

Montgomery Planning

THE GREAT SENECA PLAN: CONNECTING LIFE AND SCIENCE



The Great Seneca Plan

CONNECTING LIFE AND SCIENCE

Description

Update on the Great Seneca Plan: Connecting Life and Science.



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MASTER PLAN INFORMATION

Draft

Plan Update

Date

1-19-2023

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Planning Board Information

MCPB

Item No. 6

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SUMMARY

At the January 19 briefing, staff will update the Planning Board on activities to date, community feedback, and the major findings of the Existing Conditions Report for the Great Seneca Plan. The full Existing Conditions Report is included as Attachment A. The briefing on January 19 will include a condensed summary of the report.

The Great Seneca Plan was initiated to examine existing staging requirements for the area, incorporate recent countywide initiatives and policies, and address emerging trends and new planned infrastructure in the Plan area. Staff are currently in the visioning and analysis phase of the plan, which follows the approval of the Scope of Work and precedes the development of preliminary recommendations.

The Great Seneca Plan: Connecting Life and Science (Great Seneca Plan) is an update to the 2010 *Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan* (2010 Plan) and follows the [2021 Great Seneca Science Corridor Minor Master Plan Amendment](#) (2021 Amendment). The 2021 Amendment pursued a narrow scope focused on adjusting the staging requirements established by the 2010 Plan. The 2021 Amendment recommended initiating a new comprehensive amendment to evaluate trends and conditions and develop recommendations to align the vision, recommendations, and overall staging requirements for the area with the county's adopted plans, policies, and priorities.

The Great Seneca Plan is a comprehensive Master Plan Amendment that will evaluate recommendations for land use, zoning, urban design, transportation, environment, and community facilities, as well as incorporate countywide initiatives and policies.

Staff began preliminary work on the Great Seneca Plan in February 2022 and presented the [Scope of Work for the Great Seneca Plan](#) to the Planning Board in May 2022. Since approval of the Scope of Work, staff have advanced community outreach and engagement, evaluated existing conditions, and initiated the visioning and analysis phase of the Plan.

During the visioning and analysis phase of the Plan, staff is sharing information about the Great Seneca Plan and educating community members on the Plan process and opportunities for participation. In addition to sending information out, staff are creating space for people to share their thoughts, feelings, and concerns; listening to understand stakeholders' perspectives and encourage new insights and connections; and identify diverse hopes of the involved communities.

Last year, staff engaged in sixteen community stakeholder events, knocked on more than 5,000 doors and hosted two focus groups, in addition to pursuing online engagement through surveys and web maps. Staff will continue to pursue engagement activities through the spring. Simultaneously, staff are collecting and analyzing data, researching best practices and working with consultants. The efforts of the visioning and analysis phase of the Plan will directly inform the preliminary recommendations.

Attachment:

Attachment A: Great Seneca Plan Existing Conditions Report

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