



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
Municipal Building & Virtual

This meeting will be held in-person and virtual.

**25 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770**

OR

Virtual Participation

Zoom Webinar Attendees:

**During "Petitions and Requests," please submit your request in writing via
email to questions@greenbeltmd.gov**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89647154706?pwd=QUh1S2pxOXIDUmZXTDF2bUI0RU9ldz09>

Dial-in: 301 715 8592

Webinar ID: 896 4715 4706

Passcode: 062435

Monday, June 27, 2022

7:30 PM

I. ORGANIZATION

(15 mins)

7:30 – 7:45 pm

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

4. Petitions and Requests
5. Consent Agenda - Approval of Staff Recommendations (Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
6. Approval of Agenda and Additions

II. COMMUNICATIONS

(30 mins)
7:45 – 8:15 pm

7. Presentations

7a. Recognition of Reginald McNeill

(10 mins)

Suggested Action:

Reginald McNeill is retiring from the Prince George's County Public School System after 29 years of service, with 25 years at Eleanor Roosevelt High School as an Assistant Principal and Principal.

Council will recognize Mr. McNeill's years of service.

7b. Introduction of Public Works Director

(5 mins)

Suggested Action:

Interim City Manager will introduce the new Public Works Director, Mr. Willis Shafer.

[Cover Letter Willis Shafer Director Public Works.pdf](#)

[Resume Willis Shafer_ Director Public Works.pdf](#)

***8. * Minutes of Council Meetings**

Suggested Action:

* Special Meeting/Closed Session - September 8, 2020

* Special Meeting - September 23, 2020

* Work Session - May 18, 2022

[SM200908.pdf](#)

[SM200923.pdf](#)

[WS220518.pdf](#)

9. Administrative Reports

(15 mins)

Suggested Action:

Reference: This link will display the weekly report for the City Manager and City Departments

https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/city-administration/city-manager-s-office/weekly-reports/-folder-1453#docan2352_4054_3510

*10. * Committee Reports

III. LEGISLATION

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

(90 mins)

8:30 – 10:00 pm

11. Maryland Municipal League (MML) Legislative Action Requests (LARs) **(10 mins)**

Suggested Action:

Reference: Greenbelt MML LAR Items - Last 5 Years
2023 MML Legislative Request Form

MML is beginning to gear up for the 2023 legislative session and seeking Legislative Action Requests (LAR) from municipalities. The LAR form is now available and needs to be submitted by Friday, July 1, 2022. Each municipality is limited to a maximum of three legislative solutions to municipal problems submitted through the LAR process to be considered by the MML legislative committee as a potential League priority.

[Greenbelt MML LAR Items - last 5 years.pdf](#)
[2023 MML LEGISLATIVE REQUEST form.pdf](#)

12. 4th of July Update **(5 mins)**

Suggested Action:

Mayor Jordan requested this item to be added to the agenda.

Council will receive an update from staff regarding the 4th of July celebration.

13. FY 2023 Open Space Annual Program **(25 mins)**

Suggested Action:

Reference: City of Greenbelt POS FY23 Allocation Letter
Reserve Funds FY 2023
Acquisition Program FY 2023
Development Program FY 2023

The City's FY 2023 Annual Program Open Space (POS) Program is due to the Maryland- National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). The City has been notified that the County will be receiving a total of \$12,606,444 in FY 2023 POS funds. Based on the results of the 2010 Census the City will be

receiving \$325,246.36, compared to \$219,194.69 in FY 2022. The City is required to allocate at least 50 percent of the City's FY 2023 funds to acquisition projects.

The City currently has POS funds encumbered for the following development projects: *Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center Phase II improvements, Buddy Attick Park Master Plan Improvements and Lakecrest Tennis Court Improvements*. Including the City's FY 2023 POS allocation, the City's unencumbered POS balance is \$1,251,236.30, with at least \$635,027.75 being required to be used for acquisition projects.

For FY 2023 staff is proposing that \$760,605.41 of unencumbered POS funds be programmed for land acquisition. Staff is also proposing that all of the City's FY 2023 development monies be allocated to a new project, *Springhill Recreation Center Outdoor Recreation Amenities*, and two development projects from the City's FY 2022 Annual Program be carried further with broader project scopes. These projects are *Greenbelt Station Outdoor Recreation Amenities* and *Youth Center Improvements*.

Staff recommends City Council approve the City's FY 2023 Program Open Space Annual Program as proposed.

[City of Greenbelt POS FY23 Allocation Letter.pdf](#)

[Reserve Funds FY 2023.pdf](#)

[Acquisition Program_FY_2023.pdf](#)

[Development_Program_2023.pdf](#)

14. Closure of the West Entrance of the Community Center **(10 mins)**

Suggested Action:

Councilmember Davis requested this item be added to the agenda.

Staff will give a presentation of the reasons for the closure of the Community Center's West Entrance and other security actions that have been taken. Staff will also describe how the mobility needs of our seniors and those with disabilities are being addressed now and in the future, meeting ADA regulations for accessibility. For discussion and possible action.

[CC West Entrance Update June 2022.pdf](#)

15. Reparations Commission **(10 mins)**

Suggested Action:

Reference: Reparations Commission Application

On June 22, 2022, Work Session City Council discussed the Reparations Commission application process. Included in the Council packet is the final application.

Council approval is sought.

[Reparations Commission Application.pdf](#)

16. Pilot Projects for Invasive Plant Management in the Greenbelt Forest Preserve - Forest Preserve Advisory Board Report #2022-02 **(20 mins)**

Suggested Action:

Reference: FPAB (Report #2022-02) Piloting Of Invasive Plant Management Activities

Mayor Pro Tem Weaver motion that the Council vote on the recommendations about removing invasive from the Forest Preserve Advisory Board report that was presented and accepted at the March 28, 2022, Regular Meeting.

[FPAB \(Report #2022-02\) Piloting Of Invasive Plant Management Activities.pdf](#)

17. Council Activities **(5 mins)**

18. Council Reports

- *19. * Reappointment to Advisory Boards/Committee

Suggested Action:

Reference: Reappointment Survey

John Lippert has indicated his willingness to continue to serve on the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES).

Ethel Dutky has indicated her willingness to continue to serve on the Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT).

Approval of this item on the consent agenda will indicate Council's intent to appoint Mr. Lippert and Ms. Dutky to a new term.

V. MEETINGS **(5 mins)**

Meetings

Suggested Action:

[meetings.pdf](#)

Stakeholders

[Stakeholder Schedule.pdf](#)

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: June 27, 2022

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: Presentations

Agenda Section: COMMUNICATIONS

Subject:

Recognition of Reginald McNeill

Suggested Action:

Reginald McNeill is retiring from the Prince George's County Public School System after 29 years of service, with 25 years at Eleanor Roosevelt High School as an Assistant Principal and Principal.

Council will recognize Mr. McNeill's years of service.

Attachments:

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: June 27, 2022

Submitted by: Bonita Anderson

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: Presentations

Agenda Section: COMMUNICATIONS

Subject:

Introduction of Public Works Director

Suggested Action:

Interim City Manager will introduce the new Public Works Director, Mr. Willis Shafer.

Attachments:

[Cover Letter Willis Shafer Director Public Works.pdf](#)

[Resume Willis Shafer_ Director Public Works.pdf](#)

Timothy George, Acting City Manager
City of Greenbelt
25 crescent Road
Greenbelt, MD 20770

March 11, 2022

Dear Timothy George,

This letter is to express my interest in joining the City of Greenbelt as the Director of Public Works. My entire career since 1983, has been in the construction industry and municipal government public works operations. During that time, my management skills have evolved to a more democratic leadership style. I empower staff to be creative and innovative, to make decisions and manage their projects, and together we build teams that understand the goals of the City Manager, elected officials, business owners, residence and visitors. In my current position, I manage roadway infrastructure maintenance to meet State standards, curb and sidewalk repair, stormwater drainage management and mosquito control, streetlight maintenance, right of way litter control, cemetery maintenance, bus shelter maintenance, fleet maintenance, wastewater and pump station management and respond to flooding, downed trees and snow/ice weather events. I also oversee the downtown commercial district brick sidewalk and parking lot maintenance, right of way permit review, prepare project cost estimates, oversee CIP projects and prepare the 5 year CIP and annual operating budgets. In previous positions I have managed City wide leaf collection, mulching operation, mulch delivery program to residence, refuse and recycling collection, facilities maintenance, waterline repair, managed the equipment replacement reserve program, mowing and garden maintenance, ballfield and park facility maintenance, street sign and traffic signal management, pavement marking, urban forest management, tree planting program, supervised right of way construction inspectors, oversaw holiday decoration installation and scheduled staff to assist with City sponsored special events.

Briefly, my experience includes:

Received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering Technology from East Tennessee State University, 1983.

City of Fairfax, 2003 to Present: Street Superintendent with the City of Fairfax managing four divisions - Asphalt, Concrete, Stormwater and Wastewater with an annual 10.5 million dollar capital improvement program and operating budget. The 6.5 million CIP oversight requires project scope development, council presentation, bid development and project oversight. I am also responsible for the City of Fairfax weather emergency response, managing all weather related events/emergencies and providing traffic control assistance for the Police and the traffic division.

City of Takoma Park, 1991 to 2003: Public Works Manager with the City of Takoma Park responsible for a 3 million dollar capital improvement program and operating budgets. My responsibilities included managing the roadway maintenance, mowing operations, park equipment and ballfields maintenance, facilities maintenance, solid waste and recycling collection, fleet, urban forest, stormwater management, as well as construction site plan review and field enforcement, and oversaw the City facility improvement projects (HVAC, renovations, and expansions).

Land Development, 1983 to 1991: Worked for two development companies as a project superintendent managing infrastructure installation including land clearing, utility and roadway installation, managing multiple crews and heavy equipment.

The major assets I would bring to the City of Greenbelt include my broad knowledge and successful experiences with Public Works operations and my ability to foster accountability for work quality and customer service from every member of the team. I have strong communication skills and know how to lead teams, oversee frontline field staff, and work with a broad range of people and organizations, from FEMA staff, professional engineers and contractors, to concerned residents and business leaders. I am able to manage multiple projects, while overseeing department staff. I have experience in communicating with the public and have been involved in providing presentations to citizen groups and elected officials. I am well-versed in the duties described in the job description for the Director of Public Works and would welcome the opportunity to participate in the interview process, should I be given the opportunity. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Willis Shafer

Willis Shafer

Career Objective

To accomplish my career goal of becoming a Public Works Director and my personal goal of working in a City with a strong sense of community and public involvement, and for which my knowledge and leadership in Public Works operations can provide support and a team work attitude to help better the community and improve the quality of life for residence and visitors.

