



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION AGENDA

Work Session- Greenbelt East Coalition (GEAC)

Virtually Via Zoom

This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom.

Virtual Participation

Zoom Webinar Attendees:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89120385668?pwd=eFVudmR5NmMc4MCtiTIZ3MEtpbUtvZz09>

Dial-in: 301 715 8592

Webinar ID: 891 2038 5668

Passcode: 667394

In advance, the hearing impaired is advised to use Video Relay Services (VRS) at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

8:00 PM

Work Session Packet

Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition (GEAC)

Suggested Action:

Reference: Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition Work Session Minutes - March 7, 2019

Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition Stakeholders Meeting Topics 2022

Agenda

- Introductions
- Council Discussion

- Questions and Answers

- Other Items

[Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition Work Session Minutes - March 7, 2019.pdf](#)

[GEAC Stakeholders Meeting Topics 2022.pdf](#)

City Council Work Session Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: April 13, 2022

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: Work Session Item

Agenda Section: Work Session Packet

Subject:

Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition (GEAC)

Suggested Action:

Reference: Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition Work Session Minutes - March 7, 2019
Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition Stakeholders Meeting Topics 2022

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Attachments:

[Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition Work Session Minutes - March 7, 2019.pdf](#)
[GEAC Stakeholders Meeting Topics 2022.pdf](#)

WORK SESSION of the Greenbelt City Council held Thursday, March 7, 2019, to meet with the Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition (GEAC).

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 7:30 p.m. It was held in the Terrace Room at the Greenbriar Community Building.

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

Staff members present were Nicole Ard, City Manager; David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager; Dale Worley, Director of Information Technology; Captain Tim White and Captain Gordon Pracht, Greenbelt Police Department; and Bonita Anderson, City Clerk.

Also present were Thomas Crandall, Terry Benedict, Marsha Caine, Rohanie Bacchus, Charlene MacAdams, Austin Henry, Toni Mathewson, Tom Renahan, Nicole Williams, Layne Lisinger, Greenbelt News Review, and others.

Mayor Jordan opened the meeting. There were introductions.

Security Cameras

Mayor Jordan read the question does the City have any intention to provide a budget for security cameras at Schrom Hills Park. He noted that the City intends to provide security cameras at Schrom Hills Park and that it would be discussed during the City budget deliberation. Mr. Worley advised that he had submitted a budget request for the FY 2020 proposed budget, which included two or three locations, and that he will consult with the Police Department for their recommendations.

Mayor Jordan noted that the City hasn't purchased any new cameras but are upgrading the old cameras. There was a discussion regarding the need for cameras at the Roosevelt Center.

Mr. Worley indicated that a lot of software, infrastructure, and cameras have been upgraded. Ms. MacAdams stated that the Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition would like to be included when decisions are made regarding the cameras.

Beltway Plaza Revitalization Redevelopment

Mayor Jordan noted that the Beltway Plaza initial redevelopment conceptual site plans have been approved by the Prince George's County Planning Board but did not include the City's conditions. Mayor Jordan noted that Council has conditionally supported the proposal. He also noted that some of the Council's concerns with the conceptual plans include adequate public facilities and the Cherrywood Lane street structure.

Mayor Jordan stated that Prince George's County Planning Board viewed the technical report and advised that all the Council's conditions and concerns can be reviewed when the detailed

site plan is proposed.

There was a discussion regarding the development of the residential property at the rear of Beltway Plaza. Mr. Roberts stated that adding 2,000 residential units to the Beltway Plaza parking lot is not what the City needs. He noted that there aren't any schools or open space for the children.

Bike Share

Mayor Jordan noted that the City had partnered with Prince George's County on a Feasibility Study, four years ago, to assess if the Bike Share Program was going to work for the City and County. He noted that the County proposed five locations in the City but none of the locations were at the Greenbelt Metro Station.

Crime Statistics

Captain White reviewed the crime statistics. He noted that crime trends are down for the whole City in 2018 and that Greenbelt East residential accounted for 17% of the City's overall crime statistics. Captain White stated that auto crimes (thefts from auto and auto thefts) are the biggest trending crime in the City, County, and State.

Bus Shelters

Mayor Jordan noted that the City plans to address the Greenspring bus shelter request during the FY2020 budget. He stated that the City had budgeted funds for the City's Bus Stop Safety and Accessibility Study and normally has enough funds to construct two or three shelters each year.

Ms. Davis stated that the City had a Bus Stop Assessment performed by the Planning Department. She noted that Prince George's County will be providing bus shelter and bus stop amenities.

Mandan Road Basketball Court

Ms. Davis stated that the Youth Advisory Committee requested that the City reinstate the basketball courts because it provides recreation for young people. She noted Windsor Green is in the process of renovating their entire recreation area which doesn't mean that it is open for everyone.

There was a discussion on ways to make the basketball courts safe. Ms. Davis suggested installing a half-court, installing lighting and benches to make it safe. There are currently no plans to reinstate the basketball court. Ms. MacAdams stated that Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition's main concern was that the basketball court cannot be reinstated the way it used to be and that it needs to be safer.

