MAYOR AND COUNCIL

MEETING NO. 15-20
Monday, May 4, 2020 – 6:00 PM

AGENDA

Agenda item times are estimates only. Items may be considered at times other than those indicated.

Any person who requires assistance should call the ADA Coordinator at 240-314-8108.

Rockville City Hall will be closed through May 15, due to recent issued state directives for slowing down the spread of the coronavirus COVID-19 and social distancing.

Viewing Mayor and Council Meetings
To support social distancing, the Mayor and Council are conducting meetings virtually. The virtual meetings can be viewed on Rockville 11, channel 11 on county cable, livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11, and available a day after each meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand.

Participating in Community Forum & Public Hearings
If you wish to submit comments in writing for Community Forum or Public Hearings, please email the comments to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov by no later than 2:00 p.m. on the date of the meeting. All comments will be acknowledged by the Mayor and Council at the meeting and added to the agenda for public viewing on the website.

If you wish to participate virtually in Community Forum during the live Mayor and Council meeting, please send your name and phone number to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov no later than 9:00 am on the day of the meeting. You will be connected with the City's Information Technology Department to receive all the information you need to join the meeting by audio to share your Community Forum comments.

Participating in Mayor and Council Drop-In (Mayor Newton and Councilmember Pierzchala)
Drop-In Sessions will be held by phone on Monday, May 11 from 5:00-5:45 p.m. Please sign up by 2 p.m. on the meeting day using the form at: https://www.rockvillemd.gov/formcenter/city-clerk-11/sign-up-for-dropin-meetings-227

6:00 PM **1. Convene**

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Agenda Review

6:05 PM **4. City Manager's Report**

6:15 PM **5. COVID-19 Update**

6:45 PM **6. Proclamation**

A. Proclamation Recognizing May as Bicycle Awareness Month (Councilmember Pierzchala)

B. Proclamation Declaring Older Americans Month May 2020 (Councilmember Feinberg)

C. Proclamation Recognizing Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month (Councilmember Myles)

D. Proclamation Declaring May 10-16, 2020 as Women's Health Week (Councilmember Ashton)

7:00 PM **7. Community Forum**

Any member of the community may address the Mayor and Council for 3 minutes during Community Forum. Unless otherwise indicated, Community Forum is included on the agenda for every regular Mayor and Council meeting, generally between 7:00 and 7:30 pm. Call the City Clerk/Director of Council Operation's Office at 240-314-8280 to sign up to speak in advance or sign up in the Mayor and Council Chamber the night of the meeting.

8. Mayor and Council's Response to Community Forum

7:20 PM **9. Consent**

A. Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Lease Agreement Between the Mayor and Council of Rockville and Cellco Partnership, a Delaware general partnership (doing business as Verizon Wireless)

B. Approval of Minutes

7:25 PM **10. Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff**

8:25 PM **11. Introduction and Possible Adoption of an Ordinance to Temporarily Suspend the Requirement that Current Tenants of Rental MPDUs Recertify Their Eligibility to Participate in the City's MPDU Program Before Renewing Lease**

8:30 PM **12. Consideration of Limiting Residential Rent Increases in Rockville During COVID-19 Emergency**

9:00 PM **13. FY 2021 Mayor and Council Budget Worksession**

11:00 PM **14. Review and Comment - Mayor and Council Action Report**

A. Action Report

15. Review and Comment - Future Agendas

A. Future Agendas

16. Old/New Business

11:15 PM **17. Adjournment**

The Mayor and Council Rules and Procedures and Operating Guidelines establish procedures and practices for Mayor and Council meetings, including public hearing procedures. They are available at: http://www.rockvillemd.gov/mcguidelines.

Mayor & Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Agenda Item Type: Proclamation
Department: PW - Traffic & Transportation
Responsible Staff: Alyssa Roff

Subject

Proclamation Recognizing May as Bicycle Awareness Month

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council read and approve the proclamation.

Discussion

In 2012, Rockville was recognized as a Bicycle Friendly Community at the Bronze level by the League of American Bicyclists because of its commitment to promoting and encouraging bicycling for all residents of Rockville through education, infrastructure and outreach. Rockville has a history as a leader in designing bicycle infrastructure, such as trails, bike lanes, and bicycle parking. The City also was a leader in the State of Maryland in designing and implementing bicycle safety education programs.

The City is committed to enhancing bicycle safety for both commuting and recreation, and for all types of bicyclists. Rockville citizens should be able to meet most of their daily needs by bicycle, if they choose. Bicyclists of all ages and experience levels have convenient and comfortable access to public services and recreational, cultural, commercial, and employment destinations in the city.

The City has about 70 miles of bikeways and the updated Bikeway Master Plan proposes another 41 miles within the next ten years. The City's bikeways connect to various bicycle facilities in Montgomery County, including the Rock Creek Trail to the east, the Bethesda Trolley Trail to the south, and other shared use paths that connect to neighboring roads.

Additionally, in partnership with Montgomery County, bike-sharing was introduced in Rockville in 2013 with the expansion of the Capital Bikeshare system into the Shady Grove/Life Sciences area with installation of 21 stations, 13 of them within the city limits. In April 2018, the first two bikeshare stations were installed in the Twinbrook area, at the Twinbrook Metro Station, and at the intersection of Congressional Lane and East Jefferson Street. These stations are part of a new network of eight bikeshare stations in the Twinbrook and White Flint (Pike District) area. The City also is partnering up with Montgomery County to pilot a dockless bikeshare program.

Rockville usually celebrates Bike Month in May and the summer season with several rides and events such as Bike Month Kickoff Ride, Tour de Cookie, National Bike to School Day, Rockville Annual Rockville Ride of Silence, National Bike to Work Day, Tuesday Evening Rides, and Ride the Rockville Bike Beltway Carl Henn Millennium Trail Ride. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic,

these events have been cancelled. We hope they will resume in the near future. While cyclists may not be riding to work or school, there are still plenty of other opportunities to get out a ride and develop healthy habits to stay physically active during the Covid-19 outbreak. With the help of the Rockville Bike Advisory Committee, a list of bicycling riding tips can be found at: https://rockvillereports.com/biking-safely-during-the-covid-19-emergency/

Mayor and Council History

The Mayor and Council recognize Bicycle Awareness Month every year with a proclamation.

Next Steps

In lieu of organized group bike rides this year, people are encouraged to seek out individual opportunities to ride this month, when appropriate, and to recognize the importance of bicycle safety for themselves and others.
Attend bike events as soon they are offered again throughout the year.

Attachments

Attachment 6.A.a: 2020 Bicycle Awareness Month (PDF)

Rob DiSpirito, City Manager 4/29/2020

Proclamation

ROCKVILLE · MARYLAND

WHEREAS, the bicycle plays an important role in the lives of many Rockville residents by providing a means to travel to work, school and parks, and is a popular form of recreation; and

WHEREAS, increased appropriate bicycle usage will promote health and wellness in the City of Rockville, and is an important part of encouraging all citizens to develop habits of physical activity to become or stay fit during the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, increased bicycle usage can help reduce motor vehicle emissions and thereby reduce global warming impacts, provide mobility for those without access to a motor vehicle, and increase existing road and parking capacity when people choose bicycling for routine trips, and

WHEREAS, the Rockville Public Works Department, along with the Recreation and Parks Department and Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee, promote safe and appropriate bicycling behavior through effective programs and partnerships that target distinct populations of all ages and backgrounds, especially as many rediscover the joy of getting outside on a bike.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of Rockville do hereby proclaim May 2020 as Bicycle Awareness Month, and urge all citizens of Rockville to seek opportunities to ride bicycles this month when appropriate; to recognize the importance of bicycle safely for themselves and others, and to be more aware of our cyclists on our streets and roadways, especially in these unusual times.

Bridget Donnell Newton
Bridget Donnell Newton, Mayor

Monique Ashton, Councilmember

Beryl L. Feinberg
Beryl L. Feinberg, Councilmember

David E. Myles
David Myles, Councilmember

Mark Pierzchala, Councilmember

May 4, 2020

Mayor & Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Agenda Item Type: Proclamation
Department: City Clerk/Director of Council Operations Office
Responsible Staff: Jacqueline Mobley

Subject

Proclamation Declaring Older Americans Month May 2020

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council read and approve the proclamation.

Discussion

In 1963, the Administration for Community Living began to acknowledge the contributions of older people by using the month of May to celebrate Older Americans Month. The annual observance offers the opportunity to learn about, support and honor our nation's older residents. This year's theme "Make Your Mark", was selected to encourage and celebrate countless contributions that older adults make to our communities. Their time, experience, and talents benefit family, peers, and neighbors every day. Communities, organizations, and individuals of all ages are also making their marks. This year's theme highlights the difference *everyone* can make – in the lives of older adults, in support of caregivers, and to strengthen communities.

While Rockville Senior Services provides a variety of programs and services year-round, Older Americans Month is used to focus on how older adults in our community are leading and inspiring others, how we can support and learn from them, and how we might follow their examples to blaze trails of our own. Throughout this month, Rockville Senior Services will conduct events, programs, and activities designed to highlight the programs and services available to Rockville seniors

Mayor and Council History

The Mayor and Council recognize May as Older Americans Month every year with a proclamation.

Public Notification and Engagement

Older Americans Month is advertised in the Rockville Senior Center May Newsletter, Senior Center web page and in the May/June edition of Rockville Reports. Attend the many Senior Citizen programs and events offered in May, and throughout the year in the City of Rockville.

Get involved this month by signing up for the following programs: Health Fair, Cheers for Charity Wine Tasting, blazing the Trail Senior Walk and Summer Trips. For a complete list of events in May to celebrate Older Americans Month please vaster www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter.

Attachments

Attachment 6.B.a: 2020 Older Americans Month Proclamation (PDF)

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations 4/29/2020

Proclamation

ROCKVILLE · MARYLAND

Whereas, City of Rockville includes a growing number of older Americans who make countless contributions to our community every day; and

Whereas, City of Rockville is stronger when people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds are included and encouraged to make their mark; and

Whereas, City of Rockville recognizes the importance of the physical, mental, social, and emotional well-being of its citizens; and

Whereas, City of Rockville can support our community members by:

- promoting independence, inclusion, and participation;
- engaging older adults through education, recreation, and service; and
- connecting people with opportunities to share their time, experience, and talents.

Now, therefore, the Mayor and Council of Rockville do hereby proclaim May 2020 to be Older Americans Month in the City of Rockville. We urge every resident to recognize older adults and the people who support them as essential members of our community.

Bridget Donnell Newton

Bridget Donnell Newton, Mayor

Monique Ashton, Councilmember

Beryl L. Feinberg, Councilmember

David E. Myles, Councilmember

Mark Pierzchala, Councilmember

May 4, 2020

Mayor & Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Agenda Item Type: Proclamation
Department: City Clerk/Director of Council Operations Office
Responsible Staff: Jacqueline Mobley

Subject

Proclamation Recognizing Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Month

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council read and approve the proclamation.

Discussion

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is an unpredictable disorder that can cause a variety of symptoms, which for many, can flare-up and then subside over the course of days, months, or even years. While MS is not contagious, its causes are not yet fully understood, and researchers continue to search for answers.
MS is most frequently diagnosed in young adults, although individuals of any age may be diagnosed with this neurological condition. People who are not familiar with MS can easily be confused by its name and its unique symptoms. Particularly with today's approved treatments and wellness strategies, most individuals with MS are able to live a full and productive life, with much hope for the future.

Every day, people living with MS do whatever it takes to move their lives forward despite the challenges. By sharing their stories, we help people better understand life with MS and become inspired to do whatever it takes to change the world for people living with MS.
You can help ensure that more people understand what life with MS can be like and engage more people to do something about it, by following our media channels and sharing the stories of those living with MS, who move life forward every day and don't let MS define them.
Together we will do whatever it takes to change the world for people with MS.

Mayor and Council History

This is the first time the Mayor and Council has approved this proclamation.

Public Notification and Engagement

World MS Day is May 30, 2020 unites individuals and organizations form around the world to raise awareness and move us closer to a world free of MS. The theme for 2020 will be called "I

Connect, We Connect" (#MSConnections) and the them is building community connection, self-connection and connections to quality care.

Attachments

Attachment 6.C.a: 2020 MS Awareness Proclamation (PDF)

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations 4/29/2020

Proclamation

ROCKVILLE · MARYLAND

WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis (MS) is a neurological disease of the central nervous system, affecting nearly 1 million people in the United States alone; and

WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis generally strikes people in the prime of life, between ages 20 through 50, and the cause and course of the often debilitating symptoms of MS remain unknown and no cure currently exists; and

WHEREAS, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has been committed for 74 years to a world free of MS, heightening public knowledge about and insight into the disease; and

WHEREAS, since 1946 the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has been a driving force of MS research, relentlessly pursuing prevention, treatments and a cure, and has invested more than $1 billion in groundbreaking research; and

WHEREAS, Funds raised through the National Multiple Sclerosis Society fuel $38.7 million investing in 123 new research projects at the best medical centers, universities and other institutions throughout the U.S. and abroad, leading to many breakthroughs in the treatment of MS; and

WHEREAS, stopping MS in its tracks, restoring what has been lost, and ending MS forever is the mission of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and one that all Americans and residents of the City of Rockville, MD should support; and

WHEREAS, the **City of Rockville, MD** recognizes the importance of finding the cause and cure of MS and expresses its appreciation for the dedication that the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has shown toward creating a world free of MS;

NOW, THEREFORE we, the **Mayor and Council**, by virtue of the authority vested in us by the laws of the great City of Rockville, MD do hereby proclaim **March 8-14, 2020** as **MS Awareness Week**, and do commend this observance to all of our residents. We encourage all Rockville residents to learn more about multiple sclerosis and what they can do to support individuals with MS and their families.

Bridget Donnell Newton
Bridget Donnell Newton, Mayor

Monique Ashton, Councilmember

Beryl L. Feinberg
Beryl L. Feinberg, Councilmember

David E. Myles
David Myles, Councilmember

Mark Pierzchala, Councilmember

May 4, 2020

Mayor & Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Agenda Item Type: Proclamation
Department: City Clerk/Director of Council Operations Office
Responsible Staff: Jacqueline Mobley

Subject

Proclamation Declaring May 10-16, 2020 as Women's Health Week

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council read and approve the proclamation.

Discussion

National Women's Health Week (NWHW) is a weeklong health observance led by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health (OWH). The week May 10-16, 2020 serves as a reminder for women and girls, especially during the outbreak of COVID-19 to make their health a priority and take care of themselves. It is extremely important for all women and girls, especially those with underlying health conditions, such as hypertension, diabetes, obesity, cardiovascular and respiratory conditions, and women 65 years and older, to take care of your health now.

National Women's Health Week is a national effort by an alliance of government organizations to raise awareness about manageable steps women can take to improve their health. The focus is on the importance of incorporating simple preventive and positive health behaviors into everyday life. During National Women's Health Week, women should discuss with their health care professionals which of the tests are right for them, when they should have them, and how often. Maintaining regular check-ups is one of five health habits that can improve a woman's health. The others include physical activity, a healthy diet, not smoking and follow general safety rules.

Women are encouraged to support one another in all aspects of health and wellness by way of spreading the word, forming groups and individual checks on younger, middle and older women.

Mayor and Council History

This is the first proclamation presented by the Mayor and Council.

Attachments

Attachment 6.D.a: 2020 Women's Health Week Proclamation (PDF)

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations 4/29/2020

Proclamation

ROCKVILLE · MARYLAND

WHEREAS, National Women's Health Week celebrates the extraordinary progress in women's health and recognizes that more needs to be done to safeguard the health of women for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, women from all walks of life and at every stage of life have unique health needs that should be addressed promptly and with the best medical attention available; and

WHEREAS, the partnerships with social, health, and other related services help keep women healthy and safe by promoting awareness of women's health issues; and

WHEREAS, in Maryland, as well as nationwide, Heart Disease remains the leading cause of death for women, and something as simple as walking at least 30 minutes 6 days per week can reduce risk of dying from heart attack by 50%; and

WHEREAS, cancer is the second leading cause of death for women nationwide, and by receiving regular mammograms and clinical breast exams we can save women's lives and provide early treatment against this horrible disease when it is detected; and

WHEREAS, women in can promote health and prevent disease and illness by taking simple steps to improve their physical, mental, social, and spiritual health by not smoking, eating nutritious meals, being physically active and receiving regular medical checkups; and

WHEREAS, women's health remains a priority for families, communities, and government, and our commitment to keeping women in Rockville healthy and strong;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of Rockville do hereby proclaim the week of May 10-16, 2020 as National Women's Health Week, and encourage the community to engage, keep up to date on news and activities that will benefit the health and wellbeing of women and families.

Bridget Donnell Newton

Bridget Donnell Newton, Mayor

Monique Ashton, Councilmember

Beryl L. Feinberg

Beryl L. Feinberg, Councilmember

David E. Myles

David Myles, Councilmember

Mark Pierzchala, Councilmember

May 4, 2020

Mayor & Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Agenda Item Type: Authorization
Department: City Manager's Office
Responsible Staff: Ilene Lish

Subject

Authorize the City Manager to Execute a Lease Agreement Between the Mayor and Council of Rockville and Cellco Partnership, a Delaware general partnership (doing business as Verizon Wireless)

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council authorize the City Manager to execute the lease agreement between the Mayor and Council of Rockville and Cellco Partnership (doing business as Verizon Wireless), in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

Discussion

The City of Rockville owns the property at 13890 Glen Mill Road for the primary purpose of operating a water storage tank, commonly known as the Hunting Hill tank. The City has a lease agreement with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (doing business as AT&T) since 2001 for their attachment of antennas on the tank's antenna support structure and associated ground communication equipment adjacent to the tank. This agenda item seeks authorization to execute a similar agreement with Cellco/Verizon Wireless, to attach antennas to the antenna support structure and occupy ground space adjacent to the tank for ground communication equipment. The lease revenue associated with the proposed new lease is described below.

In 2016 the tank was rehabilitated, and a new antenna support structure and brackets were installed on the tank to facilitate installation of telecommunication antennas and cables, without attaching equipment directly on the tank itself. This prevents damage to the tank coatings that were applied during this rehabilitation project.

<u>Lease Agreement</u>

The proposed lease agreement is similar to the City's existing agreement with AT&T for the antenna and ground communication equipment currently in place at the Hunting Hill tank. Verizon Wireless will pay the City a one-time attachment fee of $30,000 to cover engineering review and construction inspection costs, and to offset the cost of the antenna support structure. Consistent with the existing lease agreement, Verizon Wireless will install six antennas and occupy 150 square feet of ground space at the tank site. The antenna will be

similar height and size as the existing six AT&T antennas. Attachment A shows the proposed Site Plan. Installation will require a Minor Site Plan Amendment, to be reviewed and approved by the City's Zoning and Development Manager.

