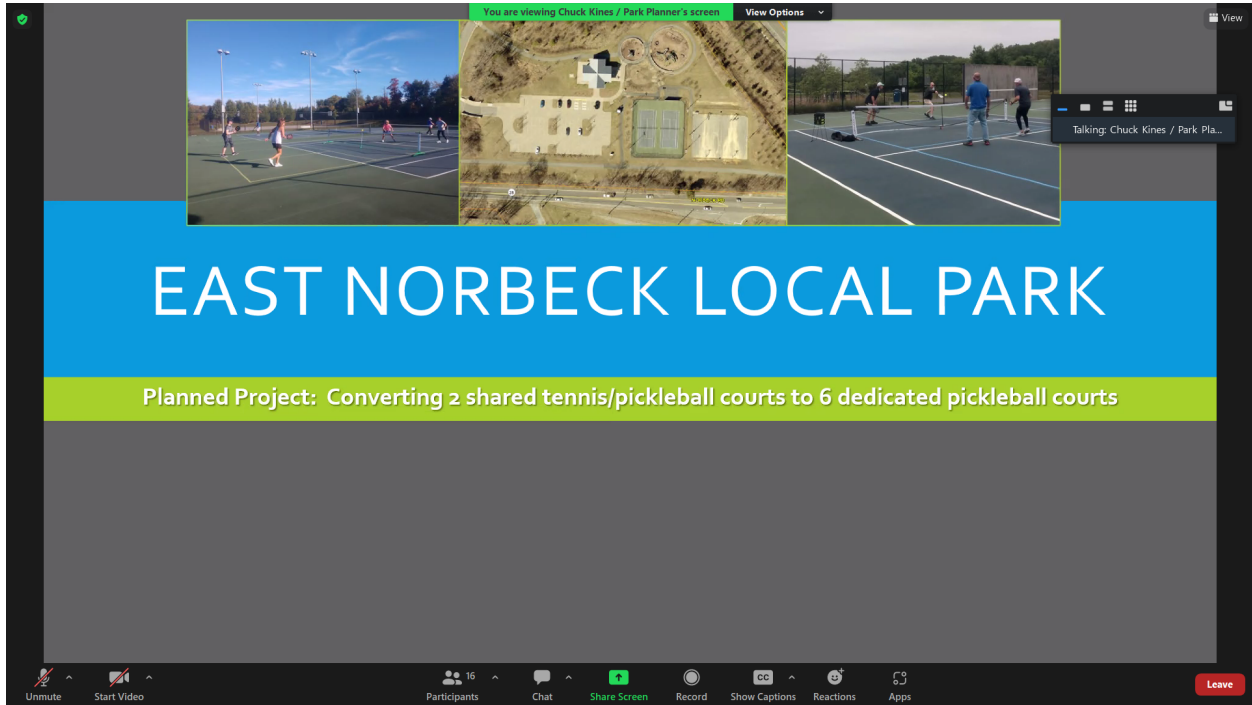
7:39 p.m.

Montgomery Parks | The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

Melissa Chotiner | Public Relations and Community Engagement Manager, Montgomery Parks

Objective: Presentation and request for feedback regarding changes to the tennis courts at East Norbeck Local Park.

Chuck Kines



This screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. At the top, there are three video thumbnails: a tennis court, a site plan, and a pickleball court. Below the thumbnails is a blue banner with the text "EAST NORBECK LOCAL PARK" in white. Underneath the banner is a green banner with the text "Planned Project: Converting 2 shared tennis/pickleball courts to 6 dedicated pickleball courts". The bottom of the screen shows the Zoom control bar with icons for Unmute, Start Video, Participants (16), Chat, Share Screen, Record, Show Captions, Reactions, and Apps. A "Leave" button is visible in the bottom right corner.

You are viewing Chuck Kines / Park Planner's screen

View Options

Talking: Chuck Kines / Park Pla...