Career Summary

Thirty years of progressively responsible experience in managing and supervising union and non-union personnel in all Public Works operations, including stormwater and roadway infrastructure maintenance and improvements, water and wastewater operations, building facilities, solid waste collection, fleet services, traffic signal, sign maintenance and pavement markings, landscape and mowing operations, urban tree management and supervising contractors performing infrastructure improvements.

Work Experience

City of Fairfax, Virginia - Public Works Street Division Street Superintendent: December 2003 until Present

Responsible for managing, planning, coordinating, supervising and evaluating the activities of personnel in the construction, maintenance, and repair of 175 lane miles of roadway, 60 miles of storm drainage and 97 miles of wastewater mains within the four divisions of the Public Works Street Department. Prior to 2010, sign and traffic signal oversight, right of way permit and construction inspection oversight and water break repair and main installation were also within the street division's oversight and management. Other daily responsibilities include reviewing project plans and proposals, inspect projects for wastewater lining, pump station maintenance, storm drainage improvements, street improvements, traffic control set-up to ensure compliance with construction standards. Investigate homeowner complaints, bridge inspection and inspect VDOT funded road projects. Prepare budget and performs long term planning, develop bid documents, contracts, and inspects contractors work, perform field measurement and approve invoices for capital improvement projects. Conducts employee interviews and performs evaluations and counseling of personnel.

City of Takoma Park, Maryland - Public Works Department Manager/Co-Director: October 1994 to December 2003

Responsible for managing the operations of the Public Works Department and the multimillion dollar annual operating and capital budget. Direct oversight of divisional supervisors, equipment operators, refuse staff, building maintenance mechanics, asphalt/storm maintenance crew, arborist, gardener and other support employees within the Public Works Department. The Right of Way Division maintains 34 miles of roadway and 13 acres of open space, Facility Maintenance Division consists of six buildings totaling 100,000 square feet, and the Urban Forest Division is responsible for the health and management of all trees within the City limits both public and private. Responsibilities included equipment replacement reserve management, facility building renovation and expansion project oversight, daily communication with staff, development of annual operating budgets and 5-year Capital Improvement Program, developed and monitored short and long range divisional work plans, administered quality standards, contract specifications and bid development, resolved resident/customer complaints, 24 hour on-call emergency response and developed annual employee work plans and performed personnel and disciplinary actions.

City of Takoma Park, Maryland - Public Works Department
Streets and Parks Supervisor: September 1991 to October 1994

Managed the daily operations of the Streets and Parks Divisions and enforced the City's Tree Ordinance. Responsible for planning, scheduling, coordination and supervising the daily work activities of fifteen employees and numerous pieces of heavy equipment. Developed annual operating budgets, weekly and annual work schedules and maintenance programs. Created a 20-year road reconstruction program, developed and implemented the leaf collection and snow fighting policy with detailed routes, developed bid specifications for backhoe and leaf grinder purchases, significantly reduced overtime expenditures for special events and emergency response and played a key role in the reorganization and TQM program implementation. Oversaw the collection and maintenance of parking meters and managed the commercial and residential street sweeping contract.

William A. Hazel, Land Development Company
Project Superintendent: July 1988 to September 1991

Responsible for the overall coordination and completion of numerous land development projects, both commercial and residential. Supervised the daily activities of in-house specialty crews and numerous pieces of heavy equipment and tandem trucks performing land clearing, grading, pipe installation, stone and asphalt placement, concrete installation and erosion control installation and maintenance. Responsibilities included current knowledge of State and Local Standards, interpreting site drawings and cut sheets, setting up a level and establishing grades for operators, estimating and ordering materials and supplies, approving daily time sheets and load count sheets, resolving field issues and enforcing safety procedures, coordinating customer work plans and schedules to ensure timely completion of projects, ability to communicate construction drawings/specifications/contract details to field personnel, computer entry of construction site estimates and project billing and obtained VDOT certifications in asphalt, concrete and erosion and sediment control.

A.G. Van Metre Companies, Land Development/Home Builder
Land Development Superintendent: September 1986 to July 1988

Managed the day-to-day land development activities of numerous residential sites within Fairfax County. Responsibilities included daily scheduling and supervision of in-house personnel, overseeing and ensuring contract compliance of subcontractors performing development and bond release activities, coordinating all of the necessary engineering stake out and geo-technical evaluation requirements and daily coordination with the construction superintendent to meet their requirements for site inspections and house closings. Additional responsibilities included material purchasing, invoice approval, time sheet submission, staff hiring and contract development and oversight.

Education

East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, Tennessee
Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering Technology

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: June 27, 2022

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: Meeting Minutes

Agenda Section: COMMUNICATIONS

Subject:

* Minutes of Council Meetings

Suggested Action:

* Special Meeting/Closed Session - September 8, 2020

* Special Meeting - September 23, 2020

* Work Session - May 18, 2022

Attachments:

[SM200908.pdf](#)

[SM200923.pdf](#)

[WS220518.pdf](#)

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Tuesday, September 8, 2020, to discuss the Proposed Maglev Project.

Mayor Byrd started the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

Present were: Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Emmett V. Jordan, Leta M. Mach, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts, and Mayor Colin A. Byrd. Councilmember Silke I. Pope was absent.

Staff present were: Nicole Ard, City Manager; Todd Pounds, City Solicitor; Terri Hruby, Director of Planning and Community Development; and Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Assistant to the City Clerk.

Also present were: Susan McCutchen, Community Liaison for Bladensburg Citizens Against the SCMaglev, Owen Kelley, Bryan Bruns, Bill Orleans, and others.

Mr. Jordan noted that Council and staff needed to be mindful during tonight's discussion because he doesn't want all legal strategies to be divulged. Ms. Mach requested that the nine raised issues be held for a Closed Session. Ms. Davis stated there needs to be some discussion regarding some of Ms. Mach's points during the meeting, not the legal part of her document. Unfortunately, Mr. Roberts hasn't had a chance to review Ms. Mach's documents. Mr. Pounds explained that he would send a client/attorney confidential letter addressing her three legal concerns.

Ms. Hruby provided a brief history of the proposed Maglev Project. She noted that correspondence was sent citing Council's opposition and concerns regarding this project's impact on the City. As a result, the project was placed on hold for some time and is now actively moving forward. The Draft Environmental Impact Statements (DEIS) should be available this coming Spring for public comments. Ms. Hruby stated that an admin draft would be sent to all impacted agencies by the end of this year. The agencies have 30 days to review the document before it's published for public comments.

Ms. Hruby indicated that the project had changed since it had been on hold. As a result, the project will have significantly more environmental and social impacts on the Greenbelt community. Some of the changes include the two new alignments that will come out in the middle of the Forest Preserve and a new maintenance facility at Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC), over 140 acres. In addition, a substation has been added, covering 5 acres of land and including a stormwater management system, and parking.

Ms. Hruby stated that the staff has been reviewing a PowerPoint presentation provided by Ms. Davis on how to check a DEIS. Ms. Hruby noted that the Maryland Law School has a Social Justice Webinar within the PowerPoint presentation. Local governments could establish partnerships with other nonprofits to assist with reviewing the DEIS.

Ms. Davis asked was the City considered an agency. She stated that when the DEIS is released, that is when the Maglev will determine which alignment they will choose. It could possibly be through the middle of the Forest Preserve. Ms. Davis indicated that the option that needs to be stressed is the No-Build Option. She summarized an article that Owen Kelly wrote, noting that the No-Build Option is the only option.

Mr. Roberts asked whether the staff has considered hiring an outside environmental engineering firm to tackle the DEIS. Mr. Pounds noted that when the City hires an outside attorney, the firm will hire experts, including environmental engineering experts. Mr. Roberts indicated that the Beltway Widening and the Maglev should be considered one big project because both projects affect the same watershed. Mr. Roberts explained that he has contacted various law firms and organizations and has contacted the National Resources Defense Council a few times. The National Resources Defense Council Board will be discussing whether or not the Board will take on the City's case.

Mr. Jordan stated that Council is unified and has been acting on fighting the Maglev. He advised Council had charged staff to identify firms that could represent the City. Mr. Jordan noted that it's not just hiring a lawyer, everyone impacted by the Maglev should actively be working to stop the Maglev. Mr. Jordan indicated that he had been actively working on stopping the Maglev for a couple of years. He has convened a committee of mayors and talked with the City's Congressional Delegations.

In response to a question asked by Mr. Jordan, Mr. Pounds explained that he had contacted the ten most prominent firms in D.C. and Baltimore and had only received one inquiry. He stated that it is more than hiring a lawyer; it is hiring a firm with the resources to provide a competent defense on this project. Mr. Pounds advised that he actively followed up with various firms, and none had expressed any interest. Mr. Jordan asked whether a conflict of interest comes into play if the large firms have other business with the principle in the BWRR that would influence the decision. Mr. Pounds stated that as part of the strategy, the BWRR would meet with the top 50 firms in Baltimore and D.C., creating a conflict of interest if any other business wanted to talk with the firms.

Mr. Roberts requested a copy of all the written responses Mr. Pounds received regarding the RFP. Mr. Pounds stated that he didn't receive any written responses; he had only received telephonic responses.

Ms. Davis mentioned that Mr. Pounds had reached out to nonprofit environmental groups, Green Peace, the Sierra Club, and the Anacostia Watershed Society. Ms. Davis suggested contacting the University of Maryland Law Clinic. Ms. Davis noted that some short-term items could be taken care of now, such as searching for an environmental engineering firm and forming a coalition.

Mr. Putens stated that the City of Greenbelt needs to form a coalition. He noted that several active groups are essential to Greenbelt and the surrounding areas. Mr. Putens advised that the City needs to put together an organization that specializes in the needs of the City. He asked how the City will pay for the firm.

Susan McCutchen, Community Liaison for Bladensburg Citizens Against the SCMaglev, thanked Council for holding this meeting. She explained that there are several groups in Greenbelt. She noted that she and others had been trying to get the information out to people for the last couple of years. She explained that a new BW Maglev Action Group in Greenbelt had written letters. Ms. McCutchen suggested that the City of Greenbelt stand together with Bladensburg, other Port Towns, other organizations, and Anne Arundel County against the Maglev. She noted that her group has been in discussion on forming a nonprofit.

