





MCPB 5/24/12


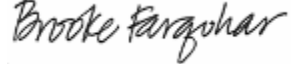
Item # 2

Memorandum

DATE: May 17, 2012

TO: Montgomery County Planning Board 

VIA: Mary Bradford, Director of Parks
Mike Riley, Deputy Director of Parks for Administration 

FROM: John E. Hench, Ph.D., Chief, Park Planning and Stewardship Division 
Brooke Farquhar, Supervisor, Park and Trail Planning 

SUBJECT: **Public Hearing - 2012 Park, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan**

Staff Recommendations

- **Hold Public Hearing**
- **Keep record open for 1 week until Thursday May 31, 2012**

Discussion:

The purpose of this item is to hold a Public Hearing on the 2012 Park, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan. On Thursday April 12, 2012, The Planning Board discussed the draft 2012 PROS Plan and approved sending it to the State as a staff draft. It also approved the scheduling of a public hearing on the Plan on Thursday May 24, 2012. The Public Hearing notice is Attachment 1. The Public Hearing Draft Plan (Attachment 2) has been available at parkplanning.org for the past thirty days.

The 2012 PROS Plan document is an update of the *2005 Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan/PROS Plan* and is based on new guidelines developed by the Maryland Department of Planning and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. The *PROS Plan* serves as the County's Local Land Preservation and Recreation Plan (LPPRP). Its completion is required for State Program Open Space eligibility.

Plan Purposes

The purposes of the 2012 *PROS Plan* are:

- To provide guidance regarding recreation facility needs in the County for the next 10 years
- To recommend priorities for important natural and historic areas in the County that need to be preserved and interpreted

- To provide the basis for park and recreation recommendations in area and park master plans and sector plans
- To guide priorities for park acquisition and development
- To review policy and background information regarding local agricultural land preservation programs

Next Steps

A Planning Board worksession on the Plan is scheduled for Thursday June 28, 2012 and a second worksession with a request for approval anticipated on Thursday July 19, 2012. Staff will compile all public hearing testimony and recommend related Plan changes as needed. We will also prepare responses to questions asked by the Planning Board on April 12, 2012, regarding trails, urban parks, and land acquisition priorities for natural areas versus facility-based recreation.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1- Public Hearing Notice

Attachment 2- Public Hearing Draft Plan

pcc:

Gene Giddens – Acting Deputy Director of Parks for Operations
MaryEllen Venzke – Management Services
Kate Stookey – Public Information and Customer Services
Mitra Pedoem – Park Development
John Nissel – Facilities Management
David Vismara – Horticultural
Brian Woodward – Southern Region

John Hench – Park Planning & Stewardship
Mike Horrigan – Northern Region
Darien Manley – Park Police
Christine Brett – Enterprise
Piera Weiss, Acting Deputy Director, Department of Planning

ATTACHMENT 1

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE



Please pass this Public Hearing Notice on to anyone you think may be interested.

The M-NCPPC, Montgomery County Planning Board is holding a Public Hearing on the Draft [2012 Park, Recreation, and Open Space \(PROS\) Plan](#) during their regular meeting on **Thursday May 24, 2012**. The Hearing will be held in the auditorium of the Montgomery Regional Office at **8787 Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring, Maryland 20910**.

A **tentative time** of the item is **9:00am** has been assigned to this hearing, but is subject to change. Please check the Planning Board agenda online for a more exact time closer to the hearing date. You can also download the staff report, and can you sign up to testify (and to listen to the live public hearing broadcast) visit: www.MontgomeryPlanningBoard.org/agenda/ . Or you can also call 301-495-4600 to sign up to testify.

The main purpose of the [2012 PROS Plan](#) is to estimate the future needs for park and recreation facilities and natural and historic resource preservation and develop specific service delivery strategies to meet future needs. This effort builds on the results of the 2011 [Vision 2030 Strategic Plan](#).

The document is an update of the *2005 Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan/PROS Plan*. It serves as the County's *Local Land Preservation and Recreation Plan (LPPRP)* and is required by the State to retain eligibility for Program Open Space Grant funding.

The *2012 PROS Plan* includes chapters on: Recreation and Parks, Natural Resource Conservation, Historic and Cultural Resources Preservation and Agricultural Land Preservation.

Written testimony may be emailed to mcp-chair@mncppc-mc.org or mailed to Planning Board Chairman, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Testimony will be limited to 3 minutes for individuals and 5 minutes for group representatives. Staff will be requesting that the record remain open for one additional week following the hearing.

If you have any questions, please contact the Project Coordinator at: MCP-PROSPlan2012@Montgomeryparks.org.

For more information on the Plan or copies of the public hearing draft, visit the project web page at www.ParkPlanning.org