

The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission

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President Ervin and Members of the Council:

I am pleased to have the opportunity to meet with you again to discuss the accomplishments and plans of the Planning Department and Department of Parks during our fall semi-annual presentation.

In FY2011, we have continued to provide the high-quality professional planning services and park management the County relies upon.

I'd like to highlight some Planning Department work that you will learn more about in the pages that follow. We were pleased to draft a Clarksburg Master Plan Amendment for your consideration, responding quickly to the need to amend the 1994 plan to balance retail uses with residential. The amendment was completed in 4 ½ months.

In April, we sent the Board's draft of the Wheaton Sector Plan for your review. The plan will set the stage for many positive changes in Wheaton which, as you know, is perfectly positioned to be the next great place in Montgomery County.

In our development applications, we saw an uptick in numbers in the last six months, although we remain markedly lower than pre-2008 levels. We continue to work on technology enhancements (Project Dox) and process improvements to ensure speedy review of all applications.

You have asked us to increase our outreach and consider new strategies to connect with groups that are typically hard to reach. We are responding by trying different types of community workshops, such as the sessions we held in Chevy Chase Lake last spring that involved 150 residents evaluating images about density. We also have renewed efforts to reach residents in the East County, including those in multi-unit dwellings, about our East County Science Center plan in progress. Our community workshops in Burtonsville have been well-attended and productive.

We look forward to plunging into work on rapid transit and continuing to advance our master plans and the zoning rewrite project.



I remain extremely impressed with our Park staff's ability to manage a 35,000-acre park system and respond to the needs of millions of visitors given the significant reductions in resources we've experienced.

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In an effort to control costs, Parks has saved over \$200,000 by vacating expensive rental space, reduced energy consumption by 7% over last year, achieved a net gain of \$250,000 through its Enterprise operations, secured more than \$300,000 in grant funding, and helped over 8,300 volunteers contribute the equivalent of 37 work years in 24 different program areas – an estimated value of more than \$1.6 million.

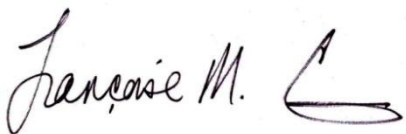
Park staff continues to improve performance and identify more effective methods to provide critical services. The implementation rate for our Capital Improvements Program (CIP) has increased to 93% - nearly a 30% increase over last year's and one of our highest ever. Environmental training is being provided to Parks maintenance crews to help them better steward our valuable natural resources. And our SmartParks system is being upgraded to allow from-the-field reporting and real-time access to data.

We remain committed to working closely with other public agencies to achieve efficiencies and improve customer service. Our Park Police work together with Montgomery County Police to patrol busy urban areas. And work with the State Highway Administration on the ICC Environmental Stewardship and Compensatory Mitigation Program continues, with 11 of the 24 projects currently underway.

Staff from both Departments deserve our sincere thanks. It is because of their hard work, dedication and creativity during this time of tight resources that the achievements in this document were possible.

We are looking forward to discussing these and other issues as needed at the semi-annual meeting on October 4.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Françoise M. Carrier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "C" at the end.

Françoise M. Carrier
Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board
The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

planning

In the last six months, the Planning Department has completed a number of projects and initiatives that are helping position Montgomery County for a sustainable future – physically, socially and financially. Current efforts, from the ongoing development of master plans in our work program to the Zoning Rewrite Project, will play an integral role in achieving a community that remains desirable for residents, workers and visitors into the next decade and beyond.

development applications

Compared to the same period last year, development applications have increased. While the increased activity may be an indicator of localized economic growth, this is not yet a trend. In fact, recent national signs in the commercial real estate sector show a slowing in transactions. The housing market, too, remains anemic in new construction.

Yet, there are new construction projects, including large federal projects, underway in the commercial sector. Positioning the county for the future with a supply of sites that are development-ready is an important part of our work.

