



MONTGOMERY COUNTY PLANNING BOARD
THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

APPROVED
MINUTES

The Montgomery County Planning Board met in regular session on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at 9:33 a.m. in the Montgomery Regional Office in Silver Spring, Maryland, and adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Present were Chair Casey Anderson Commissioners, and Natali Fani-González and Tina Patterson. Vice Chair Norman Dreyfuss and Commissioner Gerald R. Cichy were necessarily absent.

Items 1 through 5 are reported on the attached agenda.

Item 6 was removed from the Planning Board agenda.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:34 a.m. and reconvened in the auditorium at 1:03 p.m.

Items 7 through 10, and Item 12 are reported on the attached agenda.

The Board recessed for dinner at 5:07 p.m. and reconvened in the auditorium at 6:10 p.m. to receive testimony for Item 11 – Public Hearing for the Technical Update to the Master Plan of Highways and Transitways.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Planning Board will be held on Thursday, February 22, 2018, in the Montgomery Regional Office in Silver Spring, Maryland.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'M. Clara Moise'.

M. Clara Moise
Sr. Technical Writer/Editor

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'James J. Parsons'.

James J. Parsons
Sr. Technical Writer/Editor

**Montgomery County Planning Board Meeting
Thursday, February 15, 2018
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3760
301-495-4600**

1. Consent Agenda

***A. Adoption of Resolutions**

1. Ethan Jackson Preliminary Plan 120170120 – MCPB No. 18-008

BOARD ACTION

Motion: PATTERSON/FANI-GONZÁLEZ

Vote:

Yea: 3-0

Nay:

Other: DREYFUSS & CICHY ABSENT

Action: Adopted the Resolution cited above, as submitted.

***B. Record Plats**

Subdivision Plat No. 220171080, The Resurvey on Kilmain --- AR (formerly RDT) zone, 1 lot; located on the north side of Club Hollow Road, 1850 feet west of the intersection with Edwards Ferry Road; Agricultural and Rural Open Space Master Plan.

Staff Recommendation: Approval

BOARD ACTION

Motion: PATTERSON/FANI-GONZÁLEZ

Vote:

Yea: 3-0

Nay:

Other: DREYFUSS & CICHY ABSENT

Action: Approved staff recommendation for approval of the Record Plat cited above, as submitted.

***C. Other Consent Items**

1. Extension of Sketch Plan No. 32017002A, Preliminary Plan No. 120180010, and Site Plan No. 820180020 Montgomery Village Center --- Request to extend the regulatory review period of the Sketch Plan, Preliminary Plan, and Site Plan by two months from February 22, 2018 to April 26, 2018; 18.78 acres in the CRT 1.5, C-1.0, R-0.75, H-75 Zone; located on the west side of Montgomery Village Avenue between Stedwick Road and Clubhouse Road, within the 2015 Montgomery Village Master Plan area.

Staff Recommendation: Approval of the Extension Requests

2. Extension of Site Plan No. 820180070, Lindsay Ford at Aspen Hill --- Request to extend the regulatory review period of the Site Plan by three months from March 22, 2018 to June 7, 2018; 10.04 acres in the CRT 1.5, C-0.5, R-1.0, H-60 Zone; located on the Northwest quadrant of the intersection of Aspen Hill Road and Route 185-Connecticut Avenue, within the 2015 Aspen Hill Minor Master Plan Amendment area.

Staff Recommendation: Approval of the Extension Request

3. Extension of Site Plan No. 820180050, Euro Motors Bethesda --- CRT 2.25 C 1.5 R0.75 H 45 zone, 4.0 acres. Request to extend the review period for a site plan, located at the southwest intersection of Arlington Road and Bethesda Avenue; 2017 Bethesda Downtown Sector Plan.

Staff Recommendation: Approval of the Extension Request

4. Adoption of Corrected Resolution for the Blairs Site Plan 82014017B

Staff Recommendation: Adoption of Corrected Resolution

BOARD ACTION

**Motion: 1. THROUGH 3. PATTERSON/FANI-GONZÁLEZ
4. FANI-GONZÁLEZ/PATTERSON**

Vote:

Yea: 1. THROUGH 4. 3-0

Nay:

Other: DREYFUSS & CICHY ABSENT

Action: 1. Approved staff recommendation for approval of the Sketch Plan Extension request cited above.

2. & 3. Approved staff recommendation for approval of the Site Plan Extension requests cited above.

