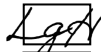



Montgomery Planning

THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Bethesda Downtown Sector Plan, Implementation Advisory Committee Appointment

MCPB
Item No.9
Date: 02-04-21

 Leslye Howerton, Supervisor, DownCounty Planning, leslye.howerton@montgomeryplanning.org, 301.495.4566
 Elza Hisel-McCoy, Chief, DownCounty Planning, Elza.Hisel-McCoy@montgomeryplanning.org, 301.495.2115

Completed: 02.01.21

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Appoint one new member to the Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC) to a three-year term for the Bethesda Downtown Sector Plan.

BACKGROUND

As outlined in the *Approved and Adopted Bethesda Downtown Sector Plan*, in 2017 the Planning Department created a representative and balanced Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC) to coordinate and monitor the progress of development and address implementation of the recommendations in the *Approved and Adopted Bethesda Downtown Sector Plan*. The IAC is made up of representatives from the business community and residents of downtown Bethesda. The Planning Board appointed the 14-member committee in December 2017.

As of January 19, 2021, Emily Vaias, a member representing the business community resigned from the IAC. On January 20, 2021, Staff sent letters requesting nominations to fill the seat vacated by Emily Vaias. Letters were sent out to the Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association (NAIOP), and Councilmember Andrew Friedson's office.

METHOD OF SELECTION

Members must be appointed by the Planning Board and will serve three-year terms. Members are eligible for reappointment upon completion of their term. Members may serve two full consecutive terms.

Members are selected by representatives from the Planning Department, Bethesda Urban Partnership, Bethesda Regional Services Center, and Bethesda Green as outlined in the Rules of Procedure. One individual expressed interest and submitted a letter of interest. The selection committee and planning staff are recommending that the Planning Board appoint one new member to a three-year term to the IAC to fill the vacated seat.

PROFILE OF RECOMMENDED COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following provides a brief profile of each recommended member. Letters of Interest are attached.

Property Owner /Business Owner Representatives

1. Vince Burke, Vice President, B.F. Saul Company & Affiliates (three-year term)

Mr. Burke was actively involved in the Bethesda Downtown Plan from commencement to approval and adoption and has continued his involvement through his development work at the B. F. Saul Company (see attached letter for more detail)

ATTACHMENT

- A. Implementation Advisory Committee Letters of Interest

From: [Burke, Vince](#)
To: [Howerton, Leslye](#)
Cc: [Allie Williams](#); [Jack Alexander \(jalexander@amrcommercial.com\)](mailto:jalexander@amrcommercial.com)
Subject: Bethesda Downtown Implementation Advisory Committee
Date: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 3:26:46 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] Exercise caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding.

Good afternoon, Ms. Howerton. I am writing to express my interest in joining the Bethesda Downtown Implementation Advisory Committee.

I have spent the majority of life both living and working in Bethesda and I am very familiar with many facets of the neighborhood and its goings on. As you well know, I was actively involved in the Bethesda Downtown Plan from commencement to adoption and have continued my involvement through my development work at the B. F. Saul Company. I am currently involved in two projects pursuing entitlements within downtown Bethesda, and I am very aware of both the plan's nuance and the Planning Department's goals.

I have personal or working relationships with many members of the committee, both residents and professionals, and I am confident that I would mesh well with the group. I also have a broad network of other Bethesda residents, workers, property owners, and developers and can act as a conduit to the community if necessary. Finally, both my home and business locations are nearby MNCPP offices and Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center, which would make my participation convenient and therefore dependable.

I hope this letter meets your satisfaction. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Vince Burke

Vice President

B. F. Saul Company & Affiliates

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