In response to a question asked by Ms. McCutchen, Ms. Davis stated that how to stop the Beltway Widening was more environmental because it would affect the quality of life and destroy the environment. In addition, she said that halting the Maglev is more financial because the Maglev is supposed to be funded privately.

Ms. Davis advised that she attended a virtual Sustainable Maryland Certified meeting. The group that has had several virtual happy hours, and the main topic was the Maglev.

There was a discussion regarding the Mayors Coalition. Ms. Davis stated that the Coalition is no longer together. She advised Mayor Miles of Mt. Rainer, who established Prince George's County Mayors Association that had replaced the Mayors Coalition. The Association is primarily dealing with COVID-19, evictions, and utilities. Mayor Byrd explained that he had brought up the Maglev issue during a Prince George's County Mayor Association meeting.

Mr. Roberts requested the following items be added to the upcoming Council Regular Meeting: to discuss and act on finding a professional environmental engineering firm to review the DEIS and to work on creating a Maglev Task Force by utilizing the Forest Preserve Advisory Board (FPAB). The Green Team, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES), and any other environmental organization within the City. Ms. Davis stated that the Maglev Task Force shouldn't be limited to City boards/committees only; it should be open to other organizations in the Greenbelt.

Mr. Jordan suggested broadening the Mayors Coalition to include all elected officials. He suggested a short-term goal to build a case to request more time to review the DEIS. Mr. Jordan explained that the Maglev isn't mass transit, and it's not financially viable.

Ms. Davis suggested that Council needs to encourage local groups and constituents to write letters and to have social media presence, with blogs and videos. She explained that the No Build Option needs to be emphasized. The Maglev is another travesty of social injustice because it is being put into communities of color. Ms. Davis stated that the City needs to do outreach with the Board of Education, all the Homeowners Associations, Anne Arundel County, State Officials, and the many coalitions. She suggested that nature walk videos document what would be destroyed and impacted if a ventilation shaft is built for the Maglev in Greenbelt.

Mr. Greg Simmons, Greenbelt East, thanked the Council for holding these special meetings. He noted environmental difficulties throughout the entire route, especially the impact i.e., the Forest Preserve. Mr. Simmons advised that the DEIS is the most daunting and central issue to focus on. He stated he would like to hear the City's thoughts on partnering with the County Attorney's Office. Mr. Simmons explained that the County Attorney's Office would have legal and technical engineering resources to represent the City of Greenbelt and the whole County.

Ms. Mach inquired if the DEIS is legal because it doesn't include the No-Build Option. Mr. Pounds advised that he will follow up with Ms. Mach when he addresses her other legal questions.

Mr. Roberts responded to Mr. Simmons's questions, noting that the City Council recently had a meeting with the County Council representatives. Mr. Roberts explained that the County Council advised that they will not go on record until the DEIS is released. He doesn't think the County Attorney's Office will assist unless the County Council directs the office. Mr. Roberts did agree

that is an avenue the City Council should pursue. He advised that he would like the Mayors Association to pressure County Executive Alsobrooks and Congressman Hoyer to go on record to oppose the Maglev. Mayor Byrd explained that he was disappointed that the County Council didn't want to write a letter or a resolution in opposition to the Maglev, but appreciated that they did go on record at the work session as individuals opposing the Maglev. He requested that staff follow up with scheduling a work session with Congressman Hoyer.

Mr. Jordan responded to Mr. Simmons's question stating he posed the same question, regarding their resources and legal staff, to the County Council at the work session. He explained that County Chair Turner would push for the resolution to oppose the Maglev and agreed to engage the County Attorney and the Maryland National Park and Planning Commission legal staff. He referred Mr. Simmons to the City's website to review the work session with the County Council.

There was a discussion regarding contacting Congressman Hoyer. Ms. Davis agreed that the staff needed to contact his office again. Mr. Jordan requested a work session with County Executive Alsobrooks. Mayor Byrd explained that once Congressman Hoyer takes a position regarding the Maglev, the Senators would have more latitude. Mr. Roberts said that Congressman Hoyer is in the proper place to act on not voting on BARC's property to be sold to a private owner. However, it takes an Act of Congress.

Mr. Simmons explained that there is staff in place in the County Attorney's Office to have the flexibility to work on this issue because the County Attorney's Office is there to represent the interest of the County residents.

Mr. Jordan stated that another short-term goal is to contact County Councilmembers Dannielle Glaros and Thomas Dernoga to engage the County Council. Mayor Byrd said that County Councilmember Glaros is opposed to the Maglev. Ms. Davis noted that Councilmember Dernoga hasn't publicly made a statement regarding the Maglev.

Ms. McCutchen suggested that Council could do a documentary to release on social media or possibly purchase yard signs or t-shirts. Ms. Davis noted that it was recommended in the Zoom chat that the City needs to spend its resources elsewhere and that the signs are placed where no one can view them. Ms. Davis suggested that other local groups could purchase the signs and put them in the right-of-way.

Michael Hartman asked whether there was neutral information on the City's website regarding the Maglev. He noted in the Zoom chat that NASA Goddard and the National Security Agency (NSA) had raised concerns regarding the Maglev electrical magnetic field affecting scientific intelligence equipment.

Mr. Jordan noted that Ms. Pope couldn't attend tonight's special meeting due to a standing committee.

There was a discussion regarding having an executive/closed session with the delegation. Mr. Jordan suggested having a candid conversation regarding legal options with some of the representatives of District 21 and 23A. In response to a question asked by Mr. Jordan, Mr. Pounds stated yes, it is possible to have executive/closed sessions with the Congressional Delegation regarding topics related to Maglev. Ms. Davis and Mayor Byrd said they are not supportive of having an executive/closed session meeting.

Ms. Davis stated that the City came up with many short-term strategies that she will compose and requested that the list be published on the City's website.

Informational Items:

Ms. Davis reported on the Sustainable Maryland Executive Committee virtual meeting. She advised that the City will receive its recertification along with seven other cities at the MML Fall Conference on October 9.

Mr. Jordan wanted to thank Public Works for all the work they have been doing all over the City. He stated the bollard was knocked down at the crosswalk between Eleanor Roosevelt High School and the overpass.

Mr. Jordan asked was electric charging stations being installed at Schrom Hills Park. Ms. Hruby stated she would follow up with Public Works.

Based on a question asked by Mr. Putens, Mr. Pounds explained that he had a conversation with Ms. Rogers regarding obtaining a deed to the Armory for the City. Ms. Davis requested that before the City takes ownership of the Armory, the City is assured that there aren't any hazardous materials in the building. Mr. Pounds stated he would follow up with Ms. Rogers, asking for a release or reimbursement to ensure there aren't any issues. Mr. Roberts requested no roadblocks to getting to the Armory.

The meeting ended at 9:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shaniya Lashley-Mullen
Assistant to the City Clerk

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, September 23, 2020, to discuss the Reopening, Policies, and Procedures of the Dog Park.

Mayor Byrd started the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

Present were: Councilmembers Judith F. Davis, Emmett V. Jordan, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts, and Mayor Colin A. Byrd.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Nicole Ard, City Manager; Chief Rick Bowers, Captain Gordon Pracht, Greenbelt Police; Nelly Ortiz, Animal Control Supervisor; Brian Townsend, Assistant Director – Parks; and Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Assistant to the City Clerk.

Also present were: Carol Johnson, Niecy Johnson, and others.

Ms. Davis expressed her disappointment regarding the dog park rules in the special meeting packet. She noted that she spent hours revising the extended version of dog park rules and requested that her edits/visions be used. Ms. Ard thanked Councilmember Davis for her edits/revisions of the dog park rules and will incorporate her modifications.

Ms. Pope stated that she wanted the dog park to have security, so that it's available to the residents/non-residents that had paid their annual fees. She noted that she liked Councilmember Davis's suggestions regarding the dog park rules. Ms. Pope wanted Council to come to an agreement and focus on opening the dog park.

Mr. Putens stated that he liked Councilmember Davis's edits/revisions to the dog park rules. He asked staff were other bids for the dog park security received. Captain Pracht answered that LS Systems was the only vendor bid the City received. He explained that LS System is the current vendor working with the City, and staff wanted a system that would tie into the existing system as a cost saver. In response to a question asked by Mr. Putens, Captain Pracht noted that the City of Laurel's dog park has a key card entry. Mr. Putens requested that other security systems be researched. Mr. Putens suggested an initial fee for the key cards and a fee for replacement of key cards.

Mayor Byrd verbally acknowledged Sara's zoom chat comments. Sara wrote: "Why are you all concerned about the park when there was never any regular maintenance and residents had to call various people to get things done. Even getting things done took weeks, if not months. You're talking about cards and security measures, but the trash is never regularly cleared."

Mr. Jordan stated Council has been discussing the dog park for a while and wanted the dog park accessible to the residents as soon as possible. Mr. Jordan noted that he didn't want a system that residents would have difficulty getting into. However, he is flexible and hopes the staff is ready to move forward with opening the dog park.

Ms. Pope addressed Sara's zoom chat comments. She agreed that there had been issues with the dog park and it wasn't appropriately maintained, but she made sure the problems were addressed immediately. In addition, Ms. Pope noted that the mulching and fencing were handled. Ms. Pope hoped that Sara had noticed all the improvements in the past six years at the dog park and if Sara has any ideas to make it better, she should feel free to share her opinions with Council. Ms. Pope

wants the dog park to be reopened, improved, and safe for everyone, with a fee structure and secured access.

Mayor Byrd stated that it is essential to him that the dog park would reopen promptly.

Carol Johnson, a Greenbelt resident, inquired when the dog park would open and who would be monitoring the dog park. Captain Pracht indicated after the Council's Regular Meeting on September 28 that the dog park should open soon. However, he noted that staff wanted the rules to safeguard the park users and animals.

Ms. Johnson asked why other dog parks in Prince George's County are open. She suggested that the City put up signs and have either members of the Council or the Police Department monitor the dog park. Mayor Byrd noted that he is sympathetic to Ms. Johnson's point and agreed that the sooner, the better for the dog park to be open. Ms. Davis explained that the dog park wasn't open because Council directed staff not to open the park until the sod had regrown and set and rules, annual fees, and permit process had been established. She noted that the dog park not opening had nothing to do with regulations regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Davis suggested that once Council agrees on the permit fee, if the City posts it in the Greenbelt News Review or on the City's website, residents/non-residents could start applying for the dog park permits. Once the dog park reopened, residents/non-residents could utilize the dog park.