# EAST NORBECK LOCAL PARK

Planned Project: Converting 2 shared tennis/pickleball courts to 6 dedicated pickleball courts

Unmute Start Video Participants 16 Chat Share Screen Record Show Captions Reactions Apps Leave



This screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. The top banner is green with the text "ABOUT PICKLEBALL" in white. Below the banner is a list of bullet points. To the right of the text is a photo of a woman playing pickleball. The bottom of the screen shows the Zoom control bar with icons for Unmute, Start Video, Participants (16), Chat, Share Screen, Record, Show Captions, Reactions, and Apps. A "Leave" button is visible in the bottom right corner.

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View Options

Talking: Chuck Kines / Park Pla...

## ABOUT PICKLEBALL

- Racket sport, like a cross between tennis and ping pong
- Sport for all ages, easy to learn, low-impact, social
- Rapidly growing nationally and in Montgomery County
- Montgomery Parks has 90+ pickleball courts, but only 8 dedicated courts; the rest are shared with tennis
- Parks' Pickleball Program:  
<https://montgomeryparks.org/projects/directory/pickleball-in-montgomery-parks/>



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# PROPOSED EAST NORBECK LOCAL PARK PROJECT

Talking: Chuck Kines / Park Pla...

This project would:

1. Establish a countywide pickleball hub
2. Convert both tennis courts to 6 dedicated pickleball courts



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# WHY A DEDICATED PICKLEBALL HUB?

Talking: Chuck Kines / Park Pla...

- Dedicated pickleball courts offer guaranteed play opportunities for pickleball players, shared courts with tennis do not.
- Pickleball hubs:
  - Reduce conflicts with tennis players
  - Ensure use can be appropriately accommodated
  - Offer a gathering place for pickleball players, often creating a welcoming community for all skill levels
  - Offer opportunities for casual tournaments/competitive play
  - Offer opportunities for practice and learning



Six pickleball courts at Bauer Drive

Unmute Start Video Participants 16 Chat Share Screen Record Show Captions Reactions Apps Leave

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# WHY EAST NORBECK LOCAL PARK?

- Both tennis courts were striped with pickleball overlay in 2021
- The park has become very popular for pickleball
- Has all the ingredients to become a pickleball hub:
  - Ample parking
  - Access to transit (Ride On #51)
  - Distance from homes
  - ADA accessible
  - Court lighting
  - Picnic shelter for social gatherings

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# EXISTING CONDITIONS


2 tennis courts, both with pickleball overlay

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# DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS – SPRING 2023

- Motion-detecting camera installed March 28 through April 11, 2023
- Over 1,200 images captured
- Almost daily use by pickleball players
- Regular use by tennis players as well



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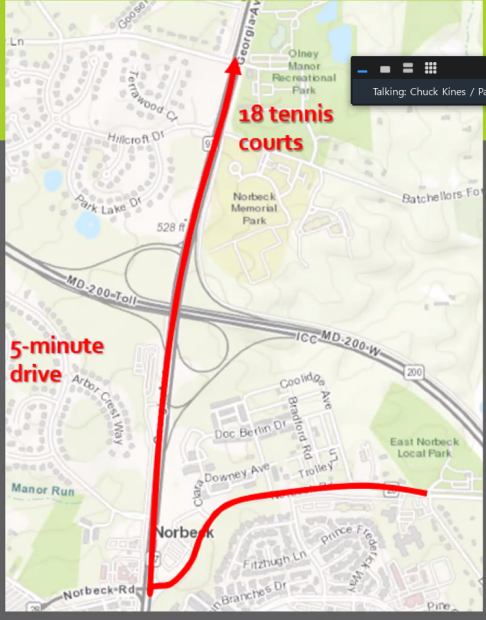
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## NEARBY TENNIS COURTS: OLNEY MANOR