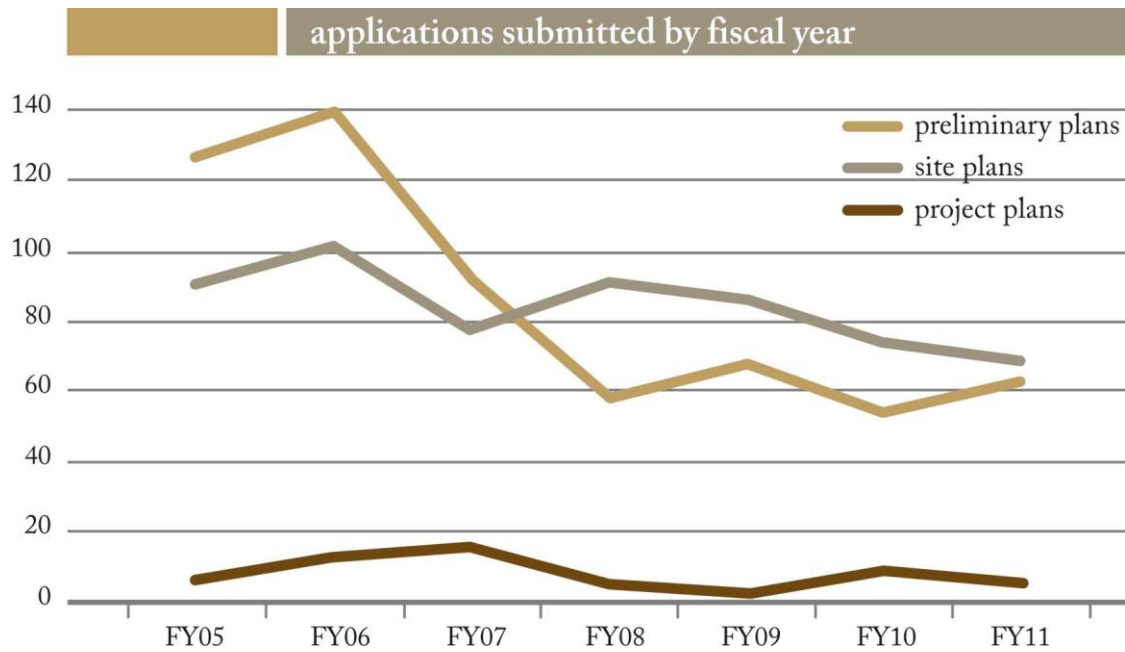
Approval times for applications are as follows.

	average days to approval
year	site plans
01	130
02	113
03	153
04	111
05*	294
06	363
07	305
08	267
09	284
10	157

* Review process changed, post-Clarksburg

	average days to approval
year	preliminary plans
01	191
02	227
03	179
04	211
05*	310
06	387
07	471
08	420
09	356
10	275

* Review process changed, post-Clarksburg



pipeline

In the last few months, staff has updated the pipeline of approved projects, making it more consistent with other sources, such as aerial images, building permit records, and tax records, that help verify land development patterns. This pipeline information is used within our transportation models and helps planners accurately assess the impact of proposed development.

project dox

To improve the development review procedures to more efficiently process development applications, planning staff continue to ready the electronic submittal system known as Project Dox.

Programming for both preliminary and site plans has been completed, along with integration with the Hansen project database. The integration part of the project has been slowed by the county's complex network of processes.

Staff from the other county agencies involved in plan review received initial training in May and



Among the 37 site plans approved by the Planning Board in the second half of FY11 is this mixed office-retail building on Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring.

will pilot actual plans in early October. Through the end of the year, staff will continue to program other plan types into the system. The Department expects to go live at the beginning of 2012.

zoning rewrite project

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Staff continued work on the multi-year effort to reorganize, revise, and simplify the county Zoning Code. After draft development standards and uses for agricultural, rural and residential zones were released last winter, staff in the spring began a thorough review process to vet that first module draft. The Zoning Advisory Panel formed five working groups to address specific issues in the module. Staff also solicited input from county staff and planners, residents and anyone interested in the project. In September, staff released a red-lined version reflecting those comments.

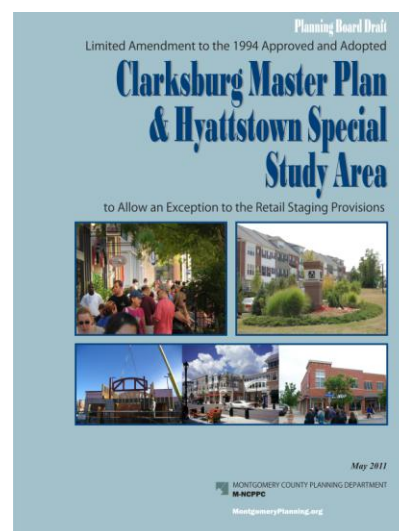
Staff also worked with county agency representatives and ZAP to review the development application process and consider potential changes.

Outreach for the zoning rewrite project continued. In April, staff planned and co-hosted a conference highlighting innovations in zoning throughout North America. Makeover Montgomery, held at the Silver Spring Civic Building, was attended by close to 300 people and received excellent reviews from participants. Staff continued an ambitious effort to keep stakeholders informed and to encourage feedback, including an interactive webpage. To date, staff has participated in close to 70 community meetings and other outreach events. December 2012 is the target date to advance the revised zoning code to the Council.

master plans

In the last six months, staff continued work to develop and advance several master plans. In February, Council supported our initiative to amend the Clarksburg Master Plan to address concerns that retail development was lagging. The amendment, approved by the Council in June, was completed in 4½ months.

The Planning Board transmitted its draft of the Wheaton Sector Plan in April. The plan draft focuses on strategies for revitalization, including land use and zoning, good design, efficient transportation, environmental sustainability and improvements to public facilities.



The Council also requested that planners revise Planning Board drafts of the Takoma Langley Crossroads and Kensington Sector Plans to provide more detail about the commercial residential zones. Those plans were revised last spring and returned to the Council for further consideration.