The initial lease term is for five (5) years and will commence when City permit(s) are issued, or the date of execution of the Agreement by the Parties, whichever is later. The Agreement will automatically renew for three (3) additional and successive five (5) year renewal terms unless either party notifies the other of its intention not to renew. Rental payments will be due in equal monthly installments of $2,625 or $31,500 annually. Rent will increase annually by three percent (3%) of the previous year's amount.

The Agreement specifies that the City's uses of the Property shall have priority, and the Lessee shall make necessary accommodations to permit the City's uses of the Property to operate and maintain the tank safely and efficiently. Verizon Wireless will maintain all required insurance policies as approved by the City's risk manager. The lease agreement indicates that Verizon Wireless will indemnify and hold the City harmless against any claim of liability or loss from personal injury or property damage. The lease also allows the City to terminate the agreement after a finding that the lease is contrary to the public safety, health and/or welfare.

Mayor and Council History

On November 8, 2010, the Mayor and Council considered a request for approval/authorization of a Lease Agreement between the Mayor and Council of Rockville and Cellco Partnership (doing business as Verizon Wireless) for antenna and ground space at the City's Hunting Hill tank. Cellco Partnership subsequently declined to execute the Lease Agreement after efforts to coordinate colocation with existing AT&T antennas and other potential future carriers were unsuccessful.

Fiscal Impact

This new lease agreement for the antennas and ground equipment at the Hunting Hill water tank results in a one-time attachment fee to the City for $30,000. In addition, this lease will generate a monthly rental income of $2,625, or $31,500 annually. Monthly rental payments will increase by 3% each year. All revenue from this lease will be included in the Water Fund.

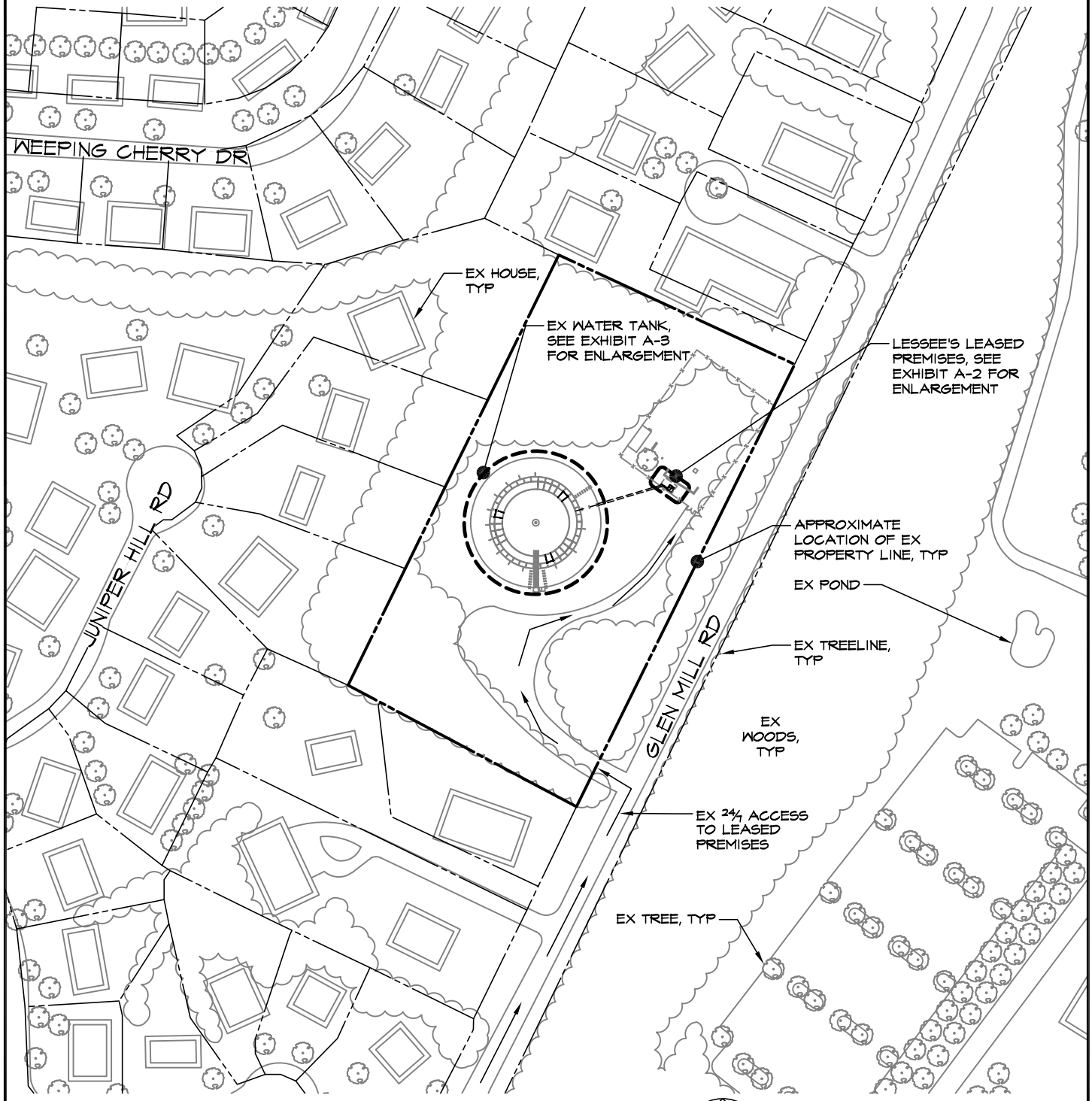
Next Steps

Upon Mayor and Council approval, the City Manager will execute the lease agreement with Cellco Partnership (doing business as Verizon Wireless) in a form acceptable to the City Attorney.

Attachments

Attachment 9.A.a: Site Plan (PDF)

Rob DiSpirito, City Manager 4/29/2020



SITE PLAN

SCALE: 1" = 150'

MRA

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY

SCALE:	DATE:	DRAWN BY:	DESIGN BY:	REVIEW BY:	JOB NO.:
AS NOTED	04/06/20	JRP	JRP	JT	10427.2860

Attachment 9.A.a: Site Plan (3097 : Authorize Lease Agreement at Water Tank with Cellco Partnership)

Mayor & Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Agenda Item Type: Consent
Department: City Clerk/Director of Council Operations Office
Responsible Staff: Sara Taylor-Ferrell

Subject

Approval of Minutes

Recommendation

To approve the following minutes:
September 16, 2019 - Regular (Meeting No. 32-19)

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations 4/29/2020

Mayor & Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Agenda Item Type: Presentation and Discussion
Department: PW - Traffic & Transportation
Responsible Staff: Alyssa Roff

Subject

Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council receive the presentation and provide feedback on the Vision Zero Action Plan, including the prioritization of action items.

Change in Law or Policy

This Action Plan would allow staff to take steps towards achieving the City's Vision Zero goals in the Vision Zero Resolution adopted on October 15, 2018.

Discussion

What is Vision Zero?

Vision Zero is a transportation safety policy that seeks to eliminate all traffic crashes involving serious injuries and fatalities through crash data analysis and systematic action on characteristics that cause crashes. Originating in Sweden during the 1990s, Vision Zero has quickly gained traction internationally as the leading strategy for reducing transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries. Multiple jurisdictions in the United States have adopted and implemented Vision Zero initiatives, including Montgomery County (County) through their Two-Year Vision Zero Action Plan.

Action Plan Overview

The Action Plan (Attachment A) identifies a series of action items that, through completion, help the City recognize and remedy factors that could contribute to future crashes. This is a new and fundamentally different way for the City to approach traffic safety. Ultimately, this Action Plan is an exploratory effort that will require flexibility in implementing actions and policies to determine what works for the City and to rule out what will not help Rockville achieve Vision Zero. In the development of this plan, staff reviewed previous and existing roadway safety efforts in the City and reviewed practices from other Vision Zero communities (particularly Montgomery County's). While this Action Plan is tailored to the specific needs of the City, many of the action items outlined in the plan were taken directly from the County's

Vision Zero initiatives. It should be also noted that while the main objective of Vision Zero is to eliminate all traffic crashes involving serious injuries and fatalities for all modes of transportation, the majority of this Action Plan items' emphasizes City efforts on pedestrian and bicycle crashes as it can be seen from the items listed below under the Action Items' section.

Crash Analysis

The Crash Analysis and Predictive Analysis (Action Item 1) will play an instrumental role in implementing the plan. By examining the factors involved with transportation-related crashes, staff will understand underlying trends and respond accordingly. Staff can then better utilize policies and resources that will directly prevent fatalities and severe injuries. Crash data is collected from the County's database and reflects crashes city-wide. The County has taken the lead in collecting crash data from police reports issued by both the County and the City. It also should be noted, this data represents all crashes involving non-motorists (pedestrians, bikes, scooters, etc.), regardless of injury severity and is taken County-wide. Staff will distill this data to include only the City of Rockville. While Rockville does not have many crashes involving severe injuries or fatalities, staff recognizes the same factors contributing to these crashes also are present in crashes with minor or no injuries. While Vision Zero is about eliminating crashes involving severe injuries and fatalities, staff will examine all crashes to look for patterns and trends related to crashes involving severe injuries and fatalities.

Action Items

To reach the goal of zero severe and fatal collisions, the Action Plan identifies specific action items with department responsibilities and metrics for completion. All action items are built around four key action areas: Engineering, Enforcement, Education, and Policy. Ten out of 30 action items involve partnering with the County. Many of the action items are nearly identical to action items the County is currently implementing. Since the County and the City are set to accomplish the same goal, it did not make sense for staff to "reinvent the wheel" for some of these initiatives. The City will support the County in these initiatives, as a partner, while also advocating for safety projects specific to Rockville. Additionally, the City may use County initiatives, such as ones involving Montgomery County Public Schools, as a starting point before tailoring each action item to the specific needs of Rockville based upon the findings in the data analysis. Action items help identify areas that we can explore, but generally don't go into detail by design. This document is more open ended in order to be flexible to the results of the data analysis, which will show staff where we need to take specific actions in the future. Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee (RBAC) and Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee (RPAC) also provided suggestions for specific actions and concerns to be explored in the future. While many of the action items model ones in the County Action Plan, deadline dates have been purposefully excluded. Through this agenda item, staff is requesting feedback from the Mayor and Council on the proposed Vision Zero Action Plan and input on priorities, prior to coming back to the Mayor and Council with an implementation timeline.

The 30 action items are listed below:

Engineering

1. Crash Analysis /Predictive Analysis.
2. Update City Road Design Standards.

3. Review Transit Stops.
4. Evaluate Crossings and Unsignalized Intersections.
5. State/County/City Project Collaboration.
6. Improve Traffic Signals.
7. Accelerate Sidewalk Construction.
8. Create Pedestrian Master Plan.
9. Expand Network of Safe Bicycle Facilities.

Enforcement
10. Increase Enforcement Activities.
11. Explore Expanding Automated Enforcement.
12. Expand Traffic Law Enforcement and Distracted Driving Detection Program.
13. Collaboration with Court System.
14. Enhance Police Driver Training.
15. Temporary Traffic Control Devices.

Education
16. Create Comprehensive Outreach Strategy.
17. Collaborate with County on Safe Routes to School Activities.
18. On-bike Education Programs for Kids.
19. Safety Awareness Training for City Employees.
20. Training in the Community.

Policy
21. Appoint Vision Zero Coordinator.
22. Establish Cross Departmental Vision Zero Task Force.
23. Change Policies, Regulations, and Laws.
24. Ensure Fairness and Equality Throughout Vision Zero Projects.
25. Create Vision Zero Webpage.
26. Publish Collision Data.
27. Improve Crash Data Collection.
28. Coordinate with Peer Learning Opportunities.
29. Review Existing Traffic Safety Programs and Policies.
30. Procure Safer Vehicles.

Implementation

Staff from Rockville's Police Department, Public Information Office, and the Department of Public Works met internally to discuss the feasibility of action items and coordinate on how to accomplish Vision Zero goals within the City. Staff also met with Montgomery County's Vision Zero Coordinator to discuss how the City can partner with the County to implement action items similar to those already being implemented by the County.

Rockville's Action Plan seeks to bridge the gap between reacting quickly to individual crashes and the need to examine all crashes in a thorough way as to provide information to support a long-term proactive approach. One way this plan seeks to do this is by appointing a Vision Zero

Coordinator (Action Item 21) to oversee implementation of this plan and champion Vision Zero throughout the City. Staff is proposing the City's Pedestrian/Bicycle Coordinator, Alyssa Roff, to be the City's Vision Zero Coordinator. This Action Plan also will establish a cross-departmental Vision Zero Task Force (Action Item 22) comprising Rockville's Police Department, Public Information Office, Department of Public Works, and Department of Recreation and Parks that will work to implement Vision Zero Action Items. The task force will also review each serious injury and fatal crash (within the City of Rockville) as soon as possible after the event to identify potential actions the City can take to address safety issues. Staff expects to give regular updates on the progress of action items and performance measures to committees within the City, and an annual briefing to the Mayor and Council.

This Action Plan will require aligning policies and practices at all levels of government (City, County, State) and across City departments, making safety the highest priority for all roadways. Staff will establish regular communication with the County through its Vision Zero Steering Committee and Vision Zero Coordinator. The City's Vision Zero Task Force will appoint a liaison to the County's Collision Review Team to review crashes accordingly.

Because not all streets within Rockville are under the jurisdiction of the City, staff will work closely with the Maryland Department of Transportation's State Highway Administration and the County to ensure that we all have a consistent approach to transportation safety while also advocating for the specific Vision Zero Action Items outlined in this plan. City staff has already begun this effort through the February 5, 2020 meeting, hosted by the City, with SHA and Montgomery County Vision Zero Coordinator. A follow up meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2020.

It is also important to note that while Vision Zero Action Plan is a major step in the road of improving safety in Rockville, other efforts and strategies have been and continue to be made to improve pedestrian safety in the City. For example, streetlight improvement is a very important component of improving safety. City staff recently investigated more than one thousand streetlights and generated a map that was submitted to Pepco and included several hundreds of streetlights that needed an upgrade. Several other projects to improve pedestrian safety have been initiated in Twinbrook that includes new sidewalks, new crosswalks, and pedestrian-safety intersection improvements at several locations. A separate memorandum detailing FY 2020 and FY 2021 spending on pedestrian safety initiatives will be submitted to the Mayor and Council before the May 4th session.

Mayor and Council History

The Mayor and Council adopted a resolution endorsing the development and adoption of a Vision Zero policy for the City of Rockville on October 15, 2018.

Boards and Commissions Review

Staff worked with the Traffic & Transportation Commission, the Rockville Bike Advisory Committee (RBAC) and the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee (RPAC), on the review of Vision Zero Action Plan and action items.

Fiscal Impact

While most of the proposed action items are expected to be implemented by City staff, additional resources, such as funding for education, training and consultants may be needed. Some costs will be mitigated by partnering with Vision Zero actions already implemented by Montgomery County. Finally, infrastructure improvement resulting from the Plan, such as adding new traffic control devices, performing intersection improvements, or constructing new sidewalks, will require additional operational and capital improvement funds to be appropriated in future fiscal years.

Next Steps

Staff will incorporate feedback from the Mayor and Council. Adoption by the Mayor and Council of the finalized Vision Zero Action Plan is currently scheduled for June 8, 2020; Vision Zero Action Plan implementation is anticipated to begin on July 1, 2020.

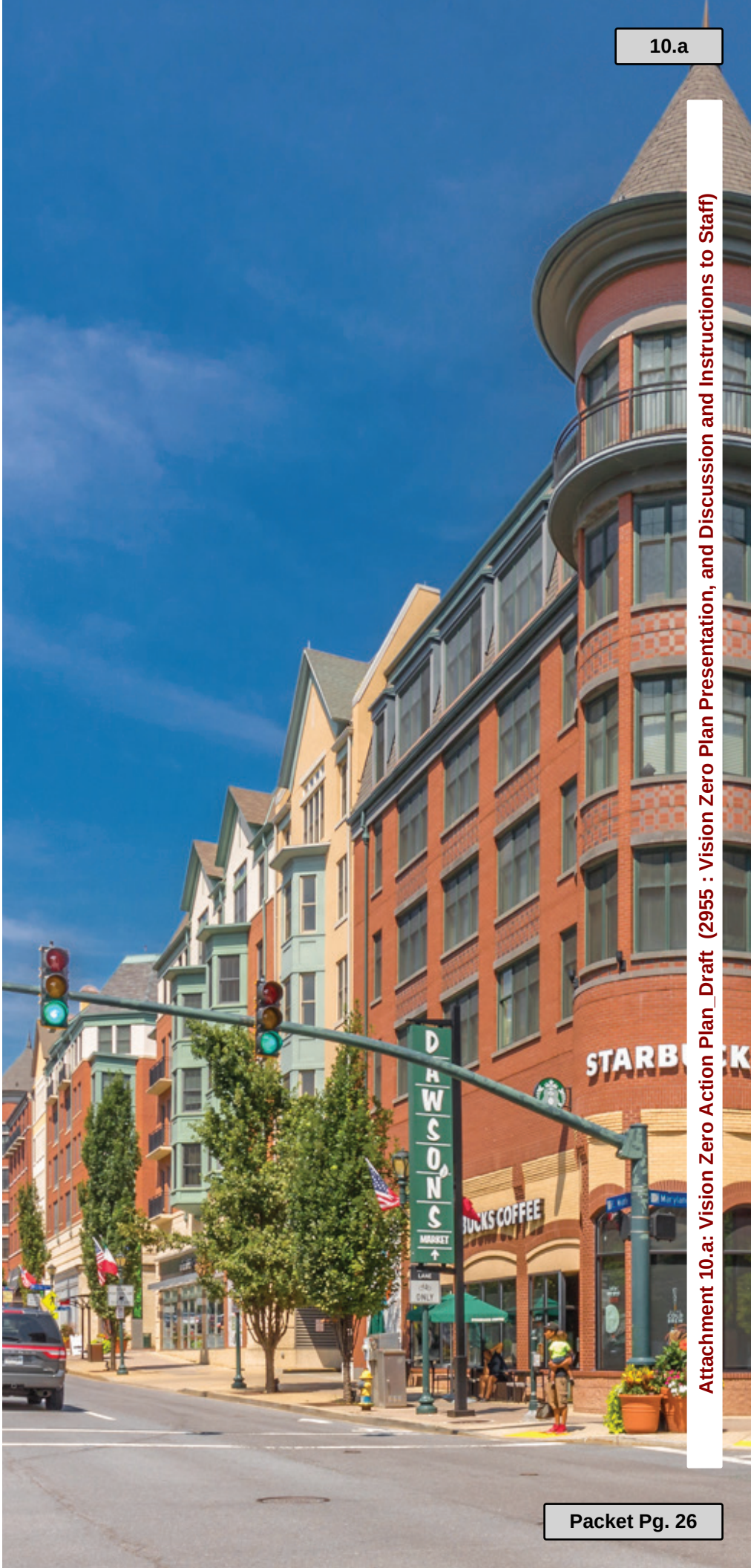
Attachments

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft(PDF)

Rob DiSpirito, City Manager 4/22/2020

VISION ZERO ROCKVILLE

VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN



Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

CITY OF ROCKVILLE VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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This action plan was prepared by the City of Rockville Department of Public Works, Traffic and Transportation Division. Internal assistance was provided by the Public Information Office, Department of Human Resources, the Police Department, and the Department of Recreation and Parks. The Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee, the Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Traffic and Transportation Commission also provided input throughout the process. Special thanks to Montgomery County for laying out the framework of this action plan.

