

## MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Daniel J. Mears  
Assistant City Manager

SUBJECT: *Status Report* DATE: June 13, 2019

### *Status Report*

1. Bowie Advisory Planning Board Results- Melford Apartment Detailed Site Plan  
On Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, the Bowie Advisory Planning Board (BAPB) conducted a public hearing on the Detailed Site Plan (DSP) for a multi-family component of Melford Town Center known as the “Melford Mansions”. The project includes 435 rental apartment units in nine buildings, on a 54 acre site located on the east side of Curie Drive along the proposed Lake Melford Avenue (the “East-West Boulevard” in the approved Conceptual Site Plan). No residents attended the BAPB hearing. At the conclusion of the hearing, Mr. Ron Skotz moved for approval of the staff recommendation of approval with conditions. His motion was seconded by Mr. Jim Golato and passed unanimously. Also on the BAPB agenda was a Detailed Site Plan for Infrastructure for another apartment building, known as the “Eastern Wrap Building”, proposed on a six acre site, just to the east of the Melford Mansions. The BAPB unanimously approved the DSP, which is for grading and utility installation only. Both Detailed Site Plans are scheduled for City Council public hearings on July 1<sup>st</sup>.
2. Economic Development Committee (EDC)  
The EDC met Wednesday and heard from two guest speakers: President of Bowie State University Dr. Aminta Breaux; and County Council Chair Todd Turner. Chairman Turner talked about the county’s use of public-private partnerships and told of his recent experience at the ICSC trade show in Las Vegas where he talked with Bowie Town Center and Sears property owners. The next regular EDC meeting is Wednesday, July 10, 2019.
3. Bowie State University Presentation by Dr. Aminta Breaux, President of the University to the June 12, 2019 Meeting of the City of Bowie Economic Development Committee  
BSU is thriving. There are 6,322 students enrolled in 2019. Enrollment and retention rates are up.

There were 705 students graduated at ceremonies in May; graduation was held on-campus for the first time in many years.

There is a shortage of on-campus residential space. A partial solution is in the construction of the new Entrepreneurial Living and Learning Center Building at the Route 197 entrance to campus. The contractor is Balfour-Beatty. The Center consists of 550 residential units; retail space for a coffee shop and ancillary retail that may capture both student and the 20,000 cars-per-day that pass the location; and an Entrepreneurship Center for the students and the community that may become home to the Bowie BIC.

BSU is the safest university campus in Maryland (according to a survey by security company ADT).

BSU is the 3<sup>rd</sup> best HBCU in the nation (out of 100 HBCUs).

Academic programs are expanding to add more for credentialing and workforce training (e.g. cybersecurity).

The average student loan debt at BSU is \$24,000

Dr. Breaux sees great opportunity around the University particularly at the Bowie MARC Station; she is in ongoing discussions with the County and the MTA. The area will be included in an upcoming comprehensive review of the University’s strategic plans. She sees a strong need for a conference and convocation center to host meetings and events. She also sees the area as a good location for a tech-business hub.

In 2021 BSU is a host institution for the CIAA basketball tournament (last held in the Carolinas) and will be holding many programs on campus for the tournament attendees. The tournament games will be played in Baltimore.

4. Belair Drive Traffic Calming Meeting

Public Works will be hosting an open house to provide information and answer questions about proposed traffic calming measure for Belair Drive. The attached letter has been sent to residents on Belair Drive. The open house event is also posted on the City web site. The open house will be held at the Kenhill Center, June 18, from 7 to 9 pm.

5. City Elections

Resident Tim Adams filed his candidacy paperwork on June 7 for the Mayor seat.

6. Temporary Road Closure in Northridge

The City of Bowie has contracted with Priority Construction Corporation to rebuild the brick paver intersections. Below are the locations and dates of work:

Item	Location	Dates of Work
1	Quatrain Place at Fletchertown Road	July 8 – July 17, 2019
2	Quick Fox Lane at Hillmeade Road	July18 – July26, 2019

Quatrain Place will be closed at Fletchertown Road during construction; however, Fletchertown Road will remain open. Quick Fox Lane will require a partial road closure. While the road closures do inconvenience the Northridge community, a public street route remains available to all properties.