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Staff continues work on the following plans:

- East County Science Center Master Plan
- Chevy Chase Lake Sector Plan
- Long Branch Sector Plan
- Burtonsville Crossroads Neighborhood Plan
- Urban design guidelines for Takoma Langley Crossroads, Kensington and Wheaton

Following up on the White Flint Sector Plan approval in 2009, staff prepared and the Planning Board approved implementation guidelines and a staging and monitoring program for White Flint. The staging and monitoring program includes a transportation approval mechanism and a transportation analysis and monitoring program. The program will track each project online so property owners and the general public can see what capacity remains relative to needed infrastructure. With the monitoring program in place, the Planning Board declared the planning area open for development at a well-attended ribbon-cutting ceremony. Planners also drafted and the Planning Board approved implementation guidelines and a staging mechanism for the Great Seneca Science Corridor.



Council members joined the Planning Board at a July ribbon-cutting event in White Flint.

See the master plan project schedule, page 12, for the Department's recommendation on future community planning work.

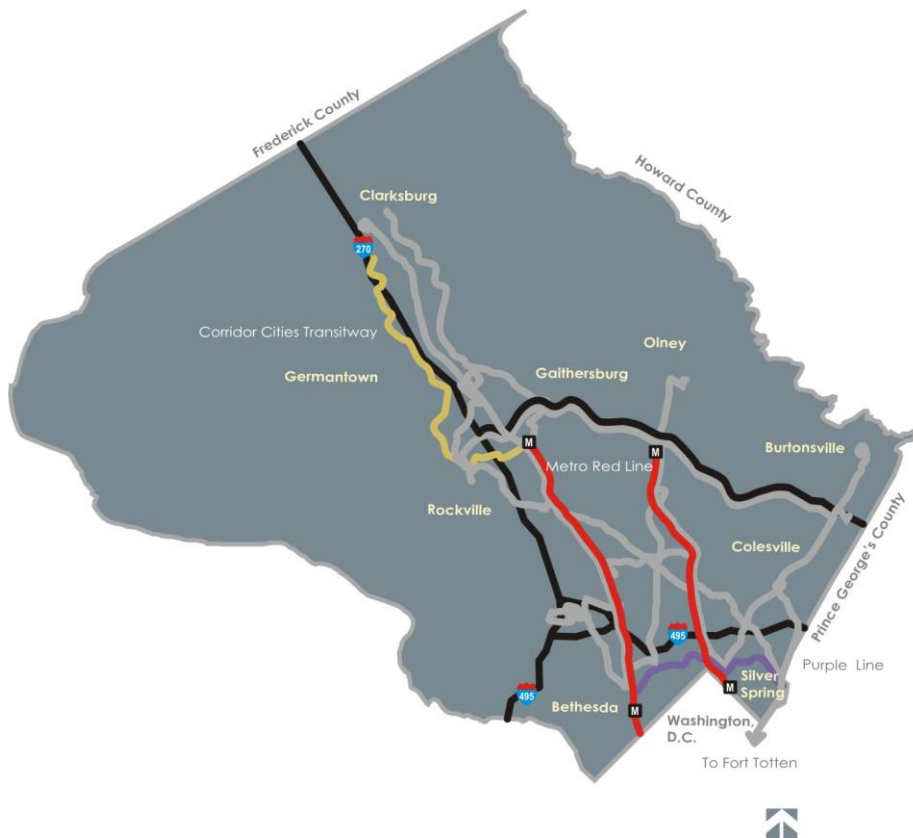
other projects

bus rapid transit study

After the county completed a study of rapid transit options in August, planners began work on an amendment to the Master Plan of Highways that evaluates corridors and right-of-way options for a rapid transit network to improve accessibility and mobility throughout Montgomery County. The bus rapid transit (BRT) project will review recommendations for 16 corridors – with the possibility of another seven. We hope that rapid transit will become a much-used form of travel; in Los Angeles, ridership on a new rapid transit service reached levels in the first 18 months of service that had been predicted to be achieved 30 years later.

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The Planning Board approved a scope of work for the rapid transit study in late September.



other transportation projects

The annual transportation test updating Local Area Transportation Review and Policy Area Mobility Review (LATR/PAMR) was completed. Staff are working with consultants to advance the new

transportation review tool, Transportation Policy Area Review (TPAR), into a new modeling tool. This effort should be ready by May 2012 for council deliberations.

The local modeling tool LATR is concurrently being assessed to determine an appropriate replacement.