4. Adopted the corrected Resolution cited above, as submitted.

***D. Approval of Minutes**

Planning Board Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2018

BOARD ACTION

Motion: PATTERSON/FANI-GONZÁLEZ

Vote:

Yea: 3-0

Nay:

Other: DREYFUSS & CICHY ABSENT

Action: Approved Planning Board Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2018, as submitted.

2. Ashburton Elementary School Addition, Mandatory Referral No. MR2018009 ---
 Construction of two additions and one modular building to replace existing portable units at Ashburton Elementary School located at 6314 Lone Oak Drive, Bethesda; 8.32 acres in the R-60 Zone; within the 1992 North Bethesda/Garrett Park Master Plan area.

Staff Recommendation: Approval to transmit comments to Montgomery County Public Schools

BOARD ACTION

Motion: FANI-GONZÁLEZ/PATTERSON

Vote:

Yea: 3-0

Nay:

Other: DREYFUSS & CICHY ABSENT

Action: Approved staff recommendation to transmit comments to Montgomery County Public Schools, as stated in the attached transmittal letter.

Planning Department staff offered a multi-media presentation and discussed a proposed Mandatory Referral request by Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) to construct two additions and one modular building at an existing school site. The 8.32-acre property, currently the site of the Ashburton Elementary School, is located on the south side of Lone Oak Drive, and is zoned Residential within the North Bethesda/Garrett Park Master Plan area. The existing school is part of the Walter Johnson school cluster. The property is accessed from Lone Oak Drive to the north and Pomona Drive to the east. In addition to the existing school building, the site is also developed with eight portable classrooms and 114 surface parking spaces. In March 2007, the Planning Board reviewed a Mandatory Referral for an addition that allowed the school's capacity to expand from 458 to 659 students. That addition to the school relocated classrooms that were operating out of seven portable classrooms, and provided one kindergarten classroom, six regular classrooms, four specialty classrooms, a new art room, one staff development office, and added eight short-term parking spaces and a new vehicle drop-off loop.

The applicant proposes to construct an eight-classroom addition, a minor addition to the multi-purpose room, and an eight-classroom modular building. The proposed improvements will allow the school capacity to expand from 651 students to 770. Four Preschool Education Program classes currently located at the school will be relocated to other school sites, increasing the school capacity by 26 seats and making four additional classrooms available for use by the regular education program. No parking lot improvements are proposed.

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2. Ashburton Elementary School Addition, Mandatory Referral No. MR2018009

CONTINUED

Staff recommendations for the proposed project include requiring the applicant to regrade and replant trees along the Lone Oak Drive frontage to allow for future installation of a ten-foot wide sidepath, and to ensure that the area where the school sign is located does not conflict with the future installation of the sidepath.

Mr. Carl Seils, adjacent property owner, and Ms. Wendy Calhoun, representing the Walter Johnson Cluster of Parent/Teacher/Association, offered testimony.

Mr. Seth Adams, representing MCPS, offered comments, noting that MCPS is currently exploring the feasibility of re-opening closed schools.

There followed a brief Board discussion with questions to staff and Mr. Adams.

3. Bethesda Downtown Monitoring and Tracking Program Overview --- Presentation and overview of the Bethesda Downtown Implementation guidelines.

Staff Recommendation: Briefing and discussion

BOARD ACTION

Motion:

Vote:

Yea:

Nay:

Other:

Action: Received briefing followed by discussion.

Planning Department staff offered a multi-media presentation and discussed the Bethesda Downtown Sector Plan Implementation Guidelines, specifically the online Monitoring and Tracking Program. The purpose of the Program is to track and monitor the square footage of development in downtown Bethesda against the overall cap on development set forth in the Bethesda Overlay Zone (BOZ), which implements the recommendations of the Bethesda Downtown Plan as it relates to density, building heights, affordable housing, parks and open space and design, and sets a cap of 32.4 million square feet of total gross floor area for existing, approved, and new development, including affordable housing. Since the last Board update on December 7, 2017, the Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC) for the Bethesda Downtown Sector Plan has met twice, during which the members reviewed the online Program tools and made recommendations, which staff has since implemented.