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

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Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

MAYOR AND COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Adopted by Mayor and City Council: October 15, 2018

A RESOLUTION endorsing Vision Zero to move the City of Rockville toward zero deaths by 2030

WHEREAS, road safety is a top public safety priority in the City of Rockville; and

WHEREAS, death and injury on our streets is unacceptable and serious crashes could be preventable; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero is an international movement to put an end to fatal traffic crashes that relies on data-driven approaches to improve the engineering of roads, to conduct targeted education and enforcement, and to change laws to improve driver behavior and increase penalties for dangerous conduct on the roads; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero provides a framework for reducing traffic deaths and serious injuries toward zero, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all; and

WHEREAS, Vision Zero focuses on safety as a primary objective for our transportation systems; and

WHEREAS, the City works towards eliminating pedestrian and bicycle related deaths and serious injuries in Rockville; and

WHEREAS, successful Vision Zero programs are a result of both a complete government approach (i.e. interdepartmental, coordinated initiatives) and community support of Vision Zero objectives and guidelines;

NOW, THEREFORE, the mayor and council of Rockville do hereby proclaim:

1. The City of Rockville adopts a goal of moving the City of Rockville toward zero traffic deaths and serious injuries; and endorses Vision Zero as a comprehensive and holistic approach to achieving this goal.
2. The city mayor and council directs the Director of Public Works to work with the Traffic and Transportation Commission to develop Vision Zero Guidelines which would identify a combination of equitable engineering, enforcement, education, and evaluation along with associated funding needed for the City to reach the goal toward zero deaths and serious injuries by 2030.
3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

WHAT IS VISION ZERO?

Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, fair mobility for all. First implemented in Sweden in the 1990s, Vision Zero has proven successful in reducing fatal and severe injury crashes across Europe — and is now gaining momentum in major American cities.

Vision Zero recognizes that people will sometimes make mistakes, so the road system and related policies should be designed to ensure those inevitable mistakes do not result in severe injuries or fatalities. Vision Zero also recognizes non-motorists are intrinsically more vulnerable in collisions with vehicles. This means that system designers and policymakers are expected to improve the roadway environment, policies and other related systems to lessen the severity of crashes for all users. At the core of Vision Zero is a commitment to protect human life, and a recognition that all transportation-related deaths and severe injuries are preventable and unacceptable.

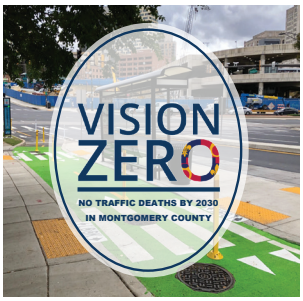
Vision Zero is a multidisciplinary approach, bringing together diverse stakeholders through cross-disciplinary collaboration among local traffic planners, engineers and policymakers to address this complex problem. Vision Zero acknowledges that many factors contribute to safe mobility, including roadway design, speeds, behaviors, technology and policies, and sets clear goals to achieve the shared goal of zero fatalities and severe injuries.

Traditional Approach		Vision Zero
Traffic deaths are INEVITABLE		Traffic deaths are PREVENTABLE
PERFECT human behavior	VS.	Integrate HUMAN FAILING in approach
Prevent COLLISIONS		Prevent FATAL AND SEVERE CRASHES
INDIVIUAL responsiblity		SYSTEMS approach
Saving lives is EXPENSIVE		Saving lives is NOT EXPENSIVE

ACTION PLAN DEVELOPMENT

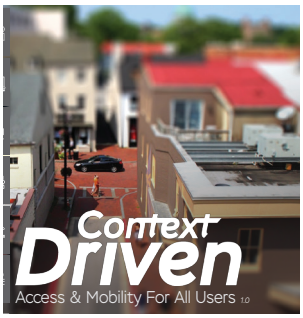
Given the nature of the metropolitan region, transportation users in Rockville are likely to experience other places in Montgomery County and/or the state, where Vision Zero is already moving forward. Washington, D.C. was amongst the first jurisdictions in the region to adopt a Vision Zero strategy, in 2015. Montgomery County was one of the first county jurisdictions in the United States to adopt a Vision Zero strategy in 2017 and represents a variety of communities, neighborhoods and land uses. The Maryland General Assembly passed a bill establishing Vision Zero in 2019. The State Highway Administration followed up with a strategy to systematically implement transportation safety elements to match the land-use context surrounding state-owned roadways. This document builds on their success and functions as a local counterpart recognizing the specialized needs of the Rockville community. It is essential that Rockville work with other jurisdictions to not only utilize their best practices, but also the lessons they have learned along the way to make the process in establishing a Vision Zero strategy within Rockville as efficient as possible. In working together, we can also establish a consistent and coordinated approach to transportation safety that has the potential to impact people across the region.

This is a new and fundamentally different way for the city to approach traffic safety; it will require some flexibility in actions and policies to succeed. Ultimately, it will require aligning policies and practices at all levels of government and across city departments, making safety the highest priority for roadways. Committing to Vision Zero in Rockville means building and sustaining leadership, collaboration, and accountability, especially among a diverse group of stakeholders, including transportation professionals, policymakers, police and community members.



Montgomery County Vision Zero 2020

Montgomery County developed and released the 2020 Vision Zero Action Plan to expand on the work completed during the 2018-2019 Two-Year Action Plan by implementing recommendations from completed studies, advancing on-going initiatives, and completing open action items. While work on these action items is underway, outreach will start in spring 2020 to develop the long-range strategic plan to further guide the county towards elimination of traffic fatalities by 2030.



SHA Context Driven

In November 2019, the State Highway Administration released the Context Driven – Access and Mobility for All guidelines. SHA created these standards to establish new context zones that better match the differing land uses around state-maintained roadways across the state. Within each of the six new context zones, the guide provides a toolkit for the leading practices that would best improve safety for each context. Rockville is designated as "Urban Core" zone under these guidelines.

FAIRNESS AND EQUALITY

The most important component of crash data is that it represents people whose lives, as well as the lives of their loved ones, can potentially change as the result of a failure to provide a transportation system that is forgiving of human error. Through this Vision Zero Action Plan, Rockville recognizes safe mobility as a basic right, based on the premise that all people have the right to safe transportation regardless of mode. This means collecting, analyzing and using data to understand trends and potential disproportionate impacts of traffic deaths on certain populations, and prioritizing needs accordingly.

This action plan commits to an equitable approach by not only recognizing the diversity of communities and educational needs within Rockville, but also recognizing the disproportionate risk posed to non-motorists within the roadway[1]. Strategies from around the world show Vision Zero policies are most effective when they are firmly driven by reliable and consistent data, and when traffic safety concerns are seen as a multidisciplinary issue in which everyone in the community has a stake. City stakeholders must commit to gather, analyze, utilize and share reliable data to understand traffic safety issues and prioritize resources based on the empirical evidence of the greatest needs and impact. In this way, Vision Zero looks to proactive measures which impact the roadway system citywide over reactive measures which only seek to benefit specific areas of the city

Crash Not Accident

Words matter. Deaths and serious injuries in traffic are not inevitable "accidents," but preventable crashes that can be ended through engineering, enforcement and education.

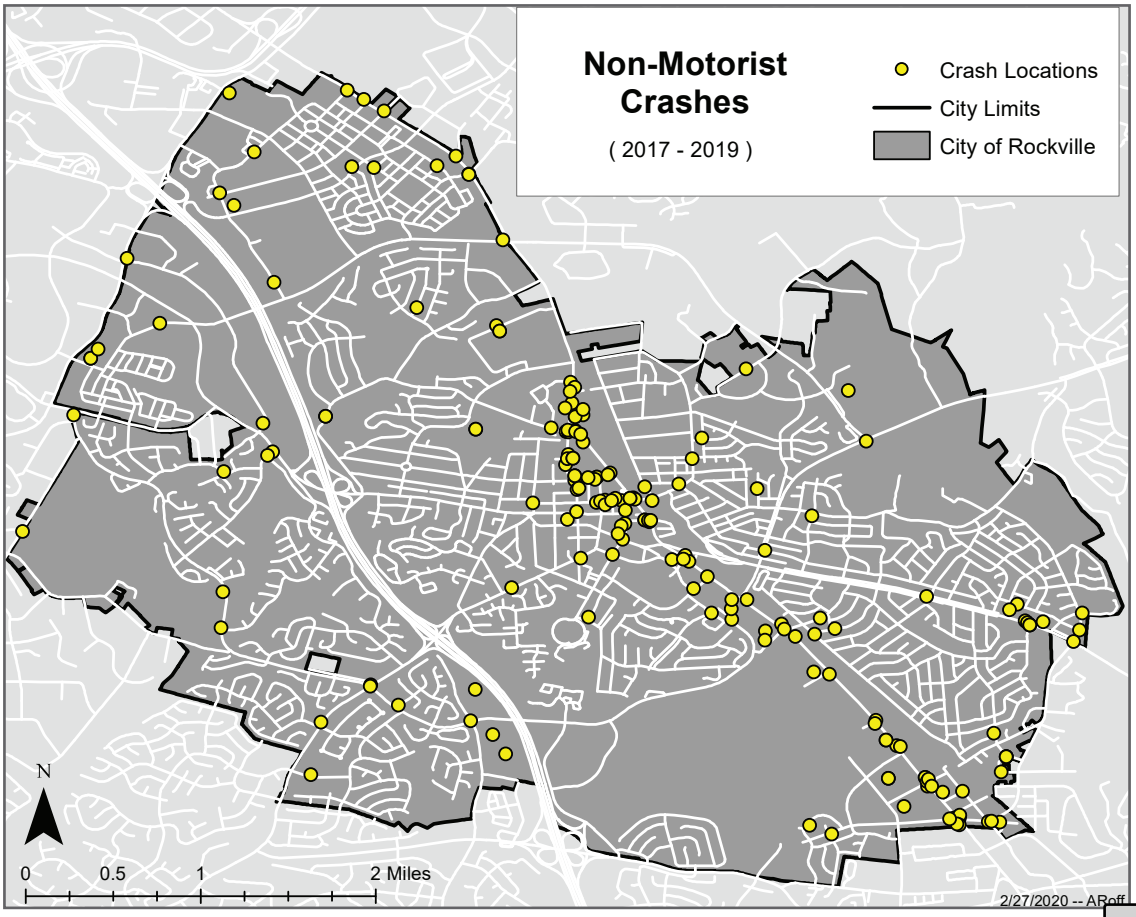
[1] *Roadways include transportation infrastructure for a variety of users including cyclists and pedestrians by way of bike lanes, shared roadways, crosswalks, intersections etc.*

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

CRASH DATA ANALYSIS

The city gathered data from reports by Montgomery County and Rockville Police. While this shows a significant number of crashes, these reports exclude Maryland State Police reports. Below is a map showing crash locations throughout the city as an example of the data staff initially gathered. It should be noted that data presented does not include every severe and fatal collision that occurred in Rockville during the analysis period. Data for interstate 270 was omitted in order to focus on areas where the city can best use its resources to address incidents in a localized setting, i.e., roadways where the city either maintains or works closely with those maintaining these roadways. Partnerships are therefore vitally important for achieving Vision Zero for all parties. It should be noted that this data represents all crashes involving non-motorists regardless of injury severity. While Rockville does not have a large number of crashes involving severe injuries or fatalities, we recognize the same factors contributing to these crashes are also present in crashes with minor to no injuries. In examining the whole picture of potential crashes and looking at patterns, we are able to better understand these factors and respond accordingly.

Engineering, education and enforcement are most effective when targeting the environmental and behavioral factors that contribute to a collision. Below is a map showing crash locations throughout the city. A component of the data analysis action item (proposed as action item #1 on page 12) will further analyze contributing factors, similar to the ones highlighted below, in order to frame the elements needed for a systematic approach to provide safe mobility citywide.



Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

ACTION PLAN SUMMARY

Rockville's Action Plan seeks to bridge the gap between reacting quickly to individual crashes and the need to examine all crashes in a thorough way as to provide information to support a long-term proactive approach. The action items in this plan lay the foundation for what the city hopes to be a long-term strategy for reducing and eliminating transportation related crashes involving serious injuries and fatalities. Ultimately, this is a systematic approach to examining data in order to focus on the factors that contribute to crashes so that the city can react to not only a singular crash, but to the transportation system as a whole. This plan identifies a series of action items that, through completion, help the city recognize and remedy factors that could contribute to future crashes. As such, this action plan should be seen as an exploratory effort of trial and error to determine what works for the city and to rule out what will not help Rockville achieve Vision Zero. In doing so, these action items will build a strong foundation for future Vision Zero initiatives that will fully eliminate collisions involving severe injuries and fatalities. The plan also builds off the success of existing county and state programs and their initiatives related to traffic safety and forms a consistent approach

The Action Plan is the result of a process that includes several critical sources of input:

1. Review of previous and existing roadway safety efforts in the city.
2. Review of practices from other Vision Zero communities and particularly Montgomery County.
3. Analysis of collision data gathered from Montgomery County's dataset to identify trends and significant issues to inform the plan.
4. Consultation with city departments and agencies, the Traffic and Transportation Commission, the Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee, as well as with other stakeholders and interested parties

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

VISION ZERO PROJECT TIMELINE

July 2008
City of Rockville - Synthesis of Pedestrian Policies

December 2014
Map of Prioritized Missing Sidewalks Published

April 2017
Rockville Bikeways Masterplan Adopted by city

November 2018
Mayor and City Council adopts Vision Zero Resolution

April 2020
Present Vision Zero Action Plan to Mayor and City Council and seek input.

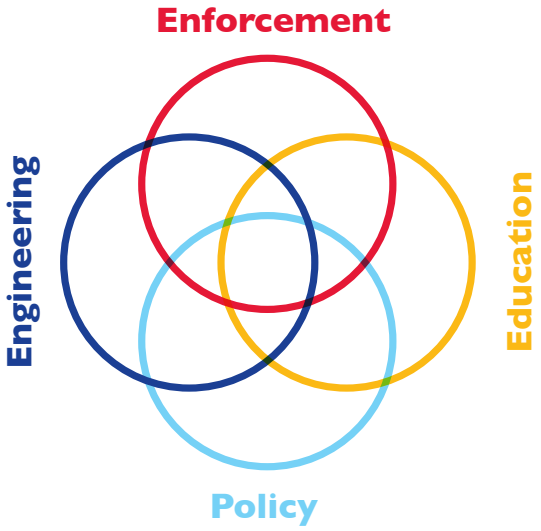
June 2020
Mayor and City Council approve action plan with timeline

July 2020
Start implementation of action items

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

ACTION PLAN ITEMS

To reach the goal of zero severe and fatal collisions, the action plan identifies specific action items with departments responsible and metrics for completion. All action items are built around four key action areas: engineering, enforcement, education and policy. The action items are listed in the table below.



