Community Planning and Development Services Received 3/17/2022 STP2022-00439



# Thomas Wootton High School Site Plan Amendment

2100 Wootton Parkway Rockville, MD 20850

# Parking and Circulation Report

Prepared: March 2022

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Project No. 200.102

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I.	PARKING AND CIRCULATION NARRATIVE

### I. Introduction

In 2000 the City of Rockville Planning Commission approved the site and parking plan for the Thomas S. Wootton High School addition project. Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) proposes to amend the parking from the approved site plan for the existing Thomas S. Wootton High School which is located at 2100 Wootton Parkway in Rockville, Maryland. The school site is bordered to the north by a residential subdivision, to the east by Wootton Parkway, to the south by Scott Drive and to the west by Robert Frost Middle School. The site is zoned R-150 and is 27 acres.

### II. Existing Conditions

The site is a currently operational high school with a school building, bus loop, parent loop, parking lots, stadium, play fields, and tennis courts.

The school currently has 24 bus parking spaces and 417 passenger vehicle parking spaces with 51 temporary spaces divided into three lots per the table below.

тноі	THOMAS S. WOOTTON HS - PARKING TABULATION													
	Staff	Student	Visitor	ADA	Total	Bus								
South Lot	28	199	7	4	238	0								
Bus Loop	37	0	11	3	24									
North Lot	179	0	0	0	179	0								
TOTAL	244	199	18	7	468	24								

Additionally, the school had leased 50 parking spaces from the shopping center to the north.

Arrival to the school noted on the table below.

The data collected was from school staff over several days. Current enrollment is 2,020 students.

WOOTTON HS - STUDENT ARRIVALS											
School Bus	880										
Student Drop Off*	500										
Student Drivers**	199										
Walk / Bike	400										

<sup>\*-</sup> Student Drop Off is a combination of single driver and multiple riders per vehicle.

<sup>\*\*-</sup> Student Drivers is a combination of single driver and multiple riders per vehicle.

### III. Proposed Conditions

### Parking Spaces in the Bus Loop

The site plan that was approved in 1999-2000 restricted parking within the bus loop to buses during school hours and only allowed for parking in the passenger vehicle spaces in after hours. MCPS has been parking vehicles in the bus loop during school hours for the past 20 years and was recently issued a notice of violation. The use of these 51 parking spaces during all hours have been successfully managed and have created no safety of operational. MCPS proposes to remove the after hours only restriction to allow the continues use of the spaces. The parking spaces are comprised of 37 staff spaces, 11 visitor spaces, and 3 handicap spaces. Below is a summary of how the spaces are used and managed throughout the day:

### Morning (Arrival):

The staff spaces in the bus loop are assigned spaces for administration and team leaders that arrive to the school prior to the buses arriving at the site. A school security member is assigned to the bus loop entrance to turn any parents away from dropping off in the bus loop and direct them towards the appropriate entrance. Security staff heads out to patrol the bus loop no later than 6:55am. Buses start to arrive to the site at approximately 7:10am. The buses pull up parallel to the curb at the furthest chevron space to drop off students. Bus drivers are trained to activate all safety measures which includes the flashing stop sign to warn that students are de-busing. This also includes activation of bus cameras of any violations where to occur. When all students are off, buses leave the bus loop. If a staff member is running late to their assigned space within the bus loop, they notify the security member at the bus loop entrance and move to their space when it is clear and safe to do so. Staff member who are late risks losing their assigned space. This process runs to 7:45 and is adjusted for late bus arrivals as necessary.

### During the School Day:

Visitors are allowed to access the visitor spaces in the bus loop. In special cases such as injuries or late arrivals, students are allowed to be dropped off in the bus loop after school has started.

### Afternoon (Dismissal):

A security member for the school is assigned to monitor the bus loop entrance. They restrict vehicles other than buses from entering the loop and redirect them to the appropriate entrance. Two additional security members monitor students load onto buses. Buses start arriving at 2:00pm and park in assigned chevron space. At 2:30pm, students begin loading onto their assigned bus. Once loaded buses leave begin to leave in an orderly fashion with all buses leaving before 2:50pm. Security stops patrolling the entrance around 3:00pm and remain longer for late buses. The earliest any vehicle is allowed to leave the parking spaces in the bus loop is after 2:50pm. The staff assigned these spaces are part of leadership and leave at 3:30pm.