Staff then offered a brief demonstration of the Program, which monitors applications for development that have been submitted to and received by the Planning Department for Concept or Sketch Plan review and do not have a Preliminary or Site Plan approval at the time of subdivision staging evaluation, and tracks applications for development that have an approved Site Plan. The Program also offers definitions of terms used throughout the Plan; a How-to Guide; and tools that track all development data, including requested BOZ density, residential square footage and the number of dwelling units, the number of Moderately Priced Dwelling Units (MPDUs), and the amount of Park Impact Payment (PIP) being paid by developers. Staff noted that the information and data from this online tool, as well as data regarding schools, parks, and transportation, will be gathered and reported annually to the Planning Board.

There followed a brief Board discussion with questions to staff, during which the Board recommended that the Program use the term Park Impact Payment rather than the PIP acronym.

4. Proposed Amendment: Montgomery County Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage Systems Plan Proposed Category Map Amendment – County Executive’s 2017-4 Amendment – Three Water/Sewer Service Category Change Requests.

Staff Recommendation: Transmit Comments to the County Executive

BOARD ACTION

Motion: PATTERSON/FANI-GONZÁLEZ

Vote:

Yea: 3-0

Nay:

Other: DREYFUSS & CICHY ABSENT

Action: Approved staff recommendation to transmit comments to the County Executive, as discussed during the meeting, and as stated in the attached transmittal letter.

Planning Department staff offered a multi-media presentation and discussed three proposed water/sewer service category change requests for the following properties: the Lisa Solomon property located in the Aspen Hill Master Plan area; the CitiMortgage property located in the Cloverly Master Plan area; and the Glenstone Foundation property located in the Potomac Sub-Region Master Plan area. Staff noted that although the applicant for the Glenstone Foundation property proposes to connect to the existing water system that confronts the property to the south, staff recommends connecting to the existing water system that runs along Greenbriar Road, which confronts the northeastern portion of the site. Staff added that the Planning Board is required by State law to make a Master Plan consistency determination on each Water and Sewer Category Change request. The Planning Board’s comments and recommendations will be transmitted to the County Executive for final action, with the Executive’s public hearing scheduled for February 21.

Mr. Scott Wallace, attorney representing the Glenstone Foundation, offered comments and concurred with the staff recommendation for the Greenbriar Road alignment.

Mr. Martin Lotz, representing the Glenstone Foundation, offered brief comments.

There followed a brief Board discussion with questions to staff and Messrs. Wallace and Lotz, during which the Board recommended including an additional comment stating that although the staff recommended alignment from Greenbriar Road is the preferred choice, the southern alignment is acceptable if the Greenbriar Road option is not practicable.

5. Review of the County Executive’s FY19 Transportation CIP Budget --- Review of transportation elements of the County Executive’s FY 19 Recommended FY19-FY24 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) budget.

Staff Recommendation: Review and Approval

BOARD ACTION

Motion: FANI-GONZÁLEZ/PATTERSON

Vote:

Yea: 3-0

Nay:

Other: DREYFUSS & CICHY ABSENT

Action: Approved staff recommendation to transmit comments to the County Council, as discussed during the meeting, and as stated in the attached transmittal letter.

Planning Department staff offered a multi-media presentation and discussed the County Executive’s recommended FY19 Capital Budget and FY19-24 Capital Improvements Program (CIP), specifically the transportation budget. According to staff, the Executive’s proposed FY19 transportation budget, approximately 23 percent of the total budget request, is \$3,397,000,000 and comprises 126 projects that fall within eight categories, including bridges, highway maintenance, mass transit, traffic improvements, parking, pedestrian/bicycles, and roads. Staff then discussed significant changes in the Executive’s recommended FY19 budget, which include new projects, projects with significant CIP budget changes, projects with major funding changes, and projects with no or limited recommended CIP funding.

New projects include a new bridge on Dorsey Mill Road at \$28,350,000; a new bridge on Beach Drive at \$4,200,000; a new sidewalk along Goode Hope Road at \$4,070,000; a new bridge for Brighton Dam at \$1,860,000; and a new sidewalk along Oak Drive/Ridge Road at \$1,420,000. Projects with significant CIP budget changes include improvements for Montrose Parkway East with a \$61,400,000 budget increase; improvements for Ride-On Bus Fleet with a \$20,370,000 increase; streetlighting with an \$18,390,000 increase; residential and rural road rehabilitation with a \$16,815,000 increase; the resurfacing of primary and arterial roads for a \$13,800,000 increase; the resurfacing of residential and rural roads for a \$6,100,000 increase; the Dennis Avenue bridge replacement project with a \$5,530,000 increase; bikeway program minor projects for a \$4,920,000 increase; a proposed shared-use path along Frederick Road in Clarksburg for a \$4,460,000 increase; and Bethesda Bikeway and pedestrian facilities improvements with a \$2,020,000 increase. Projects with major finding changes include Goshen Road south improvements with a \$41,570,000 budget increase; the Maryland 355 Crossing Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) project with a \$35,683,000 increase; and the extension of Observation Drive with a \$36,179,000 budget decrease. Projects with no or limited