Engineering

1. Crash Analysis /predictive analysis*
2. Update City Road Design Standards
3. Review Transit Stops
4. Evaluate Crossings and Unsignalized Intersections
5. State/County/City Project Collaboration*
6. Improve Traffic Signals*
7. Accelerate Sidewalk Construction
8. Create Pedestrian Master Plan
9. Expand Network of Safe Bicycle Facilities

Enforcement

10. Increase Enforcement Activities
11. Explore Expanding Automated Enforcement
12. Expand Traffic Law Enforcement and Distracted Driving Detection Program
13. Collaboration with Court System
14. Enhance Police Driver Training
15. Temporary Traffic Control Devices

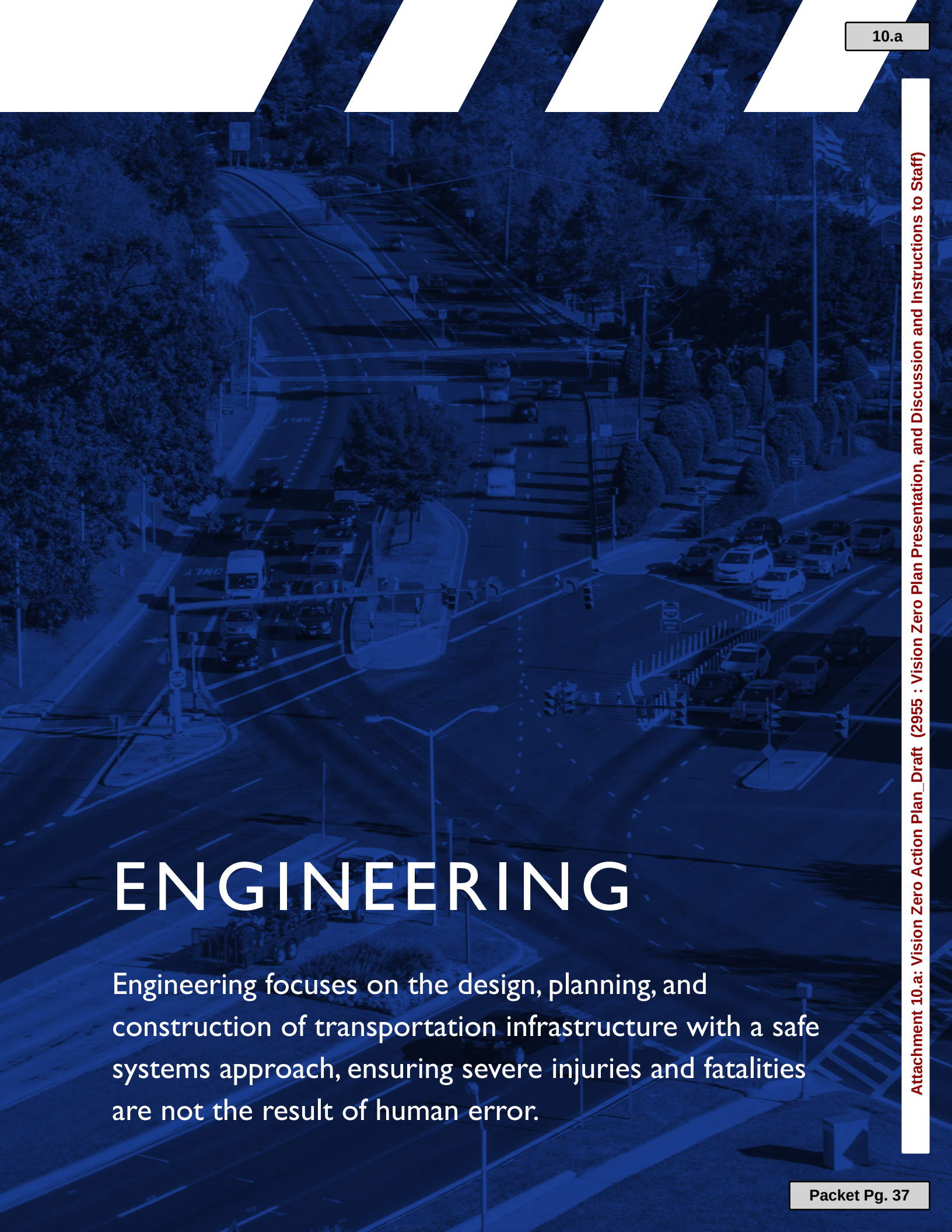
Education

16. Create Comprehensive Outreach Strategy
17. Collaborate with County on Safe Routes to School Activities*
18. On-bike Education Programs for Kids*
19. Safety Awareness Training for City Employees
20. Training in the Community*

Policy

21. Appoint Vision Zero Coordinator
22. Establish Cross Departmental Vision Zero Task Force
23. Change Policies, Regulations, and Law*
24. Ensure Fairness and Equality Throughout Vision Zero Projects
25. Create Vision Zero Webpage
26. Publish Collision Data*
27. Improve Crash Data Collection*
28. Coordinate with Peer Learning Opportunities*
29. Review Existing Traffic Safety Programs and Policies
30. Procure Safer Vehicles

**Note: The county is currently working on these items. The city will support the county in these initiatives as a partner while also advocating for safety projects specific to Rockville. Additionally, the city may use these initiatives as a starting point before tailoring each action item to the specific needs of Rockville based upon the findings in the data analysis.*



ENGINEERING

Engineering focuses on the design, planning, and construction of transportation infrastructure with a safe systems approach, ensuring severe injuries and fatalities are not the result of human error.

ACTION 1 Crash Analysis / Predictive Analysis

Lead Traffic and Transportation

Support Montgomery County[2], Police Department, SHA

Action Undertake a detailed, citywide crash study to provide a comprehensive understanding of traffic crash causes, contributing factors, locations, and roadway characteristics. This study should identify the high injury network (HIN) as well as prioritize projects and provide the foundation for future Vision Zero initiatives.

Metrics Complete Action

ACTION 2 Update City Road Design Standards

Lead Traffic and Transportation

Support Engineering, PDS

Action Review, revise, and develop roadway design standards and complete street guidelines utilizing road code and leading practices from groups such as National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO), Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), and American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) for various right-of-way[3] within the city. The review should prioritize reducing opportunities for high-speed collisions through physical separation, reducing motor vehicle speeds where separation cannot be achieved, and developing proper environmental countermeasures for all new and retrofitted right-of-way within the city.

Metrics Complete Action; publish new/revised road design standards.

ACTION 3 Review Transit Stops

Lead Traffic and Transportation

Support WAMATA, Ride-On

Action Conduct a comprehensive review of transit stop locations and conditions to ensure safety and accessibility. Develop a program for reviewing the stops every 5 years.

Metrics Complete comprehensive review of transit stops including;
- Percentage of transit stops with safe crossings
- Number of severe and fatal collisions related to going or leaving a transit stop

[2] *The city gathered data compiled from both Montgomery County and Rockville Police Departments' reports. More information can be found in the Crash Data Analysis section.*

[3] *"Right-of-way" typically incudes infrastructure for all modes, including sidewalks/ shared use paths, landscaping zones, parking, areas for biking, and general-purpose lanes.*

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

ACTION 4 Evaluate Crossings and Unsignalized Intersections

Lead Traffic and Transportation

Support Recreation and Parks

Action Evaluate existing crossings and intersections with safety as a priority. Crossings identified as high risk will be transformed first with improvements such as flashing beacons, etc. as applicable.

Metrics Develop a list of priority crossings and intersections for modification including;

- Identify all high-risk crossings within the city.
- Percentage of safe crossings and intersections.
- Number of severe and fatal collisions at crossings and intersections.

ACTION 5 State/County/City Project Collaboration

Lead Traffic and Transportation, MCDOT, SHA

Support N/A

Action Identify high injury areas where the city, county and state can jointly implement safety improvement projects.

Metrics Identify potential project areas and number of severe and fatal collisions occurring in the high injury network on city owned roads. Advocate for identified project areas on roadways operated and maintained by SHA.

ACTION 6 Improve Traffic Signals

Lead Traffic and Transportation, MCDOT, SHA

Support N/A

Action Complete a comprehensive review of the City's traffic signals to ensure the use of the latest technology and standards to implement innovative pedestrian and bicycle signals (such as Lead Pedestrian Intervals (LPI) and Pedestrian Recall, etc.) to provide effective and safe crossings.

Metrics Complete review of traffic signals
Advocate for improvements on signals owned/ operated by SHA/Montgomery County.

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

ACTION 7 Accelerate Sidewalk Construction

Lead Traffic and Transportation

Support MCDOT, SHA

Action Using the Sidewalk Prioritization Map as a guide, accelerate the sidewalk construction program with priority projects in the high injury network.

Metrics Develop a list of high priority projects (1 year)
Number of priority projects completed and number of linear feet of sidewalk completed (4 years).

ACTION 8 Create Pedestrian Master Plan

Lead Traffic and Transportation

Support PDS, Recreation and Parks

Action As proposed in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, build on the existing Pedestrian Policies and Sidewalk Prioritization Map to complete a Pedestrian Master Plan for the city to address the unique issues faced by pedestrians and people with disabilities.

Metrics Complete Action

ACTION 9 Expand Network of Safe Bicycle Facilities

Lead Traffic and Transportation

Support Recreation and Parks, MCDOT, SHA

Action Using the Bikeway Master Plan as a guide, construct new bikeway facilities to create a safe, highly connected, convenient, and low-stress bicycling network.

Metrics Complete Action

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

ENFORCEMENT

Enforcement encourages a culture of safety by utilizing evidence-based law enforcement and policies.

ACTION 10 Increase Enforcement Activities

Lead Police

Support Traffic and Transportation, Public Information

Action Increase enforcement of distracted, impaired, occupant protection, and aggressive driving behaviors, as well as violations of pedestrian and bicycle safety laws. Enforcement activities should concentrate in the high injury network, during peak seasons, and specific times of day. Enforcement should be performed in conjunction with education campaigns.

Metrics Hours of dedicated enforcement

ACTION 11 Explore Expanding Automated Enforcement

Lead Police

Support Traffic and Transportation

Action Increase the use of automated enforcement to address excessive speed and red-light violations if determined to be feasible in next contract with vendor.

Metrics Citations issues through the Safe Speed Program. Reduction in speed related crashes along Safe Speed corridors.

ACTION 12 Expand Traffic Law Enforcement and Distracted Driving Detection Program

Lead Police

Support N/A

Action Expand existing traffic focused programs, such as usage of decoy police officers/vehicles and speed indicator radars. Increase diverse methods used to assist with aggressive and distracted driving enforcement.

Metrics Develop recommendations for an expanded/enhanced Speed Watch and Distracted Driving Program

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

ACTION 13 Collaboration with Court System

Lead Police

Support MD/County Courts

Action When possible and practical, inform judicial system regarding high visibility enforcement and its connection to traffic safety. Inform the judicial system regarding violations that occur in High Injury Network (HIN) or other safety-sensitive areas to make sure that enforcement actions are supported and reinforced.

Metrics Complete initial outreach

ACTION 14 Enhance Police Driver Training

Lead Police

Support N/A

Action Develop a strategy for identifying employees in need of remedial training and provide additional hours of a driver training program.

Metrics While not currently an issue for the Police Department, will monitor for any severe or fatal collisions involving police vehicles.

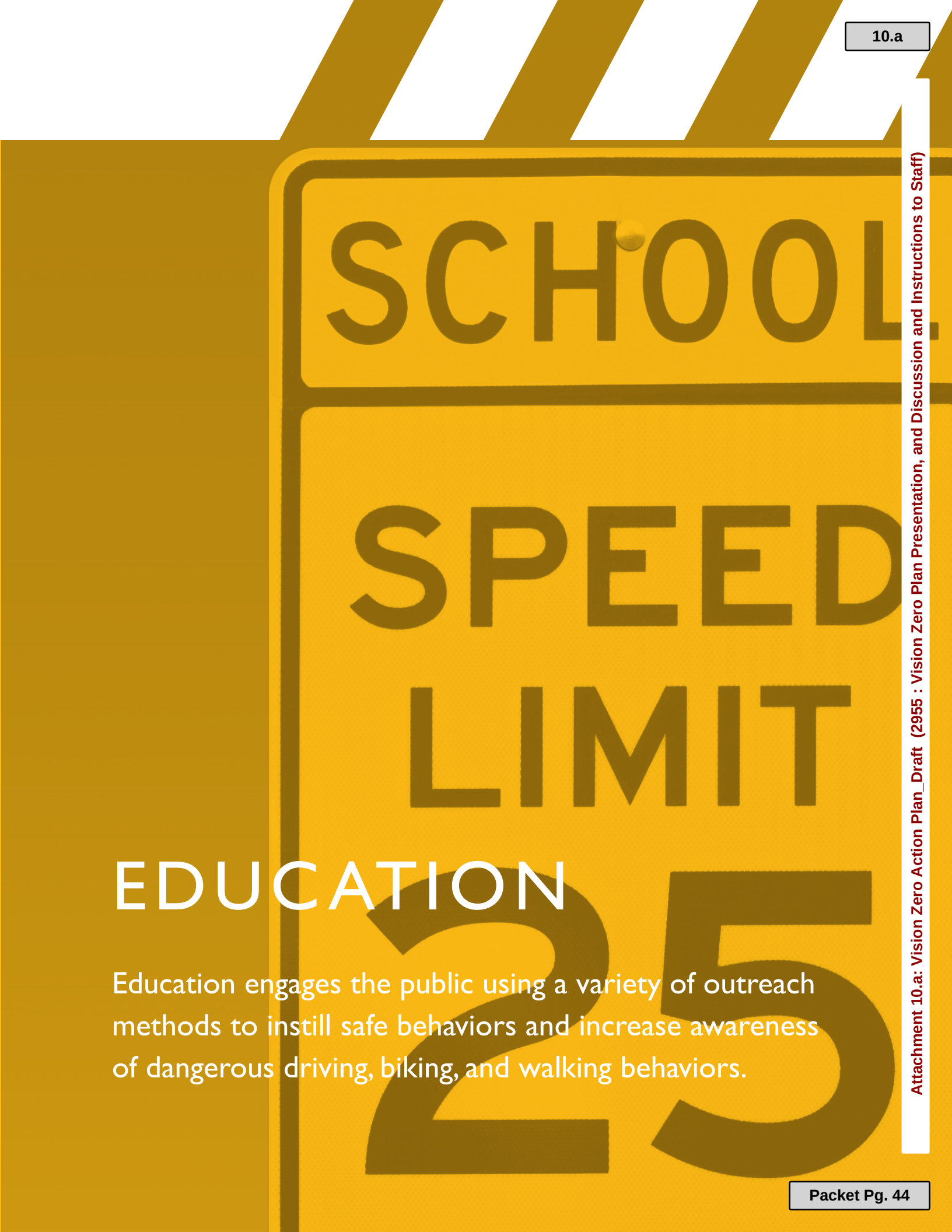
ACTION 15 Temporary Traffic Control Devices

Lead Police

Support N/A

Action Provide the Police Department with additional temporary traffic controls (e.g. portable stop signs / traffic cones) and suitable training to deploy these devices during emergency responses, traffic details and other events.

Metrics Procure traffic control devices
Reduction in the number of severe or fatal collisions occurring on scene of a traffic collision or other events.



EDUCATION

Education engages the public using a variety of outreach methods to instill safe behaviors and increase awareness of dangerous driving, biking, and walking behaviors.

ACTION 16 Create Comprehensive Outreach Strategy

Lead Public Information

Support Traffic and Transportation, Police, Montgomery County

Action Develop a communication and outreach strategy for specific groups most at risk of being involved in a severe or fatal collision.

Metrics Complete action

ACTION 17 Join the County on Safe Routes to School Activities

Lead MCDOT, MCPS

Support Traffic and Transportation, Public Information, Police

Action Join Montgomery County on the expansion of Safe Routes to School (SRTS) activities to all schools within Rockville and comprehensive traffic safety education for pedestrian, bicycle, and driver safety at appropriate ages.

Metrics Join the County by developing a collaboration agreement with MCDOT and MCPS
Number of outreach activities the city participates with school aged children.

ACTION 18 Join the County on On-bike Education Programs for Kids

Lead MCDOT, MCPS

Support Traffic and Transportation, Public Information, Police

Action Join the County in establishing an on-bike education program to teach bike safety skills to all school aged children.

Metrics Join the County by developing a collaboration agrreement with MCDOT and MCPS.
Number of outreach activities the city participates with school aged children.

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

ACTION 19 Safety Awareness Training for City Employees

Lead Human Resources

Support Public Works, Police, Recreation and Parks

Action Educate key staff in Human Resources, Public Works, Police, Parks and Recreation on the fundamentals of Vision Zero. These fundamentals should be passed down to frontline employees through training sessions, to make them aware of Vision Zero in order to build a culture of safety and accountability.

Metrics Number of awareness training sessions
Number of city employees given training

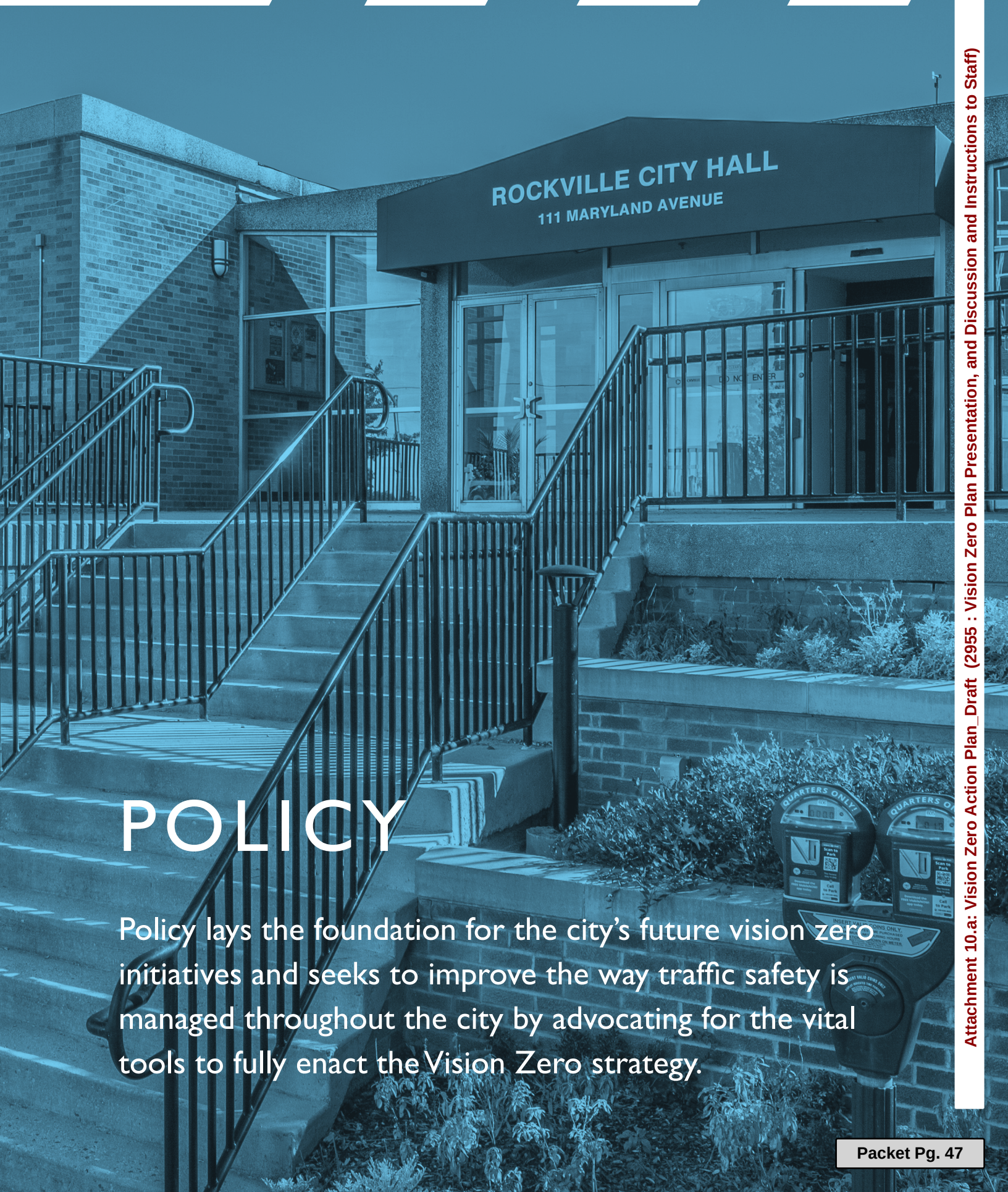
ACTION 20 Training in the Community

Lead Vision Zero Coordinator

Support Traffic and Transportation, Parks and Recreation, Public Information, Montgomery County

Action Identify major employers, TDM programs, civic associations, HOAs, PTA's and other community stakeholders to recieve Vision Zero training and messaging.