School Zoning

Mayor Jordan read the questions: 1) What are the numbers of non-resident students attending Greenbelt schools? 2) How many residents attend non-boundary schools located outside of Greenbelt? 3) Are there tax incentives or exemption for residents forced to attend schools outside of Greenbelt due to overcrowded schools. There was a discussion regarding a tax incentive or exemption for residents forced to attend schools outside of Greenbelt, due to schools being overcrowded. Ms. Mach noted that Greenbelt residents' taxes are supporting Greenbelt schools and that their children should attend schools in Greenbelt. She went on to say that the taxes support the School Resource Officer and that Eleanor Roosevelt High School students have an opportunity to receive a scholarship from the City.

Ms. Mach noted that there was a mistake made by the Board of Education School Boundary Office regarding Greenbelt children attending Greenbelt schools.

Mr. Byrd suggested that the Science and Tech Program at Eleanor Roosevelt give preference to the residents of Greenbelt. Ms. Mach noted that there are three science and tech centers within Prince George's County.

Greenbelt Ordinances

Mayor Jordan read the question has Council passed any new ordinances affecting Greenbelt homeowner associations of which GEAC should be aware. Ms. Bailey stated that she and Ms. Williams have been working with Delegate Derrick Davis regarding Short Term Rentals, HB655. She noted County legislation CB-10-2018 and CB-11-2018 and that any homeowner that participates in the program will need to be current on their homeowner assessment.

There was a discussion on short-term rentals. Based on a question asked by Mayor Jordan, Ms. Bailey stated that a complaint could be filed with the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement. Ms. Davis stated the HOAs could contact the City's Planning Department to file a complaint regarding homeowners who are renting their homes without a rental license.

Voting at Schrom Hills Park

Mayor Jordan read the question about the suggestion to reserve 4 or 5 parking spaces while active voting is taken place to correct the problem. He suggested referring Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition's request to reserve four or five parking spaces at Schrom Hills Park to the Board of Elections. Ms. Davis suggested informing the Recreation Department what day the election will be held and to not issue any permits.

MAGLEV

Mayor Jordan suggested inviting the Baltimore Washington Maglev Corporation to a work session. He noted that the City Council still opposes the Maglev. Ms. Davis provided the legislative bills that prohibit the Maglev and is in support of the bills.

Mr. Roberts suggested that the City should write a letter to the newly elected Congress to oppose

the Maglev. Mr. Roberts inquired about the legal counsel that the City is hiring regarding opposing the Maglev. Mayor Jordan stated the City is waiting; there isn't anything to litigate at this time. Ms. Davis and Ms. Pope both stated that Mr. Pounds, the City Solicitor, is researching environmental attorneys.

Proposed Widening of I-495, I-270, and MD-295

Ms. Davis noted that state legislation, HB102 and SB 442, prohibit the State from constructing toll roads or bridges without the consent of most of the affected Counties. Ms. Davis suggested having municipalities added to the legislation.

Road Markings

Ms. MacAdams inquired whether the striping on Hanover Parkway was handled by the State Highway Administration or the City of Greenbelt. Ms. Davis noted that the intersection is the State Highway Administration's responsibility. Ms. Pope stated that the street is the City's responsibility.

Based on a question asked by Mayor Jordan, Ms. Ard stated that there was a request to observe pedestrian safety from Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt Road to Southway that the State Highway Administration is handling.

T-REX Corporation Parking

Captain Pracht stated that both Parking Enforcement and the Police Department has noticed the parking issues and are enforcing the parking violations.

Mayor Jordan answered a question from a member of the Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition by stating that the parking lot and the building is private federal property, but you can walk on the public sidewalk.

Commercial Business

Mayor Jordan read the question Greenbelt consists of three major sections: Greenbelt East, Greenbelt West and Roosevelt Center with businesses in all three parts of the City. 1) For GEAC comparable analysis, can the City provide the number of active business units in each sections of Greenbelt and the taxes derived from each section. He noted that there are eight or nine commercial business districts in the City of Greenbelt.

FBI Headquarter

Mayor Jordan advised of a rumor that there is still discussion between the State and our Federal delegation and that the project could still happen.

There was a discussion on other government proposals. Mayor Jordan noted that Greenbelt is open to the idea.

Economic Development

Ms. Ard stated that Ms. Liggins, the new Economic Development Coordinator, has been in contact with the community stakeholders and partners.

Short Term Rental

Mayor Jordan noted that short term rentals were discussed earlier under the Greenbelt Ordinance question.

There was a discussion regarding small cell towers. Ms. Davis noted that the City has an ordinance in place regarding small cell towers.

Ms. Davis inquired about the Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition policy regarding the regular GEAC meetings that Council could or could not attend. Ms. MacAdams noted that GEAC's regular meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month.

Based on a question asked by Mayor Jordan, Ms. MacAdams noted that Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition would be participating in National Night Out.

Mayor Jordan thanked the Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition for hosting the meeting.

Several informational items were discussed.