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5. Review of County Executive's FY19 Transportation CIP BudgetCONTINUED

recommended CIP funding include the extension of Observation Drive, Seven Locks Road Bikeway and safety improvements, construction of a hiker biker path on the east side of Falls Road, improvements to Bradley Boulevard, and the construction of an access road between Spencerville Road and the school access road in Burtonsville.

Staff recommendations include major changes to the Montrose Parkway east project, including the widening of the proposed sidepath on the north side of Montrose Parkway from ten feet to 16 feet, replacing a proposed sidewalk along the north side of Randolph Road with an eight-foot wide sidepath, the elimination of the proposed bike lanes on Parklawn Drive, improvement for planned lane transitions that will be added on Veirs Mill Road, the addition of crosswalks at Viers Mill Road at Robindale Drive, Veirs Mill Road at Montrose Parkway/ Parkland Drive, and Montrose parkway at Chapman Avenue, and the addition of a sidewalk on the south side of Veirs Mill Road between Montrose Parkway and the eastern project limits near Edgebrook Road; the inclusion of a 12-foot wide sidepath along the north side, a seven-foot wide sidewalk along the south side, vegetated buffers, pedestrian lighting fixtures, and artwork on the Dorsey Mill Road bridge; modifying the Oak Drive/Ridge Road project by replacing the proposed five-foot wide sidewalk with a ten-foot wide sidepath; the advancement of the Observation Road extension project, and the recommendation that this project be considered high-priority; the advancement of the funding for the Burtonsville access road project into the current CIP to progress project; modifying the Dennis Avenue bridge replacement project by replacing the proposed seven-foot wide sidewalk with a ten-foot wide sidepath; modifying the Good Hope Road sidewalk project by replacing the proposed sidewalk for the west side with a ten-foot wide sidepath; advancement of the Forest Glen passageway project through short-term CIP funding; increased funding for Bicycle-Pedestrian Priority Area improvements project Project Description Form (PDF); and increased budget and CIP funding for the pedestrian Safety Program, Sidewalk Program minor projects, and transportation improvements for schools.

The following speakers offered testimony: Mr. Dan Wilhelm, representing the Greater Colesville Citizens Association; Ms. Susan Swift, representing the Suburban Maryland Transportation Alliance; and Ms. Ilaya Hopkins, representing the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce.

There followed extensive Board discussion with questions to staff, during which the Board instructed staff to include additional comments recommending the advancement of the Anderson property project to construct a MARC rail station parking lot in Boyds; a higher level of prioritization for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) along Colesville Road, and asking County leaders to specify how BRT will be implemented with the level of service recommended in the Master Plan of Highways and Transitways; and recommending that the Montgomery County Department of Transportation examine the maximum practicable width for the proposed path along Good Hope Road. The Board also requested additional information regarding the proposed budget increase for the MD 355 Crossing BRAC project.

6. — ~~CLOSED SESSION~~

~~According to MD ANN Code, General Provisions Article, §3-305(b)(7) and (8), to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice about potential litigation.~~

BOARD ACTION

Motion:

Vote:

Yea:

Nay:

Other:

Action: **This Item was removed from the Planning Board agenda.**

7. Bicycle Master Plan Worksession #1

Staff Recommendation: Discuss Public Testimony received on the Bicycle Master Plan Public Hearing Draft

BOARD ACTION

Motion:

Vote:

Yea:

Nay:

Other:

Action: Received briefing followed by discussion and provided guidance to staff.

Planning Department staff offered a multi-media presentation and discussed the comments received during the Public Hearing for the Bicycle Master Plan Draft held on January 25, 2018. Staff noted that the following issues will be discussed during the meeting: 1) four types of transportation cyclists; 2) moderate-stress bicycling; 3) conventional bike lanes and bikeable shoulders for moderate-stress bicyclists; 4) breezeway network attributes; 5) two-way bikeways on both sides of the street; 6) equal access to low-stress bicycling for all members of the community; 7) connectivity to schools, libraries, and recreation centers.

