

GREAT SENECA SCIENCE CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Description

Approve membership of the Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan Implementation Advisory Committee (GSSC IAC) to serve through September 30, 2024.

COMPLETED: 01-20-2023

MCPB
Item No.: Preliminary Matters
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Montgomery County
Planning Board
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SECTION 1

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve membership of the Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan Implementation Advisory Committee (GSSC IAC) to serve through September 30, 2024.

SECTION 2

BACKGROUND

County Council Resolution #16-1325 approving the 2010 *Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan* included the following requirement to establish an advisory committee:

The Planning Board must establish an advisory committee of property owners, residents, and interested groups (including adjacent neighborhoods in Gaithersburg and Rockville), with representation from the Executive Branch, the City of Rockville, and the City of Gaithersburg that are stakeholders in the redevelopment of the Plan area – to evaluate the assumptions made regarding congestion levels, transit use, and parking. The committee’s responsibilities should include monitoring the Plan recommendations, monitoring the CIP and Growth Policy, and recommending action by the Planning Board and County Council to address issues that may arise, including, but not limited to, community impacts and design, and the status and location of public facilities and open space.

Since 2010, members of the GSSC IAC have reviewed and provided input on a variety of development plans in the Life Sciences Center (LSC) district of the *Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan*; provided feedback and guidance on the Design Guidelines for the LSC Loop Trail; and contributed to the GSSC section of the Biennial Master Plan Monitoring Reports in 2013, 2015, 2017, and 2019. More recently, members of the GSSC IAC have also contributed to the 2021 *Great Seneca Science Corridor Minor Master Plan Amendment* and the *Great Seneca Plan: Connecting Life and Science*, a comprehensive amendment to the 2010 Plan.

The *Great Seneca Plan* is anticipated to include an evaluation of the Plan implementation to date, including the GSSC IAC. Staff anticipates that the next term of the IAC will continue through the approval and adoption of the *Great Seneca Plan*, anticipated in September 2024, at which time a determination regarding the status of the IAC relative to the new plan will be evaluated.

Several members that served on the 2020-2022 GSSC IAC have agreed to remain on the committee for another term, including several property owners and representatives of the Executive Branch as well as the cities of Rockville and Gaithersburg. The Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce and the Universities at Shady Grove have recommended new representatives to replace members that served on the 2020-2022 GSSC IAC, and two members opted to step down from the committee at the end of the last term, one of whom fulfilled the requirement for a citizen representative from the City of Rockville.

County Council Resolution #16-1325 indicates that the Committee must include citizen representatives from Montgomery County, the City of Rockville, and the City of Gaithersburg. While the proposed membership includes representation from Montgomery County and the City of Gaithersburg, it does not include a citizen representative from the City of Rockville.

To ensure resident representation from the City of Rockville, Staff will seek one additional citizen member to serve on the committee for the remainder of the 2023-2024 term. To recruit an additional representative, Staff will solicit applicants through coordination with the City of Rockville as well as a press release, e-letter notification and posting flyers within the community.

SECTION 3

IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP, JANUARY 2023-SEPTEMBER 2024

At this time, Staff recommends appointing the following property owners, residents and representatives of the Executive Branch as well as the Cities of Rockville and Gaithersburg, who have agreed to serve a new two-year term on the GSSC IAC through September 2024:

- Phil Usatine, Resident Representative, Washingtonian Woods HOA (City of Gaithersburg)
- Paula Ross, President/CEO, Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce
- Upneet Atwal, Universities at Shady Grove
- Manisha Tewari, City of Rockville Government
- Tim Newell, Newell and Associates, representing the Banks Farm heirs
- Laura Mehfoud, City of Gaithersburg Government
- Kara Olsen Salazar, Office of the County Executive (Montgomery County Department of General Services)
- Gary Erenrich, Montgomery County Department of Transportation
- Larry E. Walker, President, The Walker Group on behalf of Adventist Health Care
- Mitch Bonanno, Johns Hopkins University
- William De Pippo, Alexandria Real Estate Equities
- Sandy Young, Resident Representative (Montgomery County)
- Mark Prator, Resident Representative (City of Gaithersburg)
- Jeff Lolley, Resident Representative (Montgomery County)

SECTION 6

CONCLUSION

Staff proposes to return to the Planning Board following the recruitment of an additional citizen representative from the City of Rockville to present an additional member for appointment.

On behalf of the Montgomery County Planning Department, Staff expresses gratitude for the contributions of all past members of the GSSC IAC, and gratitude for those who have agreed to serve new terms.