### Leased Parking at Former Giant Parking Lot

The previous site plan included the provision of 50 parking spaces in the Giant shopping center to the north. MCPS and the City of Rockville has been notified that the shopping center is no longer leasing those spaces to MCPS. The 50 leased spaces were previously for student parking only. The loss of these spaces will have no impact on staff parking. Student parking is an application process and not all students are provided parking privileges. Spaces are limited to seniors in good academic standing and have completed all their SSL hours (Student Service Learning). The school staff also look at students needs such as those who need work release or early release or other hardships that parking would be assigned. The school holds a few spaces unassigned should any short term hardships arise for a student that needs to park at the school to allow them to temporarily reserve a space. The school communicates to both parents and students of the limited parking and reminder that parking is not guaranteed. MCPS provides bus transportation and makes adjustments as necessary each year to accommodate school bus riders.

### Future Outlook

The school continuously adapts as times and transportation trends change. The school has noticed an increase in Ride-On Bus usage at the stop near the bus loop entrance. The Ride-On bus service is free for students and has experienced an increase use. As part of the increase student use of Ride-On-Bus services the school has added additional security staff to the crosswalk for students crossing Wootton Parkway. There has also been an increase in Uber/Lyft rides to and from campus. School administration strives to keep up with these trends and adjust accordingly. Thomas Wootton High School is also identified in the current CIP for an August 2027 completion date for a major capital project. Design of this project would start in 2023-2024. This plan would include a comprehensive look at pedestrian and vehicular circulation as well as parking on-site.

### **IV. Conclusions**

The proposed amendments to the previous site plan will not have an impact on the school. The school has been operating with parking within the bus loop during school hours for 20 years without issue. This is based on the efforts of the school system to prepare students for proper arrival and dismissal procedures. This coupled with an operational plan that is enforced on a daily basis has produced a safe and successful outcome. Tied to this is also the training of the professional bus operators that follow all safety measures to ensure safe operation while navigating the bus loop. The 50 parking spaces at the former Giant shopping center were for students only. Both students and parents where informed and adjustment to ridership to the school has already been realized.

II.	STUDENT ENROLLMENT NUMBERS

### **CLUSTER PLANNING ISSUES**

**Planning Issue:** The 2010 adopted Great Seneca Science Corridor Master Plan provides for up to 5,700 residential units. Most of the residential development is in the Thomas S. Wootton Cluster. The majority of planned units require funding to be secured for construction of the Corridor Cities Transitway. The pace of construction will be market driven. A future elementary school site is included in the plan.

**Planning Study:** To relieve overutilization at Rachel Carson Elementary School, a project was approved at DuFief Elementary School to expand the school. Although the Board of Education requested that the project open in August 2022, the County Council delayed the project to August 2023. A boundary study was approved to begin in spring 2020. based on the Board of Education's requested schedule. Based on the approved completion date, the boundary study was recommended to occur in spring 2022, with Board of Education action in November 2022. On September 9, 2021, the Board of Education approved a transfer of funds from the DuFief Elementary School Addition/Facility Upgrade project to six capital projects in the approved CIP that are scheduled to bid

this fall. Removing these expenditures from the DuFief Elementary School project and reallocating those funds to the six capital projects will allow MCPS to commence with construction and provide for a budget neutral funding solution.

### **SCHOOLS**

### **Thomas S. Wootton High School**

**Capital Project:** A major capital project is planned for this school to address various building systems and programmatic needs for this school. Expenditures for this project are included in the Major Capital Projects—Secondary. Although the Board of Education requested a completion date of August 2026, the County Council delayed the expenditures and completion date by one year to August 2027. An FY 2023 appropriation is recommended to accelerate the architectural design and site funds within the Major Capital Project to address ADA and site related issues.

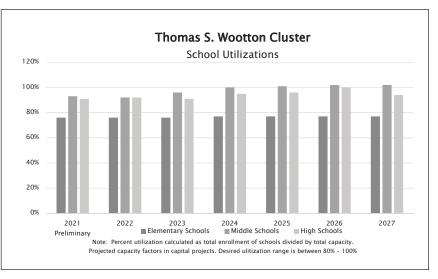
Capital Project: Expenditures are programmed in the six-year period to open a new high school on the Crown Farm site to address overutilization in the mid-county region. Although an FY 2019 appropriation for planning was requested by the Board of Education for this new school, the County Council delayed the funds by one year to begin in FY 2020. An FY 2020 appropriation was approved for planning to begin the architectural design for this project with a completion date of August 2025. However, as part of the FY 2021–2026 CIP, the County Council delayed

the expenditures and completion date to August 2026. An FY 2023 appropriation is recommended for construction cost increases and construction funds.