**Olney Manor Recreational Park  
18 tennis courts**



**18 tennis courts**

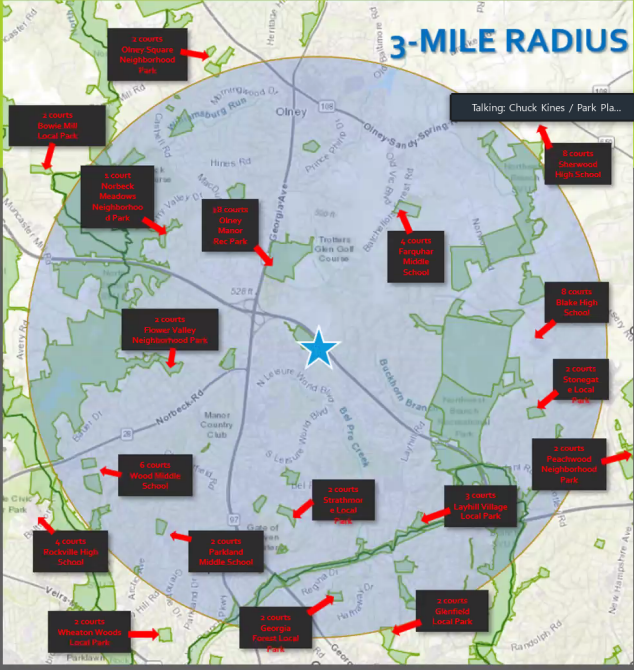
**5-minute drive**

Talking: Chuck Kines / Park Pla...

Unmute Start Video Participants Chat Share Screen Record Show Captions Reactions Apps Leave

## NEARBY PUBLIC TENNIS COURTS: PARKS AND SCHOOLS

- Within a 3-mile radius of East Norbeck Local Park:
- 38 courts at public parks
- 32 courts at MCPS schools (available weeknights and weekends)



**3-MILE RADIUS**

Talking: Chuck Kines / Park Pla...

## PROJECT TIMELINE

Talking: Chuck Kines / Park Pla...

- May 2023 – Public Engagement
  - Presentations to nearby civic/community groups and HOAs
  - Broader countywide outreach via social media
  - Open Town Hall
- June 2023 – Decision by Parks
- Summer/Fall 2023 - Implementation



Talking:

## QUESTIONS?



Debra – were the tennis courts underused?

Kevin – it wasn't underused, but we believe there's enough tennis courts nearby to allow for this conversion.

Debra – how does this fit into the master plan for the whole park?

Kevin – we tried to equitably distribute pickleball opportunities throughout the county. We want at least shared pickleball courts throughout the county and we think we've been accomplishing



that. We haven't been providing dedicated courts though, at the county level. Tennis courts are a prime place to convert as most of the infrastructure is ready, a \$30k conversion cost instead of \$100k for installing new.

Tameka – two questions. First, where you're going to convert tennis to pickleball, have you talked to people that actually play tennis or put signage up for providing feedback? Second, but near the Olney swim center there's tons of tennis courts over there. There's no dedicated pickleball courts, but are there overlays?

Kevin – at Olney Manor there's one court where staff installed a pickleball court, which is a youth tennis configuration and is close, but it's not an exact match. We are putting signs up at the park later this week, there'll be signs placed in multiple locations.

Arquilla – how do you keep people who play tennis off the pickleball courts?

Kevin – I haven't seen that or heard of it as an issue much. Kids might do it but not adults.

Arquilla – how did you know that this was a need?

Kevin – we know that it's the fastest growing sport right now, and we in the county recreation providers have witnessed how crowded those facilities are. Beginners will be reluctant to show up and play without a dedicated court. We haven't done a scientific study of the demand, but we've listened to our constituents about the demand for it.

Arquilla – are all of the pickleball courts outdoors or will some be indoors?

Kevin – one of the tennis plex courts has pickleball lines and a dedicated one will be installed this summer. In Wheaton several dedicated ones are being installed at the athletic complex indoors. There are a number of new privately run pickleball facilities indoors.

8:15 p.m.