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Transportation planners worked with the community to develop a map highlighting areas of the county where we anticipate large demand for bicycle infrastructure. Referred to as a bicycle heat map, planners and county staff can use this tool to assist in planning CIP programs for new transportation infrastructure such as bike lanes and connections to trails and parks.

historic preservation

The Planning Board approved a draft plan identifying historic resources for the Upper Patuxent area in northwest Montgomery County, including two historic districts. The plan will go to the County Council for consideration this fall. Preservation staff also ran an energy audit grant program, awarding owners of 10 historic homes in Montgomery County a free home energy audit, thanks to a grant the County received and Commission staff administered from the Maryland Historical Trust. The results of the audits are expected to help owners of historic properties take steps to improve energy efficiency.

tree canopy analysis

This electronic database, developed jointly with the University of Vermont and the USDA Forest Service, analyzes Montgomery County's tree canopy based on high-resolution aerial images. The tool helped identify how much forest has been preserved or created through the Forest Conservation Law and where urban tree canopy is lacking. This created the basis for new plantings using developer fees paid to the Forest Conservation Fund in lieu of planting. The tool will help the Department track progress on the tree canopy over time.

leaves for neighborhoods

For the third year, the Department ran its tree coupon program to encourage residents to plant trees in their yards. The campaign, which features a \$25 discount off native shade trees worth \$75 or more, is intended to increase the county's tree canopy on residential property. The campaign is funded by the Forest Conservation Fund. Residents redeemed 317 coupons between January and the end of August.

census analysis

Research staff continued to provide detailed analyses of the 2010 Census as new data became available, and helped highlight meaningful trends, such as Montgomery County becoming a majority minority community for the first time.

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outreach

The Department continued to make outreach a priority. Planners hosted a number of community meetings designed to reach out to people who live or work in each active plan area, including in Long Branch, Burtonsville, Chevy Chase Lake and the White Oak area. In March, Chevy Chase Lake planners premiered an interactive workshop featuring photos of different density scenarios and a scoring mechanism for attendees.



Planners working on the East County Science Center plan hosted a community open house at the Eastern Montgomery Regional Center in June.

Staff continued to refine the MontgomeryPlanning.org website to better highlight Board actions and Department initiatives. Between April 1 and September 15, 2011, the Department pages had 50,382 unique visitors averaging 540 visits per day.

Special pages were developed to package important planning information, such as a map-based tool highlighting recent development applications, with detailed information about each project. The Development Finder page received 4,300 hits from web users between April and September. Staff also developed a historic property locator tool based on GIS data. The planning director contributes regularly to the Director's Blog, expanding on planning themes and ideas, and planners produce The Straight Line blog focused on planning and design. Staff also strengthened outreach through social media tools.

improving processes

The Department has begun collaborating with county government staff to improve application processing and permitting procedures. The interagency work will result in small, but significant adjustments to expedite the review and permitting processes as well as consider more transformational changes.



The Olney Library was the subject of a mandatory referral case. Credit: Lukmire Partnership

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Changes to the mandatory referral review process were proposed by planning staff in September. Among the recommendations for streamlining are developing criteria that determine when projects need to go before the Planning Board, such as property size, and reducing the number of required traffic studies.

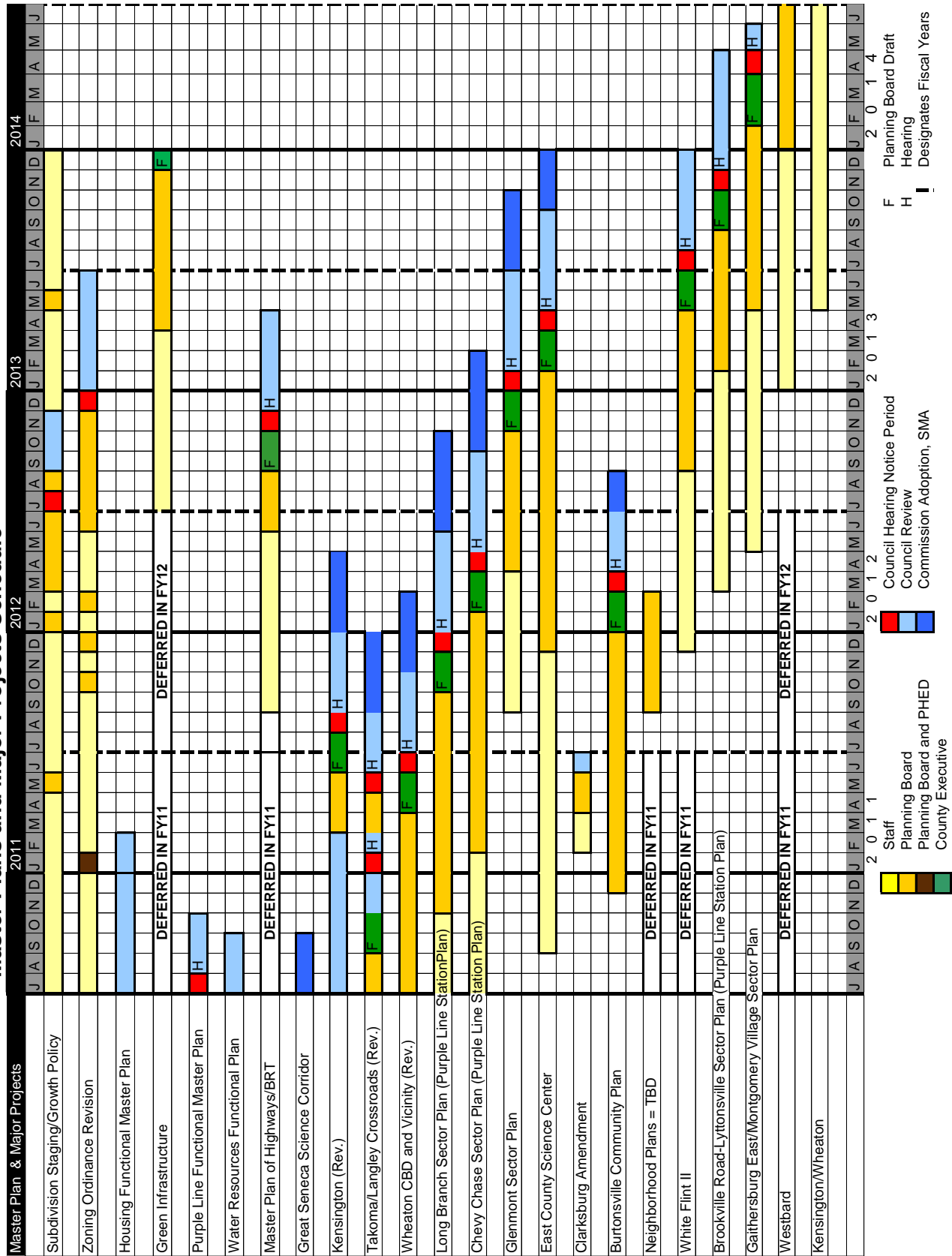
At the semi-annual presentation on October 4, we look forward to discussing the Department's work program and are prepared to re-assess what the Planning Department can and should accomplish in the coming six months.