### **DuFief Elementary School**

Planning Issue/Capital Project: To relieve overutilization at Rachel Carson Elementary School, a project was approved at DuFief Elementary School to expand the school, as well as to address the school's building systems. Although the Board of Education requested that the project open in August 2022, the County Council delayed the project to August 2023. A boundary study was approved to begin in spring 2020. based on the Board of Education's requested schedule. Based on the approved completion date, the boundary study was recommended to occur in spring 2022, with Board of Education action in November 2022. On September 9, 2021, the Board of Education approved a transfer of funds from the DuFief Elementary School Addition/Facility Upgrade project to six capital projects in the approved CIP that are scheduled to bid this fall. Removing these expenditures from the DuFief Elementary School project and reallocating those funds to

# Thomas S. Wootton Cluster Articulation Thomas S. Wootton HS Cabin John MS\* Robert Frost MS Cold Spring ES Stone Mill ES Pulifief ES Fallsmead ES Lakewood ES Travilah ES \* Bells Mill ES and Seven Locks ES also articulate to Cabin John MS and thereafter to Winston Churchill HS. See Appendix U for multicolored maps of the service areas.



the six capital projects will allow MCPS to commence with construction and provide for a budget neutral funding solution. Funding to address facility upgrades to this school will be considered in a future CIP.

### **CAPITAL PROJECTS**

School	Project		Date of Completion
Crown HS	New School	Recommended	August 2026
Thomas S. Wootton HS	Major Capital Project	Recommended	August 2027

<sup>&</sup>quot;Approved"— Project has an approved FY 2022 appropriation in the Amended FY 2021–2026 CIP for planning or construction funds.



Cabin John Middle School

<sup>&</sup>quot;Programmed"—Project has expenditures programmed in a future year of the CIP for planning and/or construction funds.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Proposed"—Project has facility planning funds approved for a feasibility study. "Recommended"—Project has a recommended FY 2023 appropriation for planning or construction in the FY 2023–2028 CIP.

Projected Enrollment and Space Availability
Effects of the Superintendent's Recommended FY 2023 Capital Budget and FY 2023–2028 Capital Improvements Program

		Prelim.				Proje	ections			
Schools		21–22	22-23	23-24	24–25	25–26	26–27	27–28	2031	2036
Thomas S. Wootton HS	Program Capacity Enrollment Available Space Comments	2142 <b>1943</b> 199	2142 <b>1963</b> 179	2142 1951 191 Plng. for Maj. Cap. Project	2142 <b>2025</b> 117	2142 2053 89	2142 2147 (5)	2210 <b>2074</b> 126	2210 2100 110	2210 2200 10
Crown HS	Program Capacity Enrollment Available Space Comments			rioject			2201 0 2201 Opens	2201 0 2201	2201 <b>0</b> 2201	2201 <b>0</b> 2201
Cabin John MS	Program Capacity Enrollment Available Space Comments	1125 1030 95	1125 1012 113	1125 1011 114	1125 1091 34	1125 1122 3	1125 1147 (22)	1125 1136 (11)	1125 1140 (15)	1125 1200 (75)
Robert Frost MS	Program Capacity Enrollment Available Space Comments	1035 <b>974</b> 61	1035 <b>981</b> 54	1035 1010 25	1035 1061 (26)	1035 1069 (34)	1035 1066 (31)	1035 1061 (26)	1035 1075 (40)	1035 1150 (115)
Cold Spring ES	Program Capacity Enrollment Available Space Comments	458 <b>326</b> 132	458 334 124	458 332 126	458 <b>333</b> 125	458 334 124	458 334 124	458 332 126		
DuFief ES	Program Capacity Enrollment Available Space Comments	427 <b>261</b> 166	427 <b>256</b> 171	427 <b>270</b> 157	427 <b>284</b> 143	427 <b>290</b> 137	427 <b>296</b> 131	427 300 127		
Fallsmead ES	Program Capacity Enrollment Available Space Comments	551 <b>527</b> 24	551 <b>546</b> 5	551 551 0	551 <b>557</b> (6)	551 566 (15)	551 <b>562</b> (11)	551 563 (12)		
Lakewood ES	Program Capacity Enrollment Available Space Comments	557 <b>413</b> 144	557 <b>398</b> 159	557 <b>391</b> 166	557 <b>391</b> 166	557 <b>393</b> 164	557 <b>393</b> 164	557 <b>390</b> 167		
Stone Mill ES	Program Capacity Enrollment Available Space Comments	684 <b>543</b> 141	684 <b>553</b> 131	684 <b>536</b> 148	684 <b>510</b> 174	684 <b>506</b> 178	684 <b>494</b> 190	684 <b>485</b> 199		
Travilah ES	Program Capacity Enrollment Available Space Comments	526 <b>351</b> 175	526 <b>357</b> 169	526 <b>366</b> 160	526 <b>378</b> 148	526 <b>375</b> 151	526 <b>391</b> 135	526 <b>386</b> 140		
Cluster Information	HS Utilization HS Enrollment MS Utilization MS Enrollment ES Utilization ES Enrollment	91% 1943 93% 2004 76% 2421	92% 1963 92% 1993 76% 2444	91% 1951 94% 2021 76% 2446	95% 2025 100% 2152 77% 2453	96% 2053 101% 2191 77% 2464	100% 2147 102% 2213 77% 2470	94% 2074 102% 2197 77% 2456	95% 2100 103% 2215	100% 2200 109% 2350