Metrics Create outreach materials and identify partners
Number of businesses/groups participating in Vision Zero Training



POLICY

Policy lays the foundation for the city's future vision zero initiatives and seeks to improve the way traffic safety is managed throughout the city by advocating for the vital tools to fully enact the Vision Zero strategy.

ACTION 21 Appoint Vision Zero Coordinator

Lead Traffic and Transportation

Support N/A

Action Appoint a Vision Zero Coordinator to oversee implementation of this plan and champion Vision Zero throughout the city.

Metrics Complete Action

ACTION 22 Establish a Cross-Departmental Vision Zero Task Force

Lead Traffic and Transportation

Support Police, Parks and Recreation, Public Information

Action Create opportunities for team building and communication across departments participating in Vision Zero. Work towards implementing Vision Zero Action items. This task force will also review each serious injury and fatal crash (within the City of Rockville) as soon as possible after the event to identify potential actions the city can take to address safety issues. The task force will also appoint a liaison to the county's Collision Review Team.

Metrics Number of collaboration events held each year
Number of action items implemented
Appoint a liaison to the County Collision Review Team

ACTION 23 Change Policies, Regulations, and Laws

Lead Vision Zero Task Force, Montgomery County, state

Support City Manager's Office, City Attorney's Office

Action Identify city, county and state laws, policies, and regulations that are hindering the city's progress towards Vision Zero and develop strategies to update them. Emphasis should be on laws that allow for innovative engineering and ability to lower speed limits to align with leading Vision Zero practices. Collaborate with Montgomery County's Vision Zero Steering Committee.

Metrics Identify changes to laws, policies, and regulations
Coordination with Montgomery County's Vision Zero Steering Committee
Begin process for successful passage of new laws, policies, and regulations

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

ACTION 24 Ensure Fairness and Equality throughout Vision Zero Projects

Lead Vision Zero Task Force

Support City Manager's Office, Traffic and Transportation, Public Information, Police, Parks and Recreation

Action Work with community to ensure that Vision Zero strategies, approaches, messaging and projects prioritize safety, ensures fairness and are distributed equally among stakeholders.

Metrics Ongoing

ACTION 25 Create Vision Zero Webpage

Lead Public Information

Support Vision Zero Coordinator

Action Create a Vision Zero webpage that contains all Vision Zero related information including tracking information for action items.

Metrics Complete action

ACTION 26 Publish Collision Data

Lead Vision Zero Coordinator

Support Public Information, Police

Action Collaborate with Montgomery County to publish collision data on the city's Vision Zero webpage and distilling data for easier consumption and analysis by the public.

Metrics Complete Action

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

ACTION 27 Improve Crash Data Collection

Lead Vision Zero Coordinator

Support Police, Montgomery County, SHA

Action Improve collision data collection by the city through collaboration with Montgomery County and SHA.

Metrics Complete Action

ACTION 28 Coordinate with Peer Learning Opportunities

Lead Vision Zero Coordinator

Support Traffic and Transportation, Police, Public Information, Montgomery County, State

Action Collaborate with Montgomery County to establish links with peer Vision Zero communities to create a shared learning community.

Metrics Hold annual meetings with other Vision Zero communities

ACTION 29 Review Existing Traffic Safety Programs and Policies

Lead Vision Zero Coordinator

Support Traffic and Transportation, Police, Public Information

Action Review existing traffic safety programs and policies to determine their effectiveness in reaching the Vision Zero goal.

Metrics Complete Action

ACTION 30 Procure Safer Vehicles

Lead Fleet Services

Support Vision Zero Coordinator

Action Adopt new vehicle fleet purchasing policy to include purchasing specifications for crash avoidance systems, side and under-run guards, mirrors and lighting.

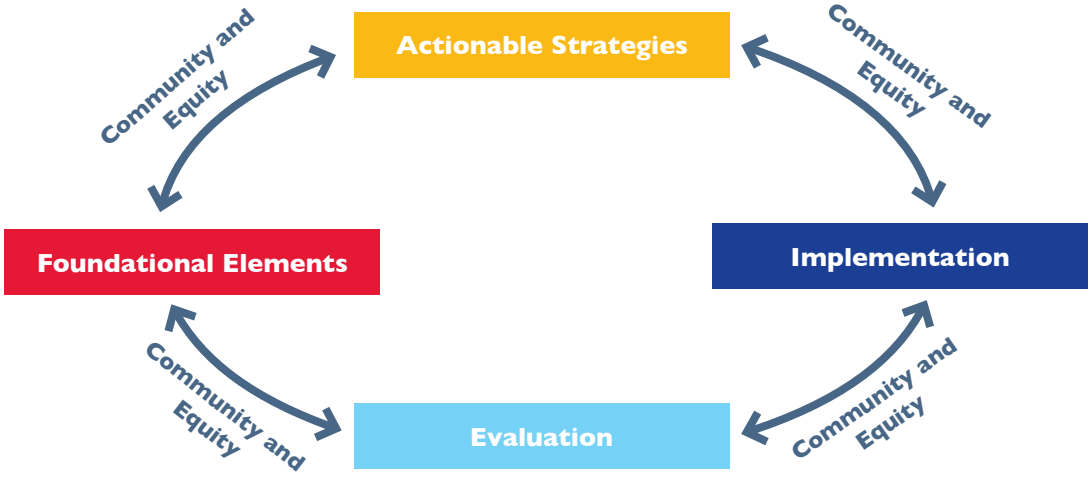
Metrics Complete Action

Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)

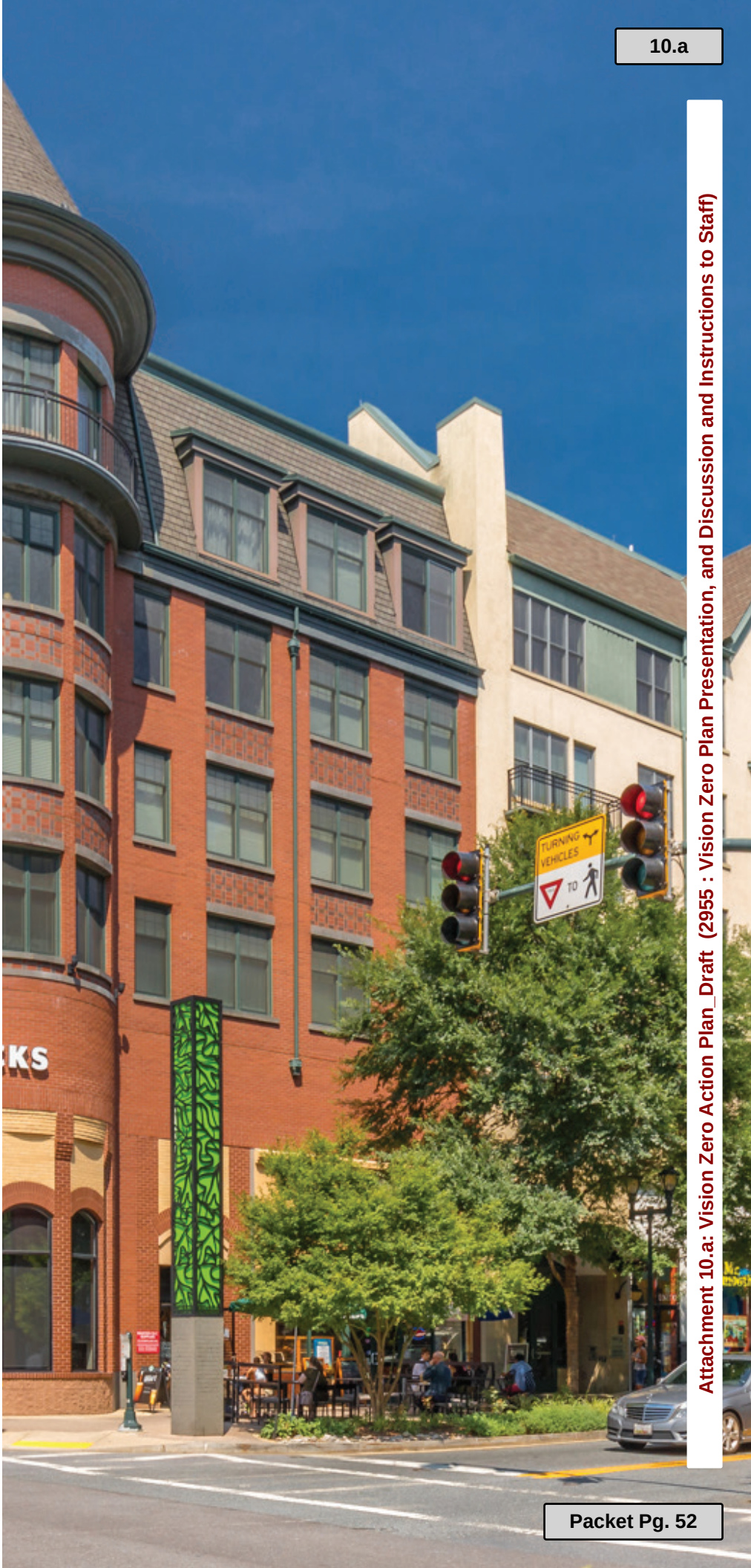
TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Comprehensive and strategic communications are essential to a successful Vision Zero effort. The best results come from understanding how to move individuals and institutions toward cultural change, taking a targeted, data-driven approach to how and where messaging will be deployed; and testing and evaluating approaches to ensure their effectiveness. Rockville is committed to maintaining transparency with the public by frequently and clearly communicating data on progress towards the goal of zero collisions involving severe injuries and fatalities. This action plan will ensure regular updates to committees within the City on the progress of action items and performance measures, and a yearly briefing to the Mayor and Council. By providing transparent progress tracking to determine what works and weed out what doesn't, Rockville will lay the groundwork for the city's future Vision Zero initiatives. This Vision Zero Action Plan also commits to encouraging meaningful cooperation in establishing a framework for multiple stakeholders to set shared goals and focus on coordination and accountability. The city acknowledges that our Vision Zero goals cannot be accomplished without collaboration among relevant governmental agencies, departments, and community stakeholders. By establishing the Rockville Vision Zero Task Force, this plan creates opportunities for collaboration and communication among city departments. The city also ensures regular communication with the county through its Vision Zero Steering Committee and Vision Zero Coordinator. Because not all streets within Rockville are under the jurisdiction of the city, we will work closely with the Maryland State Highway Administration and Montgomery County to ensure our goals of Vision Zero are sought and that we all have a consistent approach to transportation safety. The county and state are already in the process of accomplishing similar action items and Vision Zero strategies as described in this action plan. Rockville commits to supporting the county and State in these initiatives as a partner while also advocating for safety projects specific to the city.

The Vision Zero Approach



Attachment 10.a: Vision Zero Action Plan_Draft (2955 : Vision Zero Plan Presentation, and Discussion and Instructions to Staff)


TURNING VEHICLES
TO

Mayor & Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Agenda Item Type: Introduction and Possible Adoption
Department: PDS - Housing
Responsible Staff: Asmara Habte

Subject

Introduction and Possible Adoption of an Ordinance to Temporarily Suspend the Requirement that Current Tenants of Rental MPDUs Recertify Their Eligibility to Participate in the City's MPDU Program Before Renewing Lease

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council introduce the ordinance.

If the Mayor and Council wish to introduce the ordinance and proceed to adoption at the same meeting, the ordinance should first be introduced, then a motion should be made to waive the layover period. If the motion to waive the layover period is approved by an affirmative vote of four or more members of the Mayor and Council, a motion to adopt the ordinance can then proceed.

Change in Law or Policy

Under the City's Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit ("MPDU") program and pursuant to Chapter 13.5 of the City Code, households that meet certain eligibility requirements may purchase or rent MPDUs at below-market prices. Under City regulations and guidance, households that rent MPDUs must have their eligibility to participate in the program recertified every year with each leasing period. Households that refuse to provide information necessary for recertification or that no longer meet eligibility requirements are required to vacate their MPDUs.

If the Mayor and Council adopts the attached ordinance (Attachment A), the result would be 1) a temporary suspension of the requirement that current MPDU tenants undergo recertification before renewing their leases, 2) a prohibition on owners, managers, and leasing agents sending MPDU tenants notices to vacate their units due to failure to meet MPDU program eligibility requirements, and 3) a requirement that within fourteen (14) days of adoption of the ordinance, all owners, managers, and leasing agents revoke, in writing, any outstanding notice to vacate an MPDU due to a failure to submit information necessary to recertify MPDU program eligibility, or due to the tenant's ineligibility to participate in the MPDU program.

Discussion

The Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit (MPDU) Guide to Property Managers (the "Program Guide") requires that MPDU tenants be recertified to confirm that the tenants continue to meet MPDU income eligibility requirements. For each tenant, recertification is required at the end of the lease term or at the expiration of the MPDU certificate, whichever comes later[1]. According to the Program Guide, an MPDU tenant who no longer meets the income limits must vacate the unit. The Program Guide is developed by staff to administer the program.
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many apartment buildings have curtailed their leasing operations. Businesses that provide personal services, such as moving companies, have suspended or reduced their operations in order to protect their employees. In addition, it is anticipated that the incomes of some MPDU program participants may be impacted due to employer closures and reduction in work hours imposed by employers, thereby potentially resulting in the incomes of some participants falling under the income range of eligibility. By some estimates, 50% of renters are employed in the restaurant and retail industry, two industries that have been heavily impacted by the COVID-19 closures.

To help alleviate hardships related to COVID-19, for both MPDU program participants and landlords, staff recommends that the Mayor and Council suspend the recertification requirements through September 30, 2020, by adopting the attached ordinance. This action can help reduce stress for property managers and families and help maintain the safety of Rockville residents. This ordinance does not amend any City Code provision. Instead, it temporarily suspends the application of certain requirements in the City's Program Guide, which implements Chapter 13.5.

Other Jurisdictions

Suspending the MPDU recertification would align with similar directives issued by Montgomery County and the City of Gaithersburg for their respective MPDU programs.

The key components of the directives from both Montgomery County and Gaithersburg, whose directive was modeled on Montgomery County, are:

- Property owners, managers and leasing agents are relieved of the requirement to conduct the otherwise required tenant recertification process during and for a period after the COVID-19 emergency.
- All recertifications that fall during this timeframe are automatically renewed for the year and tenants do not need to recertify until the following year's recertification.
- Any tenant is allowed to extend their lease for up to one year, at MPDU rents, even if a recently-completed recertification finds that the tenant is over the maximum permitted income.

[1] The City of Rockville delegated the application intake and eligibility determination to property managers, thereby ceasing the issuance of MPDU certificates in May 2019. MPDU certificates were valid for two years. Accordingly, some MPDU applicants and residents may still have valid MPDU certificates. All MPDU certificates will have expired by May 2021.

It should also be noted that suspending the MPDU recertification would be consistent with other statewide tenant protection laws that were recently passed, including the stay of all evictions.

Proposed Rockville Ordinance

The attached ordinance would accomplish the same goals as Montgomery County's and Gaithersburg's directives, and would:

(1) Suspend the MPDU program eligibility requirements for all households renting MPDUs in the city that would be subject to eligibility recertification during the pendency of the ordinance; and

(2) Direct the City Manager or his designee to promptly inform all owners, managers, and leasing agents of MPDUs in the city that:

a. During the pendency of the ordinance, an owner, manager, or leasing agent may renew the lease of a current MPDU tenant under the terms of the MPDU program, including, but not limited to, MPDU rent limits, for up to one (1) year without recertifying the eligibility of that tenant to participate in the MPDU program;

b. During the pendency of the ordinance, an owner, manager, or leasing agent must not send any MPDU tenant a notice to vacate a MPDU due to a failure to submit information necessary to recertify MPDU program eligibility, or due to the tenant's ineligibility to participate in the MPDU program; and

c. Within fourteen (14) days of the date of enactment of the ordinance, all owners, managers, and leasing agents must revoke, in writing, any outstanding notice to vacate a MPDU due to a failure to submit information necessary to recertify MPDU program eligibility, or due to the tenant's ineligibility to participate in the MPDU program.

It is important to note that under (2)a, above, any leases entered into under this ordinance must still adhere to the terms of the MPDU program, including but not limited to the maximum MPDU rents as reflected on the City's website. While this ordinance temporarily suspends the eligibility requirements for current MPDU tenants who would otherwise be required to recertify during the pendency of the ordinance, the units remain MPDUs.

The ordinance would expire on October 1, 2020. All households renting MPDUs in the city subject to eligibility recertification on or after October 1, 2020, must undergo recertification in accordance with the Program Guide. Finally, the ordinance makes clear that all leases entered into, in accordance with the ordinance, will remain valid after the expiration of the ordinance.

While staff recommends the suspension of the MPDU recertification requirement through September 30, 2020, the City should assess whether there is a need to extend the time period beyond September 30 as we get closer to the expiration date. Both Montgomery County and the City of Gaithersburg will also re-examine the matter before September 30 to determine whether an extension is warranted.

In order to adopt the attached ordinance, it must be introduced and the Mayor and Council must vote to waive the layover period by an affirmative vote of at least four members of the Mayor and Council. If the layover period is waived, the Mayor and Council may proceed to adopt the ordinance by a simple majority vote. If the ordinance is introduced and the layover period is not waived, the ordinance will be brought back to the Mayor and Council for possible adoption at a later date.

Mayor and Council History

Though this matter has never been discussed by the Mayor and Council as a formal agenda item, Councilmembers have expressed interest in discussing this proposal.

Public Notification and Engagement

Individual leasing agents have asked staff whether Montgomery County's ordinance applies to the City of Rockville (which it does not); and whether the City of Rockville would be taking a similar approach. No other outreach has taken place to date.

Next Steps

If the Mayor and Council introduces the proposed ordinance at its May 4th meeting without waiving the layover period, the ordinance will be brought back to the Mayor and Council for possible action at a later meeting. If the Mayor and Council votes to waive the layover period by an affirmative vote of at least four members, the Mayor and Council may proceed to a vote to adopt the ordinance on May 4th. A vote to adopt the ordinance needs a simple majority to pass.

If the Mayor and Council adopts the ordinance, the City Manager or his designee will promptly issue a letter to owners, managers, and leasing agents of properties that contain MPDU units; and provide information to the general public so that tenants will also know of their rights under this ordinance.

Attachments

Attachment 11.a: Suspension of MPDU Recertification Ordinance_FINAL (PDF)

Rob DiSpirito, City Manager 4/29/2020

ORDINANCE NO._____

ORDINANCE: To temporarily suspend the requirement that current tenants of rental MPDUs recertify their eligibility to participate in the City's MPDU program before renewing leases

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND as follows:

SECTION I.