technological advances

In August, both Departments switched to a hosted environment for email, partly in response to a failure of the server-based system. Also known as a "cloud" environment, this cutting-edge technology is greener and more efficient than server-based email, providing employees with better email storage and operational enhancements.

Both Departments are moving toward full implementation of the SAN (storage area network) server system, allowing us to eliminate the need for maintenance of multiple, stand-alone servers. Virtualization software will save staff time and reduce utility costs, server issues and downtime.

Master Plans and Major Projects Schedule



parks

For the past few years, M-NCPPC Montgomery Parks has been impacted significantly by deep reductions in its operating budget while incurring additional costs associated with additional parks and park acreage, increasing public demand for services and facilities, more stringent regulatory mandates, and skyrocketing healthcare and retirement expenses. It remains a challenge to respond adequately to the stewardship and use requirements of a 35,000-acre park system enjoyed by millions of visitors each year.

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The Department is in the second year of a Temporary Pay Reduction program (similar to furlough). We reduced our staff by 63 positions by offering retirement incentives and eliminating vacancies. A variety of maintenance and other contracts have been terminated. Many of our greenhouses remain closed and annual planting in the parks has been greatly reduced. Funding for our deer management program has been limited even as pressure is building to expand these efforts, especially in the “down-County” area. Storms continue to eat away at operational funds and stretch our resources even more thinly: expenses associated with Hurricane Irene alone are projected to exceed \$100,000. And unfunded Federal mandates, such as compliance with the Department of Justice requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act that went into effect on March 15, 2011, require a considerable commitment of financial and staffing resources.



Black Hill Road Causeway 9-9-11 (1)

Our team continues to identify areas for efficiencies and innovative ideas, coordinating our efforts with County residents, other public agencies, and community partners. Through a variety of efficiencies, creative revenue-generating initiatives, organizational restructuring, and a more strategic approach to managing our inventory, we have been able to reduce our dependency on property tax revenues. The level of care for our popular and valuable amenities remains well below optimum levels, however, and will continue to require significant, sustainable, and enhanced tax support to accommodate a growing population with diverse and varied demands.

Here are some of our work program highlights:

efficiencies

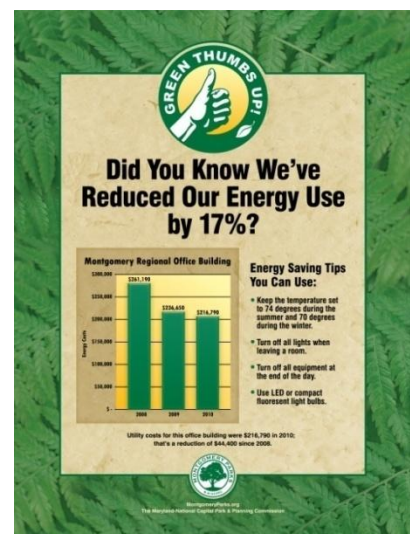
space management: Cost savings of close to \$200,000 will be achieved by vacating expensive leased space and relocating staff to more energy-efficient buildings. Staff from our leased Spring Street location have been moved to our Parkside Headquarters building in Silver Spring, and several critical park functions are now centrally located at our Shady Grove facility. These relocations make more effective use of our existing spaces, enabling us to share administrative staff, improve coordination for tree crews and trades staff, and provide greater proximity for Park Police to fleet management and central Montgomery County. In-house staff continues to pick up work formerly provided by contractors, including managing our park house rental program, the cleaning and janitorial services for park activity buildings, and significant major maintenance and renovation work, including historic structures.

