

ENTERPRISE DIVISION

Bill Mooney, Chief

The Enterprise Division was established July 1, 2004. During the ensuing months, the Division has worked to transition the management of the enterprise facilities to a centralized model. In addition, a strategic plan for operations is being developed to return to a stronger financial position. The results of the strategic planning will be reflected in the budget that is also being prepared.

As a major focus of the Strategic Planning Initiative, the Enterprise Division and the Montgomery County Revenue Authority are conducting an in-depth analysis of the two public golf systems in the County. Data collection has been completed and the contractor is drafting a final report. This report will be a major influence on the strategic plan for the golf courses and on the FY06 budget.

PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Major Activities

- **Montgomery Regional Office Redevelopment** – The most significant partnership, redevelopment of the MRO site, is progressing with the selection of ZHA, Inc. led by Don Zuchelli as the development advisor for the project. The MRO team is working on a timeline that will select a development partner and negotiate a memorandum of understanding by June 2005.
- **Reflection Terrace** – A second partnership, modest in scope, but major in lasting impact, is the effort among the Executive Branch, the Montgomery Parks Foundation, Brookside Gardens, donors, and M-NCPPC to design and install a memorial site at Brookside Gardens. The site, known as the Reflection Terrace, remembers those lost to the senseless violence of the sniper. It will be a place where the community goes to reflect and hope for a peaceful world. An inscription overlooking the pond will read, “Linger here and reflect on those lost to violence, hope for a more peaceful world, seek a reverence for life among all people.”

New Partnership Opportunities

A key component of the public/private partnerships concept is outreach within the Commission and to the public by the Partnerships Team to identify potential new partnership opportunities. During the past six months, through internal and external discussions and site visits, partnership opportunities have been identified and have entered the comments phase of the approval process. The Commission will review the comments, the opportunities and the potential for incorporating the partnerships into the work program in the next several months.

Current partnership proposals on which the Commission is seeking comment include the following:

- **Cabin John Train** – This is a small-scale train operating in Cabin John Regional Park. We are seeking comment on the potential for a partnership with a not-for-profit entity interested in operating the train and possibly developing a model train layout.
- **Historic Properties** (Woodlawn Manor, Joseph White House, The Darby Store, and the Red Door Store) – There is potential for a partnership with not-for-profit or for-profit entities that might be interested in operating the various properties. The facilities could be used for any number of possible programs from Bed & Breakfast establishments to conference facilities to residential use.
- **Muncaster Recreational Park** – This is an undeveloped park east of Gaithersburg, (northeast of Route 124 and Muncaster Mill Road) with 105 acres of existing parkland including gently rolling, wooded and open areas, and small tributary streams. The vision for this park includes both active and passive areas and trails. The park, located adjacent to Route 124 may be suitable for high intensity recreation (e.g. indoor tennis, roller hockey, etc.).
- **Ridge Road Recreational Park** – When the park was developed, a site for future development was prepared. At the time, it was anticipated that the site would be used for a three-sheet indoor ice skating facility. The facility has not been built and is not anticipated to be built in the near future, if at all. The pad is finished with structural fill and has utilities to the pad. In addition, infrastructure in terms of storm water management and parking has been provided in the park.
- **Chevy Chase Community Center** – In a new development (Wisconsin Place) in Chevy Chase the developer (New England Development) is providing a community center as a public amenity. There is a potential for a partnership with a for-profit or a not-for-profit entity that would operate the community center.
- **Tennis** – There are possible partnership opportunities to develop new indoor tennis facilities in Cabin John Regional Park and Olney Manor Park. In addition, there is a potential for reuse of the Wheaton Tennis facility should the indoor tennis move to Olney.