WHEREAS, the City administers a Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit ("MPDU") program pursuant to Chapter 13.5 of the City Code, under which individuals meeting certain eligibility requirements may rent or purchase dwelling units at below-market prices; and

WHEREAS, under City Code Section 13.5-4, the City Manager has established eligibility standards for participants in the MPDU program through adopted regulations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to its adopted regulations and City Code Chapter 13.5, the City has promulgated a City of Rockville Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit (MPDU) Program Guide for Leasing Agents (the "Program Guide"), under which leasing agents of rental MPDUs are directed to verify the income eligibility of households seeking to rent MPDUs and to re-certify the eligibility of current tenants of MPDUs annually for each leasing period; and

WHEREAS, under the Program Guide, MPDU tenants who fail to provide the information required for recertification or who provide the required information and are found to be no longer eligible to rent the MPDU due to income or household size must be issued a notice to vacate the MPDU; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, Maryland Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. proclaimed a state of emergency and a catastrophic health emergency for the entire State of Maryland pursuant

to Title 14 of the Public Safety Article of the State Code, due to the impending threat and continuing impact of the contagious disease known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, transmission of COVID-19 poses an immediate and serious threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the residents, businesses, and employees of the City of Rockville, and it is in the interest of the City to ensure that current tenants of MPDUs within the City are able to maintain their housing during and for a period of time after the COVID-19 state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, under its authority under Article IV, Section 1 of the Rockville City Charter to pass ordinances for the protection and promotion of the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the City, the Mayor and Council of Rockville hereby:

(1) Suspends the MPDU program eligibility requirements for all households renting MPDUs in the City that would be subject to eligibility recertification during the pendency of this ordinance; and

(2) Directs the City Manager or his designee to promptly inform all owners, managers, and leasing agents of MPDUs in the City that:

a. During the pendency of this ordinance, an owner, manager, or leasing agent may renew the lease of a current MPDU tenant under the terms of the MPDU program, including, but not limited to, MPDU rent limits, for up to one (1) year without recertifying the eligibility of that tenant to participate in the MPDU program;

b. During the pendency of this ordinance, an owner, manager, or leasing agent must not send any MPDU tenant a notice to vacate a MPDU due to a failure to submit information necessary to recertify MPDU program eligibility or due to the tenant's ineligibility to participate in the MPDU program; and

c. Within fourteen (14) days of the date of enactment of this ordinance, all owners, managers, and leasing agents must revoke, in writing, any outstanding notice to vacate a MPDU due to a failure to submit information necessary to

recertify MPDU program eligibility or due to the tenant's ineligibility to participate in the MPDU program.

SECTION II – This ordinance will expire on October 1, 2020. All households renting MPDUs in the City subject to eligibility recertification on or after October 1, 2020, must undergo recertification in accordance with the Program Guide.

SECTION III – All leases entered into in accordance with this ordinance will remain valid after the expiration of this ordinance.

SECTION IV - This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

****

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance adopted by the Mayor and Council of Rockville at its meeting of _____.

_____

Sara Taylor-Ferrell

City Clerk/Director of Council Operation

Mayor & Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Agenda Item Type: Discussion
Department: PDS - Housing
Responsible Staff: Asmara Habte

Subject

Consideration of Limiting Residential Rent Increases in Rockville During COVID-19 Emergency

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council discuss and provide direction on the following potential options to limit rent increases during, and perhaps immediately after the ending of, the COVID-19 State of Emergency:

- Taking no action
- Limiting residential rent increases to 2.6%, which is the level of the recently approved Voluntary Rent Guidelines and the level adopted by Montgomery County
- Freezing residential rent increases at the current level, as the District of Columbia has done.

Change in Law or Policy

At present, Rockville does not impose any control over the amount of rent that is charged, and paid, in residential (or other) rental units within the city. Rockville has recently adopted Voluntary Rent Guidelines that recommend rents not to be raised more than 2.6 percent this year, but there is nothing mandatory about the Guidelines. Adopting a mandatory provision would be new.

Discussion

The spread of COVID-19 and the emergency declarations related to the virus are having dramatic short-term negative impacts on commerce and employment. Despite federal, state and local programs designed to assist employers, some of which are specifically designed to maintain employees in jobs, there is quickly rising unemployment in this region, as well as in the rest of the country.

A result of the rising unemployment in affected economic sectors is the challenge for renters to make their payments. Governor Hogan's order preventing evictions during the COVID-19 state of emergency provided important assurance to tenants that they will have homes, even if their incomes have been affected; but no measure has been put into place that prevents rents from being raised by any amount that the market will bear.

At this moment, average rent levels do not appear to be rising. A staff review of data produced by CoStar (a subscription-service company that provides data on the real estate market) on

residential asking rents (rents that landlords are requesting when marketing their units) in the greater Rockville areas indicates a decline by 0.3 percent over the past 12 months. CoStar is projecting further declines over the next few months, but a recovery later in the year. In general, economic recessionary periods are not characterized by rising rents, but more usually by falling rents; and the overall economy may be entering an economic recession. There may, however, be exceptions to the general trend; and a Montgomery County Councilman, during public discussion of this same topic, brought anecdotes of what he considered to be exorbitant rent increases.

Councilmembers have expressed interest in discussing whether the City of Rockville should adopt a short-term measure that would prevent undue rent increases during this difficult time.

Other Jurisdictions

Some jurisdictions, such as Montgomery County, Maryland and the District of Columbia, have considered and adopted measures to limit or freeze rent increases during the COVID-19 emergency. Montgomery County, like Rockville, is a local government operating under Maryland law, and is therefore the most pertinent example. Staff is unaware of any other Maryland jurisdictions that have regulated rents in response to the COVID-19 emergency, though the City of Gaithersburg has considered doing so (discussed below).

Montgomery County, MD

On April 23, the Montgomery County Council enacted (Attachment A) the COVID-19 Renter Relief Act (the "County Act"), which prohibits landlords from increasing residential rents beyond the County's Department of Housing and Community Affairs' ("DHCA") rent guidelines of 2.6 percent for residential tenants during and for a period of 180 days after the COVID-19 catastrophic health emergency.

The County Act prohibits a landlord from notifying a tenant of a rent increase beyond the DHCA guideline of 2.6 percent during the emergency or within 90 days after the emergency expires. Because County Code Section 29-54(a) prohibits a landlord from increasing rent until 90 days after providing the tenant written notice of the increase, the earliest that a larger rent increase can go into effect under the Act is 180 days following the expiration of the emergency. Previously-issued notices of rent increases beyond the County's current guideline of 2.6 percent will need to be brought in line with this rate or cancelled.

This legislation applies to the landlords of dwelling units, which, based on the definitions in Chapter 29 of Montgomery County Code, includes most residential rental arrangements but does not include rented rooms in single-family homes.

The County Act also requires the Department of Housing and Community Affairs to post pertinent information on its website regarding the prohibition against rent increases during the emergency. The website must include information about the emergency, including its expiration date and the date that occurs 90 days after the expiration.

City of Gaithersburg

Staff from the City of Gaithersburg reports that there have been internal discussions of whether to do legislation of this nature, but there has been no movement to do so. Instead, staff has strongly encouraged landlords to 1) avoid raising rents more than 2.6 percent, and 2) avoid charging late fees on rental payments.

District of Columbia

On April 10, the District of Columbia Council enacted its second emergency COVID-19 relief bill, known as the COVID-19 Response Supplemental Emergency Amendment Act of 2020 (the "DC Act"). The DC Act contains provisions that are intended to address the effects of the health crisis in D.C., including freezing rents across the District during the COVID-19 public health emergency and 30 days beyond its end.

This rent freeze was enacted through a very lengthy omnibus bill, which is not attached to this staff report. Nonetheless, the DC Act amended the DC Code to deem any rent increase to be null and void if (1) the effective date on the notice of rent increase occurs during a period for which the Mayor declares a public health emergency; (2) the notice of rent increase was provided to the tenant during a period for which a public health emergency has been declared; or (3) the notice was provided to the tenant prior to, but takes effect following, a public health emergency.

Options for Consideration

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council consider the following three options for Rockville during its discussion:

1. The City could choose to not act, relying on the strong tendency for rents to decline, rather than increase, during general economic difficulties.
2. The City could adopt a provision like that of Montgomery County, which would convert the recently-adopted Voluntary Rent Guideline of 2.6% into an upper limit of permitted residential rent increase during the emergency and for a period afterwards.
3. The City could adopt a provision like that of the District of Columbia, not permitting residential rents to be raised during the emergency and for a period afterwards.

Staff looks forward to this discussion.

Mayor and Council History

The Mayor and Council has never before discussed this specific topic but did adopt Voluntary Rent Guidelines on March 2, 2020.

Options Considered

Options presented include:

- Taking no action
- Limiting rent increases to 2.6%, which is the level of the City's Voluntary Rent Guidelines and the level that Montgomery County adopted.
- Freezing rent increases.

Public Notification and Engagement

There has been no public discussion or notification of this item. If the Mayor and Council were to adopt one of the options, or a different option, to limit rent increases, staff would alert the public of this new provision.

Next Steps

If the Mayor and Council wishes to move forward with one of the options presented, or a different option, PDS and CAO staff will bring back an agenda item in the near future that would include an ordinance that could be adopted to implement the Mayor and Council's desired direction.

Attachments

Attachment 12.a: Montgomery County Bill_18-20E_Enacted (PDF)

Rob DiSpirito, City Manager 4/29/2020

Expedited Bill No. 18-20
Concerning: Landlord-**[[**Tennant**]]** Tenant Relations – Rent Stabilization During Emergencies
Revised: 04/14/2020 Draft No. 5
Introduced: April 14, 2020
Enacted: April 23, 2020
Executive: _____
Effective: _____
Sunset Date: See Sec. 3
Ch. _____, Laws of Mont. Co. _____

COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Lead Sponsor: Councilmember Jawando
Co-Sponsors: Council President Katz, Councilmember Rice, and Councilmember Navarro

AN EXPEDITED ACT to:

(1) prohibit the increase of rent above rent guidelines during and after a certain declared **[[**emergencies**]]** emergency;
(2) prohibit certain notices to tenants;
(3) require certain notices to tenants; and
(4) generally amend County law concerning landlord-tenant relations.

By adding
Montgomery County Code
Chapter 29, Landlord-Tenant Relations
Section 29-55

Boldface	*Heading or defined term.*
Underlining	*Added to existing law by original bill.*
[Single boldface brackets**]**	*Deleted from existing law by original bill.*
Double underlining	*Added by amendment.*
[[Double boldface brackets**]]**	*Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.*
* * *	*Existing law unaffected by bill.*

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:

Attachment 12.a: Montgomery County Bill_18-20E_Enacted (3106 : Consideration of Limiting Rent Increases in Rockville During COVID-19

Sec. 1. Section 29-55 is added as follows:

29-55. Rent increases during [[states]] state of emergency – prohibited.

(a) *Definitions*. In this Section, **[[***emergency***]]** the following terms have the meanings indicated.

Emergency means the catastrophic health emergency declared by the Governor of Maryland on March 5, 2020, as amended or extended by the Governor, under Section 14-3A-02 of the Public Safety Article of the Maryland Code.

Tenant has the meaning stated in Section 29-1. *Tenant* includes an existing tenant. *Tenant* does not include a prospective tenant.

(b) *Rent increases above guidelines – when prohibited*. A landlord must not increase a tenant's rent to an amount that exceeds the voluntary rent guidelines under Section 29-53 if:

(1) the rent increase would take effect during an emergency; or

(2) notice of the rent increase does not comply with subsection (c) and Section 29-54.

(c) *Notices of rent adjustments*.

(1) During an emergency and within **[[**30**]]** 90 days after the expiration of an emergency, a landlord must not notify a tenant of a rent increase if the increase would exceed the voluntary rent guidelines under Section 29-53.

(2) **[[**A landlord must inform a tenant in writing to disregard any notice of a rent increase if**]]** If a landlord provided notice of a rent increase to a tenant prior to the emergency and the increase would exceed the voluntary rent guidelines under Section 29-53, the landlord must inform the tenant in writing:

Attachment 12.a: Montgomery County Bill_18-20E_Enacted (3106 : Consideration of Limiting Rent Increases in Rockville During COVID-19

(A) **[[**the landlord provided the notice to the tenant prior to an emergency; and**]]** to disregard the notice; or

(B) **[[**the effective date of the increase would occur on or after the date the emergency began**]]** that the increase is amended to be less than or equal to the voluntary rent guidelines under Section 29-53.

(d) *Notice of expiration of emergency*. The Department must post on its website information about the requirements of this Section, including the date that an emergency expires, and the date that is **[[**30**]]** 90 days after the expiration of the emergency.

Sec. 2. Expedited Effective Date. The Council declares that this legislation is necessary for the immediate protection of the public interest. This Act takes effect on the date on which it becomes law.

Sec. 3. **Sunset date**. This Act must expire, and must have no further force or effect, upon the **[[**121st**]]** 181st day following the expiration of the catastrophic health emergency declared by the Governor of Maryland on March 5, 2020, as amended or extended by the Governor.

Sec. 4. Short title. This Act may be cited as the "COVID-19 Renter Relief Act".

Attachment 12.a: Montgomery County Bill_18-20E_Enacted (3106 : Consideration of Limiting Rent Increases in Rockville During COVID-19

Approved:

4/23/20

Sidney Katz, President, County Council — Date

Approved:

Marc Elrich, County Executive — Date

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq., Clerk of the Council — Date

Attachment 12.a: Montgomery County Bill_18-20E_Enacted (3106 : Consideration of Limiting Rent Increases in Rockville During COVID-19

Mayor & Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Agenda Item Type: Work Session
Department: Finance
Responsible Staff: Stacey Webster

Subject

FY 2021 Mayor and Council Budget Worksession

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council provide final guidance on the FY 2021 Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program so that staff can prepare the ordinances and resolutions for budget adoption at the meeting on May 11, 2020.

Discussion

At the budget worksessions held on April 13 and 27, 2020, the Mayor and Council and staff discussed significant revenue and expenditure adjustments to the FY 2021 proposed budget. These changes are summarized in TABLE 1 and TABLE 2 of Attachment A. In addition to these changes, the Mayor and Council requested that staff return with options for additional capital improvements at the King Farm Farmstead, with focus on fire suppression, utilities, and rebuilding the Horse Barn.

Updated General Fund Revenues and Expenditures

TABLE 1 in Attachment A contains a net reduction of over $3.2 million to the FY 2021 General Fund expenditures (the net does not include addition to reserves). The addition to the General Fund's unassigned reserves of approximately $954,000 provides a financial cushion in case first quarter expenditures are higher than budgeted due to coronavirus-related items and/or first quarter revenues are below projected levels. Staff will know more about the overall financial position of the unassigned fund balance after the close of the fiscal year.

TABLE 2 in Attachment A contains over $2.2 million in reductions for several major General Fund revenues for FY 2021. Other General Fund revenue sources, such as charges for services, may be impacted if facility closures and social distancing remain in effect after July 1, 2020. If that situation occurs, staff will return to the Mayor and Council with a budget amendment in early FY 2021 to recognize the reductions in revenues and expenditures.

Considering all revenue and expenditure adjustments presented in Attachment A, the FY 2021 adopted General Fund budget will be balanced at $84.6 million, which is an increase of less than 1 percent over the FY 2020 adopted budget.

King Farm Farmstead

The FY 2021 proposed operating budget contains a Planned Improvement Project (PIP) for a fire suppression system to protect the King Farm Dairy Barns and farmhouse (page 363 of proposed budget). The 'Funding' and 'Fiscal Year' are listed as TBD because the Mayor and Council and staff were still discussing and evaluating options. The FY 2021-2025 proposed CIP includes a project for the demolition and replacement of the King Farm Horse Barn (page 281 of proposed budget). This CIP project is currently listed as unfunded in FY 2024 (design) and future years (construction).

If a majority of the Mayor and Council are interested in moving forward with either of these elements, staff recommends the following funding strategies: paygo fund a fire suppression system in FY 2021 and/or issue bonds for the Horse Barn construction in future years. The City recently completed temporary shoring at the Horse Barn (cost of $55,356) and staff believe that this shoring will protect the Barn until the demolition and replacement project is underway.

If the Mayor and Council would like to pursue the fire suppression to the major buildings at the King Farm Farmstead, staff recommends adding a new CIP project for $650,000 in FY 2021 that is funded with paygo. In order to provide paygo for this project, staff will assume bond funding for another project in the CIP that is currently funded with paygo (likely in FY 2022). This other project will be more consistent with the City's formal Debt Management and Administration Policies (page 43 of proposed budget). Staff is able to utilize this funding strategy because the CIP budget is managed over a five-year period.

The fire suppression system will consist of running fire lines to the Dairy Barns, the Horse Barn, and the farmhouse. This is a foundational step to installing all utilities at a later date. As staff has advised in the past, it is recommended that the installation of utilities only happen after a use is determined so that size and type of utilities are consistent with the use of the property. The Mayor and Council have yet to determine a defined use of the King Farm Farmstead property. If the fire suppression system is installed, the cost for the utilities will equal approximately $1.6 million. Given the unknowns related to the property, staff recommends including the utilities in the FY 2021 adopted operating budget as a Planned Improvement Project with the 'Fiscal Year' listed as To Be Determined.

During this time of economic uncertainty, staff prefers to minimize the additional amount of taxpayer-supported debt because the debt service payments add to the City's annual General Fund operating expenditures. Staff will likely return to the Mayor and Council in FY 2021 to increase the paygo transfer to the CIP if the unassigned fund balance is above the City's 20 percent requirement. In the past, the Mayor and Council have successfully used this strategy to fund priority projects while minimizing the City's reliance on debt.

Every $1 million that the City borrows results in an increased average annual debt service burden of approximately $69,000. There is no impact on the FY 2021 operating budget based on staff's funding strategy for the fire suppression system (impact will start in FY 2022 if debt is

issued). The debt service for the demolition and construction of the Horse Barn, if approved, will only take place in future years per staff's recommendation.

For context, the City has a total of $123.1 million in outstanding taxpayer-supported and enterprise debt. The total outstanding principal on the City's taxpayer-supported debt equals $30.7 million. There are 10 taxpayer-supported debt issues outstanding. The total outstanding principal for the City's enterprise debt equals $92.4 million. There are 18 enterprise-supported debt issues outstanding. Staff plans to present a declaration of intent to issue $21.4 million in additional enterprise debt (water and sewer) at the May 11th meeting.