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planning for the future: We are implementing recommendations from our Vision2030 plan for the future of parks and recreation in Montgomery County. We must prioritize our tax resources to focus on core services, balancing new construction with the maintenance and repair of existing facilities, and distributing land parcels and facilities to meet the appropriate level of service. We are also determining which services should be subsidized with tax resources and which should be able to recover all or a portion of their costs through fees, charges, or donations, identifying the best opportunities for alternative funding and support.

The State-mandated 2012 Park, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan update is underway, and will update the 2005 PROS chapters on Recreation (supply, demand, needs), Natural Resources, Historic/Cultural Resources, and Agricultural Preservation. This work will integrate findings from the Vision2030 plan analysis.

energy conservation: Energy consumption was reduced in FY11 by seven percent (7%) over FY10 levels. This was primarily accomplished through projects funded by an \$87,000 grant from the Maryland Energy Administration, CIP energy projects, and use of best energy management practices by staff. The Department has also secured an additional grant of \$111,000 from the Department of Energy to implement energy efficiency projects in FY12.



park activity buildings: Eleven underutilized park activity buildings were closed in an effort to reduce operational losses and are being repurposed as single-tenant lease properties. We seek creative adaptive re-use opportunities and hope to reduce or eliminate related operational costs. A few have already been leased at a competitive market rate, and the Department issued an REOI to solicit expressions of interest on the remaining seven buildings so they may continue to serve the community. Revenue generated since June 2011 through the rental of the park activity buildings still available for public use has increased 12% over the same time period in 2010 and 24% over 2009 due to targeted promotional efforts including the distribution of flyers to select middle and elementary schools and search engine optimization.

innovation and achievements

capital improvements: The Department's FY11 CIP implementation rate was 93%, nearly a 30% increase from FY10 and one of our highest ever. Much of this can be attributed to a revamped and streamlined procurement process, improved project scheduling and tracking, and improved project coordination.

technology advances: We continue to look for ways to use technology to improve internal processes and external access to information. New software has been acquired to improve our SmartParks system's capabilities and take it to the next level. This web-based and hosted solution supports mobile computing and integrates with existing (and planned) financial systems, providing easy from-the-field reporting tools and dashboard reports for quick access to all related data. A new web feature, ParkProjects.org, was recently launched to provide the public with information about the status of park development projects and any opportunities to provide input. A revamped online directory was also created to allow the public to search for amenities and parks by name, zip code, or city/town. In addition, the service center was restructured to provide 24/7 support to residents reporting needed repairs and downed trees, enabling staff to more quickly respond to these and other possible safety hazards.

maintenance improvements: The Department is embarking on a large-scale environmental training effort for Parks maintenance staff to allow them to better steward our natural resources. One tool that will be integral to this program is the Resource Atlas, an online GIS application that allows staff to easily access environmental and other development constraints on a particular piece of park property. This training also satisfies the Personnel Education and Outreach minimum control measure of the NPDES Phase II permit. Coupled with that, our Park Development staff is creating a commissioning document, sort of an "owner's manual," for each new park project that will guide improved maintenance and repair.

enforcement success: Parks continue to be very safe, and our ability to stay ahead of trouble remains strong. Recently, Park Police's proactive patrolling of Cabin John Regional Park stopped a potentially dangerous individual and uncovered a plan to ignite large quantities of commercial fireworks on the National Mall from a homemade turret mounted to the man's vehicle. Park Police were able to apprehend him, saving countless people from injury and possible death, and are working in coordination with the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) and the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Squad on the continuing investigation.

During the reporting period, the Department has also been recognized with various local, state and national awards which are listed in the back of this report.

community engagement

community gardens: Currently at 10 sites and serving over 600 families through the County, our community gardens program continues to grow in response to public demand. Two additional sites are under consideration for expansion in FY12, and staff is in discussion with the Montgomery Housing Partnership (MHP) about the possibility of establishing gardens on MHP properties.



volunteerism: This remains a popular activity among residents and park users, with more than 8,300 individuals contributing the equivalent of 37 work years in 24 distinct program areas in FY11 – an estimated value of over \$1.6 million. New volunteer opportunities for FY12 include Olney Manor Skate Park and an Urban Tree Stewards program, as well as expanded programs for Weed Warriors, Trail Crew Leaders, and Stream Cleanup Site Coordinators. Student Service Learning (SSL) hours are offered through our programs. The Department is also in the process of developing a more structured framework to help guide the development and management of Friends Groups and establish more productive, mutually beneficial, long-term relationships that support the operational goals of the park system.

nature centers restructured: Our nature centers will be offering educational efforts and programs that capitalize on the amenities and natural characteristics of each center and educate residents about water quality, watersheds and water ecosystems at our Black Hill Regional Park site, urban ecology at our

