




## Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities Plan, Key Preliminary Ideas Briefing

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### Description

Presentation of key ideas for the *Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities Plan*.

### Summary

The *Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities Plan* is an update to the 2000 *Silver Spring Central Business District Sector Plan*. Visioning for the plan concluded in May, and in June the team began working on key ideas that will shape plan recommendations. Four major themes for the plan emerged from the Visioning phase: Diversity, Resiliency, Connectivity and Community Health. The overarching theme of Equity is woven through all of the plan themes and will be the connective tissue between recommendations across all planning disciplines.

The team has developed initial key ideas that will be presented to the Planning Board. These include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Proposed planning districts for the plan area and the overall vision for each district.
- 2) Public realm “Green Loop” concept that connects the districts via a complete streetscape that is comfortable for pedestrians and bikers and will enhance the experience of moving around downtown Silver Spring for residents, workers and visitors. This concept supports the plan themes of equity and diversity, connectivity, community health and resiliency, and is being developed by an interdisciplinary Silver Spring Public Realm group (transportation planner, urban designer, environmental planner and Parks planner). The Green Loop will strengthen the existing parks and open space network while also improving tree cover and stormwater management facilities along key local streets in the plan.
- 3) Key opportunity sites throughout the plan area.
- 4) Zoning tools to encourage development of parcels that are currently under-utilized.

Staff requests feedback from the Planning Board on the key ideas presented.