Another area to consider when evaluating future debt issues is the City's compliance with the established debt ratio targets (page 264 of proposed budget). Currently all ratios are well within their targets and will remain that way even if additional debt is issued related to the improvements at the King Farm Farmstead.

Mayor and Council History

Date	Action Item
December 9, 2019	Mayor and Council Budget Worksession
December 16, 2019	Budget Public Hearing
January 13, 2020	Budget Public Hearing
February 3, 2020	Discussion of Budget Survey Results and Priorities
February 24, 2020	Presentation of the FY 2021 Budget; Introduction of FY 2021 Budget Ordinance; Introduction of FY 2021 Refuse Resolution
March 2, 2020	Budget Public Hearing; Budget Worksession
March 23, 2020	Budget Public Hearing; Budget Worksession
April 13, 2020	Budget Worksession
April 17, 2020	Close of Budget Public Comment Period
April 24, 2020	Budget Worksession

Public Notification and Engagement

There were four public hearings related to the FY 2021 budget. In addition to public hearings, the public could submit comments about the budget via an online survey located on the City's website. The FY 2021 budget public record closed on April 17, 2020.

Next Steps

Date	Action Item
May 11, 2020	Adoption of FY 2021 Budget Ordinance; Adoption of FY 2021 Refuse Resolution; Introduction and Adoption of an Amendment to the Water and Sewer Ordinance

Attachments

Attachment 13.a: FY21_BudgetChanges_FINAL (PDF)

Rob DiSpirito, City Manager 4/29/2020

Changes to FY 2021 Operating and CIP Budget

TABLE 1 - EXPENDITURE ADJUSTMENTS		**86,860,000**
4/13 Report	Eliminate Proposed Arts and Culture Coordinator FTE	(115,000)
4/13 Report	Eliminate Proposed Events Specialist FTE	(86,000)
4/13 Report	Eliminate Proposed Housing Specialist FTE	(94,000)
4/13 Report	Eliminate Proposed Media Specialist FTE	(16,000)
4/13 Report	Add Second Police Officer FTE	120,000
4/13 Report	Unfund Merit/Step Increases for FY 2021	(700,000)
4/13 Report	Delay Implementation of Comp. and Class. Results	(400,000)
4/13 Report	Unfund 3-Day Employee Leave Buyback	(170,000)
4/13 Report	Unfund Actuarial Study of DROP	(10,000)
4/13 Report	Unfund Branding Consultant	(100,000)
4/13 Report	Increase Transfer to the Parking Fund	200,000
4/13 Report	Decrease Transfer to CIP for Spray Park (CIP pg. 291)	(500,000)
4/27 Report	Reduce CIP Transfer, Release of Locker Room Contingency	(600,000)
4/27 Report	Reduce Funding for Temp. Employee Compression	(100,000)
4/27 Report	Updated Salary Projections	(150,000)
4/27 Report	Reduce Funding for Employee Travel and Training	(78,000)
4/27 Report	Unfund Biennial Community Survey	(59,390)
4/27 Report	Unfund Website Redesign Project	(230,000)
4/27 Report	Unfund Yilan City, Taiwan Trip	(25,000)
4/27 Report	Unfund M&C CPI-U Adjustment	(3,000)
4/27 Report	Unfund Appointed Officials Cost of Living Adjustment	(6,040)
4/27 Report	Fund Peace Day Event	5,000
4/27 Report	Increase Funds for Rockville Sister City Corporation Event	3,000
4/27 Report	Increase Funds for Caregiver Grants for COVID-19 Relief	45,000
4/27 Worksession	Fuel Savings per Staff Update	(110,000)
4/27 Worksession	Energy Audit	11,000
4/27 Worksession	RESCO One-Time Grants ($5,000 each company)	15,000
4/27 Worksession	Eat Fresh Program	15,000
4/27 Worksession	REDI Grant for Small Business Impact Fund	50,000
4/27 Worksession	Further Reduce Travel and Training (bring total down to $250k)	(63,312)
4/27 Worksession	Reduce Snow and Ice Removal (bring total down to $300k)	(41,970)
4/27 Worksession	Eliminate COLA for Department Directors	(15,000)
	Increase to Unassigned Reserves	953,712
	Updated Expenditure TOTAL	**84,605,000**

TABLE 2 - REVENUE ADJUSTMENTS		**86,860,000**
4/13 Report	Decrease Admissions and Amusement Tax	(350,000)
4/13 Report	Decrease Hotel Tax	(250,000)
4/13 Report	Decrease Interest Earnings	(300,000)
4/27 Report	Decrease Highway User Revenue	(700,000)
4/27 Report	Decrease Income Tax	(300,000)
4/27 Report	Decrease Personal Property Tax	(345,000)
4/27 Worksession	Decrease Rental Revenue from RESCOs	(10,000)
	Updated Revenue TOTAL	**84,605,000**

Attachment 13.a: FY21_BudgetChanges_FINAL (3108 : FY 2021 Mayor and Council Budget Worksession)

Mayor & Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Agenda Item Type: Review and Comment
Department: City Manager's Office
Responsible Staff: Jenny Kimball

Subject
Action Report

Recommendation
Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council review and comment on the Action Report.

Attachments
Attachment 14.A.a: MC Action Report Master 2020 _REVISED 042920 (DOC)

Jenny Kimball
Jenny Kimball, Deputy City Manager 4/29/2020

Attachment A

Blue - new items to the list.
Red - latest changes.

Mayor and Council Action Report

Ref. #	Meeting Date	Staff/ Dep	Response Method	Direction to Staff / Action Taken / Status	Timeline
2014-23	9/8/11	R&P	Future agenda	**King Farm Farmstead** **Status: Responses to a request for information (RFI) on potential future uses of the Farmstead were shared with the Mayor and Council on January 24, 2020 and discussed during the the April 20, 2020 meeting. Staff will provide additional cost figures for potential improvements at the property for discussion on May 4.**	Ongoing
2015-14	7/13/15	CMO	Future agenda	**Purchasing Study Response** **Status: An update on the Procurement Action Plan was shared on January 27, 2020. Another update will be provided in July 2020.**	Ongoing
2016-12	9/26/16	HR	Future agenda	**Vacancy Report** Provide a Vacancy Report to the Mayor and Council at the end of each Quarter. **Status: The Fiscal Year 2020 second quarter report was shared on January 27, 2020 meeting. The next report will be shared with the Mayor and Council via e-mail the week of April 27, 2020.**	May 1, 2020 Email distribution
2016-16	10/10/16	PDS	Future agenda	**Global Issues on BRT** Schedule another discussion on BRT with the City of Gaithersburg and Montgomery County, to include broader issues such as governance and finance. Consider holding the meeting in Gaithersburg. **Status: County transportation is studying alternatives to identify a recommended alternative for design of the MD 355 route. A recommended alternative for the Viers Mill route was selected. The project is funded for preliminary design in the County Budget for FY23.**	Ongoing
2016-18	10/24/16	PDS	Future agenda	**FAST – Faster, Smarter, More Transparent (Site Plan/Development Review Improvements)** Provide regular updates on the status of the work. **Status: A FaST update was provided to the Mayor and Council on November 18, 2019. The next update is scheduled for June 1, 2020.**	Ongoing

Attachment 14.A.a: MC Action Report Master 2020 _REVISED 042920 (3116 : Action Report)

Ref. #	Meeting Date	Staff/ Dep	Response Method	Direction to Staff / Action Taken / Status	Timeline
2017-6	2/27/17	CMO	Email	**Minority-, Female- & Disabled-Owned Businesses** Provide updates on the Procurement Division's activities to engage and support minority-, female- and disabled-owned businesses. **Status: The next update will be provided by email by April 27, 2020. Staff is researching a veteran's preference component and will share information with the material emailed the week of April 27. A local preference approach for City procurement will be discussed as a separate agenda item.**	May 1, 2020 email distribution.
2017-11	6/12/17	R&P	Agenda item	**Deer Population in Rockville** Continue to monitor the deer population. Consider action steps and gather community input. **Status: The Mayor and Council directed staff to implement the pilot deer culling program. Staff will bring required changes to the City Code for Mayor and Council for approval on June 1, 2020. Given the increased use of RedGate as a park, staff also will bring back on the Mayor and Council's June 1, 2020 agenda the topic of an alternate location for the pilot program.**	September-November 2020
2018-1	1/22/18	Finance	Action Report	**Utility Billing System** Provide updates on the replacement of the Velocity Payment System, powered by Govolution. **Status: Contracts are in place, a kick-off meeting was held and implementation underway, with estimated completion in July 2020. By the end of April, Finance will decide, based on the current environment, whether the planned July 2020 utility billing system live date will need to be delayed to the fall of 2020.**	July 2020
2018-7	6/18/18	CMO	Agenda Item	**LGBTQ Initiatives** Identify and implement Mayor and Council suggestions. **Status: Comments about future gender-neutral bathroom installations were shared during the Mayor and Council's March 2 budget worksession. Discussion will continue through the remaining budget worksessions. Signs directing users to the gender-neutral bathrooms in City Hall were ordered and temporary signs are currently up.**	Ongoing

Ref. #	Meeting Date	Staff/ Dep	Response Method	Direction to Staff / Action Taken / Status	Timeline
2018-8	6/18/18	CMO/RCPD /R&P	Town Meeting	**Opioid Town Meeting** Schedule a Town Meeting on the opioid crisis, to include prevention, enforcement and treatment. **Status: A subset of the committee working on a strategic plan for the Rockville Goes Purple Initiative will convene after the immediate needs of the COVID-19 response are addressed.**	Ongoing
2018-11	8/1/18	PDS	Agenda Item	**Neighborhood Shopping Centers** Discuss mechanisms to encourage neighborhood shopping center revitalization and explore additional zoning and uses	Summer 2020
2018-15	10/8/18	PDS	Future Agenda	**Short-Term Residential Rentals** Discuss how to manage short-term residential rentals' (e.g., Airbnb) impact on city neighborhoods and explore options for taxing users. **Status: Short-term residential rentals was discussed on January 13. Staff emailed the results of additional research requested by the Mayor and Council on January 23, 2020. The Mayor and Council also requested that a public hearing be held at a future date.**	Fall 2020
2018-19	10/15/18	HR	Future Agenda	**Volunteer Program** Discuss whether the Mayor and Council want to direct the City Manager to create a centralized volunteer program. **Status: A report on the number of volunteers and volunteer hours for the first half of FY20 was provided on the January 13, 2020 agenda. The next update will be on the July 27, 2020 agenda.** **On March 30, the Mayor and Council inquired about the annual Volunteer Appreciation Party. This is an annual event, hosted by the Mayor and Council, as a token of thanks to all the volunteers who have contributed their time throughout the year. Attendees have a buffet dinner and beverages, and hear remarks of thanks from the Mayor and Council. Invitations are sent to all the boards and commissions, coaches, senior center, REDI, Rockville Concert Band, Rockville Chorus, Rockville Civic Ballet, Rockville Sister City, F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival and other volunteers. This year's party is scheduled from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16 at Glenview Mansion.**	July 27, 2020

Attachment 14.A.a: MC Action Report Master 2020 _REVISED 042920 (3116 : Action Report)

Attachment A

Ref. #	Meeting Date	Staff/ Dep	Response Method	Direction to Staff / Action Taken / Status	Timeline
2019-1	10/29/18	PDS	Future Agenda	**Accessory Structures** **Status: On April 20, 2020, the Mayor and Council discussed potential revisions to the development standards for accessory structures. The Mayor and Council directed staff to conduct additional neighborhood outreach to educate and inform residents of the proposed changes and to schedule an additional public hearing in the fall 2020.**	Fall 2020
2019-2	2/25/19	R&P/PDS/ CMO	Future Agenda	**RedGate Park Planning** **Status: With the removal of RedGate from consideration for a home for Veterans and the feedback obtained during the March 30 Mayor and Council discussion, staff is revising the approach to plan the future use of the site and will share a proposed path forward via memo to the Mayor and Council by the end of April.**	Ongoing
2019-4	3/25/19	PDS	Future Agenda	**Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and Tax Increment Financing (TIF)** Discussion of potential City uses of BIDs and TIFs	TBD
2019-7	4/1/19	R & P	Memo	**Child Care Services** Discuss city provision of child care services (history of the current program, community need for the service, private sector market, expansion to additional Rockville locations). **Status: Staff is preparing follow up on the Mayor and Council's November 25, 2019 worksession discussion of early childhood education services, for a Mayor and Council agenda in summer 2020. Councilmember Myles asked for information about childcare needs and services during the COVID-19 update at the April 20, 2020 meeting, and staff will provide information on that topic in a memo to the Mayor and Council the week of April 27.**	Summer 2020
2019-9	4/1/19	HR	Memo	**Reduction in Force (RIF) Policy** Prepare a Reduction in Force (RIF) policy, to be incorporated in the Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual update. **Status: Mayor and Council will consider this policy in the context of the ongoing review of the proposed Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual (PPM), which will be rescheduled to a date to be determined following the COVID-19 response.**	Summer 2020

Attachment 14.A.a: MC Action Report Master 2020 _REVISED 042920 (3116 : Action Report)

Attachment A

Ref. #	Meeting Date	Staff/ Dep	Response Method	Direction to Staff / Action Taken / Status	Timeline
2019-10	4/1/19	HR	Email	**Personnel Policy and Procedures Manual Update** Share an update on the status of this effort. **Status: The draft revised manual was distributed to Mayor and Council on January 31, 2020 and was discussed at the February 24, 2020 meeting. Mayor and Councilmembers are forwarding questions to staff who will provide responses in writing. The next discussion on agenda was planned for May 18, 2020. That will be rescheduled to a later date to be determined given the ongoing COVID-19 response.**	Summer 2020
2019-11	4/1/19	HR	Future Agenda	**Retirement Incentive/Employee Buyout Program** Provide information about employee buyout programs and discuss the potential for a Rockville program. **Status: Director of Finance provided an update to the Mayor and Council via email on May 3, 2019.**	Summer 2020
2019-12	4/1/19	Police	Future Agenda	**Parking Enforcement at Street Meters** Share an overview of Rockville's current program and how other local jurisdictions handle parking enforcement at street meters, including hours of enforcement. **Status: Parking meter operations was a component of the Mayor and Council's parking discussion on July 15, 2019. Staff will continue to discuss this topic with FRIT and will keep the Mayor and Council informed as developments occur. To support take-out only operations of Rockville food service businesses during COVID-19 response, parking meter spaces have been signed as 15- minute curbside pick-up.**	Ongoing
2019-19	12/16/2019	City Clerk/Director of Council Operations	Worksession	**Boards and Commissions Task Force Work Session** – Continue the Mayor and Council's discussion of the Boards and Commission Task Force (BCTF). **Status: The Mayor and Council will discuss the BCTF's top four recommendations during a regular meeting on June 8, 2020.**	June 8, 2020

Attachment 14.A.a: MC Action Report Master 2020 _REVISED 042920 (3116 : Action Report)

Attachment A

Ref. #	Meeting Date	Staff/ Dep	Response Method	Direction to Staff / Action Taken / Status	Timeline
2019-20	12/16/2019	City Clerk/Director of Council Operations	Meeting	**Post-Election Presentation** **Status: On April 6, 2020, the chair of the Board of Supervisors of Elections sent a 2019 Vote By Mail Election Report to the Mayor and Council. The report is posted on the Board of Supervisors of Elections web page. The Board will present the report during the Mayor and Council meeting on May 11.**	May 11, 2020
2020-01	1/6/2020	Police	Future Agenda	**Emergency Management Program** – Receive an update from the Emergency Manager on the city's emergency management program and activities. **Status: Staff is briefing the Mayor and Council on the COVID-19 pandemic on each meeting agenda. A comprehensive update on the emergency management program will be scheduled in July 2020 or as soon as possible after the Emergency Manager's response to COVID-19 concludes.**	July 2020
2020-02	1/13/2020	CMO	Memo and Future Agenda	**5G Wireless Technology** **Status: On March 18, 2020, the Mayor and Council discussed Zoning Text Amendment TXT2019-00251 on regulating the Installation of Small Cell Antennas and directed staff to return on agenda with a revised ZTA based on the results of the discussion.**	May 11, 2020
2020-03	1/13/2020	DPW	Memo and Future Agenda	**Climate Change Efforts -** Brief the Mayor and Council on City efforts related to climate change. **Status: A memo describing potential future options to strategically support energy efficiency, renewable energy, greener fleets, and long-term strategic planning was shared with the Mayor and Council by email the week of April 6, 2020. This is also a topic of ongoing FY21 budget deliberations.**	TBD
2020-04	1/13/2020	Police	Memo and Future Agenda	**Drones and Public Safety –** Explore potential public safety issues associated with drones and how the City could consider monitoring, regulating and penalizing criminal activity.	Fall 2020

Attachment 14.A.a: MC Action Report Master 2020 _REVISED 042920 (3116 : Action Report)

Ref. #	Meeting Date	Staff/ Dep	Response Method	Direction to Staff / Action Taken / Status	Timeline
2020-05	1/13/2020	R&P	Email	**Americans with Disabilities Act** – Provide information about the City's work to ensure compliance with ADA requirements at City facilities. **Status: Staff provided initial information via email to the Mayor and Council on January 17, 2020. Funding for ADA-related projects is being discussed by the Mayor and Council in the context of the FY21 proposed budget.**	May 2020
2020-07	1/13/2020	PDS	Future Agenda	**Affordable Housing Goals -** Discuss Rockville's strategy to meet the affordable housing goals established by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG). **Status: Future agenda items will explore paths that the city could take to meet the COG housing allocation. In addition, staff will conduct a forum with stakeholders in the development community and building trade association to solicit feedback on the following items, then bring the feedback to the Mayor and Council on agenda:** **1. Affordable Housing Fee for Small Residential Developments** **2. In-Lieu Fee for Condominium Development** **3. Require Developments with 50 or More Units to Provide 15% MPDUs**	Ongoing
2020-08	1/27/2020	CMO/PDS/ Finance/ DPW	Worksession	**Town Center –** Follow up on Mayor and Council direction from the Town Hall meeting and Urban Land Institute (ULI) report. **Status: A status update and discussion of Town Center initiatives will be provided to the Mayor and Council in the fall 2020.** **Parking** – Explore improvements to parking in Town Center **Status: Staff is preparing a proposal on parking improvements to present to the Mayor and Council.** **Town Center Road Diet –** Study and report to Mayor and Council on suggestions in the TAP report and Mayor and Council's discussion. **Status: Public Works' examination of options is underway. A consultant was selected to begin their work.** **Real Estate/Broker/Economist Assessment –** In the context of the next update on the ULI recommendations, invite industry experts to dialogue on competitive challenges to Town Center **Undergrounding of Route 355 –** Revisit the information provided to the Mayor and Council, including community impacts, to formulate an official Mayor and Council position post COVID-19.	Ongoing