Community Concerns Board member Serge Thomas and Community members

Objective: Discussion on the possible closure of the Oak Chapel UMC's Food HUB and opportunity for general public comments

Turpy – I live on Hewett avenue, and where I live and how I have to get out, there's cars parked at the end of my driveway. I can't see because the trucks and cars are right there are the edge of the drive. I've e-mailed with Luisa Cardona as well, and she sent me an e-mail back and forwarded it on to someone else.

Luisa – I'm trying to remember who in police traffic I sent that along to, but I'm sorry you haven't received any response or improvement on this. People speed up and down the street and once a month a car is totaled from being hit.

Lt. Curry: I'm from the traffic operations division, we focus most on injuries. This would fall under district community operations and Officer Head. I'm familiar with the layout and with that as being a problem. Having some dedicated parking areas and curb bumps may be the best ways to help with that.

Serge Thomas – food hub at Oak Chapel. I'm the director of community engagement partnerships at Oak Chapel. In the budget that was announced and is being voted on finalized next week, Oak Chapel is the only hub that's going to be defunded. We found out about this change on the day the county council announced its budget. The view appears to be that we don't serve enough people, but we cover a significant portion of the Mid-county region. Of patrons, 70% are Hispanic, 20% are Asian, 5% African, 5% white. DHHS testified to the HHS committee

everything they were looking to fund this FY, and on page 8 they gave a breakdown of everything the hubs were doing. This will have a major impact on an underserved population in the county.

Debra – What percentage of your income was from the county?

Serge – a significant portion. A lot of the hubs get funding from the county.

Debra – have they looked into other funding sources?

Serge – we've applied for \$415k in grants, one from AHA did come through.

MCCAB votes in favor of writing a letter for supporting the hub.

9:00 p.m.

Adjourn Aquilla Ridgell Chair

Objective: Close out meeting

19:25:01 From David Lorenzo, Office of CM Glass to Everyone:

ateu.manager@montgomerycountymd.gov

19:26:02 From Luisa Cardona to Everyone:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/pol/howdoi/request-speed-camera.html>

19:26:30 From Rob Fox to Everyone:

Thanks everyone! copied into minutes

19:38:15 From Arquilla Ridgell to Everyone:

Thank you David.

19:38:50 From Arquilla Ridgell to Everyone:

Thank you Luisa.

19:38:58 From Tameka Nicholson to Everyone:

Thanks Chris!

9:59:28 From Luisa Cardona to Everyone:

They system is quick reserve: <https://montgomeryparks.org/parks-and-trails/wheaton-regional-park/indoor-tennis-facility/rentals-and-services/>

20:01:03 From Luisa Cardona to Everyone:

Montgomery County/ CUPF properties can be reserved through Active Montgomery

20:01:06 From Luisa Cardona to Everyone:

<https://web1.myvscloud.com/wbwc/mdmontgomeryctywt.wsc/splash.html>

20:02:38 From Tameka Nicholson to Everyone:

Thanks Luisa.

20:06:36 From Tameka Nicholson to Everyone:

Thanks Chuck. Great information.

20:07:28 From Chuck Kines / Park Planner to Everyone:

[https://communityfeedback.opengov.com/portals/portal260/Issue\\_12828#pd\\_top](https://communityfeedback.opengov.com/portals/portal260/Issue_12828#pd_top)

20:21:46 From David Lorenzo, Office of CM Glass to Everyone:

Serge, apologies for failure to respond/acknowledge. I'll make the council president aware of your comments and look forward to keeping in touch about this issue.

20:36:21 From David Lorenzo, Office of CM Glass to Everyone:

Consolidated Service Hubs got \$3 million in this budget. I can look into whether or not Oak Chapel is for sure included in this

20:36:49 From Tameka Nicholson to Everyone:

Thanks David.

20:49:04 From Office of CM Natali Fani-González to Everyone:

[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2023/20230511/20230511\\_33-42.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/col/2023/20230511/20230511_33-42.pdf)

20:50:58 From Office of CM Natali Fani-González to Everyone:

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