Ms. Davis noted that the dog park would not have new amenities or ways to produce shade or water at this time because the FY2021 Capital Funds were frozen until the end of October or later due to the pandemic. Ms. Davis stated that a hand sanitizer station would be installed. She reminded staff that it was mentioned that the dog park rules would be posted on the outside and inside of the dog park at the last work session.

Mayor Byrd wanted to reiterate that he would be delighted if the dog park would be opened as soon as tomorrow.

Ms. Johnson asked how much are the dog park fees and why fees were being charged because the dog park is small. Ms. Johnson stated that her dog park group, the Old Greenbelt (OG) Dog Parkers, has been cleaning the dog park and bringing doggie bags and water. Ms. Davis explained that annual fees are to keep track that the dogs are licensed through the county and vaccinated. She noted that the yearly costs would be higher for non-residents versus residents. She was glad to have an informal dog park group because the Dog Association had folded. The annual fees would also go towards paying for the dog tags, the security at the dog park, and the dog park's maintenance.

Mr. Jordan thanked Ms. Johnson for calling in with her comments and asked the staff to quickly open the dog park with the security gates and ensure that the non-residents' pets had the proper vaccination. He stated that in the interim if Council can agree on the fee, the staff could start issuing permits and that the residents/non-residents could use the dog park. Captain Pracht stated that once Council provides staff direction, the opening of the dog park could be accomplished quickly. He indicated that if the Council decides to go with the cipher lock security system, Public Works could install that quicker versus the key card security system, which would require LS System Security to install. Signs are currently posted at the dog park, and hand sanitizer stations are installed at the dog park.

Ms. Ortiz provided a summary of the Dog Park Survey that was conducted. She noted that the City of Laurel is the only dog park with a key card system. Ms. Ortiz gave examples of how a resident/non-resident could get around not using a key card or how a resident/non-resident can get trapped in the dog park. She noted there isn't any way of controlling access to the dog park, and in her opinion, a security system shouldn't be installed. Mr. Roberts stated that, in his opinion, the dog park should be locked. Ms. Ortiz provided her opinion on the double gate access to the dog park.

Ms. Pope explained she had communicated with many dog park groups regarding no monitoring of dogs' annual vaccinations and residents/non-residents not properly watching their dogs. Ms. Pope noted that controlled access is a safety program for responsible pet owners. She said that the key card system would be used to enter the dog park and pushing the gate handle is how you exit.

Chief Bowers reviewed the various security measures in the Council's packet. He explained the Council's discretion to have the dog park open with the current format with extra monitoring from the Police Department and Park Rangers, then start the registration process as the staff is working towards providing additional security. In response to a question asked by Ms. Pope, Chief Bowers stated that the dog park could be up and running in about two weeks. He noted that the dog park gates would have a lock upon entry and be free to exit from the interior of the dog park. Captain Pracht indicated that staff wouldn't be ready for the Prince George's County Dog Licensing. There would be a portal connection between the Animal Shelter and Prince George's County after COVID-19 was under control.

There was a discussion regarding the application process. Captain Pracht explained that the applicants have to make an appointment with either the Animal Shelter or the Police Department.

Mr. Putens asked who would be monitoring the dog park. He suggested installing video cameras at the dog park.

Ms. Johnson agreed with Ms. Ortiz and Mr. Roberts regarding not having locks on the dog park gates. She inquired if the dog park could be extended further back and water be installed at the dog park.

Ms. Niecy Johnson, a Greenbelt resident, expressed her frustration with the City's dog park not being open and her wasting gas traveling to other available dog parks. In addition, she noted that getting locks for the dog park gates is a waste of money; residents/non-residents would find a way to break the locks.

In response to a question asked by Mr. Roberts, Chief Bowers noted that per the Dog Survey, most of the dog parks are open and that the City of Laurel and the City of College Park have controlled access. He explained that the City of College Park charges a fee of \$30 for the first dog and \$10 for each additional dog per household.

There was a discussion regarding installing the secured access system in increments. Chief Bowers stated that staff recommends a cipher lock system for the dog park, and Public Works staff could modify the current dog park gate.

Mr. Johnson stated that before the COVID-19 pandemic the dog park was open and a peaceful place to take their dogs. He noted that his wife and her dog park group take excellent care of the park. He requested that the dog park open up for the residents to use.

In response to a question asked by Mr. Putens, Captain Pracht stated that the key card system would be compatible with the City's current system. He explained that the remote storage would have remote access; all the data is stored on either the internet or the cloud. Mr. Putens suggested installing a camera system at the dog park. Mr. Roberts expressed his concern with the dog park being locked. He indicated that the dog park should continue to be open. Mayor Byrd agreed with Mr. Roberts regarding the security proposals.

Ms. Davis explained that in the last Council's work session on August 24, it was explained that the expansion of the dog park was impossible because the land behind the park doesn't belong to the City. Ms. Hruby explained that the dog park maximized its size when it was expanded the second time.

Ms. Davis suggested the Council set an annual fee, start the application process, and keep the dog park open until the Council decides the control access at the dog park. Ms. Pope explained that control access and annual fees was suggested by a dog park group, due to all the issues brought up earlier.

There was a discussion regarding the annual fee. Ms. Davis explained that staff suggested a \$10 annual fee for residents and a \$30 annual fee for non-residents with the required proper application, and she agreed with staff recommendations. Captain Pracht explained that the staff took the Council's previous recommendations at the last work session and wanted the annual fees to be reasonable. Mr. Roberts stated that residents shouldn't have to pay to use the dog park and non-residents should pay a yearly fee of \$30. Mr. Putens suggested \$5 or \$10 for residents and \$25 or \$30 for non-residents. Ms. Mach agreed with the staff's recommendations. Ms. Davis indicated that non-residents pay \$30 per dog and residents pay \$10 per household. Ms. Pope suggested \$10 for the first dog, an additional \$5 for the second dog for residents; \$25 for the first dog, and another \$5 for the second dog for non-residents.

Chief Bowers summarized Council's suggested action plan as the following: an annual fee of \$10 per household for residents; \$30 per household for non-residents; opening the dog park without any controlled access; work on installing security as needed; increasing monitoring to include Park Rangers, Animal Control and Police; and, in the future, to research camera systems. Ms. Davis agreed with Chief Bowers's suggestions.

There was additional discussion regarding the annual fee. Mr. Roberts stated that residents were paying for the dog park with their City taxes and suggested that residents pay for the cost of the dog tag. Mayor Byrd noted that the annual fee isn't practical for him. Everything else that was discussed was reasonable.

Ms. Davis, Mr. Jordan, and Ms. Pope agreed to add the rules and annual fee for the dog park to the upcoming Council Regular Meeting. Mr. Roberts and Mayor Byrd agreed they would vote against the annual fee.

In response to a question asked by Ms. Johnson, Chief Bowers noted the dog park could be open within a day or two, with staff accepting the application as soon as tomorrow. He explained the

procedures of applying for the City dog registration, making an appointment, providing proof of vaccination and obtaining a County license. Chief Bowers explained that if residents or non-residents are having a financial hardship and can't pay their annual fee, contact the Animal Shelter. The staff would assist individuals on a case-by-case basis.

Mr. Putens moved that staff start accepting applications tomorrow by appointment only; an annual fee of \$5 for residents and \$30 for non-residents; no more than two dogs; the rules developed by Councilmember Davis be approved to be posted at the dog park and given to applicants. Mr. Roberts stated he wouldn't vote for Mr. Putens's motion. He explained that all the residents' dogs should be registered and receive tags. Ms. Davis suggested that the dog park open as soon as the first person makes an appointment. Ms. Pope stated she wanted the resident annual fee of \$10, leave the locks off, and every dog in the household should receive a tag, but only take two dogs to the park at a time. Mr. Robert seconded Mr. Putens' motion. Mr. Putens's amended his motion to include using Captain Pracht's rules to post at the dog park and Councilmember Davis's regulations to be given to applicants. Mr. Roberts seconded Mr. Putens's amendment. The motion failed 3-4 (Roberts, Pope, Jordan, and Byrd).

Ms. Pope moved that Council accept the proposal presented by the Police Department, with the amendment of no locks on the dog park gates. Ms. Mach seconded the motion. Ms. Davis requested that Ms. Pope's motion be amended with the following: Captain Pracht's rules are accepted and posted at the dog park and Councilmember Davis's rules are given to applicants. Ms. Mach seconded Ms. Pope's amended motion. The motion passed 4-3 (Roberts, Putens, and Byrd).

Based on a question asked by Mr. Jordan, Captain Pracht answered that staff would open the dog park as soon as possible.

Informational Items:

Mr. Jordan stated that he was at the Census Event at Beltway Plaza today, and 15-20 people completed their census. Ms. Davis noted that she attended the event also.

There was a discussion regarding the Cleanup Event at the Greenbelt Station Community on Saturday. Ms. Pope noted that she attended the event last weekend. Ms. Mach pointed out that a flyer was in Council's packet regarding registration. Mr. Jordan inquired about the meeting location. Ms. Mach suggested that he send an email to the organizer to receive further information.

Mr. Jordan inquired about the Voter Registration Event at Franklin Park on Saturday.

Ms. Davis provided an update on the GIVES meeting, and Mr. Jordan attended the meeting also. She stated that GIVES continued to work from home and teamed up with Village Rides to assist with background checks for the drivers.

The meeting ended at 9:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Assistant to the City Clerk

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AWARDS held Wednesday, May 18, 2022.

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 7:03 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, virtually via Zoom.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Colin A. Byrd, Silke I. Pope, Ric Gordon, Rodney M. Roberts (7:17 p.m.), Kristen L. K. Weaver, and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan. Councilmember Judith F. Davis was absent due to an illness.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Tim George, Interim City Manager; Dr. Liz Park, Director of CARES and ACE staff liaison; and Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Assistant to the City Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Senator Paul G. Pinsky; State Delegates Anne Healey and Alonzo T. Washington (7:42 p.m.); County Councilmember Todd Turner; and others.

ACE Student Awards

Janet Mirsky recognized the Advisory Committee on Education members Donald Rich and Stephenie Arcido, staff liaison Dr. Liz Park, and Council liaison Councilmember Byrd. In addition, Ms. Mirsky recognized the principals and administrators of Greenbelt Elementary School, Magnolia School, Greenbelt Middle School, and Eleanor Roosevelt High School.

Ms. Mirsky explained the purpose of the ACE Outstanding Student Awards, gave an overview of ACE's other activities, and described the gifts and certificates presented tonight. She thanked the City Council for its support. She gratefully acknowledged that ACE had received a \$2,000 donation towards the ACE Scholarship Fund from County Councilmember Todd Turner.