Wheaton Regional Park site, outreach efforts to schools based on current curricula at our Cabin John Regional Park site, and raptors and outdoor environmentally-based service learning projects for teens at our Rock Creek Regional Park site. These programming efforts will be built around four ongoing initiatives: the new Maryland Environmental Literacy requirement for schoolchildren, the No Child Left Inside program, intergenerational programming, and off-site nature outreach programs.

public-private partnerships: Through the Department's Public-Private Partnership program, two new facilities have been opened during this reporting period. Private donations enabled the construction of a new Tai Chi court in Cabin John Regional Park, and a new Miracle League Field in South Germantown Recreational Park for people with disabilities was completed thanks to funding and support from the Washington Nationals in association with the Washington Nationals Dream Foundation, the Annette M. and Theodore N. Lerner Family Foundation, the Miracle League of Montgomery County, the Kiwanis Club of Bethesda, and the County's Department of Recreation.



interagency cooperation

safety: To assist the Montgomery County Department of Police (MCP) with a presence during events and busy summer evenings, Park Police re-established regular horse mounted patrols in the Silver Spring Urban District. Other collaborative efforts include proactive patrols along the Georgetown Branch trail by Park Police and increased assistance with back-up and call handling by MCP, particularly between the hours of 0200 and 0600. This cooperation has resulted in more Park Police officers working during the day and evening hours when the parks are busiest.

water quality: The Department continues to track expenses incurred by our Department to perform the following activities funded by the \$1,509,300 appropriation from the Water Quality Protection Fund for FY12: stream stewardship, restoration, and management; stormwater management/environmental site design; the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Industrial Permit for 12 park maintenance yards; the Phase II NPDES Permit for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4); and volunteer stream clean-up costs.

icc coordination: As part of the ICC Environmental Stewardship and Compensatory Mitigation Program (ES/CM), the State Highway Administration (SHA) is completing a number of stream restoration, wetland creation, and stormwater management projects throughout Montgomery County. Park staff coordinate closely with SHA through the conception, design and construction of the projects to ensure natural resource impacts are avoided or minimized to the greatest extent possible. Of the 24 ES/CM projects located on parkland, 11 are currently under construction; 13 are still in the design phase and will be constructed in 2012 or 2013.

ada compliance: The new requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) went into effect on March 15, 2011. The Department of Parks is required to develop policies to ensure that ADA compliance and accessibility are incorporated throughout the park system's planning, design, construction, and operational processes. Council has approved some funding in the Department's CIP for this mandate; however, additional funds will be required to develop an ADA transition plan before any required retrofits can begin. The Department of Parks is also required to correct several deficiencies identified by the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) in its Civic Access (PCA) assessment of 16 local park facilities. To-date, Parks has corrected several of the identified deficiencies and is currently designing retrofits to correct those remaining.

food initiatives: The Department will be represented on a Food Advisory Board responsible for forming a Montgomery County Food Council to promote and support local food programs and initiatives. We continue to explore potential farm incubator sites on park property, focusing on the Darby Store area near Boyds, where we recently moved the historic structure back from the road, both to enhance its ability to be available as part of that program and to protect it.

limited english proficiency: We have also coordinated with the County's Office of Community Partnerships to provide Limited English Proficiency (LEP) training for all Parks employees who provide direct, front-line services to residents. This training is the same as that offered to County employees.

ballfield use and permitting: Parks staff continues to coordinate with the County's Office of Community Use of Public Facilities (CUPF) on the permitting of all Park fields. Two Park Permit Office Technicians were relocated to the CUPF offices in December 2010 to provide the public with a one-stop solution to permitting public park and school fields, formerly handled in separate locations. To-date, more than \$500,000 in Parks field permit revenue has been collected by CUPF and transferred

to M-NCPPC. Discussions are still underway regarding other potential permitting transfers. Parks staff has also been working in collaboration with staff from CUPF and Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) to refine and streamline the various agencies' Adopt-A-Field programs. A preliminary plan was shared with user groups in August 2011 and will be discussed in more detail at an upcoming PHED/ED session currently scheduled for October 2011.

mcps school sites and parks: The Board of Education and the Planning Board met to discuss mutual needs, interests, and requirements related to the planning process and the siting of schools in areas where park impacts could occur. Both Boards committed to form a work group to study and recommend solutions to better meet MCPS growth needs. MCPS and Parks staff continues to work collaboratively in an ongoing way to accommodate MCPS growth needs adjacent to or within parks, including proposed land swaps, shared spaces, and other solutions. In a few instances, community concerns are leading both agencies to explore new methods of planning for schools and developing solutions. We expect this effort to be a strong focus for us in the next six months.

increased revenue and support from external sources

enterprise fund: For the third year in a row, our Enterprise Fund, charged with covering all operating costs, all capital improvement costs, all debt service, and all utilities for all of its facilities and programs, continued to cover one-hundred percent of its costs, achieving a net gain of \$250,000 and more than a million visits in FY11. Facilities at Wheaton, Cabin John and Woodlawn have seen repairs and upgrades. The addition of a tented event site at Woodlawn has increased revenues by 50% at that location; revenues at all event centers combined were up 24% in FY11. Lights were installed at the Olney Skate Park to enable later operating hours, over 170 Skate Park memberships have been sold, and the summer camps and class programs served close to 100 participants. Under Parks management since November 2010, this facility covered its costs in the first year and is anticipated to make a profit in year two.



