



City Manager's Office

MEMORANDUM

To: City of College Park Councilmembers

From: Scott Somers, City Manager

Date: May 17, 2016

Subject: City Of College Park Weekly Bulletin

Attachments: None

City Manager's Update – Week of May 9, 2016

- Reviewed future Council agenda items and finalized the City Council regular agenda packet with Janeen Miller, City Clerk.
 - Attended launching of a Safety Ambassador Pilot Program. Per The Diamondback | May 10, 2016, *University of Maryland and City of College Park officials announced Monday a new Safety Ambassador Pilot Program, which aims to increase and enhance public safety through non-sworn, trained community patrols. The program is a collaboration between this university, the city and the College Park City-University Partnership.*
 - Attended the Mayor and Council regular meeting.
 - Attended the weekly City staff meeting, which included a discussion on how to improve staff meetings, a review of the previous Council meeting and potential future Council meeting agenda items.
 - Worked with Human Resources on several personnel items.
 - Staff met to discuss and review proposals received from development consultants. A development consultant may be utilized to assist with development of the City Hall block and potential projects in various areas of the City.
 - Attended a College Park Woods pool board and community meeting. The meeting focused on the community's interest on how best to maintain the pool and or meeting space and grounds.
 - Councilmember Nagle and I met for our monthly meeting. We toured parts of north College Park near and including Davis Field and the Narragansett run.
 - Met with Josh Eames of Toll Brothers, developers of the Terrapin Row development, to discuss and develop solutions to improve on-street parking options for planned retail establishments. As a result of the meeting, the City anticipates transitioning 57+ permit restricted on-street parking spaces to metered spaces.
 - Attended the Hollywood Farmers Market
 - Worked with Human Resources on determining next steps to fill the Finance Director position, which will be vacated by Steve Groh next week. We expect to begin the next recruitment process in the very near future. Unfortunately, two previous employment offers have been declined.
 - Continued working with a developer to identify parking for construction workers. Increased development along Baltimore Avenue has caused a shortage of parking during the construction phase of several development projects. Workers are therefore seeking parking in various locations which is impacting certain neighborhoods.
 - Worked with staff members on various councilmember requests.
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Administration

- The Old Parish House is temporarily closed: Earlier this spring, the City of College Park commissioned an “historic structures analysis” of the Old Parish House as part of our overall effort to learn how we can best maintain this almost 200-year-old building. One aspect of that analysis was an inspection by a structural engineer. In assessing the roof, the structural engineer found an unsafe condition with the roof supports and advised that the main hall of the Old Parish House not be occupied until the necessary remedial work has been completed.

The City Clerk’s office immediately took steps to cancel and/or relocate all events scheduled for the Old Parish House. (The City’s other meeting facility, Davis Hall, is closed due to the relocation of Public Works staff while the new modular building is being constructed. Davis Hall is expected to reopen in mid-August at the earliest.)

The City is working with a contractor to design the needed repairs to the Old Parish House roof. For initial planning purposes, we are anticipating a six month closure of the Old Parish House, but we will know more as the project proceeds. Funding for this project will come from the City’s Facilities Capital Reserve fund in the C.I.P.

Engineering

- There is going to be a preconstruction meeting with WSSC Inspectors on Wednesday for the Randolph– Macon Avenue Project.
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Planning

- Staff prepared and submitted a grant application to the State Highway Administration (SHA) under the federal Safe Routes to School Program to repair gaps in the sidewalk network in the Berwyn neighborhood. New sidewalk construction is proposed on the following streets pending verification of right-of-way: Quebec Street from Rhode Island Avenue to Potomac Avenue and Potomac Avenue from Quebec Street to Berwyn Road.
 - Staff attended an APA Webinar entitled, Translating the Plan into Action.
 - The Director and Community Development Coordinator attended an on-site pre-construction conference for the Randolph Macon street construction project held by DPIE.
 - The Director attended a stakeholders meeting for the Hollywood Road Feasibility Study. The Engineer for the project reviewed preliminary alignments and impacts and agreed to investigate whether an alignment just north of Hollywood Road would be acceptable to SHA.
 - The Director attended a meeting with M-NCPPC Parks and Recreation staff to review the status of the proposed College Park Woods Connector Trail. Funding is available to begin design of the first trail segment. A community meeting will be scheduled in the fall when 30% construction drawings are complete.
 - The Director met with the property owner adjoining the proposed Hollywood Gateway Park and will discuss the results with the City Council in an upcoming Executive Session.
 - The Director and City Manager met with the real estate brokers representing the Stone Straw property who reported that the property is not under contract at this time.
 - The Director met with representatives from the University of Maryland and COPT to discuss the M Square property. Plans include constructing a 75,000 SF building at River Road and University Research Court. The Detailed Site Plan was approved several years ago but will need to be amended before proceeding.
 - Regular weekly post-launch coordination calls were begun with the University of Maryland and Zagster team. To date there have been 170 registrations and over 300 completed trips.
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Public Works

- On Monday, May 9, the Director and City Engineer met with Armand Scala, Shuttle-UM, about the summer pilot route in Old Town.
- On Friday, May 13, two new trash trucks arrived. This week decals, two-way radios and 360-camera systems will be installed. Training of staff will occur next week. Trucks will need to be certified by State MVA and then Prince George’s County Health Department. After all of that is done the trucks will go into service.

- On Monday, May 16, Robert Marsili, new Assistant Director for Operations and Facilities, joined our staff.
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MEETINGS AT A GLANCE:

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

7:30 P.M. Mayor and Council Worksession

Friday, May 20, 2016

6:30 P.M. Reception for Volunteers Appointed To City Boards –
University Of Maryland Golf Course Clubhouse

Tuesday, May 24, 2016

7:30 P.M. Mayor and Council Regular Meeting

Monday, May 30, 2016

11:00 a.m. Memorial Day Celebration
Veterans Memorial at the Corner of Us Route 1 and Greenbelt Road

Tuesday, June 7, 2016

7:30 P.M. Mayor and Council Worksession

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

7:30 P.M. Mayor and Council Regular Meeting

Tuesday, July 5, 2016

7:30 P.M. Mayor and Council Worksession

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

7:30 P.M. Mayor and Council Regular Meeting