The following 2022 award recipients were recognized. In addition, gifts and certificates were presented from ACE, the City Council, and the General Assembly.

Magnolia Elementary	Cassiel McDade and Samson Asmelash
Springhill Lake Elementary	Brittney Ndiformutieh and Abriel Usumang
Greenbelt Elementary	Malik Fairclough and Eliana Hebert
Dora Kennedy French Immersion	Seren Lerusse and Sophia Miriam Rose Reynolds
Greenbelt Middle School	Tyler King and Carissa Nwabueze
Eleanor Roosevelt High School	Ashley Tadikonda and Cora Jackson

Delegate Healey presented Eleanor Roosevelt High School senior Margarita Lopez Vega with a House of Delegates Award.

On behalf of Delegate Williams, Delegate Healey presented Eleanor Roosevelt High School senior Olivia Guerrieri with a House of Delegates Award.

On his upcoming retirement, Ms. Mirsky honored Mr. Reginald McNeil, Eleanor Roosevelt High School's principal.

Council adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, May 18, 2022, to meet with the Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation.

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 8:30 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road, virtually via Zoom.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Colin A. Byrd, Silke I. Pope, Ric Gordon, Rodney M. Roberts, Kristen L. K. Weaver, and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan. Councilmember Judith F. Davis was absent due to an illness.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Tim George, Interim City Manager; Terry Hruby, Director of Planning and Community Development; and Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Assistant to the City Clerk.

ALSO, PRESENT WERE: Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation: Erv Beckert, Chief Highway and Bridge Design Division; Charlie Griffith, Associate Director of Storm Drain Maintenance; Efron Epanty, Chief of Transit and Innovation; and others.

Mr. Epanty provided Council with an update on The Bus, Route 11, Route 16, and the 15X. He noted that ridership had been impacted the last two years due to the pandemic, shortage of drivers, and the Covid protocols. Mr. Epanty advised there had been a gradual improvement in ridership in the last six months with Route 16 and Route 11. They have hired additional drivers. The 15X services haven't been reactivated because NASA is still teleworking. In the fall, the 15X will be reactivated.

There was a discussion on reactivating the 15X. Mayor Jordan and Mayor Pro Tem Weaver expressed that the 15X is a vital bus route for the Greenbelt Station Community. Mayor Pro Tem Weaver added that NASA employees would be back in the office before the fall.

Mayor Jordan mentioned that Route 16 takes about an hour and a half to go from New Carrollton Metro Station to the Greenbelt Metro Station.

Based on a question asked by Mayor Jordan, Mr. Epanty answered that the cost of The Bus is \$1.00, and there is no mask mandate on public transportation.

Mr. Roberts asked Mr. Epanty his opinion on having free transit in the next eight years. Mr. Epanty answered that the County is studying various options to improve accessibility and equality across the system. In addition, he noted that the County is working on a Request for Proposal (RFP) to perform a comprehensive review on how to improve transit and grow ridership throughout the County.

Mr. Epanty explained that the County is currently working on the Spring Service Change, including reviewing ridership and times between bus stops. The goal is to have reliable service and not reduce service.

Based on a question asked by Mr. Gordon, Mr. Epanty answered that the County currently has four electric vehicles and is aggressively looking for grants from the Federal Government to obtain additional electric buses. He stated that the County received a grant to get eight different electric vehicles this Spring/Summer and six buses next year.

Based on a question asked by Bill Orleans, a Greenbelt resident, Mr. Epanty answered that it was unacceptable that the drivers were sleeping and not adhering to the operating rules. They would be disciplined. In addition, he explained how to contact the office to address any concerns and issues.

Mayor Jordan stated that three bike stations were installed and asked about the status of the installation of the bike station at the Greenbelt Metro Station. Mr. Beckert provided the status of the Capital Bike Share Program, which includes that all the designs are completed and permits and grants are secured. He is currently waiting to procure them from the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant. He stated that stations would be installed at the Greenbelt Metro Station, Eleanor Roosevelt High School, and Buddy Attick Park this calendar year.

There was a discussion regarding electric bike stations. Based on a question asked by Mayor Pro Tem Weaver, Mr. Beckert answered that electric bikes would be purchased with County funds, and the stations would be retrofitted to accommodate.

Mayor Jordan asked for the plan for Branchville Road in conjunction with the Town of Berwyn Heights to encourage better bike/pedestrian access. He stated that it would be safer to add a bike lane leading to Lake Artemisia on the west side of the bridge. Mr. Beckert explained that some work was done on Branchville Road to complete the sidewalk and mark the shared road. He suggested that the Council follow up with him regarding a dedicated bike lane on Branchville Road in two months.

Mayor Pro Tem Weaver read a comment from the Zoom “Question and Answer” feature from Steve Skolnik stating that it’s a combination of heavy trucks and parked vehicles that make bicycling challenging on Branchville Road.

There was a discussion regarding bike/pedestrian accessibility on Sunnyside Avenue. Mr. Beckert stated that the Federal Bridge Project was a 10-year project, and the principal purpose was to deliver a bridge that was capable of withstanding a significant size storm. He explained the bridge went from a 30-foot-long bridge to a 360-foot-long bridge to allow for rising water during a storm. Mr. Beckert advised the County is engaging an engineer to study Rhode Island Avenue between Maduka Street and Route 1 and Sunnyside Avenue from Rhode Island to Edmonston Road for opportunities for road diets, bike lanes, and sidewalks.

Mayor Jordan stated that with the City’s original infrastructure, the City is challenged to handle stormwater runoffs. The City has benefited from the Clean Water Partnership.

There was a discussion regarding the responsibility of maintaining the stormwater ponds. Mr. Griffith explained that the County maintains over 800 stormwater facilities and performs inspections. He advised that the County is part of the MS4 Permit process and focuses on the ponds that MDE identifies as failing.

Based on a question asked by Mayor Jordan, Mr. Griffith stated that he could provide a list to Council of ponds that are currently being actively working on within a general time frame.

Mayor Jordan stated that the pipes in the City are too small to handle the amount of rain and asked what assistance can the County provide. Mr. Griffith answered that there is much development that predates today's standards. Regarding a specific location, he can meet staff to address any issues. Ms. Hruby stated that with changes in the climate and the more significant amount of rain, the system isn't adequately providing infrastructure to keep the community from being flooded in certain areas. She explained there are areas in Greenbelt East experiencing wet basements and yards. The City and Greenbelt Homes Inc are collaborating on issues regarding flooding. Ms. Hruby stated that the City is discussing jurisdictional issues related to the flooding issue at 51 Crescent Road with the County and the Maryland Department of Environment.

There was a discussion regarding the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund.

Based on a question asked by Mayor Pro Tem Weaver, Mr. Griffith answered that the Department of Public Works and Transportation is researching every opportunity to pool resources.

Based on a question asked by Mr. Orleans, Mr. Beckert answered that the Comprehensive Transportation Master Plan is in a draft form developed by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. It is multi-modal and transit-friendly, and the goal is to convey traffic more safely.

Informational Item:

Council discussed that Bike to Work Day is Friday, May 20, and Celebration of Spring will be held at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center on Saturday, May 21.
The meeting ended at 9:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shaniya Lashley-Mullen
Assistant to the City Clerk

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: June 27, 2022

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

Maryland Municipal League (MML) Legislative Action Requests (LARs)

Suggested Action:

Reference: Greenbelt MML LAR Items - Last 5 Years

2023 MML Legislative Request Form

MML is beginning to gear up for the 2023 legislative session and seeking Legislative Action Requests (LAR) from municipalities. The LAR form is now available and needs to be submitted by Friday, July 1, 2022. Each municipality is limited to a maximum of three legislative solutions to municipal problems submitted through the LAR process to be considered by the MML legislative committee as a potential League priority.

Attachments:

[Greenbelt MML LAR Items - last 5 years.pdf](#)

[2023 MML LEGISLATIVE REQUEST form.pdf](#)

Greenbelt MML LAR Items

MML is beginning to gear up for the 2023 legislative session and seeking Legislative Action Requests (LAR) from municipalities. The LAR form, attached, is now available and needs to be submitted by Friday, July 1, 2022. Up to three legislative solutions to municipal problems submitted through the LAR process will be considered by the MML legislative committee as a potential League priority.

Per MML, please remember that each municipality is limited to up to three legislative requests, and each LAR must be verified and signed by a representative of the municipality prior to submission showing each LAR was approved/ endorsed at a meeting of the jurisdiction submitting the LAR.

At a recent Council meeting, there was discussion about the difficulty of receiving abatement reports from the State showing large abatements (greater than \$100,000). Council showed interest in submitting this as an MML LAR.

Listed below are Greenbelt's LAR submissions over the last five years.

2022

Municipal Revenue Share of Online Sales

Summary: Request seeks legislation to provide additional revenue sources for municipalities by sharing sales tax revenues from online sales, through enabling legislation of revenue sharing. This request is consistent with a (recent) Supreme Court decision, tax online sales and provide a municipal share of this revenue.

Ban Single Use Plastics

Summary: There is too much plastic in the waste stream and in the environment, particularly in our waterways. This request seeks legislation to ban single-use plastics such as bags, straws, coffee stirrs, single use bottles, etc.

State Maintenance of Sidewalks Adjacent to State Roadways

Summary: Sidewalks adjacent to state roadways are often in disrepair and sometimes dangerous conditions. Municipalities do not have the resources or authority to repair and/ or make these sidewalks safe.

2021

Housing Discrimination

Summary: Pass legislation to prohibit housing discrimination based on source of income. Specifically, discriminatory practices in residential real estate transactions and the sale or rental

of a dwelling because of a person's source of income (government or private assistance, self-employment, etc.)

Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

Summary: Consumers and fleets hesitate to purchase/utilize electric vehicles due to a lack of convenient charging stations. Providing funding for electric vehicle infrastructure - in particular fast charging stations, would encourage additional electric vehicle purchases and usage.

2020

Municipal Revenue Source Options

Summary: Many municipalities are too reliant on Property Tax revises and need additional options to generate revenues. Request seeks legislation to provide additional revenue sources for municipalities in addition to property taxes. This could include a local option sales tax, a share of online sales taxes or other sources. This could be done through enabling legislation of revenue sharing.

Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

Summary: Consumers and fleets hesitate to purchase/utilize electric vehicles due to a lack of convenient charging stations. Providing funding for electric vehicle infrastructure - in particular fast charging stations, would encourage additional electric vehicle purchases and usage.

Ban Single Use Plastics

Summary: There is too much plastic in the waste stream and in the environment, particularly in our waterways. This request seeks legislation to ban single-use plastics such as bags, straws, coffee stirrs, single use bottles, etc.

2019

Municipal Revenue Share of Online Sales

Summary: Request seeks legislation to provide additional revenue sources for municipalities by sharing sales tax revenues from online sales, through enabling legislation of revenue sharing. This request is consistent with a (recent) Supreme Court decision, tax online sales and provide a municipal share of this revenue.

Oversight of Tree Canopy Maintenance

Summary: Power companies engage in vegetation management practices which can negatively impact the health and appearance of the tree canopy in our communities. Provide local governments with more authority over vegetation management by electric companies.

Prohibition on Retro Active Utility Billing

Summary: Utility companies can retroactively bill for up to 12 months if they make a mistake in the billing rate code/determination, This can have a detrimental impact on their customers. Seeking legislation to prohibit power companies from retroactively billing a customer when the utility makes a mistake.

2018

Housing Discrimination

Summary: Pass legislation to prohibit housing discrimination based on source of income. Specifically, discriminatory practices in residential real estate transactions and the sale or rental of a dwelling because of a person's source of income (government or private assistance, self-employment, etc.)

Cell Phone Antenna Siting Approval and Fee Authorization

Summary: Local Governments lack regulatory authority over cell phone towers and these towers can have negative impacts on property values and potential health impacts. Provide local governments with more authority over cell phone towers including small cell towers and taxing authority. This legislation would give local governments more control installation of cell phone towers in their jurisdictions. It could improve property values and quality of life.

Prohibition on Retro Active Utility Billing

Summary: Utility companies can retroactively bill for up to 12 months if they make a mistake in the billing rate code/determination. This can have a detrimental impact on their customers. Seeking legislation to prohibit power companies from retroactively billing a customer when the utility makes a mistake.

2023 MML LEGISLATIVE REQUEST

Name of Municipality, Chapter or Department submitting request: _____

Contact Person/Title _____

Address/City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone numbers: (Work) _____ (Home) _____ E-mail: _____

LAR FORM MUST BE RETURNED VIA MAIL OR E-MAIL NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2022.

1. Describe the problem or situation the request is intended to address:

2. Describe the requested legislation:

3. Describe how the requested legislation would remedy the problem:

4. The proposed legislation would address: ☐ Only your municipality
☐ Only municipalities in your county ☐ Municipalities in the entire state
☐ All counties and municipalities in the entire state

5. Would the proposed remedy have a significant fiscal impact on your municipality?

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. Could the problem be resolved by something other than a new law, i.e., action by another level of government or changes in administrative procedures?

2. If administrative remedies have already been pursued, what were they and what was the outcome?

3. What other state and/or local agencies, if any, would be affected by this proposal?

4. Have any state agencies been contacted about the proposal? If yes, what was their reaction?

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1. Has the League considered this proposal in a previous year? If yes, describe any significant changes in circumstances that might improve its chances of success in 2023:

2. Has this request been considered by the General Assembly in prior sessions? If yes, please provide the bill number, year, and outcome of legislation, if known:

3. Has this proposed legislation been implemented by any other city, county or state? If yes, please describe where it has been implemented and cite any existing law or model code upon which the proposal is based:

Signature of authorized municipal, chapter
or departmental official

Print name & Title

Date

Please return LAR form to:
MML Legislative Committee
1212 West Street
Annapolis, MD 21401
ATTN: Bill Jorch
410-268-5514
E-mail: abigaild@mdmunicipal.org
& copy billj@mdmunicipal.org

Please indicate the date of the meeting where the governing body of the municipality, chapter or department endorsed/approved this request: _____.

Please complete this form in its entirety. Attach additional sheets, if necessary, as well as documents related to your request. **Please return to MML NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, JULY 1, 2022.**

How MML Legislative Priority Issues Are Selected

1. The League shall inform all member municipalities, chapters, and departments that they may **submit up to three legislative requests each for consideration** as MML initiatives before the Maryland General Assembly by a deadline selected by the League.
2. The staff reviews these requests and prepares background information for the Legislative Committee.
3. The Legislative Committee meets to discuss these requests and to consider MML priority issues not resolved during the previous session.
4. A legislative request that is the same or as substantially similar to a request that has previously been considered and rejected by the committee twice within a four-year period coinciding with the current term of the General Assembly shall be excluded from consideration by the committee.
5. The LAR submission form requires verification that the elected body of a municipality or the membership of a chapter or department has endorsed a legislative request prior to submission.
6. The committee shall limit legislative sponsorship proposals to the membership for consideration at the fall conference to no more than four (4) non-prioritized items and limit the proposals adopted by the membership to four (4).

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: June 27, 2022

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

4th of July Update

Suggested Action:

Mayor Jordan requested this item to be added to the agenda.

Council will receive an update from staff regarding the 4th of July celebration.

Attachments:

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: June 27, 2022

Submitted by: Holly Simmons

Submitting Department: Planning

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

FY 2023 Open Space Annual Program

Suggested Action:

Reference:

City of Greenbelt POS FY23 Allocation Letter

Reserve Funds FY 2023

Acquisition Program FY 2023

Development Program FY 2023

The City's FY 2023 Annual Program Open Space (POS) Program is due to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). The City has been notified that the County will be receiving a total of \$12,606,444 in FY 2023 POS funds. Based on the results of the 2010 Census the City will be receiving \$325,246.36, compared to \$219,194.69 in FY 2022. The City is required to allocate at least 50 percent of the City's FY 2023 funds to acquisition projects.

The City currently has POS funds encumbered for the following development projects:

Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center Phase II improvements, Buddy Attick Park Master Plan Improvements and Lakecrest Tennis Court Improvements. Including the City's FY 2023 POS allocation, the City's unencumbered POS balance is \$1,251,236.30, with at least \$635,027.75 being required to be used for acquisition projects.

For FY 2023 staff is proposing that \$760,605.41 of unencumbered POS funds be programmed for land acquisition. Staff is also proposing that all of the City's FY 2023 development monies be allocated to a new project, *Springhill Recreation Center Outdoor Recreation Amenities*, and two development projects from the City's FY 2022 Annual Program be carried further with broader project scopes. These projects are *Greenbelt Station Outdoor Recreation Amenities* and *Youth Center Improvements*.

Staff recommends City Council approve the City's FY 2023 Program Open Space Annual Program as proposed.

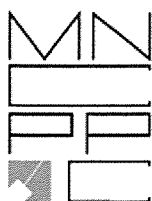
Attachments:

[City of Greenbelt POS FY23 Allocation Letter.pdf](#)

[Reserve Funds FY 2023.pdf](#)

[Acquisition Program_FY_2023.pdf](#)

[Development_Program_2023.pdf](#)



THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Department of Parks and Recreation
6600 Kenilworth Avenue Riverdale, Maryland 20737

VOICE 301-699-2527
TTY 301-699-2544
FAX 301-277-9041

May 2, 2022

Ms. Terri Hruby
City of Greenbelt
15 Crescent Road
Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

**Re: Program Open Space Allocation
City of Greenbelt**

Dear Ms. Hruby:

The FY2023 Program Open Space allocation for Prince George's County is \$12,606,444. Each municipality receives a portion of the County's total allocation based on its population. Based on the results of the 2020 Census, the **City of Greenbelt will be receiving Three Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Two Hundred Forty Six Dollars and Twenty-Six Cents (\$325,246.26) which represents 2.58% of the County's FY2023 POS allocation.**

A meeting to discuss the FY23 POS allocation and the LPPRP (Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan), as it relates to POS funding, is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 2:00 pm**. If you would like to familiarize yourself with the plan prior to our meeting, it is located at https://dnr.maryland.gov/land/Pages/Stewardship/Local_LPPRPs.aspx. We will be meeting via TEAMS and will send a formal invitation with an agenda attached. Please plan to attend.

In the meantime, please call me at the above listed number if you have any questions regarding your FY23 POS allocation. Please submit the FY2023 POS Annual Program to this office on or before **Friday, June 17, 2022**. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Benita.henderson@pgparks.com.

Sincerely,

Benita Henderson

Benita M. Henderson, POS Liaison
Capital Improvement Program
Park Planning and Development Division

c: Bridget Stesney, Division Chief

Aaron Waller, CIP Manager

**CITY OF GREENBELT
PROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL PROGRAM – RESERVE FUNDS
FISCAL YEAR 2023**

Development Reserve Funds¹:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
FY 2018	\$111,785.38
FY 2019	\$109,652.76
FY 2020	\$31,614.46
FY 2021	\$90,935.46
FY 2022	\$109,597.34
FY 2023	\$162,623.13

Acquisition Reserve Funds²:

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
FY 2014	\$62,948.58
FY 2019	\$109,652.76
FY 2020	\$99,270.47
FY 2021	\$90,935.46
FY 2022	\$109,597.35
FY 2023	\$162,623.13

TOTAL = 1,251,236.20

¹ Development monies can be used towards acquisition projects

² M-NCPPC approved 100 percent of FY 2016, FY 2017 & FY 2018 allocations to be used towards development projects.

**PROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR ACQUISITION
FISCAL YEAR 2023**

<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Project ID</u>	<u>Project Name, (Project Description)</u>	<u>Acreage</u>			<u>Source of Funds for Annual Program Only</u>			
			<u>Existing</u>	<u>Ultimate</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Local</u>	<u>State (POS Local Funds)</u>	<u>Federal</u>
City of Greenbelt	A-G1	Description: <u>Parkland Acquisition</u> – Acquisition of unspecified acres of land to provide recreational opportunities and/or trail connections within the City. <u>FY 2014:</u> \$62,948.58 <u>FY2018:</u> \$6,810.44 <u>FY 2019:</u> \$219,305.52 <u>FY 2020:</u> \$108,384.93 <u>FY 2021:</u> \$90,935.46 <u>FY 2022:</u> \$109,597.35 <u>FY 2023:</u> \$162,623.13	To be determined		To be determined	\$760,605.41		\$760,605.41	

**ROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2023**

	<u>Project ID</u>	<u>Project Name & Project Description</u>	<u>Acreege</u>	<u>Source of Funds for Annual Program Only</u>			
			<u>Project</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Local</u>	<u>State (POS Local Funds)</u>	<u>Federal</u>
City of Greenbelt	D-G1	Description: <u>Greenbelt Station South Core Recreation Amenities</u> – Construct recreation amenities on city-owned park land within the Greenbelt Station South Core residential development. Project specifics will be finalized at the conclusion of the neighborhood recreation facilities study that is currently underway. <u>FY 2020:</u> \$22,500.00 <u>FY 2021:</u> \$90,000.00		\$150,000.00	\$37,500.00	\$112,500.00	
City of Greenbelt	D-G2	Description: <u>Youth Center & Vicinity Outdoor Recreation Amenities</u> – Upgrade and install outdoor recreation facilities to include, but not limited to, repairs to basketball court and rebound wall, improvements to youth center patio and shade structures to support outdoor recreation programs. <u>FY 2018:</u> \$104,974.94 <u>FY 2021:</u> \$935.46 <u>FY 2022:</u> \$109,597.34		\$287,343.74	71,836.00	\$215,507.74	
City of Greenbelt	D-G3	Description: <u>Springhill Lake Recreation Center Outdoor Recreation Amenities</u> - Upgrade and install outdoor recreation facilities to include, but not limited to inclusive playground, pavilion and upgraded to basketball court. <u>FY 2023:</u> \$162,623.13		\$216,831.00	\$54,207.66	\$162,623.00	

ROGRAM OPEN SPACE
ANNUAL PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2023

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: June 27, 2022

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

Closure of the West Entrance of the Community Center

Suggested Action:

Councilmember Davis requested this item be added to the agenda.

Staff will give a presentation of the reasons for the closure of the Community Center's West Entrance and other security actions that have been taken. Staff will also describe how the mobility needs of our seniors and those with disabilities are being addressed now and in the future, meeting ADA regulations for accessibility. For discussion and possible action.

Attachments:

[CC West Entrance Update June 2022.pdf](#)

GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER

To: Tim George, Interim City Manager

Via: Greg Varda, Recreation Director
Andrew Phelan, Assistant Director of Recreation Facilities

From: Di Quynn Reno, CPRP, Community Center Supervisor 

Date: June 22, 2022

RE: Community Center – Adjustment of West Entrance Access

Due to past incidents and to advance the facility security, the West Entrance at the Community Center was closed to the public on June 15, 2022.

Facility staff implemented a notification plan including the following:

- Pre-closing signage on the West Entrance doors
- Semi-permanent signage once the closure was enacted
- Notification to facility staff (full and part time), department staff, facility tenants and user groups
- Presentation and discussion session at the June 15 Golden Age Club meeting with Rebekah Sutfin, TR Supervisor

The reception from the staff, patrons and user groups has been overwhelmingly supportive. Many staff expressed gratitude and relief for the increased security.

There were several groups identified for closer communication due to the individuals within their group who may have mobility concerns. One such group was the Golden Age Club. Rebekah Sutfin, TR Supervisor, and I visited their meeting on June 15 to present the adjustment and answer questions. The members were receptive, posed questions and expressed understanding for the adjustment. They were assured the facility staff would be available for access accommodations; of which several stated they did not need this option and would use the Historic Entrance.

There was also contact with the Greenbelt Concert Band, including speaking with several members. They specifically requested information on access accommodations and were relieved to learn staff would be available to assist with entry.

The full-time and part-time facility staff were notified of the procedure for providing access accommodations when requested. The facility is prepared to provide accommodations in an efficient and expedited manner.

Staff is researching, and will collaborate with the IT department, on a video-doorbell system to advance the access accommodations.

Thank you for your continued support on this security advancement.

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: June 27, 2022

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

Reparations Commission

Suggested Action:

Reference: Reparations Commission Application

On June 22, 2022, Work Session City Council discussed the Reparations Commission application process. Included in the Council packet is the final application.

Council approval is sought.

Attachments:

[Reparations Commission Application.pdf](#)



CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GREENBELT REPARATIONS COMMISSION

Name _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

(Insert neighborhood listing)

Educational/Professional Background _____

List any special knowledge, qualifications, training, and/or experience you will bring as a member of the Greenbelt Reparations Commission: _____

Civic Experience/Volunteer Work/Membership in Organizations/Office Held _____

Are you employed by or under contract with the City of Greenbelt? (yes / no)

How long have you lived in Greenbelt? _____

1. Why are you interested in serving on the Greenbelt Reparations Commission? _____

2. What do you hope to achieve by serving on the Reparations Commission? _____

3. Additional information or comments in support of your application: _____

I have received/downloaded a copy of the Code of Conduct. _____(initial)

Date _____ Signature _____

Thank you for your interest!

Please return to City Clerk, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

If you have questions, please call the City Clerk at 301-474-3870.

Rev. 6/23/2022

Applicant Demographic Questions

1. Your Race (Check ALL that apply)

- ☐ White or Caucasian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Hispanic or Latino
- ☐ Asian or Asian American
- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- ☐ Another race
- ☐ Other (please specify)
- ☐ Prefer not to disclose

2. Your Gender

- ☐ Female
- ☐ Male
- ☐ Prefer to self-identify:
- ☐ Prefer not to disclose

3. Your Age

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18-24
- ☐ 25-34
- ☐ 35-44
- ☐ 45-54
- ☐ 55-64
- ☐ 65+
- ☐ Prefer not to disclose

4. What language(s) is/are spoken at your home? Please check all that apply:

- ☐ English
- ☐ French
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ American Sign Language (ASL)
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____
- ☐ Prefer not to disclose

Meeting Participation Information

1. Does nominee have equipment and access to the internet to participate in remote meetings? Yes / No

If no, please describe your need: _____

2. What day(s) work best for nominee to attend meetings on a consistent basis? (Check ALL that apply)

- ☐ Monday
- ☐ Tuesday
- ☐ Wednesday
- ☐ Thursday
- ☐ Friday
- ☐ Saturday
- ☐ Sunday

3. What time(s) during the work week work best for nominee to attend meetings on a consistent basis? (Check ALL that apply)

- ☐ Mornings
- ☐ Afternoons
- ☐ Evenings

4. What type of support might be helpful to you if a neighborhood group nominates you to serve on the Community Reparations Commission (Check ALL that apply)?

- ☐ Childcare
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Language interpretation
- ☐ Disability
- ☐ No additional support needed
- ☐ Other (please specify)

5. Additional Comments: _____

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: June 27, 2022

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

Pilot Projects for Invasive Plant Management in the Greenbelt Forest Preserve - Forest Preserve Advisory Board Report #2022-02

Suggested Action:

Reference: FPAB (Report #2022-02) Piloting Of Invasive Plant Management Activities

Mayor Pro Tem Weaver motion that the Council vote on the recommendations about removing invasive from the Forest Preserve Advisory Board report that was presented and accepted at the March 28, 2022, Regular Meeting.

Attachments:

[FPAB \(Report #2022-02\) Piloting Of Invasive Plant Management Activities.pdf](#)

FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD
REPORT TO COUNCIL

Report # 2022-02

SUBJECT: Pilot projects for invasive plant management in the Greenbelt Forest Preserve

DATE: March 22, 2022

BACKGROUND: Several residents have approached the FPAB recently to request that invasive plants be managed in the Preserve. The Guidelines provide a framework for how to assess areas in the preserve for invasive plant management, how to prioritize projects, and methods for implementing removal or management projects. One resident requested control of tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) and another resident suggested a pilot project to manage Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium viminum*) in seepage areas. An FPAB member also suggested a pilot project to test the effectiveness of mechanical removal methods of Amur bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*).

DISCUSSION:

Ailanthus: Ailanthus is an invasive tree from Asia. It forms dense stands on forest edges and in meadow areas that are not mowed frequently. This tree is the host species for an invasive insect, the spotted lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*). Spotted lanternfly has infested counties in northeastern MD and southeastern PA and is spreading rapidly through the state. Removal of ailanthus is one method of reducing the invasiveness of this insect, and ailanthus is not yet pervasive in the Preserve.

Ailanthus can be killed by partial girdling during midsummer. Each trunk is de-barked using a drawknife or adze. This method damages the tree's ability to transport nutrients but does not completely girdle the tree. Debarked trees will die slowly over the course of several growing seasons. This prevents suckering (growth of new saplings from the shared clonal root system), which is frequently how ailanthus respond to full girdling.

Japanese stiltgrass: Japanese stiltgrass is an annual grass from eastern Asia. It invades forests where the soil is moist, along streams, near swampy areas, and near springs and seeps. It also spreads along trails as hikers transport its seeds. Japanese stiltgrass is quickly invading our forest and threatens the Forest Preserve's non-alluvial acidic seepage wetlands (called seeps). Seeps harbor some of the rarest plants of the Preserve and are priority areas for protection. Stiltgrass forms dense monocultures that block out the light for native grasses, sedges, and flowering plants. It can change predator-prey relationships; one paper found that wolf spiders find fewer insect prey in stands of stiltgrass, so they prey upon tiny toads and frogs instead.

Non-alluvial acidic seepage wetlands (or seeps for short) are one of the unique natural communities of the Maryland coastal plain region where Greenbelt is located. Ground water emerges at the land surface, in the form of springs or seepage areas; water seeps slowly all year long, keeping the seeps moist even during the drier months. Some of the most precious

plants of the Greenbelt preserve can be found in those fragile areas, such as the Downy Rattlesnake Plantain (*Goodyera pubescens*) or Small Green Wood Orchid (*Platanthera clavellata*) which live only in damp water saturated areas. Other valuable plants thrive in seeps, such as skunk cabbage, cinnamon ferns, swamp azaleas, chokeberries.

Stiltgrass has now covered the Goddard Creek area of the North Woods, and is spreading Westward rapidly, especially along trails and in moist areas. On the Western section of the North Woods stiltgrass is present and spreading along some sections of the trails but has not yet invaded the forest floor. Drier areas (like Blueberry Hill or Laurel Hill) are more likely to be spared, but small patches can be occasionally observed even there.

While other methods exist for larger areas, manual methods are effective for small infestations. The roots are shallow, pulled without effort and with minimal impact on the forest soil or neighboring plants. Stiltgrass is an annual grass, so early detection and control of new areas of infestation is very effective. In consecutive years follow-up is needed for older infestations, since some seeds will remain viable in the ground for 5 years. Removal is best done in the second half of August, before the grasses go to seed, but late enough that new growth cannot reach maturity before winter. Once removed, stiltgrass can be left in place, preferably off the ground to dry.