### **Demographic Characteristics of Schools**

	2021-2022													
	Total	Two or more	Black or						Mobility					
Schools	Enrollment	races %	Afr. Amer. %	Asian%	Hispanic %	White %	FARMS%*	ESOL%**	Rate%***					
Thomas S. Wootton HS	1943	4.0%	11.8%	35.9%	8.0%	40.1%	6.8%	3.5%	3.2%					
Cabin John MS	1030	5.9%	11.8%	34.4%	10.3%	37.4%	8.5%	6.5%	4.2%					
Robert Frost MS	974	6.6%	11.7%	41.3%	8.5%	31.6%	7.9%	5.2%	6.1%					
Cold Spring ES	326	8.3%	4.3%	39.9%	5.5%	42.0%	0%	3.5%	7.0%					
DuFief ES	261	9.2%	16.5%	33.3%	12.3%	28.4%	15.4%	24.3%	11.2%					
Fallsmead ES	527	5.3%	12.1%	34.3%	10.6%	36.8%	11.5%	18.1%	15.2%					
Lakewood ES	413	5.3%	13.6%	49.9%	12.3%	18.4%	9.9%	21.2%	13.9%					
Stone Mill ES	543	7.4%	13.4%	47.1%	9.8%	22.1%	10.0%	20.5%	9.9%					
Travilah ES	351	5.7%	9.7%	44.7%	8.3%	31.1%	8.0%	15.2%	8.8%					
Elementary Cluster Total	2421	6.7%	11.7%	42.0%	9.9%	29.3%	9.4%	17.6%	11.3%					
Elementary County Total	71278	5.3%	21.8%	13.6%	34.8%	24.0%	40.3%	29.1%	13.4%					

<sup>\*</sup>Percent of students approved for Free and Reduced-priced Meals Program (FARMS) during the 2020–2021 school year.

Notes: Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and American Indian/Alaskan Native categories total less than 1% and were therefore excluded from the table.

Due to federal and state guidelines, demographic characteristics of schools of less than or equal to 5 students per category are reported as 0%.

																			5	pe	cia	ΙE	du	cat	ior	ı S	erv	ice	s				
Program Capacity Table (School Year 2021–2022)									Oloo Based  Cluster Based  Based							County & Regional Based																	
Schools	Grades Served	Capacity (HS @90% MS@85%)	Total Rooms	Support Rooms	Regular Secondary @25	Regular Elementary @23	CSR Grades 1–2 @18	Pre-K @20	Pre-K @40	HS @20	CSR KIND @18	KIND @22	ESOL @15	METS @15	HSM @13	ELEM LAD @13	ELC @10	LANG @12	LFI @10	SCB @6	AAC@7	AUT @6	BRIDGE @10	<b>DHOH @7</b>	SESES @10	EXTENSIONS @6	GT/LD @13	PD @7	PEP@6	PEP @12	PEP @18	VISION (Elementary) @7	ОТНЕК
Thomas S. Wootton HS	9-12	2142	99		94										Г	Г	П			3		2											П
Cabin John MS	6-8	1125	57		51														3	3													
Robert Frost MS	6-8	1035	51		48																	3											
Cold Spring ES	K-5	458	24	4		18						2																					
DuFief ES	K-5	427	26	4		13						3					5	1															
Fallsmead ES	K-5	551	30	3		19						4				2																	2
Lakewood ES	K-5	557	30	4		21						2							3														
Stone Mill ES	K-5	684	36	4		22						4																	1	1	4		
Travilah ES	K-5	526	26	3		20						3																					

<sup>\*\*</sup>Percent of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) during the 2020–2021 school year. High School students are served in regional ESOL centers.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Mobility Rate is the number of entries plus withdrawals during the 2020–2021 school year compared to average daily membership.

### Facility Characteristics of Schools 2021–2022

Schools	Year Facility Opened	Year Reopened/ Revitalized	Total Square Footage	Site Size Acres	Adjacent Park	Relocatable Classrooms	County Programs
Thomas S. Wootton HS	1970		295,620	27.4		3	
Cabin John MS	1967	2011	159,514	18.2			
Robert Frost MS	1971		143,757	24.8			
Cold Spring ES	1972		55,158	12.4		1	
DuFief ES	1975		59,013	10	Yes	1	
Fallsmead ES	1974		67,472	9	Yes		
Lakewood ES	1968	2003	77,526	13.1			
Stone Mill ES	1988		78,617	11.8			
Travilah ES	1960	1992	65,378	9.3			

## **III. SITE PHOTOS**