The meeting ended at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bonita Anderson
City Clerk*

GEAC Stakeholders Meeting Topics
April 14, 2022

1. **Maglev** – Can we get a status Update on this issue? What actions has the city taken to protest the project so far, and what, if any actions are planned for the future?
The City retained Jill Grant and Associates (JG&A) to assist the City with the review and drafting of comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). JG&A submitted comments on the DEIS on behalf of the City, College Park and Landover Hills on May 24, 2021. The City Council also transmitted a letter along with the City's comments on the DEIS to the City's congressional delegation requesting support for the No Build alternative in early June 2021. JG&A is prepared to assist the City with the review of the Final DEIS once released and advise on legal strategies as the project progresses. Staff and JG&A are monitoring the project closely and seeking opportunities to comment on issues germane to the project.
2. **PG County zoning update** – We are aware that there have been changes to local zoning regulations that could impact use of particular locations in greater Greenbelt (Hanover Parkway office corridor, Greenway Plaza). Can you please:
 - a. Summarize the new zoning changes - **The new zoning ordinance went into effect on April 1, 2022. The new commercial office zone (General Commercial Office) affords a lot of flexibility and mix of uses and could significantly change the character of Greenway Shopping Center and commercial office parks in Greenbelt East, and elsewhere in the City.**
 - b. Review the potential impact for Greenbelt - **The new zoning ordinance could result in more mixed used development in our commercial office areas, as well as higher intensity development. The Greenbelt Development District Overlay Zone provides a tool for protecting existing density, height and massing within historic Greenbelt**
 - c. Inform us of any proposed/planned construction in Greenbelt as a result of the zoning changes. - **Staff is not aware of the new zoning ordinance contributing to new development proposals to date**
3. **Election Zoning impact** – We know that the State just approved a new redistricting map for voting districts. How will this new map affect Greenbelt residents, if at all? **The new federal congressional district map has the City moving from District 5 to District 4 and will no longer be represented by Rep Steny Hoyer. Current District 4 Delegate Anthony Brown is not seeking re-election.**
4. **Bike lanes** – The last update we had was that plans for bike lanes on Hanover Parkway were 30 % complete, but the City was seeking funding to get 90% design completion.

Has additional funding been obtained? What is the status, and is there a projected timeframe for starting/completing the bike lanes? - **Staff continues to pursue funding to complete 90% design drawings. The estimate cost for construction is \$800,000. At this time the City does not have an implementation time frame.**

5. **FBI relocation** – We have heard that the relocation of the FBI from DC has been reopened. Is Greenbelt West once again in the running for this? What do we know about the plans or timeframe for a decision on this issue? **Latest reports suggest that the relocation of the FBI is back on the table, but that the headquarters, with approximately 750 staff, will remain in Washington, D.C. The Greenbelt Metro site is thought to be the favorite as the Landover site doesn't have direct Metro access and the Maryland sites have more support in Congress. At this time there is no publicized timeline for next steps or a decision.**
6. **Greenbrook Bridge** – the last update we received was that this was funded in the City's 2022 budget, but the maintenance responsibility had not yet been transferred to the City. Has the responsibility been transferred and the easement secured? What can GEAC do to move this project forward? - **This project has been on hold due to limited staff resources. Additional monies are proposed in the FY 2023 Capital Fund budget to move the project forward.**
7. **Crime Reports** – *We used to get crime reports from George Matthews; since his retirement, who is managing this now? How do we receive copies? (FYI, we know this may be available by subscribing to weekly newsletters/reports; is that the same information that George used to provide?)* **The department PIO is now Hannah Glasgow, she can be contacted at hglasgow@greenbeltmd.gov. All of the department's crime reports are posted on the city website and can be found here, <https://www.greenbeltmd.gov/government/departments-con-t/police/crime-reports>. The city also uses an email alert system as that can be found on the city website.**
8. **Trees along Hanover Parkway/Greenbriar** – The trees in the Greenbriar area along Hanover Parkway are aging. Does this fall under City jurisdiction? If so, are there plans for replacement of these trees? **Yes, they fall under City jurisdiction. Yes, there is a plan to address the trees in the fall of this year.**
9. **COVID Restrictions** – We know that Greenbelt has lifted restrictions based on reduced rates in the county/state. However, there appears to be an increased infections of a new omicron variant; how is the city tracking this? Will the city continue to follow city/state guidance, or is it prepared to make an independent decision if numbers of infections start to rise locally? **The City continues to track Covid-19 numbers in the County and state. In the past we have followed the lead and guidance of Prince George's County on masking requirements.**
10. **Lighting issues** – There is a light pole down at the intersection of Morrison Drive and Ora Glen Drive. Is the City aware of this issue? Who is responsible for repairs to downed light poles on streets (not in HOA courts or parking areas)?

Yes, DPW is fully aware of the situation and is/has been actively engaged with Pepco to resolve. The pole/light belongs to the City however it is fully maintained and operated by Pepco any costs associated with replacement/fixing is later charged back to the City. As stated the issue has been reported and we have been told by Pepco they have transferred the issue to their construction department for repair.