Amur honeysuckle Amur honeysuckle is a bush that was common in the horticultural trade for decades. It frequently found in disturbed forests where the soils have been turned for agriculture or in other ways so that the mineral soils are exposed. This plant shades out native tree seedlings and herbaceous plants that grow on the forest floor, and its leaves contain a chemical that suppresses the growth of other plants. In the North Woods tract of the Preserve, it is common in the forest edges along Northway, behind the observatory and mulch pile, and behind the asphalt millings pile. In the Hamilton tract this species is common deep in the forest south of the Wolfe Fields. This area was once a landfill, and the honeysuckle grew (or was planted) before the forest canopy shaded it out. The population of honeysuckle in this area extends 200' or more into the forest at this location. Amur honeysuckle is also common in the forests around the community gardens, and in parts of the Belle Point and Boxwood tracts

Large honeysuckle bushes can be uprooted using shovels, mattocks, or leverage tools such as a Weed Wrench or Puller Bear. Smaller individuals can be pulled by hand. Soil on the roots is knocked back into the hole where the bush was pulled, and the plant can be set with its roots off the ground to desiccate and decompose.

RECOMMENDATION:

Tree-of heaven and Amur honeysuckle are two invasive plants that are common in the region but are not yet pervasive in the Forest Preserve. Japanese stiltgrass is very common in some parts of the Preserve but had not yet overrun the several seepy swamp areas in the Preserve. The Guidelines state on page 18 that the city should “identify and prioritize target locations and species” and that “areas with populations of emerging or less widespread invasive species should be given priority for management over areas invaded by more common invasive plant

species.” The Guidelines also state that a goal of projects should be “to protect sensitive habitats by managing small populations of invasive plants”. All three species are easily managed with mechanical methods and a few volunteers.

FPAB recommends that Council approve the implementation of three invasive plant removal pilot projects in the forest preserve. These projects would be led by three residents in coordination with the Environmental Coordinator in the Public Works Department. The projects are detailed below:

Tree-of-heaven

Using a group of volunteers, partially debark tree-of-heaven along Northway and around the observatory, mulch pile, and athletic fields. Lead contact will coordinate with other residents and Public Works to provide tools. Debarking will occur in midsummer. Lead contact will coordinate with FPAB and Public Works to recruit volunteers. This project should take only one day.

Project leader: Stephanie Warner (experienced with debarking to control tree-of-heaven in GHI Woodlands areas)

Japanese stiltgrass

Using a group of volunteers, hand-pull stiltgrass in two seepage areas in the North Woods in August 2022. To minimize human impact in the seeps, only a small number of trained volunteers (3 to 4) will work on this project. Photos will be taken to document the process. The project lead will ensure that training is adequate, volunteers are thanked, and a report is prepared for the FPAB by the end of September.

Blueberry Spring Seep

- Located at the East side of Blueberry Hill, this seep is known for its small stone-walled spring (probably constructed by a farmer in the early 1900). It borders the main East-West trail crossing Blueberry Hill. Stiltgrass started to appear along the trail at the bottom of the hill a few years ago and has now expanded to the southern section of the seep.
- Estimate of 30 to 40 square yards of infestation, representing less than a quarter of the seep area. A more precise survey will be done in early summer 2022.
- Effort: 3 to 4 volunteers working ½ day should be able to control the stiltgrass in the seep. 1 or 2 volunteers will follow up 2 or 3 weeks later for an hour, to locate remaining stiltgrass, and ensure that the pulled stiltgrass dried up.

North Canyon Creek seepage area

- Located at the Northwest part of Canyon Creek, a low seepage area borders the creek and includes a series of seeps of various sizes. The total area is approximately ½ acre (to be more carefully surveyed in the spring), and stiltgrass is present throughout, but only in small amounts. This is a sensitive area which can be protected effectively with

rapid intervention. Without intervention the infestation will become unmanageable within 3 or 4 years.

- Effort: 3 to 4 volunteers working for 2 hours will systematically crisscross the seepage area, scanning for infestations, manually pulling the stiltgrass they find, and geotagging the locations for follow-up. 1 or 2 volunteers will follow up approximately 2 weeks later. Follow-up reporting to FPAB in fall 2022 to determine effectiveness and need for additional work in 2023.

Project leader: Catherine Plaisant (trained and experienced in stiltgrass removal)

Amur honeysuckle

Uproot honeysuckle in the Hamilton Woods Tract south of and adjacent to the Wolfe Fields by hand using shovels or other tools. This area is approximately 1 acre in area. Honeysuckle can be left to decompose in the forest or removed to be ground into mulch. Lead contact will coordinate with Public Works to plan several volunteer work days in late spring or early summer. Lead contact can provide 5-6 lever uprooting tools and several shovels.

Project leader: Damien Ossi (extensive professional experience with invasive plant management)

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: June 27, 2022

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

* Reappointment to Advisory Boards/Committee

Suggested Action:

Reference: Reappointment Survey

John Lippert has indicated his willingness to continue to serve on the Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (Green ACES).

Ethel Dutky has indicated her willingness to continue to serve on the Advisory Committee on Trees (ACT).

Approval of this item on the consent agenda will indicate Council's intent to appoint Mr. Lippert and Ms. Dutky to a new term.

Attachments:

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: June 27, 2022

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: MEETINGS

Agenda Section: MEETINGS

Subject:

Meetings

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[meetings.pdf](#)

CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND
25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1891



6/22/2022 5:18 PM

**City Council Meetings & Work Sessions
June – July**

Work Session – Religious/Spiritual Organizations (in-person) (MB)	Wed.	06/29	7:30 pm
No Meeting	Mon.	07/04	
Work Session – Advisory Groups Chairs/ARPA Recommended Spending Plan (in-person) (MB)	Wed.	07/06	7:30 pm
Regular Meeting (in-person) (MB)	Mon.	07/11	7:30 pm
Work Session – TBD	Wed.	07/13	7:30 pm
Work Session – TBD	Mon.	07/18	7:30 pm
Work Session – TBD	Wed.	07/20	7:30 pm
Work Session – TBD	Mon.	07/25	7:30 pm
Work Session – TBD	Wed.	07/27	7:30 pm
Four Cities (Berwyn Heights)	Thurs.	07/28	7:30 pm

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation, call 301-474-8000. Regular and Special meetings and Work Sessions are open to the public. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 or 301-474-3870 no later than 10 a.m. on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use Video Relay Services (VRS) at 711 or e-mail banderson@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk. Unless otherwise noted, meetings will be held in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building (MB) at 25 Crescent Road and virtually by Zoom. Zoom meeting information for public participation is posted on the City's website at www.greenbeltmd.gov on the meeting calendar.

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

(301) 474-8000

fax (301) 441-8248
www.greenbeltmd.gov

MD RELAY 711

CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND

25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1891



6/22/2022 5:18 PM

Ready to be scheduled:

Closed Session (*Cable Ordinance*)
MARC Train Service/ MDOT
Arts & Entertainment District
Potential Bond Referendum/Capital Financing
Parke Crescent Apartment Complex
Bernard Penney (*Memorial Donation in honor of Leonie Penney*)
Cemetery Plans
City Contracting Policy
BARC
Hotels
Board of Elections reports:
- Procedure for filling Council vacancies
- Proposal for voting by resident non-citizens
 (*waiting for CRAB Report*)
- Early Voting
- Discussion with Ethic Commission (Financial Disclosure Reports)
Economic Development Advisory Committee
Police Reform
ERB Reports: (#2020-01 Procedures for Employee Appeals and Grievances); (#2021-02 Collective Bargaining for Non-Managerial Employees) (*waiting for CRAB Report*)
Virtual Meetings Accessibility for Blind and Visually Impaired
Small Cells
Mosquito Control Discussion
GHI (stakeholder)

For later scheduling:

Zoning Enforcement
Parkway Apartment Owners/GHI (*parking*)
Northway Fields Master Plan
City Manager Updates (Jan, Pre-budget; July & Sept/Oct)
Meeting with County on Transportation Plan
Department of Permitting, Inspections & Enforcement (DPIE)
Museum Plan
Term Limits legislation (*referral submitted to CRAB*)
Majority Leader Hoyer

A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

(301) 474-8000

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www.greenbeltmd.gov

MD RELAY 711

Annual														
Advisory Group Chairs	3/16	2/17	7/18	7/19	6/20	6/21								
Franklin Park at Greenbelt Station Mgmt.	8/16	11/17	12/18	12/19	12/20	12/21								
Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition	3/16	7/17	3/19	6/20	4/22									
Greenbelt Homes, Inc.	6/16	7/17	7/18	7/19	10/20	7/21	12/21							
Greenbelt Station	8/19	12/19	8/20	8/21										
County Executive/ County Council	12/13	9/16	1/19	8/20	11/20									
Biennial														
Roosevelt Center Merchants	11/16	1/18	1/20	1/22										
Beltsville Ag. Research Center/ NPS Greenbelt Park	03/14	7/16	8/18											
	7/15	1/18	1/20	1/22										
Beltway Plaza	9/14	3/17	9/20											
Greenbelt Community Garden Club	3/21	9/21												
Greenway Center	7/14	12/16	2/19	12/20										
Civic Associations	8/14	2/18	8/20											
NASA/GSFC	3/15	3/17	9/19	12/20	3/22									
PG Co. Economic Development Corp.	8/14	4/17	7/19	11/21										
School Board	2/16	5/17	10/18	3/19	9/20	9/21								
State Highway Administration	6/15	10/17	11/20											
Every Three Years														
Apartments	2/18	4/21												
Religious/Spiritual Organizations	3/13	6/15	6/19											
Greenbelt Watershed Groups	8/14	10/16	10/19											
Hotels														
University of Maryland	3/13	4/15												
Every Three Years or Major Issue														
Comcast	9/13	11/17	3/21											
Verizon	2/20													
PEPCO	9/14	1/17	2/22											
WSSC	12/12	9/16	2/22											
WGL	12/17													
Capital Office Park	12/12	1/16	9/19											
Other Business Parks:														
Maryland Trade Center														
Golden Triangle														
Hanover Parkway														
Belle Point														
Edmonston Road														

WMATA/PGDPW&T (Semi-Annual)	11/16	9/17	11/18	1/20	3/22	5/22								
Other/As Needed														
M-NCPPC/Planning Board (Major Issue)	6/06	7/14	10/19											
Business Coffee (Every Four Months)	2/21	6/21	10/21											
State's Attorney (4 years)	2/11	4/15	9/19											
Roosevelt Center Owner	9/15	8/20												

(Rev. May 18, 2022)