Work will be performed Monday thru Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays (7/13 and 7/20) from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Residents will have continual access to their driveways during the construction period. The duration of this project is limited to 60 days. The City will have an inspector assigned to this project to observe the daily work. The contractor will have a superintendent on site during construction.

The City appreciates your patience during this temporary disruption in the Northridge neighborhood. Please contact Jackie Tayman at 301-809-2332 or [jtayman@cityofbowie.org](mailto:jtayman@cityofbowie.org) if you have questions or concerns about this project.

7. Computer Equipment Purchase

The FY19 Budget contains funding in the Information Technology budget to replace staff computers. The City is seeking to purchase 30 computers, 22 monitors, and 2 data center keyboard, video, mouse systems. After a careful analysis, it was determined that the City would utilize the State of Maryland Desktop, Laptop, and Tablet 2015 Master Contract (060B5400007) to purchase the equipment. Requests for quotes were sent to the 35 authorized State of Maryland Dell vendors and 5 responses were received.

Staples	\$61,573.15
Data Networks, Inc.	\$65,402.00
CDW	\$68,509.12
DSR, Inc.	\$63,180.00 (one item not on bid)
ePlus Technology	\$41,943.00 (seven items not on bid)

The partial bids were reviewed and it was determined that the best price was from Staples with a complete bid. As provided by Section 62 of the City Charter, this will serve as the required seven-day notice of intent to issue a purchase order to Staples in the amount of \$61,573.15.

8. City of Bowie Upgraded to Platinum Level

The City received status of Platinum-level recognition with the HEAL Cities & Towns program, of which we were previously a gold-level member, for our cross-departmental approach to implementation of Sustainability efforts and our process for evaluating and monitoring HEAL initiatives. On Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, the MML president will be presenting certificates to cities and towns that have achieved new HEAL Recognition levels. The Cities and Towns that will be asked to come up to the table to receive a certificate are: The City of Greenbelt (Platinum), the City of Bowie (Platinum), and the City of New Carrollton (Silver). The Awards Ceremony will be held from 9-10:15 AM at the Business Meeting in Room 215. Any interested or attending Councilmembers are encouraged to attend and accept the City's award.

9. CB-17-2019 Freeway Airport County Hearing

The agenda for next week's meeting of the County Council's Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee came out today and CB-17-2019, the text amendment regarding the Freeway Airport property, is not on the agenda, as previously expected. At this point, staff does not know when the bill will come before the PHED Committee, however, the Committee is scheduled to meet on July 10 and July 18. We will keep Council apprised of the schedule as soon as we know it.

DJM:lfr  
Attachment 1



# City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road  
Bowie, Maryland 20716

## PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

### Neighborhood Traffic Management Program Belair Drive –Speed Cushions MD 450 to Kenhill Drive

**June 12, 2019**

Dear Resident or Stakeholder:

The Department of Public Works is recommending the installation of a series of 8 speed cushions on Belair Drive between MD 450 and Kenhill Drive as a traffic calming measure. This project is in response to numerous requests for traffic calming on Belair Drive and is being proposed following the City's Neighborhood Traffic Management Program policy.

Speed cushions are a hybrid of the typical speed hump. Speed cushions are designed to allow emergency vehicles with wider wheel bases such as fire trucks and ambulances to traverse the raised pavements sections while responding to an alarm without a significant reduction in speed; whereas the narrow wheel based vehicles will have to slow down to cross the cushions.

The City staff will host an Open House on June 18, 2019, 7:00 - 9:00 PM at 2416 Kenhill Drive to exhibit the plans and answer questions about the project. To accommodate the maximum number of residents expected to attend, during the 2 hour Open House formal seating will not be provided. Representatives from the Bowie Police Department, the Prince George's County Fire Department and Bowie Volunteer Fire Company will also be present.

One of the goals of the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program policy is to promote citizen involvement. Therefore, the proposed project must obtain approval of a minimum of 60% of the Belair Drive residents in order to proceed. A petition will be available at the Open House for those residents on Belair Drive to sign if in favor of the proposed traffic calming. If sufficient qualifying signatures are not acquired during the Open House, the City will contact Belair residents directly to ensure each resident has the opportunity to register his preference.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,



George J. Stephanos, P.E.  
Director

Department of Public Works