Ref. #	Meeting Date	Staff/ Dep	Response Method	Direction to Staff / Action Taken / Status	Timeline
2020-09	1/27/2020	DPW	Future Agenda	**Corridor Cities Transitway –** provide background information to facilitate the current Mayor and Council taking an official position on the CCT route. **Status: Discussion will be scheduled for late summer**	TBD
2020-10	1/27/2020	DPW	Future Agenda	**I-270 widening –** Establish a strategy for negotiating with the State. **Status: City staff met with SHA staff and their consultant on February 14, 2020, to begin coordination on a potential MOU. State staff provided preliminary findings related to the potential impacts of different alternatives on traffic, parks, bridges, utilities, and storm water facilities. More information will be needed to develop the parameters to be used for negotiating an MOU between the City and MDOT. MDOT is preparing to release an RFQ this spring to seek their private developer partner, and they expect to complete this process by 2021. City staff will use information collected to draft parameters for negotiating an MOU with the State for Mayor and Council discussion and instructions. During the next meeting, staff will discuss with SHA utility relocation cost and expectations.**	Ongoing
2020-11		PDS	Future Agenda	**Annexation Options** – Discuss annexation options.	TBD
2020-12	4/27/20	R&P	Future Agenda	**Resident Company Briefing** Include on a fall 2020 Mayor and Council agenda a briefing from the resident companies to share information about their plans to resume operations and their business plans to support ongoing operations.	Fall 2020
2020-13	4/27/20	CMO	Email	**Census Outreach Update** Provide an update on the efforts completed, underway and planned to continue encouraging Rockville residents to complete the 2020 Census.	May 6, 2020

CLOSED/COMPLETED

Ref. #	Meeting Date	Staff/ Dep	Response Method	Direction to Staff / Action Taken / Status	Timeline
2019-2	2/25/19	R&P/PDS/ CMO	Future Agenda	**RedGate Golf Course Property** **Veterans Home –** Consider the proposed partnership with the Maryland Veterans Administration to establish a home for veterans at the Redgate property. **Status: On April 13, the State Secretary of Veteran's Affairs confirmed that the State selected a site in Carroll County for the second veteran's home, and thanked the City for the consideration of a Rockville site.**	Veterans Home Completed Redgate Park Planning Continues

Mayor & Council Meeting Date: May 4, 2020
Agenda Item Type: Review and Comment
Department: City Clerk/Director of Council Operations Office
Responsible Staff: Sara Taylor-Ferrell

Subject

Future Agendas

Recommendation

Attachments

Attachment 15.A.a: 05.11.2020 Mock Agenda (DOC)
Attachment 15.A.b: Future Agendas 05.04.2020 (XLS)

Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations 4/29/2020

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

MEETING NO.
Monday, May 11, 2020 – 6:00 PM

MOCK AGENDA

Agenda item times are estimates only. Items may be considered at times other than those indicated.

Any person who requires assistance should call the ADA Coordinator at 240-314-8108.

Rockville City Hall will be closed through May 15, due to recent issued state directives for slowing down the spread of the coronavirus COVID-19 and social distancing.

Viewing Mayor and Council Meetings

To support social distancing, the Mayor and Council are conducting meetings virtually. The virtual meetings can be viewed on Rockville 11, channel 11 on county cable, livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11, and available a day after each meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand.

Participating in Community Forum & Public Hearings

If you wish to submit comments in writing for Community Forum or Public Hearings, please email the comments to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov by no later than 2:00 p.m. on the date of the meeting. All comments will be acknowledged by the Mayor and Council at the meeting and added to the agenda for public viewing on the website.

If you wish to participate virtually in Community Forum during the live Mayor and Council meeting, please send your name and phone number to mayorandcouncil@rockvillemd.gov no later than 9:00 am on the day of the meeting. You will be connected with the City's Information Technology Department to receive all the information you need to join the meeting by audio to share your Community Forum comments.

Participating in Mayor and Council Drop-In (Mayor Newton and Councilmember Pierzchala)

Drop-In Sessions will be held by phone on Monday, May 11 from 5:00-5:45 p.m. Please sign up by 2 p.m. on the meeting day using the form at: https://www.rockvillemd.gov/formcenter/city-clerk-11/sign-up-for-dropin-meetings-227

6:00 PM **1. Convene**

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Attachment 15.A.a: 05.11.2020 Mock Agenda (3117 : Future Agendas)

3. Agenda Review

6:05 PM **4. City Manager's Report**

6:15 PM **5. COVID-19 Update**

6:45 PM **6. Proclamation**

A. Proclamation Recognizing May 18-22, 2020 as National Public Works Week

6:50 PM **7. Presentation**

A. Board of Supervisors of Elections - 2019 Vote by Mail Election Report

7:50 PM **8. Community Forum**

Any member of the community may address the Mayor and Council for 3 minutes during Community Forum. Unless otherwise indicated, Community Forum is included on the agenda for every regular Mayor and Council meeting, generally between 7:00 and 7:30 pm. Call the City Clerk/Director of Council Operation's Office at 240-314-8280 to sign up to speak in advance or sign up in the Mayor and Council Chamber the night of the meeting.

9. Mayor and Council's Response to Community Forum

8:10 PM **10. Consent**

A. Authorize the City Manager to Award a Rider Contract for Diesel Fuel for City Vehicles and Equipment for a Contract Period Up to Five (5) Years in the Aggregate Amount Not to Exceed $1,200,000.

B. Authorization to Release and Extinguish an Existing Stormwater Management Easement on Lot 29, Block 2 of the Autrey Heights Subdivision

Attachment 15.A.a: 05.11.2020 Mock Agenda (3117 : Future Agendas)

C. Approval of MOU with REDI

8:15 PM **11. Cancellation of the City's Independence Day Celebration**

8:30 PM **12. Introduction and Possible Adoption of an Ordinance to Grant Text Amendment Application TXT2019-00251 -To Adopt Regulations for the Installations of Small Cell Antennas; Mayor and Council of Rockville, Applicant**

9:15 PM **13. Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Seventh Amendment to the Interim Management Agreement Between the Mayor and Council of Rockville and Street Retail, Inc. (Herein Referred to as "FRIT") to Temporarily Manage the Town Square Commercial District and the Town Square Street and Area Lighting District (Collectively, the "Town Square Management District") and the Plaza at Rockville Town Square**

9:35 PM **14. Introduction, and Possible Adoption, of an Ordinance to Levy Special Assessments for Driveway Aprons Constructed in Fiscal Year 2019, Project TC16**

9:40 PM **15. Adoption of Resolution to Declare the Official Intent of the Mayor and Council to Bond Finance Certain Projects Under U.S. Treasury Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2**

9:45 PM **16. Adoption of a Resolution to Close Completed Capital Improvements Program Projects**

9:50 PM **17. Adoption of an Ordinance to Appropriate Funds and Levy Taxes for Fiscal Year 2021**

9:55 PM **18. Adoption of a Resolution to Establish the Service Charge Rate for Municipal Refuse Collection**

10:00 PM **19. Introduction, and Possible Adoption, of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 24 Entitled "Water, Sewers and Sewage Disposal, " Article III, "Rates and Charges" So as to Establish the Water and Sewer Usage Charges and Water and Sewer Ready to Serve Charges for Fiscal Year 2021**

10:10 PM **20. Review and Comment - Mayor and Council Action Report**

Attachment 15.A.a: 05.11.2020 Mock Agenda (3117 : Future Agendas)

21. Review and Comment - Future Agendas

22. Old/New Business

10:30 PM **23. Adjournment**

The Mayor and Council Rules and Procedures and Operating Guidelines establish procedures and practices for Mayor and Council meetings, including public hearing procedures. They are available at: http://www.rockvillemd.gov/mcguidelines.

Attachment 15.A.a: 05.11.2020 Mock Agenda (3117 : Future Agendas)

Future Agendas
Tentative as of 05/04/2020

Meeting : 06/01/20 07:00 PM (8 items)		
Category	**Estimated Agenda Time Needed (in minutes)**	**Title**
Public Hearing	30	Public Hearing on Scope of Charter Review Commission
Discussion, Instructions and Possible Adoption	45	Discussion and Instruction and Possible Adoption of Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI) Agreement
Proclamation	5	Proclamation Declaring June 20 as World Refugee Day
Proclamation	5	Proclamation Declaring June as LGBTQ+ Pride Month
Presentation	30	FAST Project Report
Introduction and Possible Adoption	30	Introduction and Possible Adoption of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 13 of the Rockville City Code Entitled "Miscellaneous Provisions and Offenses" by Adding a New Article to Amend Chapter 13 of the Rockville City Code, Entitled “Miscellaneous Provisions and Offenses” to Add a New Section 13-71 to Regulate the Discharge of Bows Within the City and to Require a Bow Hunter to Report the Failure to Recover a Wounded Deer to City Police.
Introduction and Possible Adoption	30	Introduction and Possible Adoption of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 14 of the Rockville City Code, Entitled “Parks and Recreation” So as to Amend the Animals; Malicious Mischief, Damage, Etc; Operating Hours; and Traffic Regulations Sections Contained in Article III to Allow for the Establishment of a City Managed Deer Culling Program on City Park Property.
Presentation and Discussion	30	Alternative Location for Deer Culling Operation
Total Meeting Time (In Hours)	**3 HR 25 MINS**	
Category	**Estimated Agenda Time Needed (in minutes)**	**Title**
Meeting : 06/08/20 07:00 PM (5 items)		
Discussion and Instructions	40	Boards and Commissions Task Force Priority Recommendations

Future Agendas
Tentative as of 05/04/2020

Discussion and Possible Authorization	30	East Rockville Design Guidelines and Standards: Proposed Zoning Text Amendment Discussion and Possible Authorization
Public Hearing	30	Map Amendment MAP2020-00119, for the Rezoning of 102 Aberdeen Road from R-60 to R-60 (Historic District) in Order to Place the Property in a Historic District; Historic District Commission, Applicants
Presentation	30	Briefing on Project Plan PJT2020-00012, Key West at Fallsgrove, for an Amendment to the Fallsgrove Planned Development (PD) to Permit Up to 350 Multifamily Dwellings in Place of the Approved Office Development at 1800 Research Boulevard; Key West Center Fallsgrove LLC, Applicant
Adoption	30	Resolution to Adopt Vision Zero Plan
Total Meeting Time (In Hours)	2 HR 40 MINS	
Category	Estimated Agenda Time Needed (in minutes)	Title
Meeting : 06/22/20 07:00 PM (1 items)		
Discussion, Instructions and Possible Adoption	30	Proposed Appointment Selections - 2020 Charter Review Commission and Scope of Work
Total Meeting Time (In Hours)	HR 30 MINS	

Speakers List
Community Forum
(May 4, 2020)

	Name Address/Phone	Topic
1.	Tina Lunson 3005 S. Leisure World Boulevard Silver Spring, MD 20906	**Redgate Park** - There is bliss on the **Redgate Golf Course** property in Rockville, making it an ideal place to walk and think in a natural setting that is full of life, and therefore full of hope. This is true every day, but sorely needed in these times when people could verge on despair.
2.	Izola Shaw izolat.shaw@gmail.com 202- 423-3089	limiting rent increases during COVID
3.	Judy Rudolph 44 Maryland Ave., #1301 Rockville 20850 judy.rudolph@verizon.net 301-928-9865	I urge you to take action to limit residential rent increases to 2.6%, the level of the current City of Rockville Voluntary Rent Guidelines and the level adopted by Montgomery County.
4.	Caroll Braun Staff Representative AFSCME Council 67 152-154 N. Mechanic St. Cumberland MD 21502 301-759-9328	**Budget Worksession** – requesting steps Mayor and Council will take 1 % COLA – letter attached to email.
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12		

Jacqueline Mobley

From: Tina Lunson <tlunson@ix.netcom.com>
Sent: Friday, May 1, 2020 3:41 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Redgate Golf wildlife preserve

Dear Mayor Newton:

These days of a modern plague do not lend themselves to talk of bliss, but

bliss is what I must write about today.

There is bliss on the **Redgate Golf Course** property in Rockville, making it an ideal place to walk and think in a natural setting that is full of life, and therefore full of hope. This is true every day, but sorely needed in these times when people could verge on despair.

That natural world at Redgate has developed over years of being left to its own devices. Golfing is a benign activity as regards nature, and many birds displaced from other environments came to settle there: today there are about 125 species of birds, some quite rare. Habitat destruction, development, pesticides, loss of food sources, collisions with windows and vehicles have taken a dreadful toll on all wildlife. Redgate has become a real haven for birds and animals, as well as an inspiration for people who visit it.

Critically, the preservation of an existing natural area is more important than imagining that a natural area can be easily created. Every bit of developed and damaged area decreases wildlife populations that cannot ever be replaced. This is the only time to save this marvelous natural place.

It is crucial that this area be left as it is, without additional buildings or artificial lighting. I demand this as a wildlife rehabilitator and naturalist, but I know for certain that all humans are deeply touched by being in nature. See: https://www.audubon.org/magazine/winter-2019/three-perspectives-discovering-mental-health and

https://www.audubon.org/magazine/winter-2019/birding-benefits-how-nature-improves-our-mental

Hoping that you and the Council will understand the importance of maintaining Redgate as the nearly magical place that it is,

Tina Lunson

3005 S. Leisure World Boulevard

Silver Spring, MD 20906

PS: Remember to ask the Maryland naturalist community for their help!

Jacqueline Mobley

From: izola shaw <izolat.shaw@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 2, 2020 3:31 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Subject: Participate in 5-4 Community Forum during Mayor and Council Meeting

Good Afternoon,

Could you please connect me with the City's Information Technology Department to receive all the information I need to join the Monday, May 4 Mayor and Council meeting by audio to share my Community Forum comments.

My name is Zola Shaw and my phone number is 202 423-3089. I live in 20851.

Thank you and stay safe,
Zola Shaw
Rockville Citizen

Jacqueline Mobley

From: Judith Rudolph <judy.rudolph@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 12:17 PM
To: mayorcouncil
Cc: cityclerk; David Levy; Asmara Habte
Subject: Written Community Forum comments re: Agenda item 12: Consideration of Limiting Residential Rent Increases in Rockville During COVID-19 Emergency

To the Rockville Mayor and Council:

As you consider the May 4, 2020 Agenda item 12: *Consideration of Limiting Residential Rent Increases in Rockville During COVID-19 Emergency*, please note that the Staff Report fails to acknowledge Rockville City Code Chapter 18 - RENTAL FACILITIES AND LANDLORD-TENANT RELATIONS, specifically *Sec. 18-194. - Voluntary rent guidelines and notice requirements of rent increases*. This Rockville City Code chapter parallels nearly 100% Chapter 29, Landlord-Tenant Relations of the *Montgomery County Code*, including those relating to Voluntary Rent Guidelines.

- The agenda Staff Report section entitled "Change in Law or Policy" fails to mention this in stating that "At present, Rockville does not impose any control over the amount of rent that is charged, and paid, in residential (or other) rental units within the city. Rockville has recently adopted Voluntary Rent Guidelines that recommend rents not to be raised more than 2.6 percent this year, but there is nothing mandatory about the Guidelines. Adopting a mandatory provision would be new."
- Moreover, the Staff Report cites a CoStar report that references "residential ***asking rents*** (rents that landlords are requesting when marketing their units)." It is my understanding that the intent of the County legislation--and what I hope will be parallel City of Rockville legislation--is to protect ***existing*** tenants from ***renewal*** or *ad hoc* increases. Thus, the Staff Report's characterization of the first *Option for Consideration*, "The City could choose to not act, relying on the strong tendency for rents to decline, rather than increase, during general economic difficulties" is misleading and does not take into account the temporary, emergency-specific nature of the Montgomery County COVID-19 Renter Relief Act (the "County Act")
- Finally, and most importantly, adoption of Option 2 " like that of Montgomery County, which would convert the recently-adopted Voluntary Rent Guideline of 2.6% into an upper limit of permitted residential rent increase during the emergency and for a period afterwards" will be a significant step toward providing tenants who reside in Rockville parity with the rights of tenants the Montgomery County outside of the incorporated jurisdictions.

I urge you to take action to limit residential rent increases to 2.6%, the level of the current City of Rockville Voluntary Rent Guidelines and the level adopted by Montgomery County.

Thank you for supporting the needs and best interests of tenants within the City of Rockville.

Judy Rudolph
44 Maryland Ave., #1301
Rockville 20850
judy.rudolph@verizon.net
Mobile: 301-928-9865

Jacqueline Mobley

From: Carroll Braun <CBraun@afscme67.org>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 11:45 AM
To: mayorcouncil
Cc: Derrick Pierson; Robert DiSpirito
Subject: Attached letter
Attachments: Letter to Rockville M&C.pdf

Madam Mayor and City Council

Please see the attached letter on behalf of members of AFSCME Local 1453.

Carroll E. Braun
Staff Representative
AFSCME Council 67
152-154 N Mechanic St.
Cumberland MD 21502
phone (301) 759 9328
cell (240) 217-9254
Fax (301)7770121

AFSCME MD COUNCIL 67
We Make Maryland Happen

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO

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May 4, 2020

Mayor and Council
City of Rockville, Maryland
111 Maryland Ave.
Rockville, MD 20850

Madam Mayor and Council Members,

First I would like to commend you all for your work during this pandemic and for the way you have treated employees, specifically members of AFSCME Council 67, Local 1453.

Prior to the pandemic, the council was poised to upgrade salaries by implementing the Compensation and Classification study. While we understand your decision to delay the implementation, we recognize that this decision is detrimental to the financial wellbeing of our members. You have discussed a 1% COLA for all employees. Due to our members being on the lower end of the pay scale, a 1% increase will range between a $350.00 to $600.00 increase for the year. Members of AFSCME Local 1453 would appreciate if the Mayor and Council would consider providing steps, along with the 1% COLA, due current employees. Failure to provide these steps would cause our members to fall further behind the numbers outlined in the aforementioned study.

Respectfully,

Carroll Braun
Staff Representative
AFSCME Council 67

CC: Derrick Pearson, President Local 1453
Rob DiSpirito, City Manager