improving the partnership process: Public-private partnerships continue to provide new and enhanced amenities for residents and visitors. We are currently revamping the application process for unsolicited proposals, establishing qualifying criteria for applicants and providing more direction to those interested in applying. Staff is presently reviewing all planned and priority CIP or major maintenance

projects to identify any possible opportunities for future partnerships. These types of directed partnerships will be announced publicly and competitively bid.

grants: Since April 1, 2011, multiple grants totaling over \$300,000 have been awarded, including two grants from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority to provide heritage-related amenities at Poole's Store in Seneca and a non-capital grant for archaeological analysis of artifacts found at Oakley Cabin in Brookeville. The Department is currently managing more than 20 active grants with an approximate value of over \$3,000,000, supporting a variety of capital and programmatic efforts.



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montgomery parks foundation: Collaboration with the Montgomery County Parks Foundation (MCPF) continues and includes the pursuit of private foundation grants, charitable contributions in exchange for the naming or dedication of park assets, a corporate sponsorship program that will add value through new or expanded programs and services, and the ongoing development of a broad-based “Friends of Montgomery Parks” membership program.

status of cip and master plan projects

The status of development projects and master plan schedules are contained in the charts following this section. Find more information on our development projects at www.ParkProjects.org.

parkland acquisitions and dispositions

The items below are additions to the park system through land acquisitions. The net gain in parkland since the last semi-annual report is 48.41 acres. There were no parkland dispositions.

parkland acquisitions

The items below are additions to the park system since the Spring 2011 Semi-Annual Report:

- acres were added to Fairland Recreational Park
- 0.14 acres were added to Northwest Branch Stream Valley Park, Unit 5

- 0.02 acres were added to Paint Branch Stream Valley Park, Unit 4
- 4.63 acres were added to Little Seneca Greenway
- 0.36 acres were added to Booze Creek Stream Valley Park
- 0.08 acres were added to Northwest Branch Stream Valley Park, Unit 4
- 2.07 acres were added to Sligo Creek Stream Valley park, Unit 4
- 5.00 acres were added to Blockhouse Point Conservation Park
- 34.50 acres were added to Rock Creek Regional Park

new acquisitions totaled 48.41 acres.

awards and recognition

mrpa awards

[Dowden's Ordinary Special Park](#) received the MRPA Landscape Site/ASLA Design Award

[The Matthew Henson Trail](#) won the PARC Branch Award "Planning & Design with Environmental Protection in Mind"

[Brookside's Rain Garden](#) won the MRPA PARC Branch Creative Maintenance Award.

Brookside Gardens "[Xperience](#)" publication won Best Activity Guide

[Olney Manor Skate Park](#) won Best Program Logo

[www.Montgomeryparks.org](#) and our Parks search feature won Best Website

[David Cohen, Park Police Volunteer](#), won the MRPA Agency Volunteer Award

























































































recognition

The Parks Department received two Big Tree Certificates from the Montgomery County Forest Conservancy District Board for protecting the largest [known Pignut Hickory and Loblolly Pine](#) in Montgomery County, Maryland.

Governor O'Malley appointed Park Police Chief Darien L. Manley to a one-year term as a member in the Maryland Statewide Interoperability Program.

Council President Valerie Ervin presented Director Mary Bradford with a Proclamation during National Parks and Recreation Month in July.

Fall 2011 Semi-Annual Report: Schedule for Major CIP Projects

PDF	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	BSY
Takoma Piney Branch Local Park	 	 					
Black Hill Trail Renovation	 	 					
S. Germantown SoccerPlex (Miracle League Field)	 	 					
Rock Creek Sewer System Improvements	 	 					
East Norbeck Local Park	 	 					
Woodstock Equestrian Center	 	 					
Darnestown Square Heritage Park	 	 					
Evans Parkway Neighborhood Park	 	 	 				
Woodlawn Barn Visitors Center	 	 	 				
Laytonia Recreational Park	 	 	 				
Germantown Town Center Urban Park*	 	 	 				
Warner Circle Special Park (Facility Plan and Design)	 	 	 				
Greenbriar Local Park*	 	 	 				
Brookside Master Plan Implementation		 	 				
Falls Road Local Park - Parking Lot		 	 				
North Four Corners Local Park		 	 				
Rock Creek Maintenance Facility		 	 				
Magruder Branch Trail Extension		 	 				
Battery Lane Urban Park						 	 

 Design  Construction  Procurement or Delay

*Delayed construction in an effort to reduce OBI through FY14

Major Projects Completed in FY11
 Ballfield Initiatives (Fairland Synthetic Turf)
 Rock Creek Trail Pedestrian Bridge
 Black Hill Trail Extension
 Lake Needwood Modifications

[illegible]