Staff also noted that comments on the Plan were received from 271 individuals, organizations, municipalities, and government agencies. Of these comments, 228 indicated that they were supportive or not supportive of the Plan, including 200 that indicated that they were supportive, with 187 via letters, and 23 that indicated that they were supportive with changes, and five that indicated that they were not supportive of the Plan. An additional 43 comments recommended changes or had questions and comments but did not indicate that they support or oppose the Plan.

In response to the issues cited above, staff acknowledges that there is a difference from community to community in how traffic stress is perceived, the larger point is that surveys consistently show that most people only tolerate a low level of traffic stress. It would be valuable for Montgomery County to conduct a survey to identify how its population is distributed among the four types of transportation cyclists. Staff believes that the Plan should focus on achieving a "low-stress" bicycling network and that should not include a "moderate-stress" bicycling metric. Planning for "low-stress" bicycling is considered a best practice in North America. Staff noted that many bicyclists rely on the ability to bicycle at high speed for travel efficiency. The suburban pattern of development in the County creates a greater distance between destinations and therefore bicycling is only a feasible option for many bicyclists who travel longer distances when they can travel at a higher speed. Staff believes that the Plan provides a robust network for moderate-stress bicyclists, including about 300 miles of bikeways that are targeted to them.

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7. Bicycle Master Plan Worksession #1CONTINUED

Following discussion with Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) staff recommended adding the following language: “However, conventional bike lanes can be considered as an interim way of providing bicycle facilities or as a supplement to recommended facilities, particularly in locations where provision of conventional bike lanes does not increase the road cross section. However, conventional bike lanes are not a substitute for low-stress facilities, particularly on higher volume and higher speed roads.” Staff also added that many comments were received on the Breezeway Network, a proposed safe and separated network for cyclists and pedestrians to move around Montgomery County at a high level of comfort and convenience, safety, and efficiency. Staff agreed with MCDOT that follow-up work is needed to confirm the locations of the Breezeway Network corridors. Staff also noted that two-way separated bike lanes or shared use paths on both sides of the street are warranted in some situations.

Staff also noted that the Plan does show poor connectivity to schools, libraries and recreation centers. Staff noted that to address this concern, the Planning Board could consider recommending a Safe Routes to School policy. Master plans do not typically recommend crossing treatments at specific locations. Many high schools are located on higher speed roads and therefore their connectivity metrics will always be poor unless the posted speed limit is reduced or the traffic stress target for high school is raised to that of adults.

Staff also discussed the following issues: protected intersections; development impact taxes; use of developer contributions; bicycle parking; school policies; bikeway prioritization; and loading zones.

Mr. William Schultheiss of Toole Design and Mr. Peter Gray of the Washington Area Bicyclists Association offered comments.

Staff added that the next worksession is scheduled for March 1, and will address any remaining non-bikeway issues, and any additional worksession will review comments on specific bikeway recommendations.

There followed extensive Board discussion, with questions to staff and Mr. Schultheiss, during which the Board instructed staff to continue reviewing the comments received at the public hearing and making changes and adjustments to the Plan.

8. Spring 2018 Semi-Annual Presentation Outline

Staff Recommendation: Receive briefing

BOARD ACTION

Motion:

Vote:

Yea:

Nay:

Other:

Action: Received briefing followed by discussion.

Planning Department and Parks Department Directors Gwen Wright and Mike Riley discussed an overview of the Spring 2018 Semi-Annual Report to be presented to the County Council and the County Executive. The report covers four themes: i) the New Suburbanism; ii) Engaging Diverse Communities and Meeting Diverse Needs; iii) Strengthening Economic Competitiveness by Creating Great Places; and iv) Achievements and Other Projects. Ms. Wright and Mr. Riley briefly discussed the draft report and answered questions from the Board.

There followed a brief Board discussion.

9. Roundtable Discussion

- Parks Department Director's Report

BOARD ACTION**Motion:****Vote:****Yea:****Nay:****Other:****Action: Received briefing.**

Parks Department Director's Report – Parks Department Director Mike Riley briefed the Board on the following ongoing and upcoming Parks Department events and activities: The County Council approved the Energized Public Spaces Functional Master Plan on Tuesday February 13, with a strong community support, the Planning Board and the Full Commission will adopt the Resolution in the coming weeks; the PEPCO trail groundbreaking ceremony was held on January 25 at Colton Lane in Potomac and a video of the event is on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N40L16divMc>; the Parks Speaker Series will have the next session on February 21 with Mr. Gil Penalosa, Director and Chair of the Board of 8-80 Cities; the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget update; At the beginning of 2018, Chair Casey Anderson challenged himself and others to visit all 421 parks in the Montgomery County Parks system. As of February 13, he has visited 39 parks. You can view his progress in the Park Resolution Story Map at <http://bit.ly/2ESO7Yu>, which is updated weekly; This year's Green Matters Symposium is titled "Restoring and Renewing Our Urban Landscapes" and will be held at the Silver Spring Civic Building on Friday, February 23 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with registration at [Active MONTGOMERY.org](http://ActiveMONTGOMERY.org) and a \$99 fee; An In-service training session titled "Beyond Diversity and Inclusion" with Ms. Autumn Saxton-Ross, PhD, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director, Naturebridge scheduled for Wednesday, February 21 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. at Brookside Gardens auditorium.

Mr. Riley added that there are other events and activities covered in his 6-page report distributed to the Board members at the meeting, which can be read at their convenience.

10. FY19 Resource Conservation Plan and Annual Business Recycling and Waste Reduction Report Presentation --- Required annual presentation of the Resource Conservation Plan and Annual Business Recycling and Waste Reduction Reports. The presentation includes recycling, solid waste, energy expenditures, and budgeting forecast. Presentation will also highlight sustainability and energy/water conservation efforts.

Staff Recommendation: Approval of Resource Conservation Plan and Annual Business Recycling and Waste Reduction Report

BOARD ACTION

Motion: PATTERSON/FANI-GONZÁLEZ

Vote:

Yea: 3-0

Nay:

Other: DREYFUSS & CICHY ABSENT

Action: Approved staff recommendation for approval of the Resource Conservation Plan and the Annual Business Recycling and Waste Reduction Report for the Montgomery County Parks and Planning Departments of the Maryland National Park and Planning Commission.

Planning and Parks Departments staff offered a multi-media presentation and briefed the Planning Board on the Resource Conservation Plan and the Annual Business Recycling and Waste Reduction Report for the two Departments. The Resource Conservation Plan will be submitted to the Montgomery County Government for inclusion in the annual combined-agency Resource Conservation Plan document which is prepared by the Interagency Committee on Energy and Utilities Management (ICEUM), and the Annual Business Recycling and Waste Reduction report will be submitted to the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (MCDEP). Staff noted that the reports reflect accomplishments to conserve both energy and water resources as of December 2017 and include plans for FY19 to conserve resources based on the Commission's comprehensive resource Conservation Plan. Staff also reviewed recent changes to and accomplishments of the recycling and waste reduction program in 2017. Staff added that initiatives and programs implemented across the Departments of Park and Planning are in alignment with the Commission's Sustainability Practice 6-40.

Mr. Richard Anderson of CQI Associates, energy management consultant working with staff, offered a presentation on energy management, recycling and green parks program for the Montgomery County Parks and Planning Departments.

There followed substantive Board discussion with questions to staff and Mr. Anderson.

12. Legislative Update: HB 505, Use of Public Funds – Playground and Athletic Fields Surfaces – Preferences and Prohibitions*Staff Recommendation: Briefing***BOARD ACTION****Motion: PATTERSON/FANI-GONZÁLEZ****Vote:****Yea: 3-0****Nay:****Other: DREYFUSS & CICHY ABSENT****Action: Opposed House Bill 505 as being too overarching.**

Legal Counsel to the Planning Board and Parks Department staff discussed a legislative update for House Bill 505, regarding the use of public funds to purchase playground and athletic fields surface materials. Staff noted that the Bill is too overarching and would recommend that the Planning Board oppose it.

Commissioner Fani-Gonzalez noted that she does not support the use of synthetic materials in the parks system and had previously mentioned her opposition for health reason.

Chair Anderson noted that his understanding is that the Parks Department uses synthetic materials only when absolutely necessary, and as of today, only 10 percent of the fields in the Parks system use synthetic surfaces.

There followed extensive Board discussion with questions to legal Counsel and Parks staff.

11. Public Hearing – Technical Update to the Master Plan of Highways and Transitways --- Public Hearing to solicit public comments on the Public Hearing Draft of the Technical Update to the Master Plan of Highways and Transitways Functional Master Plan.

Staff Recommendation: Receive Testimony

BOARD ACTION

Motion:

Vote:

Yea:

Nay:

Other:

Action: Received testimony.

A VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT OF THIS ITEM IS AVAILABLE IN THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION IN SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND.