



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

City Council Meeting

COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE ONLINE ONLY

Due to the COVID-19 precautions, the Council Meeting will be held online and is planned to be cablecast on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and streamed to www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv.

Resident participation:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86908731112?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86908731112?pwd=OEVWVWJE5Ym9DM0RxSzBHZGNuQzgvcQT09)

[pwd=OEVWVWJE5Ym9DM0RxSzBHZGNuQzgvcQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86908731112?pwd=OEVWVWJE5Ym9DM0RxSzBHZGNuQzgvcQT09)

OR

Join By phone: (301) 715-8592

Meeting ID: 869 0873 1112

Passcode: 736144

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.

Monday, March 22, 2021

8:00 PM

I. ORGANIZATION

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
4. 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.)

5. Approval of Agenda and Additions

II. COMMUNICATIONS

6. Presentations

6a. ACE Educator Award Ceremony

Suggested Action:

Based on nominations from area schools, Greenbelt's Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) selects one Outstanding Educator each year from the six ACE core schools: Greenbelt Elementary School, Springhill Lake Elementary School, Magnolia Elementary School, Dora Kennedy French Immersion, Greenbelt Middle School and Eleanor Roosevelt High School. This year the ceremony will be virtual. Awardees will join the virtual Council Meeting and ACE members will acknowledge each award winner. Proclamations, Certificates, and the ACE Educator Apple Award will be delivered to the winners at their schools. Local, State, and County Legislators and the School Board Representative have been invited to attend. Family, friends, and co-workers are encouraged to watch via the livestream on the City Website.

[ACE_2021_Educator_Awardees__1_.pdf](#)

6b. Proposed Greenbelt Metro Station Development Update

Suggested Action:

Garth Beall of Renard Development Company, LLC will be providing Council with an update related to previous plans to relocate the FBI Washington, DC Headquarters and proposed location at Greenbelt Metro Station.

6c. Arbor Day Proclamation

Suggested Action:

In keeping with its designation as a "Tree City USA," Greenbelt issues a proclamation annually in recognition of Arbor Day. This year, Arbor Day will be celebrated on April 10, 2021. Brian Townsend, Assistant Director of Public Works, and Charles Jackman, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Trees, will be present to accept the proclamation and give an overview of this year's Arbor Day plans.

[ArborDay21_proc.pdf](#)

[Arbor Day 2021 Agenda Council2.pdf](#)

[Arbor Day 2021 Tree Layout2.pdf](#)

6d. Proposed FY 2022 City Budget

Suggested Action:

The City Manager will submit the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2022, which begins July 1, 2021, and ends on June 30, 2022. The Council will hold work sessions on each departmental budget. There are two public hearing on the proposed budget.

The material will be presented at the meeting.

7. Petitions and Requests

*8. * Minutes of Council Meetings

Suggested Action:

Interview - February 10, 2021

Interview - February 24, 2021

[INT210210.pdf](#)

[INT210224.pdf](#)

9. Administrative Reports

10. * Committee Reports

III. LEGISLATION

11. An Ordinance to Amend Section 2-22 of the City Code to Authorize the Finance Manager to Sign Checks, Vouchers and Purchase Orders

- 1st Reading, Suspension of the Rules

- 2nd Reading, Adoption

Suggested Action:

Reference:

Ordinance

City Code Section 2-22

Section 2-22 of the City specifies that the City Manager and City Treasurer must sign checks, vouchers, and purchase orders. If these positions are absent or vacant the Council, via a Resolution, designates a substitute person to sign.

This section also provides that upon the recommendation of the City Manager, the Council may authorize the Assistant City Manager to sign these documents in the

absence of the City Manager, also done via Resolution. With the Assistant City Manager retiring and to ensure that a senior official is always available to sign, it is now recommended that the Finance Manager be added to this section. The Finance Manager has been authorized to sign these documents on a temporary basis in the past. Adoption of this Ordinance would allow the Council to authorize the Finance Manager to be a back-up signatory on an ongoing basis.

This is recommended in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and need for redundancy. Multiple signatures will continue to be required. Suspension of the rules to allow first and second reading is recommended.

[Ordinance for Finance Manager Signature.pdf](#)
[City Code Section 2-22.pdf](#)

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

12. Release of Funds to Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad

Suggested Action:

Reference:

Email, Chief Ray, 3/8/21

Proposal - Atlantic Emergency Solutions

The City sets aside funds annually in an Agency Fund to assist the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad (GVFDRS) with apparatus purchases. There is currently \$256,892 available in the Fund. Included in the background materials is a request from Chief Thomas Ray that GVFDRS intends to use these funds towards the final payment on a 2021 Pierce fire engine to replace a 2005 engine. In February of 2020 the City released \$400,000 of the Agency Fund to be used towards this new fire truck.

The balance due on the new fire truck is \$295,312. If approved, the City release would be \$256,892 and GVFDRS would fund the rest of the cost using \$38,420 of its own funds.

Staff recommends Council authorize the release of these funds.

[Email, Chief Ray, 3.8.21.pdf](#)

[Proposal - Atlantic Emergency Solutions.pdf](#)

13. NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan Environmental

Assessment (EA)

Suggested Action:

Reference: Memorandum, M. Porter, 03/18/2021

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of implementing a new Master Plan for the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) Greenbelt Campus. This Master Plan contemplates a 20-year time period during which numerous buildings would be demolished, constructed and renovated. This Master Plan also explores options for some excess buildings and land areas including divesting land, divesting buildings, and potential partnerships.

This Draft EA was released on March 4, 2021 with a 30-day public comment period to end on April 5, 2021. Staff has reviewed this Draft EA and prepared a memorandum that details key elements of the Draft EA and identifies areas of concern within the assessment. Staff recommends that City Council submit a letter, to include a list of areas of concern with the Draft EA, to the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.

[Memorandum, M. Porter, 03/18/2021.pdf](#)

14. HR 40 - Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act

Suggested Action:

Mayor Byrd requested this item be added to the agenda.

The motion would be to support this Federal legislation related to reparations.

[BILLS-117hr40ih.pdf](#)

15. Reparations Commission Resolution

Suggested Action:

Mayor Byrd requested this item be added to the agenda.

Reparations Commission Resolutions

- This would be a 21 member commission to study and develop reparations for Black residents of Greenbelt
- Related links
 - Asheville, North Carolina
 - https://drive.google.com/file/d/171cMxxq7D5suSZQSA_DAVm/
 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/10OeTaF8XY1ncdtBVzvIm->

[C7nCTQPfdA/view](#)

- Providence, Rhode Island
 - <https://www.providenceri.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Mayors-Executive-Order-2020-13-1.pdf>
- Evanston, Illinois
 - <https://www.cityofevanston.org/home/showdocument?id=49061>
 - <https://www.cityofevanston.org/home/showpublisheddocument?id=54614>
- Burlington, Vermont
 - Attached

[Resolution Supporting Local Reparations in Greenbelt.rev.pdf](#)

[Signed CC Resolution Establishing A Task Force To Study A Proposal For Reparations And To Consider A City Apology For The Institution Of Slavery revised ver.pdf](#)

16. Request for Limbing of Tree Branches around the Community Gardens

Suggested Action:

Ms. Davis requested this item be added to the agenda.

17. County Legislation CR-26-2021 (Maglev Opposition)

Suggested Action:

Reference: CR-26-2021

CR-27 is a County Council Resolution opposing the proposed Baltimore-Washington Superconducting Maglev Project. It was introduced by Council Chair Hawkins on March 16, 2021.

Staff recommends Council support CR-26 and direct staff to send a letter to the entire County Council urging their support and send a letter to Council Chair Hawkins thanking him for introducing the Resolution.

[CR-26-2021.pdf](#)

18. Council Activities

19. Council Reports

*20. * Appointment to Advisory Board

Suggested Action:

Reference: Application and Signed Code of Conduct

The Council interviewed Wanna Coker for appointment to the Board of Election (BOE).

Approval of this item on the consent agenda will indicate Council's intent to appoint Ms. Coker to BOE.

V. MEETINGS

Meetings

Suggested Action:

[meetings.pdf](#)

Stakeholders

[Stakeholder Schedule.pdf](#)

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Submitted by: Liz Park

Submitting Department: Community Services

Item Type: Presentations

Agenda Section: COMMUNICATIONS

Subject:

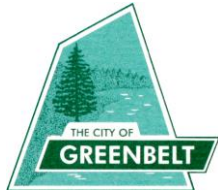
ACE Educator Award Ceremony

Suggested Action:

Based on nominations from area schools, Greenbelt's Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) selects one Outstanding Educator each year from the six ACE core schools: Greenbelt Elementary School, Springhill Lake Elementary School, Magnolia Elementary School, Dora Kennedy French Immersion, Greenbelt Middle School and Eleanor Roosevelt High School. This year the ceremony will be virtual. Awardees will join the virtual Council Meeting and ACE members will acknowledge each award winner. Proclamations, Certificates, and the ACE Educator Apple Award will be delivered to the winners at their schools. Local, State, and County Legislators and the School Board Representative have been invited to attend. Family, friends, and co-workers are encouraged to watch via the livestream on the City Website.

Attachments:

[ACE_2021_Educator_Awardees__1_.pdf](#)



ACE 2021 Educator Awardees

William Dunlap, Teacher, Springhill Lake Elementary

George Courtney, Teacher, Greenbelt Elementary

Amah Bella Navarrosa, Teacher, Magnolia Elementary

Yvette Goslee, Teacher, Eleanor Roosevelt High School

Phillip Held, Teacher, Dora Kennedy French Immersion

Camille Butler, Teacher, Greenbelt Middle School

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: Presentations

Agenda Section: COMMUNICATIONS

Subject:

Proposed Greenbelt Metro Station Development Update

Suggested Action:

Garth Beall of Renard Development Company, LLC will be providing Council with an update related to previous plans to relocate the FBI Washington, DC Headquarters and proposed location at Greenbelt Metro Station.

Attachments:

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Submitted by: Brian Townsend

Submitting Department: Public Works

Item Type: Proclamation

Agenda Section: COMMUNICATIONS

Subject:

Arbor Day Proclamation

Suggested Action:

In keeping with its designation as a "Tree City USA," Greenbelt issues a proclamation annually in recognition of Arbor Day. This year, Arbor Day will be celebrated on April 10, 2021. Brian Townsend, Assistant Director of Public Works, and Charles Jackman, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Trees, will be present to accept the proclamation and give an overview of this year's Arbor Day plans.

Attachments:

[ArborDay21_proc.pdf](#)

[Arbor Day 2021 Agenda Council2.pdf](#)

[Arbor Day 2021 Tree Layout2.pdf](#)

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Arbor Day was first celebrated in the state of Nebraska in 1872 in response to a state proclamation urging settlers and homesteaders to plant trees to provide "shade, shelter, fruit, fuel and beauty" for residents of the largely treeless plains; and

WHEREAS, on that first Arbor Day, more than one million trees were planted in Nebraska's communities and on its farms; and

WHEREAS, trees support our lives by providing us with paper, food for our tables and wood for our homes; and

WHEREAS, trees reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, trees in Greenbelt increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, Greenbelt is recognized as a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation and is pledged to continuing its tree-planting and tree-care practices, as well as its policy of preserving green space and forests to enhance its historic "Green Belt"; and

WHEREAS, to those ends, the City, in 2000, established an Advisory Committee on Trees to study, investigate and advise Council on matters related to the City's tree resources; in 2003, established a Greenbelt Forest Preserve; in 2007, established a Forest Preserve Advisory Board to monitor its management and maintenance; and in 2010 joined the Baltimore Washington Partnership for Forest Stewardship.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Colin Byrd, by the authority vested in me by the citizens and City Council of Greenbelt, do hereby proclaim Saturday, April 10th to be

ARBOR DAY

in Greenbelt and urge all our residents to support efforts to protect our trees which are a connection to our past, a pledge to our future generations, and a continuing source of joy and spiritual renewal for all our citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, to be affixed this 22nd day of May 2021.

Colin Byrd, Mayor

ATTEST: Bonita Anderson, City Clerk



Arbor Day Celebration

April 10, 2021 from 10am – 11:30am

Location:
Greenbelt Youth Center 99 Centerway

Saturday, April 10th

Registration 9:45 am – 10:05 am	➤ Volunteer registration paperwork
Orientation 10:05 am – 10:20 am	➤ Introduce staff from Greenbelt Public Works & ACT Committee (Brian) ➤ Arbor Day Proclamation (Mayor Byrd) ➤ Plant first tree (Council) and group picture (Bev)
Service 10:20 am – 11:25 am	➤ Plant trees, mulch, and stake trees (Volunteers, PW personnel will assist as needed) ➤ During and after pictures (Bev)
Clean Up 11:25 am - 12:00 pm	➤ Return gloves and equipment to Public Works truck (All) ➤ Thanks for service and final wrap up (Brian)

Due to Covid-19 Only Council, Advisory Committee on Trees, and staff will be present for planting. Mask must be worn at all times and social distancing of 6ft. All tree holes will be pre-dug.

Follow Up: Video and pictures to City web Site and City social media.

Contacts:

Brian Townsend, btownsend@greenbeltmd.gov, (240) 417-2352
Beverly Palau, bpalau@greenbeltmd.gov



Purple circles are existing trees.

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: Presentations

Agenda Section: COMMUNICATIONS

Subject:

Proposed FY 2022 City Budget

Suggested Action:

The City Manager will submit the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2022, which begins July 1, 2021, and ends on June 30, 2022. The Council will hold work sessions on each departmental budget. There are two public hearing on the proposed budget.

The material will be presented at the meeting.

Attachments:

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: Meeting Minutes

Agenda Section: COMMUNICATIONS

Subject:

* Minutes of Council Meetings

Suggested Action:

Interview - February 10, 2021

Interview - February 24, 2021

Attachments:

[INT210210.pdf](#)

[INT210224.pdf](#)

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, February 10, 2021, for the purpose of interviewing a candidate for a City Advisory Group.

The meeting began at 7:44 p.m. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

Present were: Councilmembers, Judith F. Davis, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens, and Rodney M. Roberts (7:44 pm). Mayor Colin A. Byrd and Mayor Pro Tem Emmett V. Jordan were absent.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Assistant to the City Clerk.

Marisa Boone was interviewed for appointment to the Advisory Committee on Education, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Community Relations Advisory Board, Employee Relations Board, Senior Citizens Advisory Committee and Youth Advisory Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Shaniya Lashley-Mullen
Assistant to the City Clerk*

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Wednesday, February 24, 2021, for the purpose of interviewing a candidate for a City Advisory Group.

The meeting began at 7:40 p.m. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

Present were: Councilmembers, Judith F. Davis, Emmett V. Jordan; Leta M. Mach; Silke I. Pope, and Edward V. J. Putens (7:41 p.m.). Councilmember Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Byrd were absent.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen, Assistant to the City Clerk.

Wanna Coker was interviewed for appointment to the Advisory Planning Board, Board of Appeals, Board of Elections, Community Relations Advisory Board, Park & Recreation Advisory Board and the Youth Advisory Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Shaniya Lashley-Mullen
Assistant to the City Clerk*

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Submitted by: David Moran

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: Ordinance

Agenda Section: LEGISLATION

Subject:

An Ordinance to Amend Section 2-22 of the City Code to Authorize the Finance Manager to Sign Checks, Vouchers and Purchase Orders

- 1st Reading, Suspension of the Rules
- 2nd Reading, Adoption

Suggested Action:

Reference:

Ordinance

City Code Section 2-22

Section 2-22 of the City specifies that the City Manager and City Treasurer must sign checks, vouchers, and purchase orders. If these positions are absent or vacant the Council, via a Resolution, designates a substitute person to sign.

This section also provides that upon the recommendation of the City Manager, the Council may authorize the Assistant City Manager to sign these documents in the absence of the City Manager, also done via Resolution. With the Assistant City Manager retiring and to ensure that a senior official is always available to sign, it is now recommended that the Finance Manager be added to this section. The Finance Manager has been authorized to sign these documents on a temporary basis in the past. Adoption of this Ordinance would allow the Council to authorize the Finance Manager to be a back-up signatory on an ongoing basis.

This is recommended in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and need for redundancy. Multiple signatures will continue to be required. Suspension of the rules to allow first and second reading is recommended.

Attachments:

[Ordinance for Finance Manager Signature.pdf](#)

Introduced:
1st Reading:
Passed:
Posted:
Effective:

ORDINANCE NUMBER XXXX

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-22 OF THE CITY CODE TO AUTHORIZE THE
FINANCE MANGER TO SIGN CHECKS, VOUCHERS, AND PURCHASE ORDERS

WHEREAS, the Assistant City Manager position is currently vacant; and

WHEREAS, in the past, the City Council has adopted Resolutions temporarily allowing the Finance Manager to sign these documents; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager recommends that the Finance Manager be authorized to sign checks, vouchers and purchase orders in the absence of the City Manager or the City Treasurer; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance will allow the Council to enact a Resolution which allows the Finance Manager to sign these documents on an ongoing basis similar to what is currently in place for the Assistant City Manager position;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, that Section 2-22 “Signatures on checks, vouchers and purchase orders,” be amended to read as follows:

Chapter 2

ARTICLE II.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

* * * * *

Sec. 2-23. Signatures on checks, vouchers and purchase orders.

(a) All checks, vouchers and purchase orders of the city shall be signed by both the city treasurer and the city manager, except as otherwise provided. If either office shall be vacant or the person holding such office shall be absent or incapacitated, the city council shall by resolution designate a substitute person to sign such checks, vouchers and purchase orders.

(b) Only one signature shall be required on checks drawn against the payroll account of the city for the purpose of paying salaries or wages. The signature appearing on payroll checks shall be that of either the person holding the position of city treasurer or the person holding the position of city manager.

(c) Upon the recommendation of the city manager, the city council may authorize the assistant city manager and/or the finance manager to sign checks, vouchers and purchase orders in the place of the city manager and/or the city treasurer, subject to such regulations or restrictions as may be imposed either by the city manager or the city council.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that this Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its passage.

PASSED by the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland at its regular meeting of _____, 2021

Colin A. Byrd
Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

Key:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.

~~Overstriking~~ indicates language deleted from existing law.

Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.

Sec. 2-2. Job classification and salary of city manager.

The job classification and salary of the city manager shall be fixed by motion of the city council.
(Code 1971, § 2-2)

Cross References: Employee compensation plan, § 13-101 et seq.

Sec. 2-3. Bonds for city employees.

(a) The city manager shall obtain from a recognized surety company a public employees faithful performance bond to provide coverage on all employees except the city treasurer in the amount of at least fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00).

(b) The city manager shall be included as an employee in the public employees faithful performance bond. However, an endorsement shall be obtained increasing the limit of liability upon the position of city manager to at least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00).

(c) The city manager shall obtain bond for the city treasurer in the amount of at least one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000.00) from a recognized surety company.
(Code 1971, §§ 2-45--2-47)

Charter References: Premium on official bonds to be paid by city, § 70.

Secs. 2-4--2-20. Reserved.

ARTICLE II.

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS*

* **Charter References:** Financial affairs, § 46 et seq.

Cross References: Cable television franchise fee, § 5-20; perpetual maintenance cemetery trust fund, § 6-19; licenses, permits and miscellaneous business regulations, Ch. 10; taxation, Ch. 19.

State Law References: Power of municipality to control its finances, Anno. Code of Md., Art. 23A, § 2(a)(11).

DIVISION 1.

GENERALLY

Sec. 2-21. City depositories.

The city manager shall designate from time to time one or more financial institutions in which the city treasurer shall deposit city funds. Only Maryland financial institutions meeting the requirements of the state for the deposit of municipal funds shall be designated. City funds not required to meet current obligations of the city may be invested in such manner as may be authorized by the state.
(Code 1971, § 8-1; Ord. No. 933, 1-24-83)

Sec. 2-22. Signatures on checks, vouchers and purchase orders.

(a) All checks, vouchers and purchase orders of the city shall be signed by both the city treasurer and the city manager, except as otherwise provided. If either office shall be vacant or the person holding such office shall be absent or incapacitated, the city council shall by resolution designate a substitute person to sign such checks, vouchers and purchase orders.

(b) Only one signature shall be required on checks drawn against the payroll account of the city for the purpose of paying salaries or wages. The signature appearing on payroll checks shall be that of either the person holding the position of city treasurer or the person holding the position of city manager.

(c) Upon the recommendation of the city manager, the city council may authorize the assistant city manager to sign checks, vouchers and purchase orders in the place of the city manager, subject to such regulations or restrictions as may be imposed either by the city manager or the city council.
(Code 1971, §§ 8-2, 8-3; Ord. No. 989, 6-10-86)

Sec. 2-23. Equipment replacement fund.

(a) An equipment replacement fund is hereby established for the purpose of receiving money annually appropriated for replacement of equipment previously in use. This fund shall be maintained as a separate account subject to internal accounting controls; and no disbursement shall be made therefrom, except for the purpose of replacing equipment which may be necessary, from budgetary appropriations for replacement purposes. Deposits shall be made in such fund so as to record the deposit of all replacement appropriations prior to the close of each fiscal year.

(b) The city manager and the city treasurer shall be authorized to invest funds not required to meet current obligations in short-term interest-bearing notes, bonds or other obligations as authorized by the Charter of the city and to temporarily transfer such funds to another fund of the city as a short-term interfund loan pending the receipt of anticipated money in the fund to which the interfund loan is made, provided that all such money loaned to another fund shall be repaid prior to the close of each fiscal year and further provided that any fund receiving an interfund loan shall pay the equipment replacement fund interest for the term of the loan comparable to the interest which would be earned if the replacement fund moneys had been invested in interest-bearing notes, bonds or other obligations.
(Code 1971, § 8-5; Ord. No. 981, 2-24-86)

Sec. 2-24. Reserved.

Editors Note: Ord. No. 1068, adopted May 29, 1991, repealed former § 2-24, which pertained to the revenue sharing fund and derived from the 1971 Code, § 8-5.1; and Ord. No. 981, adopted Feb. 24, 1986.

Sec. 2-25. Capital projects fund.

(a) A capital projects fund is hereby established for the purpose of accounting for the cost of capital improvements to streets, parks, buildings, and other city facilities, and for the acquisition of land. Revenues of the fund shall be such funds as may be appropriated to this fund annually in the general fund and such other funds as may be designated to be received into this fund. The council shall appropriate from time to time from the unappropriated fund balance for capital improvement projects. Such appropriations shall not expire at the close of a fiscal year and shall continue in effect until such time as the project is completed, at which time any unexpended and unencumbered balance of funds shall be returned to the unappropriated fund balance.

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Submitted by: David Moran

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

Release of Funds to Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad

Suggested Action:

Reference:

Email, Chief Ray, 3/8/21

Proposal - Atlantic Emergency Solutions

The City sets aside funds annually in an Agency Fund to assist the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad (GVFDRS) with apparatus purchases. There is currently \$256,892 available in the Fund. Included in the background materials is a request from Chief Thomas Ray that GVFDRS intends to use these funds towards the final payment on a 2021 Pierce fire engine to replace a 2005 engine. In February of 2020 the City released \$400,000 of the Agency Fund to be used towards this new fire truck.

The balance due on the new fire truck is \$295,312. If approved, the City release would be \$256,892 and GVFDRS would fund the rest of the cost using \$38,420 of its own funds.

Staff recommends Council authorize the release of these funds.

Attachments:

[Email, Chief Ray, 3.8.21.pdf](#)

[Proposal - Atlantic Emergency Solutions.pdf](#)

David Moran

From: Thomas Ray <35t.ray@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 11:34 AM
To: David Moran
Cc: Lisa Hegwood; Nicole Ard; Bertha Gaymon; Gregory Gigliotti
Subject: Re: GVFD Apparatus Replacement Fund

Thank you for the information. We will have someone available for the 3/22/21 Council meeting to answer any questions. We would need the check by April 19th. Please consider this email our formal request for the funding. The remaining balance due on the engine is \$295,312. We would like to use the remaining \$256,892 in the City Apparatus Replacement account along with \$38,420 of Corporation money to pay off the balance. It was never our intention to draw down this account, however, we did not receive 508 money for this year's allocation and the State process for a low interest loan takes over a year to complete, which made it impossible for us to use for an April 2021 delivery of the new engine. The specs of the engine remain the same as the paperwork that we submitted in February 2021. Please let me know if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Thank you,

Chief Ray

On Thu, Mar 4, 2021 at 11:33 AM David Moran <dmoran@greenbeltmd.gov> wrote:

Chief Ray,

Thanks for the information. When would you need the actual check?

The reason I ask is that we need to take this request to the City Council for their approval. The next opportunity would be the Regular City Council meeting on March 22. With that timing, the check would be available a week or two following the meeting. Does this timing work for GVFD?

Similar to what we did last February, you or a GVFD representative would need to be available virtually at this March 22 meeting to answer any questions. We would also need a written request (email is fine) and any background materials (invoice, contract etc.) to provide to the Council in advance of the meeting.

I am copying Nicole Ard and Bertha Gaymon, our new City Treasurer, on this request so they are aware. Also and FYI I will be retiring from the City on March 31.

Thanks and let me know if you have any questions.

David

David E. Moran

Assistant City Manager

25 Crescent Road

Greenbelt, MD 20770

301-474-8000 (office)

301-441-8248 (fax)

From: Thomas Ray [mailto:35t.ray@gmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 6:44 PM

To: David Moran

Cc: Lisa Hegwood

Subject: Re: GVFD Apparatus Replacement Fund

David,

Thanks for the quick response. We would like to utilize the remainder of the funds available in the account towards the new engine that us in production. We are due to receive the engine mid-April. The balance due is \$295, 312. The remaining \$38,420 will be paid out by the Corporation. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you,

Chief Ray

On Wed, Mar 3, 2021, 5:21 PM David Moran <dmoran@greenbeltmd.gov> wrote:

Hi Lisa,

The balance in the Apparatus Replacement account is \$256,892.

If GVFD is considering a purchase/draw-down in this fiscal year (before 6/30/21) or sometime next fiscal year (7/1/21-6/30/22), please advise ASAP as we are in the process of finalizing the City Budget.

Thanks.

David

From: Lisa Hegwood [mailto:lisa.mc.hegwood@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 3, 2021 10:41 AM
To: David Moran
Cc: T. Ray
Subject: GVFD Apparatus Replacement Fund

David,

Hello and I hope this email finds you well! I'm reaching out to you on behalf of Chief Ray and the department to see what the balance is of the GVFD Apparatus Replacement account. Thank you for your assistance.

Take care,

Lisa Hegwood

FF/EMT GVFD

301-278-6234



February 14th, 2020

Chief Tommy Ray
Fire Chief
Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc.
125 Crescent Rd
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Dear Tommy,

Please find attached revisions to our January 31st, 2020 proposal to provide your organization with one (1) 2021 Pierce Custom Pumper on a Pierce Arrow XT chassis, as per your detailed requirements. The pricing is derived using HGAC Pricing Consortium pricing.:

BID PRICE FOR APPARATUS AS SPECIFIED: \$699,978

CHANGES 2/14/20:

1. Delete front bumper reinforcement:	-3,000
2. Delete Computer dock device:	-2,200
3. Add 12V prewire for customer installed dock device:	180
4. Delete the two Whelen pole lights on the rear of the cab:	-4,028
5. Change front brow light to 72" Hi Viz brow light:	3,695
6. Change two side cab Pioneer lights to Hi Viz:	N/C
7. Change two side body Pioneer lights to Hi Viz CPREC lights:	800
8. Change rear Pioneer lights to Hi Viz:	440
9. Change headlights to Hi Viz:	494
10. Delete Foam tank and on-board system:	-5,559
11. Delete automatic tire chains:	-3,066
12. Delete three headsets for intercom system, four remain:	-1,084
13. Delete side roll air bags in cab, frontal impact bags remain:	-3,400
14. Change crosslays to 1-1/2: single stack:	N/C
15. Add dead lays for two double stack high rise packs:	2,988
16. Delete hose tray atop low side compartments passenger side:	-804
17. Add free floating hose tray at passenger side running board:	980
18. Delete swinging tool board in LS2 compartment:	-1,007
19. Add pegboard on rear of LS2 compartment:	508
20. Change master pump gauges to 6" diameter:	N/C
21. Change all discharge and master gauges to LED backlit, park brake:	1,738
22. Change cab door handles to green LED, park brake activated:	778

23. Add drop down doors to Back board slot in cab compartment:	290
24. Add shelf for saw in LS1 / B1 compartment:	340
25. Add two shelves and support for handlights RS1:	420
26. Change the aluminum wheels to Alcoa Durablack:	1,402

TOTAL AMOUNT OF CHANGES ABOVE: -9,095

REVISED BID PRICE AFTER CHANGES ABOVE: \$690,883

Terms: Our standard payment terms are no money down at contract signing with the balance due upon delivery and acceptance in Greenbelt, MD. *Optional payment terms* are available:

Should you elect to pay 90% of the apparatus with contract (\$629,980) you may deduct **\$16,877** from the above bid price. This credit includes a 100% performance bond.

Should you elect to pay \$400,000 at contract signing, you may deduct **\$9,316** from the above bid price. A performance bond will be included.

Other prepayment options available upon request.

Delivery: Delivery of the completed apparatus is 330-365 calendar days following acceptance of a signed contract at Pierce Manufacturing. Change Orders may affect this estimated delivery time.

Inspection Trips: The Bid price includes two inspection trips to the factory. One (1) post paint inspection trip for four (4) members of the organization and one (1) final inspection trip for six (6) members.

Validity of Quote: The bid price above is valid through **March 1st, 2020**. Any contract signed after that date will be subject to a 3% price increase.

We greatly value your interest in Pierce Manufacturing and look forward to the prospect of working with your organization on this project. If you have any questions about our proposal, please feel free to contact me at 301-452-5300 or email at rschwartz@atlanticemergency.com.

Yours very truly,

Randall K. Schwartz, Sr.

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Submitted by: Molly Porter

Submitting Department: Planning

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan Environmental Assessment (EA)

Suggested Action:

Reference: Memorandum, M. Porter, 03/18/2021

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of implementing a new Master Plan for the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) Greenbelt Campus. This Master Plan contemplates a 20-year time period during which numerous buildings would be demolished, constructed and renovated. This Master Plan also explores options for some excess buildings and land areas including divesting land, divesting buildings, and potential partnerships.

This Draft EA was released on March 4, 2021 with a 30-day public comment period to end on April 5, 2021. Staff has reviewed this Draft EA and prepared a memorandum that details key elements of the Draft EA and identifies areas of concern within the assessment. Staff recommends that City Council submit a letter, to include a list of areas of concern with the Draft EA, to the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center.

Attachments:

[Memorandum, M. Porter, 03/18/2021.pdf](#)

Memorandum

TO: Ms. Nicole Ard, City Manager
DATE: March 18, 2021
FROM: Molly Porter, Community Planner
VIA: Terri Hruby, Director of Planning & Community Development
RE: Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt Campus Master Plan

I. BACKGROUND:

On March 4, 2021, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (NASA GSFC) released a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of implementing a new Master Plan for the NASA GSFC Greenbelt Campus. The Draft EA is meant to provide, “information necessary to understand and evaluate the potential environmental consequences of the activities included under the Proposed Action. The environmental resource areas analyzed within this Draft EA include: air quality; biological resources; water resources; cultural resources; hazardous materials and wastes; land use; and utilities and infrastructure.”¹

The subject NASA GSFC Master Plan, “would be implemented over a 20-year period during which time numerous buildings would be demolished, constructed, and renovated and general infrastructure maintenance and improvement activities would continue throughout the installation. NASA would explore different options for some excess buildings and land areas to include divesting land, divesting buildings, and potential future partnerships with non-NASA entities.”² Comments on this Draft EA are to be submitted by April 5, 2021.

This memorandum provides an overview of the Draft EA and areas of concern or question that have been identified by staff. The City has also received a referral from the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) regarding the Draft Master Plan at the GSFC Greenbelt. This Draft Master Plan includes additional details about the vision for the GSFC

¹ Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 1-5

² <https://code200-external.gsfc.nasa.gov/250/node/122>

Greenbelt Campus, including on-campus bicycle/pedestrian accommodations and on-site amenities. This referral will be brought back to City Council at a later meeting date in order to submit comments by the May 7, 2021 deadline.

II. PREVIOUS CITY INVOLVEMENT

The City has previously been involved in conversations with NASA Goddard regarding this proposed Master Plan. On December 9, 2020 the Greenbelt City Council held a work session with representatives from NASA Goddard to discuss the proposed Master Plan. At that time questions and concerns were raised about divesting land outside of the future fenceline and the divestment of land in Area 400, an area that is not part of the Main Campus. Prior to that work session the City submitted a letter regarding the EA scoping letter that was released in July, 2020.

The City's letter, dated August, 13, 2020, highlighted the need for the forthcoming EA to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). This letter also noted that environmental sustainability should be the main focus of the implementation of the master plan, and that the plan should honor the mission of GSFC. This letter also highlighted that the City supports the mission of GSFC and has a vested interest in its future successes, particularly in promoting the preservation of its natural and historical resources while providing for sustainable opportunities.

This letter specifically recommended that the impacts on the natural environment, water quality, transportation, light, noise, air quality, and socioeconomics be addressed. It should be noted that the Draft EA does not address transportation, socioeconomic, light, or noise impacts. While the City's letter was inadvertently not included in the scoping responses in Appendix A of the Draft EA, "Public and Agency Involvement" staff has confirmed that the comments were received.

III. NASA GSFC GREENBELT CAMPUS:

The NASA GSFC Greenbelt Campus currently covers roughly 1,275 acres across five (5) geographic regions. These regions are termed: Main Campus, Area 100, Area 200, Area 300, and Area 400. A map of these five (5) areas is attached to this memorandum. The Main Campus covers more than 820 acres and contains the largest concentration of buildings, "The Main Campus consists of numerous facilities and operations that include, but are not limited to flight control operations, communications for NASA's space flight programs, and spacecraft operation;

laboratories; engineering and technical facilities primarily devoted to the fabrication, testing and assembly of spacecraft and their components; shops; test facilities; computer space; and specialized areas such as clean rooms.”³

Areas 100 and 200 are leased from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. Area 100, which is 28 acres, is largely used by the Goddard Employee Welfare Association and other employee clubs. Area 200, a 120-acres site, houses the Goddard Geophysical and Astronomical Observatory.

Areas 300 and 400 are owned by NASA. Area 300, a 152-acre site, houses two (2) facilities: Magnetic Component Test Facility and Spacecraft Magnetic Test Facility. Area 400, a 100-acres site, houses facilities that are used to develop and test cryogenics. As noted previously, the proposed Master Plan includes plans for construction, renovation, sustainment, demolition, and divestment of existing NASA areas and buildings under the proposed Action Alternative.

IV. PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION:

As stated in the Draft EA, “The purpose of the GSFC Greenbelt Campus Master Plan is to enable Greenbelt to establish a vision strategy for the future, support core capabilities, meet mission requirements, and respond effectively to future mission changes.”⁴ The Draft EA further states that the Master Plan is needed as a framework to support sustainable development and to support the Center’s planning and budgeting processes to be implemented over a 20-year period. The previous Master Plan for NASA GSFC, GSFC Facilities Master Plan, was published in 2002. This plan focused on a “Unified Consolidated Campus,” including the realignment of Soil Conservation Road to the east side of GSFC to create a unified installation.

The current GSFC Greenbelt Master Plan is part of a larger NASA effort which requires all NASA Goddard centers to develop master plans. These plans must achieve affordable infrastructure over approximately 20 years.⁵

V. ACTION ALTERNATIVE:

The Draft EA evaluates the potential impacts of both the Action Alternative and the No Action Alternative. The Action Alternative is the carrying out of the proposed Master Plan. Specifically this would include, “...demolition [of] 647,000 square feet of excess and/or aging

³ Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 1-2

⁴ Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan Pg. ES-2

⁵ <https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2019/envision-goddard-modernizing-for-the-future>

and energy inefficient buildings; add via construction approximately 375,000 square feet (building footprint) of new Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified energy efficient buildings; divestment of approximately 100,000 square feet (building footprint) of excess buildings; avoid annual energy costs by approximately \$8.8 million and approximately \$10.1 million in operations and maintenance costs; and remove approximately \$54 million in deferred maintenance.”⁶ There are also a number of buildings on the Main Campus that are slated for sustainment and renovation. These renovation projects would largely focus on the interiors of the buildings.

Maps are attached to this memorandum that detail which buildings are to be demolished, constructed, or retained. Interior vehicular traffic will be moved to the perimeter of the Main Campus, allowing additional pedestrian traffic in the interior.⁷ The Draft EA notes how Master Plan implementation will make bicycle and pedestrian movements safer, but does not provide detail about interior bike/ped amenities such as bicycle racks, bicycle lanes, and/or sidewalks. The Master Plan also includes the relocation of the Main Entrance from Goddard Road to ICESat Road. This gate relocation is not evaluated in the Draft EA.

As this Proposed Action would include a number of different projects, each of the projects would be evaluated through the GSFC Greenbelt Environmental and Safety Review Process to ensure the project is sufficiently analyzed through the EA process and/or if further study, including NEPA documentation, is needed. Each project will also be analyzed to determine whether additional environmental requirements will be necessary. It is important to note that throughout the Draft EA exact impacts are not known at this time because the perimeters of each project have not been finalized. The Draft EA assumes that minor changes will be made to the Master Plan over time, but does not anticipate that these changes would affect the environmental impacts discussed in the Draft EA. To understand potential impacts of the projects, the Draft EA uses near-term projects to illustrate how each project could impact the resources that are analyzed in the Draft EA.

I. Main Campus Demolition:

The proposed demolition projects under the Action Alternative would amount to a 624,000 square foot decrease in building footprint on the Main Campus. The specific reductions are shown in the table below:

⁶ Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan Pg. ES-1

⁷ Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-23

City of Greenbelt**Department of Planning and Community Development**

15 Crescent Road, Suite 200, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

(301) 345-5417 Fax (301) 345-5418

Building Number	Building Footprint
1	35,900
1A	2,600
3	52,000
4 (+4A-H)	45,300
5	132,700
7	67,400
8	20,500
9	3,600
13	35,700
14	29,900
15	37,900
18 (+18B)	22,300
19(+19A)	21,900
20	26,400
25 (+25 a-c, e)	38,900
27 (+27 A-E)	22,100
79	4,600
90 (+90A-D)	11,200
95	1,500
97	12,000
Total:	624,400

Of the near-term projects identified for implementation under the Greenbelt Campus Master Plan is the demolition of multiple buildings in the Building 27 complex (buildings 27 A-E, highlighted in the table above). The Draft EA does not provide information about individual buildings as to how the demolition contributes to the stated Purpose and Need.

II. Main Campus Construction:

The proposed construction on the Main Campus under the Action Alternative includes 375,000 square feet of building footprint. The specific projects are listed below:

Building Number	Building Footprint
A	80,000
B	40,000
C	60,000
D	22,000

City of Greenbelt

Department of Planning and Community Development

15 Crescent Road, Suite 200, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

(301) 345-5417 Fax (301) 345-5418

Building Number	Building Footprint
E	22,000
F	22,000
G	22,000
H	45,000
I	40,000
J	22,000
K	Not Established
L	Not Established
Total	375,000

A near-term construction project listed in the Greenbelt Campus Master Plan is the construction of Building J (highlighted in the table above) which would require the removal of approximately 1.0 acres of forested area. This near-term construction project is proposed to occur on the eastern side of the Main Campus.

III. Main Campus Divestment

As noted previously, the Master Plan includes plans for divestment of NASA owned property, including on the Main Campus. NASA would consider divestment under two (2) different arrangements; partnership with public or private entities to be outside the fenceline and/or partnerships with other government agencies or institutions that would be inside the fenceline. The scope of divestment on the Main Campus is detailed in the Draft EA:

“Several buildings in the partnership area outside the future fenceline have been identified for potential divestment (i.e., transfer of ownership). It is unknown at this time if NASA would divest the land and buildings in the outside partnership area and/or demolish the buildings there. NASA would place restrictions and/or limitations on construction of new buildings within the partnership areas based on partnership type and vehicle used, existing and anticipated relationship with GSFC, and location relative to the Campus.”

Future NEPA analysis will be required for activities within the potential partnership areas. At this time specific partnerships have not been identified. The Draft EA states that, “NASA would work with potential partners to maintain similar uses of these [partnership] areas to avoid adverse

City of Greenbelt

Department of Planning and Community Development

15 Crescent Road, Suite 200, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

(301) 345-5417 Fax (301) 345-5418

land use impacts.”⁸ Staff strongly feels that it is of significant importance that all potential partnerships respect the GSFC mission. The City has previously raised a strong concern about the divestment of land and buildings, urging that these options be carefully evaluated during the EA and Section 106 processes.

As details of these potential partnerships are unknown at this time there is little evaluation provided in the Draft EA. Staff continues to have a concern about the divestment of land and buildings and potential partnerships and continues to urge that these actions are considered for environmental impact and are considered holistically rather than in a piecemeal fashion.

IV. Scope of Work in Areas off the Main Campus

The Draft EA outlines that there are no new construction, renovation, or potential partnerships proposed for the areas off the main campus. Numerous buildings in Areas 100, 200, and 300 will continue to be maintained (i.e., sustained).

V. Demolition Projects in Areas off the Main Campus

A total of 23,000 square feet of building footprint is proposed to be demolished on areas off of the Main Campus. The specific proposed demolition projects are listed below:

Location	Building Number	Building Footprint (square feet)
Area 100		
	X102G	600
	104	1,300
	X104E	200
	T100-102	4,200
Area 200		
	202	Underground
	203	300
	205	600
	206	1,800
	207	1,100
	209	400
	210	400

⁸ Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-27

City of Greenbelt**Department of Planning and Community Development**

15 Crescent Road, Suite 200, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

(301) 345-5417 Fax (301) 345-5418

Location	Building Number	Building Footprint (square feet)
	215	300
	271	400
	T211	400
Area 300		
	306	1,600
	307	900
Area 400		
	401	400
	402	1,500
	403	400
	405	2,500
	407	800
	408	100
	414	900
	415	400
	416	1,400
	TOTAL	22,900

VI. Divestment Areas off the Main Campus

The Master Plan proposed the divestment of Area 400 in its entirety (100 acres) because, “Area 400 is currently underutilized and as such, it has been identified for divestment. A portion of Area 400 could be leased out to another agency or it could be excessed to the Government Services Administration (GSA).”⁹ The GSA, therefore, would be responsible for determining the future land use of areas that are divested. Additional environmental analyses and/or NEPA documentation will be required to address the transfer of land. The Draft EA also notes that this area could return to its natural vegetative state.

VI. NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE:

Under the No Action Alternative, NASA would not implement the GSFC Greenbelt Campus Master Plan. The Draft EA argues that this action would not fulfill the purpose and need for the proposed action because, “The Center would continue to operate the buildings and infrastructure

⁹Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 2-7

currently in use on the Main Campus and in the areas off the Main Campus leading to increased aging and energy inefficient buildings and infrastructure.”¹⁰

While the Draft EA maintains that the No Action Alternative would not fulfill the purpose and need of the proposed action, the No Action Alternative is carried forward throughout the Draft EA as a baseline comparative.

VII. SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES:

The Draft EA includes the potential impacts to a variety of resource areas including air quality, biological resources, water resources, cultural resources, hazardous materials and wastes, land use, and utilities and infrastructure. Each of these resource areas and the potential impact by the Action Alternative are detailed below.

There are a variety of resources that have not been analyzed in the Draft EA because it was determined that the impact from the implementation of the NASA GSFC Greenbelt Campus Master Plan would be negligible or non-existent. Environmental Justice was not considered because, “the potential for the Proposed Action to disproportionately affect minority or low-income populations or children would be negligible.”¹¹ Geological resources were not considered because the projects in the Master Plan would largely occur within previously developed areas. Public Health and Safety was not considered as all activities would be performed by qualified professionals and signage/fencing would be used to notify pedestrians and motorists of project activities.

Socioeconomics was not considered because according to the Draft EA any short-term economic benefits due to project activities are considered to be negligible. Finally, transportation was not considered because the vehicular ingress/egress would not be adversely affected and impacts to operational traffic would be negligible. Additionally, GSFC does not anticipate an increase in the workforce or number of visitors on the Center as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action. Staff believes that by not addressing transportation there is an assumption that the current transportation network is operating adequately, but there have been existing concerns about transportation in this area that should be studied as part of this process.

The Draft EA also does not address the internal transportation network, including the relocation of the main entrance gate, in detail or provide information about how multimodal traffic

¹⁰Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 2-11

¹¹Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-1

will be accommodated. The Draft EA concludes that impacts on operational traffic on the Main Campus or in areas off the Main Campus would be negligible.¹² Staff believes that as the Purpose and Need of the Draft EA in part is to support sustainable development, the transportation network should be considered.

I. Air Quality

The Draft EA provides the following summary of the identified potential impacts to the air quality, “Potential for short-term impacts to air quality during construction activities. However, the projects would occur over a 20-year period and emissions are not anticipated to have significant impacts on regional air quality. Temporary increases in GHG emissions during the construction phases; however, a slight net decrease in the long-term from demolition of energy inefficient buildings infrastructure.”¹³

The construction activities that could impact air quality include, the use of fossil fuel fired equipment, trucks, and delivery vehicles, deliveries, worker commute, and fugitive dust from ground disturbance. As the timelines for construction projects have not been identified to date it is possible that each year may require specific analysis in the future as the demolition and construction schedules are set.

The Draft EA provides an analysis of the impact that the near-term construction project, Building J, will have on air quality. The analysis found that, “emissions from the proposed demolition/construction project would fall well below the de minimis thresholds....”¹⁴ All construction activities would be reviewed and managed in accordance with GSFC’s air permit.

The Draft EA further discusses Greenhouse Gas Emissions noting that the implementation of the near-term construction of Building J will temporarily increase greenhouse gas emissions. The assessment further states that in the long-term the demolition of older buildings and construction of LEED buildings could result in a slight net decrease of greenhouse gas emissions. The study, however, does not provide detailed information about the impact that these long-term actions could have on air quality nor does it provide specific LEED actions to be incorporated.

¹² Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-2

¹³ Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 2-11

¹⁴ Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-7

According to the Draft EA, the No Action Alternative may present minor, long-term impacts to air quality in the region due to excess and/or energy inefficient buildings and infrastructure.

II. Biological Resources:

Biological resources are defined as, “including native or naturalized plants and animals and the habitats (e.g., grasslands, forests, and wetlands) in which they exist.”¹⁵ On the Main Campus, 400 different plant species have been identified (260 on the western side and approximately 300 on the eastern side). Plant surveys have not been conducted for the areas off of the Main Campus. The forested areas on the Main Campus cover approximately 407 acres and on the areas off the Main Campus the forested areas cover 304 acres.

No known rare or endangered plant species have been identified on the Main Campus or in the Areas off the Main Campus. The canopy at the Main Campus primarily consists of oak, scrub pine, and red maple; the understory contains black gum, sweet gum, and red maple.

No federal threatened, endangered, or rare species are known to be established as resident species on the Greenbelt Campus. The Draft EA does note that the Northern Long-ear bat has the potential to be present on the campus, as this federally-listed threatened species is found in Maryland, but a critical habitat for this species has not been designated at GSFC.

The Draft EA indicates that there will be a permanent loss of 1.0 acres of forested area for the near-term construction of Building J. The Assessment, however, states that, “with the abundance of forested areas found on the Greenbelt Campus, the impact would not be significant.”¹⁶ It is noted that further tree clearing may be required during demolition, but the exact amount of clearing is not identified. Therefore, the permanent loss of 1.0 acres of forested area may not be representative of the total amount of forested area that is lost. The Draft EA does not provide information about the rationale to locate Building J in an area that would require the loss of a forested area, additional information about this location should be discussed in the assessment.

The Draft EA does not include an analysis of the construction of this building on wildlife, only mentioning that wildlife could move to similar habitat nearby. While most of the construction is slated to be in the footprint of existing buildings, this Building is proposed for a

¹⁵Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-8

¹⁶ Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-11

forested portion of the Campus. Therefore, there could be permanent noise and light effects on the biological resources in this area.

The Draft EA summarizes the impact by stating, “Adverse impacts to vegetation from removal of trees and forested area would be long-term, but not significant. The impact would be offset through new plantings of native vegetation. No impact to Federal or state threatened and/or endangered species would be anticipated as none are known to occur on the installation.”¹⁷ The Draft EA further notes that benefits to the vegetation could occur, particularly, in areas off of the Main Campus where natural conditions could resume following building demolition. Staff notes, however, that this land could potentially be redeveloped, as GSA would be in charge of determining the reuse of the land.

The No Action Alternative would not have any change to the biological resources on the Main Campus or Areas 100, 200, 300 and 400.

III. Water Resources:

This portion of the Draft EA addresses groundwater, surface water, wetlands, floodplains, and the coastal zone that exist in and around GSFC Greenbelt. The Draft EA stated, “GSFC is located on the Anacostia-Patuxent River Divide, at the apex of four separate tributary stream basins. Runoff flows into a stormwater drainage system via closed storm drains and open channels and swales.”¹⁸ Stormwater from the northern and western perimeter of the Main Campus and in areas 100, 200, 300, and 400 drains into two (2) tributaries of the Anacostia River watershed, and the southern portion drains into two (2) tributaries of the Patuxent River watershed.

The construction and demolition projects included in the Master Plan are not anticipated to have a direct impact on surface waters as the proposed projects are not immediately adjacent to surface waters. The Draft EA notes, however, “soil disturbance and unintentional release of hazardous materials from equipment during demolition and construction activities have the potential to indirectly impact groundwater, surface water, and wetland resources.”¹⁹ NASA plans to implement mitigate measures such as, “erosion and sedimentation control plan, a site-specific

¹⁷Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-11

¹⁸ Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-12

¹⁹Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-15

Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, and implement site-specific best management practices (BMPs).”²⁰

As noted previously, and throughout the Draft EA, specifications for long-term projects have not been identified. The Draft EA does, however, offer the near-term projects as an example of the impacts that construction and demolition have. Specifically related to impacts on water resources the Draft EA notes that, “A minor increase in stormwater runoff would be anticipated during demolition and construction activities.”²¹ The Assessment further states that NASA will be implementing the mitigation measures outlined above.

With respect to the long-term, the Draft EA anticipates a minor long-term benefit due to a reduction in stormwater runoff resulting from a reduction in impervious surfaces throughout the GSFC, and the LEED design of new and renovated infrastructure. The exact reduction of impervious surfaces or specific strategies that will address stormwater runoff are not detailed in the report.

If the No Action Alternative were to be chosen, the Draft EA anticipates minor, long-term actions resulting from the continued usage of aging and energy inefficient infrastructure.

VIII. CULTURAL RESOURCES:

There are three (3) categories of cultural resources that are discussed in the Draft EA: archaeological resources (prehistoric and historic), architectural resources, and traditional cultural properties. In the past 30 years, more than 10 cultural resource investigations have been completed.

I. Archaeological Resources

Six (6) archaeological investigations have been completed at GSFC since 1991. These surveys indicated that, “The areas that were found to have a high sensitivity for archaeological resources included the eastern end of the Main Campus, the southwest edge of Area 100, and the northwest corner of Area 200, and the northwest corner of Area 300.”²² There is one (1) National Registry of Historic Places (NRHP) -eligible archaeological site located on the northern portion

²⁰Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-15

²¹Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-16

²² Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-19

of the Main Campus which is the site of a small prehistoric camp utilized during the Late Archaic period. None of the proposed projects are in the vicinity of this site.

II. Architectural Resources

In 2012, the Cultural Resources survey and evaluation resulted in determining that the Main Campus and Area 300 were eligible for the National Registry of Historic Places as a discontinuous historic district. There is one (1) National Historic Landmark on the GSFC, the Spacecraft Magnetic Test Facility, which is located in Area 100 and was designated in 1985. This landmark, which is the, “only facility in NASA’s inventory that makes it possible to determine and to minimize the magnetic movement of even the largest unmanned spacecraft and observatories and thereby reduce unwanted torques due to the interaction of magnetic movement with magnetic vector”²³ is proposed to remain.

The NRHP-eligible GSFC Historic District contains 67 resources, of which 43 are contributing and 24 are non-contributing. The eligible District is located on the west side of the Main Campus. The buildings in this eligible Historic District are, “typically brick construction with flat roofs and are one to four stories in height. Typical of mid-century buildings, ornamentation is minimal and is generally limited to spandrels or decorative paneling between window bays.”²⁴ These buildings serve a variety of functions including administrative, laboratory, communications, testing and evaluation, and support facilities. This historic district has a period of significance from 1960 to 1969.

III. Paleontological Resources

Paleontological resources have been discovered on the Main Campus. This includes the discovery of a dinosaur footprint discovered in 2012. This footprint was authenticated by an expert and extracted by a Certified Professional Paleontologist.

As paleontological resources have been found on the campus, GSFC developed a Paleontological Resources Mitigation and Monitoring Plan in accordance with U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Guidelines for Assessment and Mitigation of Potential Impacts to Paleontological Resources for site excavation activities. This plan guides site excavation activities and the treatment of fossil resources, if found.

²³ https://mht.maryland.gov/secure/medusa/PDF/NR_PDFs/NR-939.pdf

²⁴ Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-19

IV. Construction Impacts

With respect to archaeological resources, no significant impacts are anticipated. This is due to the fact that the majority of construction activities are planned for areas of previous major disturbance and areas of low or moderate sensitivity for prehistoric archaeological sites.

The Draft EA further states that, “In the event of an inadvertent discovery during ground disturbing activities, the project manager would cease work immediately....”²⁵ The discovery would then be reported to the Cultural Resources Manager and established procedures would be followed to handle the inadvertent discovery of archaeological deposits.

The Action Alternative calls for the demolition of 43 buildings in the Main Campus, all of which have been inventoried and evaluated for NRHP eligibility. “Of the 43 buildings to be demolished, 22 are contributing features to the NRHP-eligible GSFC Historic District: Buildings 1, 3, 4, 4A through 4H, 5, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 18, 18B, 19, 19A, and 20.”²⁶ A map of the NRHP-eligible GSFC Historic District is attached to this memorandum. An additional eight (8) buildings slated for demolition are non-contributing features. The remaining buildings are outside the boundaries of the NRHP-eligible GSFC Historic District and therefore are not eligible.

Buildings in Area 100 and 400 were evaluated and determined not eligible for listing to the NRHP. The two (2) buildings in Area 300 have been identified as contributing features to the NRHP-eligible GSFC Historic District. The demolition of contributing buildings on the Main Campus and Area 300 would be considered an adverse effect on the NRHP-eligible GSFC Historic District. The Draft EA states that, “Prior to the demolition GSFC will implement the Section 106 process and consult with the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) to resolve the adverse effects on the historic property.”²⁷ The assessment further states that for the buildings that are proposed to be renovated most of these renovations will be interior, but NASA will coordinate with MHT on potential adverse effects to exteriors of any of the contributing buildings.

The near-term project, demolition of Building 27 complex and the construction of Building J, are both located outside of the boundary of the NRHP-eligible GSFC Historic District. GSFC will consult with MHT on these projects. The Draft EA further states that the

²⁵Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-21

²⁶Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-21

²⁷Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-21

construction of this building could potentially cause adverse impacts to the historic district, but no further information is provided.

The Draft EA acknowledges that the Action Alternative will potentially cause adverse effects on the integrity of the NRHP-eligible GSFC Historic District, the minimization efforts put forth are collaboration with MHT and ACHP and completing agreed upon mitigation measures in compliance with National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106.

The projects will also undergo an internal review process to determine if additional environmental analysis and/or NEPA documentation is needed. Staff, however, has a strong concern about the number of NRHP eligible-district buildings that are slated for demolition. Further, information about these buildings is not provided in the Draft EA.

In response to the EA Scoping Letter, the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT), stated that their finding of consistency would be contingent upon the applicant's completion of the review process required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Staff has strong concerns about the impact that this Master Plan will have on the eligible historic district and the minimal information about the eligible district that is provided in the Draft EA.

The Draft EA states that under the No Action Alternative, there would be no change to cultural resources.

IX. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND WASTE:

Hazardous materials are defined as, "hazardous substances, hazardous wastes, marine pollutants, elevated temperature materials, materials designated as hazardous in the Hazardous Materials Table, and materials that meet the defining criteria for hazard classes and divisions."²⁸ A variety of hazardous materials are used and generated at GSFC to support the Center's mission. The Draft EA does not specify which types of hazardous materials are used or generated, but notes that these are tracked, managed, and disposed of in accordance with established policies and procedures.

I. Construction Impacts:

Demolition projects are likely to include the removal of asbestos-containing material, polychlorinated biphenyls, and lead-based paint. The Draft EA states that, "All buildings

²⁸Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-23

considered for demolition would be evaluated for toxic substances prior to demolition; removal and proper disposal of these materials would be completed in accordance with Goddard Procedural Requirement 8500.3H Waste Management.”²⁹ With respect to Operational Impacts, the Draft EA does not anticipate impacts on the management of hazardous materials, as no substantial changes in hazardous waste operations would be anticipated.

If the No Action Alternative were chosen, no change to hazardous materials and wastes beyond the existing conditions is anticipated.

X. LAND USE:

The Draft EA does not anticipate a change in land use as the administrative functions and operations under the Action Alternative would be similar to existing functions. Area 400 would experience a change in land use as, “All buildings in Area 400 would be demolished with the potential for the area to return to a natural, vegetative state.”³⁰

With respect to the areas to be divested and potential partnerships with non-NASA entities the assessment specifically notes, “NASA would work with potential partners to maintain similar use of these areas to avoid adverse land use impacts. Restrictions and/or limitations would be placed on construction of new buildings within the partnership areas based on partnership type and vehicles used, existing and anticipated relationship with GSFC, and location relative to the Campus.”³¹ It is also important to note that additional NEPA analysis will be required to address activities within potential divestment and partnership areas.

The No Action Alternative would not impact land use, as there would be no changes to the existing functions occurring on the NASA GSFC Greenbelt.

XI. UTILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE:

Utilities discussed in this Draft EA are, water, sanitary and storm sewer systems, heating and cooling systems, natural and landfill gas, electric service, and communications service. A significant impact on utilities is made when the projected increase in demand for utility would exceed the planned capacity for that utility such that the utility provider would not be able to service additional demands.³²

²⁹Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-25

³⁰Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 2-26

³¹Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-26

³²Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-28

The Draft EA anticipates short-term impacts on utilities during construction, demolition, and renovation/sustainment projects. In the long-term however, “the Proposed Action would decrease utility usage at GSFC. The replacement of aging facilities with new LEED certified energy efficient buildings would create long-term energy and water savings.”³³ The Draft EA also notes that the reduction in impervious surface would decrease the amount of stormwater runoff and therefore a reduced impact on stormwater systems. No specific information about LEED strategies to be implemented or the anticipated reduction in stormwater runoff is detailed in the Draft EA.

Under the No Action Alternative, the Draft EA anticipates minor long-term impacts resulting from continued use of aging and energy inefficient infrastructure.

XII. CUMULATIVE EFFECTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

As part of the EA process, NASA is required to consider and analyze the potential cumulative effects on the environment from the incremental effect of a proposed action when added to the other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions. The Draft EA contains an analysis of the cumulative effects of the Washington, D.C. to Baltimore Loop Project and the Baltimore-Washington Superconducting Magnetic Levitation Project.

With respect to the MAGLEV project, the Draft EA identifies that up to 34 acres of forested area could be removed and the additional 1.0 acre of forested land proposed for the Center’s near-term project would result in a minor cumulative effect. Due to the long-term nature of this plan, however, NASA has concluded that there are no significant cumulative effects anticipated at this time. This is due, in part, because the effects of the different projects proposed under the Action Alternative are unknown. At this time no project-specific mitigation measures have been determined for the Proposed Action.

The Draft EA does not address the proposed relocation of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) to the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). This is despite the fact that the NASA GSFC is adjacent to BARC. This is of particular importance considering Area 400, currently owned by NASA, is slated for divestment under the proposed Master Plan. While the Draft EA notes this area could be left to return to a natural state, the GSA will take the lead in

³³ Draft Environmental Assessment for NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus Master Plan pg. 3-29

determining reuse. If this area were to be redeveloped it should be considered cumulatively with the impacts of the proposed relocation of the BEP to BARC.

XIII. CONCLUSION:

The Action Alternative, implementation of the proposed Master Plan, is intended to guide development of the NASA GSFC Greenbelt Campus for the next 20 years. The focus of this plan is to, “provide a planning framework to enable the development of a sustainable, affordable campus that supports mission and workforce success and growth.”³⁴

Of concern about the Master Plan and Action Alternative are the potential outcomes of divesting land, particularly the 100-acre Area 400 site. This entire site is slated for divestment and Staff strongly supports allowing this area to return to a natural vegetative state and not for this land to be redeveloped for another use. Staff believes that this action would be consistent with the stated Purpose and Need of the Proposed Action.

Staff also has concerns about the significant plans for demolition of contributing buildings to the NRHP-eligible district. If each of these buildings were to be considered individually at the time of the project being carried out, it is likely that the cumulative impact of this demolition will not be fully understood. Staff believes that there needs to be a holistic approach to any planned demolition of contributing buildings to the NRHP-eligible district.

Staff also has a concern regarding the lack of discussion about the local transportation network. While the Draft EA notes that there is no planned increase in workforce or an anticipated increase in trips generated, there are existing concerns near the NASA GSFC Greenbelt Campus that should be studied and addressed through this process. As sustainable development is a goal of the Proposed Action, multimodal transportation considerations should be studied in further detail and incorporated into the Draft EA.

While the Draft EA states that new LEED buildings will be constructed as a demonstration of the commitment to a more sustainable campus, specific measures are not identified. Specific LEED/low impact development (LID) elements should be outlined in the Draft EA, particularly for the near-term construction project of Building J.

With respect to the near-term construction project, Building J, the Draft EA outlines that 1.0 acres of forested land will need to be cleared. The Draft EA, however, does not provide any

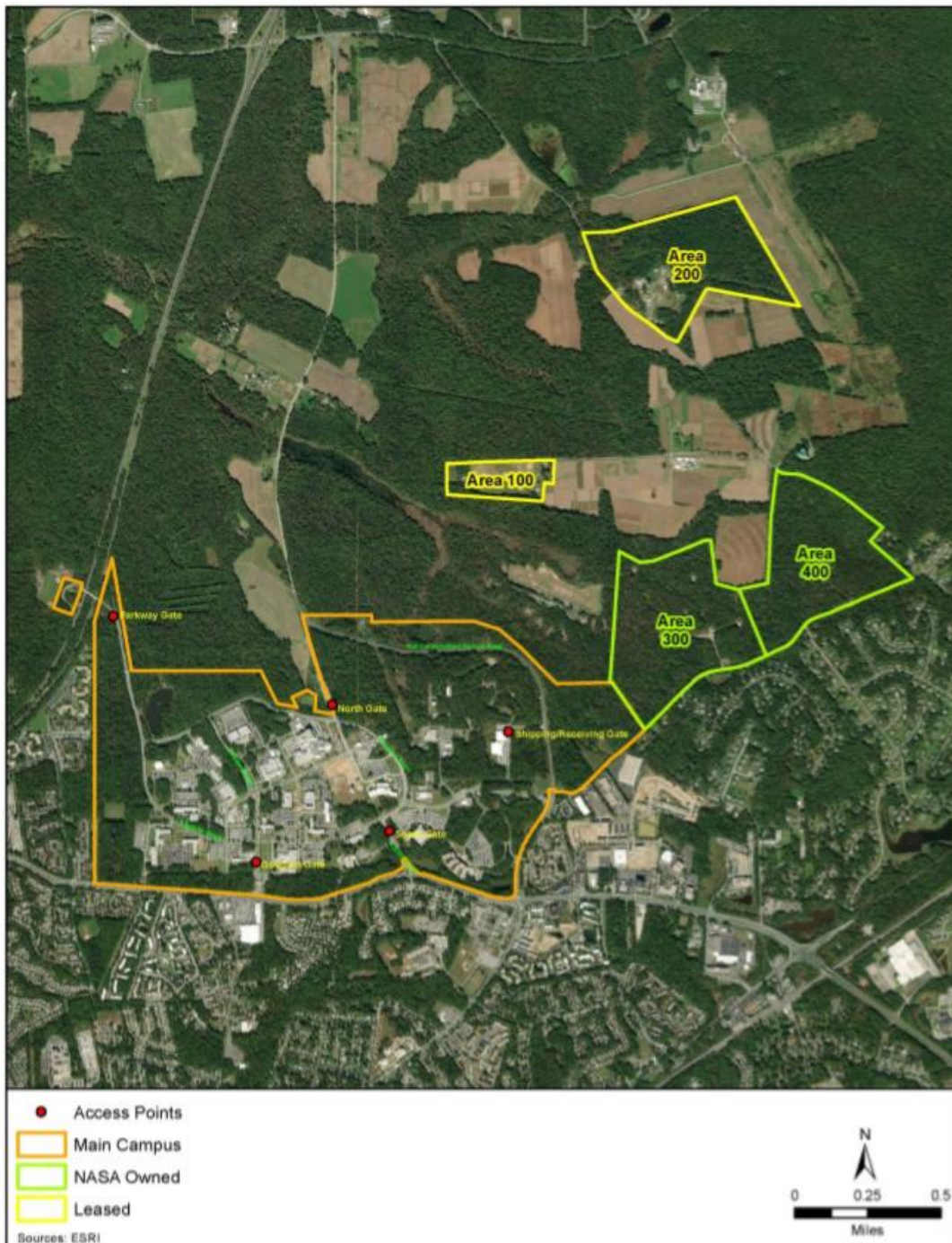
³⁴ https://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/greenbelt_campus_master_plan_ncpc_draft_submittal_4mar2021.pdf

additional information as to why this location was chosen even though it is in conflict with the guiding principle of the Master Plan. Additional detail should be provided about why Building J is to be located where 1.0 acres of forested land would need to be cleared. There is also no discussion of reforestation as a mitigation measure.

XIV. RECOMMENDATION:

Staff has reviewed the Draft EA for the NASA GSFC Master Plan and has noted areas of concern. NASA Goddard is accepting comments on the Draft EA until close of business on April 5, 2021. Staff recommends that the City submit a letter outlining the City's concerns regarding the Proposed Action and further request that NASA Goddard continue to work with the City on the Proposed Action, if the Center moves forward with the Master Plan.

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt Campus:



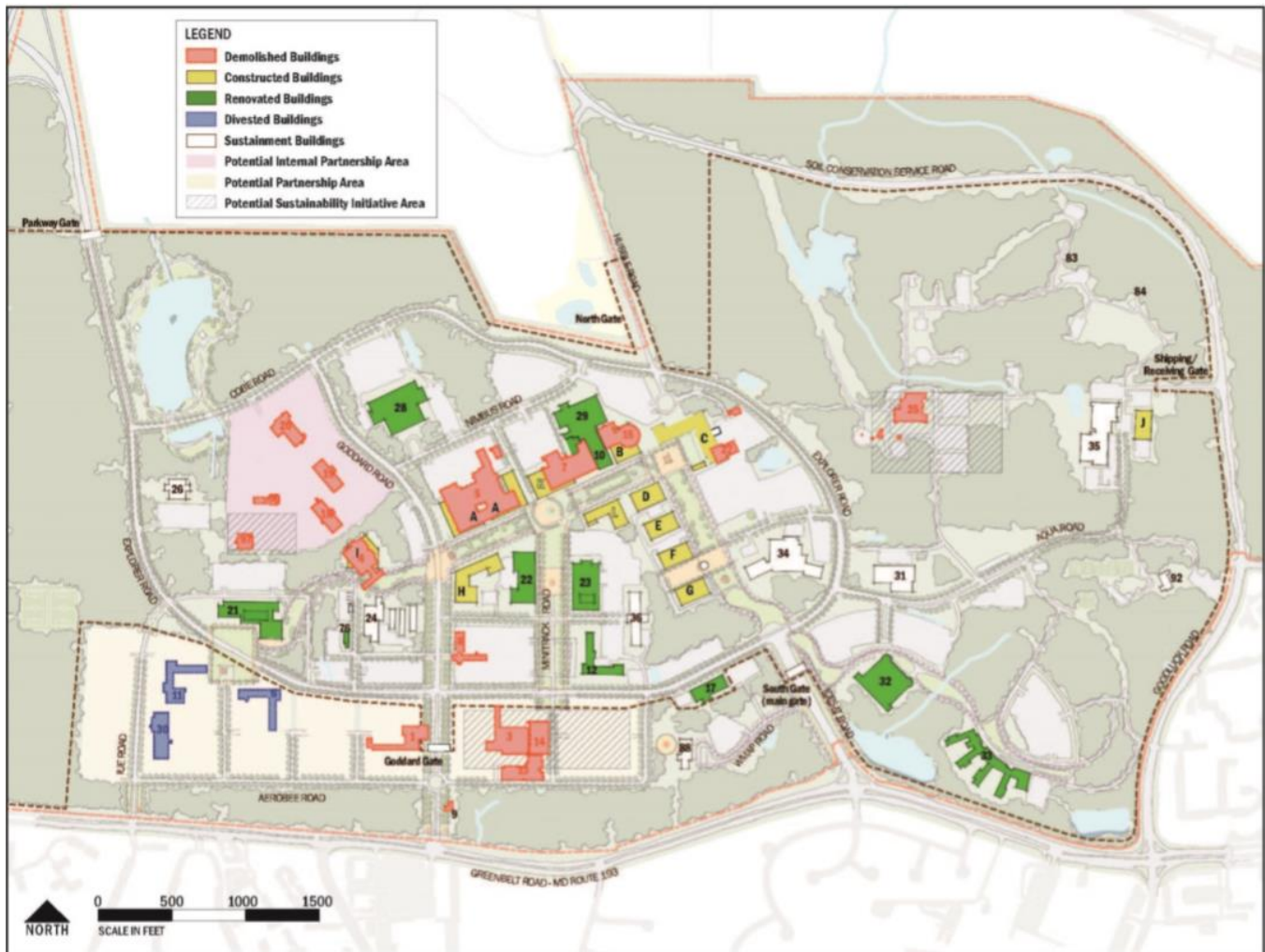
City of Greenbelt

Department of Planning and Community Development

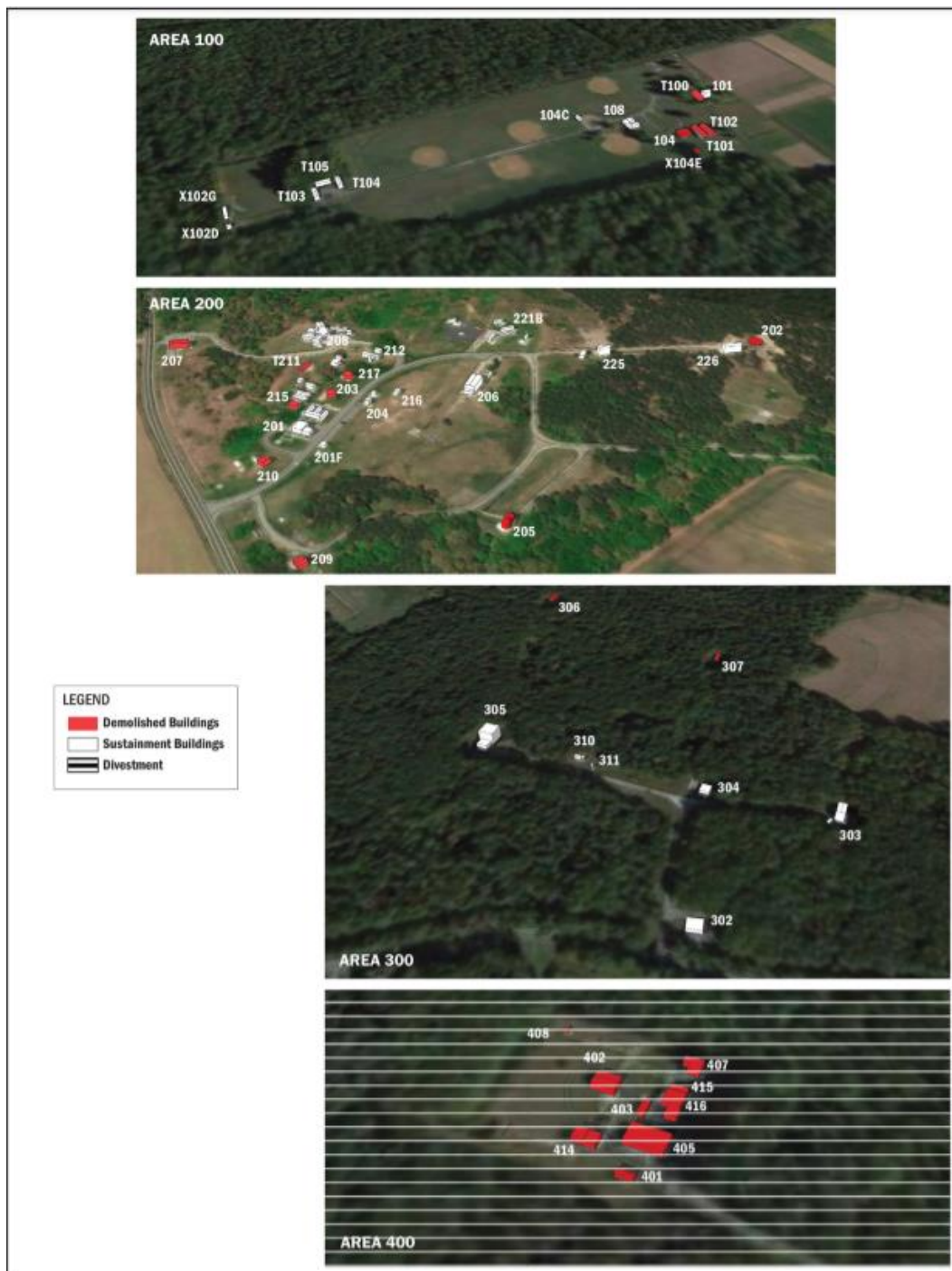
15 Crescent Road, Suite 200, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

(301) 345-5417 Fax (301) 345-5418

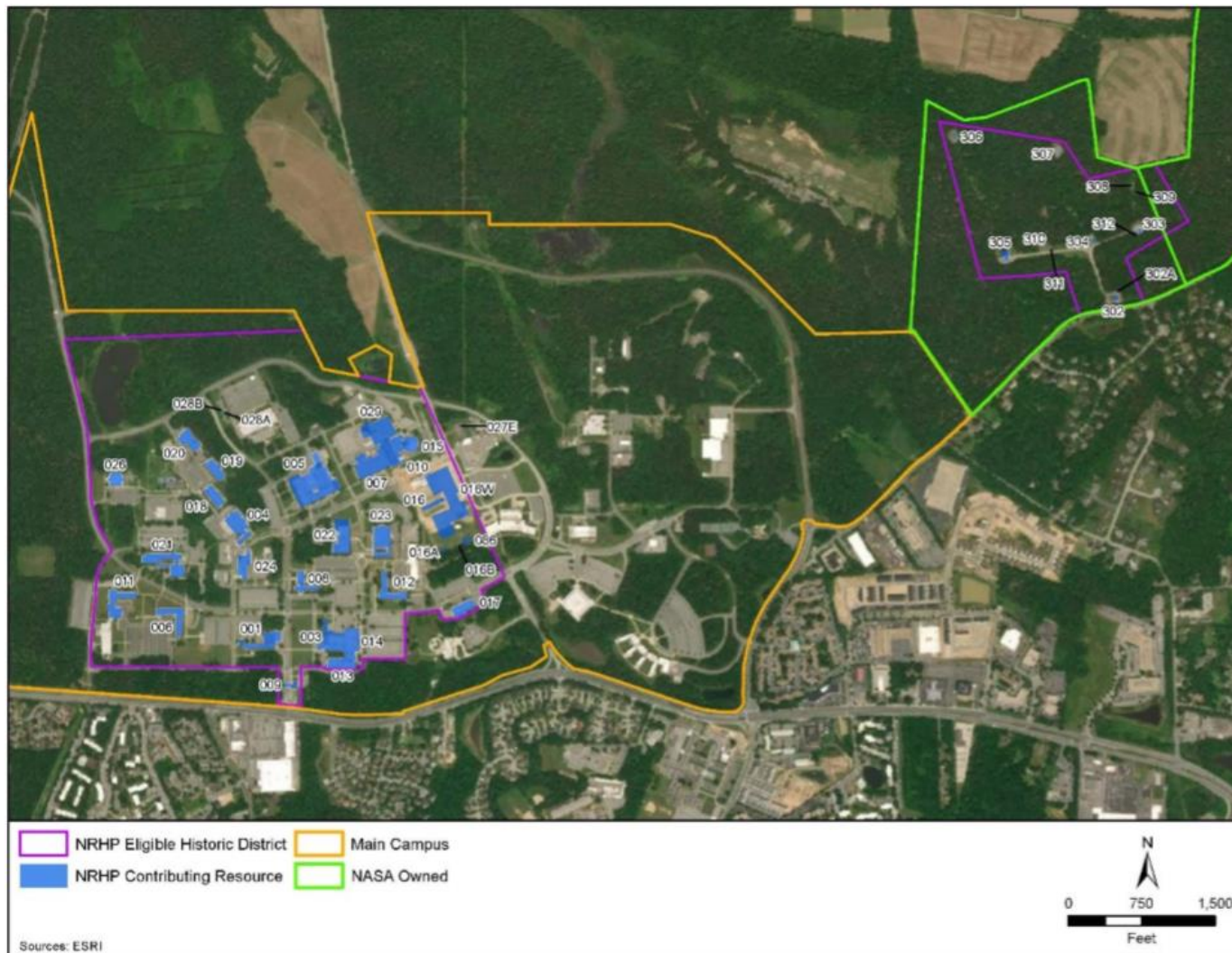
Overview of the Proposed Action on the Main Campus:



Overview of the Areas off the Main Campus Projects



NRHP-eligible GSFC Historic District:



City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

HR 40 - Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act

Suggested Action:

Mayor Byrd requested this item be added to the agenda.

The motion would be to support this Federal legislation related to reparations.

Attachments:

[BILLS-117hr40ih.pdf](#)

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 40

To address the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE (for herself, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. RUSH, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. KHANNA, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. COOPER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. MENG, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. WELCH, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. BEYER, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. CROW, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. JONES, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KEATING, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. EVANS, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. COHEN, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. BERA, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. TITUS, Mr. LIEU, Mr. MFUME, Mr. CARSON, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. BROWN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. KILMER, Mr. NEAL, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. COSTA, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. SOTO, Ms. DEAN, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. POCAN, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. VEASEY, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. OMAR, Ms. BASS, Mr. PETERS, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. KELLY

of Illinois, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. CHU, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. FOSTER, and Ms. BUSH) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To address the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Commission to Study
 5 and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans
 6 Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

8 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

9 (1) approximately 4,000,000 Africans and their
 10 descendants were enslaved in the United States and
 11 colonies that became the United States from 1619 to
 12 1865;

1 (2) the institution of slavery was constitu-
2 tionally and statutorily sanctioned by the Govern-
3 ment of the United States from 1789 through 1865;

4 (3) the slavery that flourished in the United
5 States constituted an immoral and inhumane depri-
6 vation of Africans' life, liberty, African citizenship
7 rights, and cultural heritage, and denied them the
8 fruits of their own labor;

9 (4) a preponderance of scholarly, legal, commu-
10 nity evidentiary documentation and popular culture
11 markers constitute the basis for inquiry into the on-
12 going effects of the institution of slavery and its leg-
13 acy of persistent systemic structures of discrimina-
14 tion on living African Americans and society in the
15 United States;

16 (5) following the abolition of slavery the United
17 States Government, at the Federal, State, and local
18 level, continued to perpetuate, condone and often
19 profit from practices that continued to brutalize and
20 disadvantage African Americans, including share
21 cropping, convict leasing, Jim Crow, redlining, un-
22 equal education, and disproportionate treatment at
23 the hands of the criminal justice system; and

24 (6) as a result of the historic and continued dis-
25 crimination, African Americans continue to suffer

1 debilitating economic, educational, and health hard-
2 ships including but not limited to having nearly
3 1,000,000 Black people incarcerated; an unemploy-
4 ment rate more than twice the current White unem-
5 ployment rate; and an average of less than $\frac{1}{16}$ of
6 the wealth of White families, a disparity which has
7 worsened, not improved over time.

8 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to estab-
9 lish a commission to study and develop Reparation pro-
10 posals for African Americans as a result of—

11 (1) the institution of slavery, including both the
12 Trans-Atlantic and the domestic “trade” which ex-
13 isted from 1565 in colonial Florida and from 1619
14 through 1865 within the other colonies that became
15 the United States, and which included the Federal
16 and State governments which constitutionally and
17 statutorily supported the institution of slavery;

18 (2) the de jure and de facto discrimination
19 against freed slaves and their descendants from the
20 end of the Civil War to the present, including eco-
21 nomic, political, educational, and social discrimina-
22 tion;

23 (3) the lingering negative effects of the institu-
24 tion of slavery and the discrimination described in

1 paragraphs (1) and (2) on living African Americans
 2 and on society in the United States;

3 (4) the manner in which textual and digital in-
 4 structional resources and technologies are being used
 5 to deny the inhumanity of slavery and the crime
 6 against humanity of people of African descent in the
 7 United States;

8 (5) the role of Northern complicity in the
 9 Southern based institution of slavery;

10 (6) the direct benefits to societal institutions,
 11 public and private, including higher education, cor-
 12 porations, religious and associational;

13 (7) and thus, recommend appropriate ways to
 14 educate the American public of the Commission's
 15 findings;

16 (8) and thus, recommend appropriate remedies
 17 in consideration of the Commission's findings on the
 18 matters described in paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (4),
 19 (5), and (6); and

20 (9) submit to the Congress the results of such
 21 examination, together with such recommendations.

22 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT AND DUTIES.**

23 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established the Com-
 24 mission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for

1 African Americans (hereinafter in this Act referred to as
2 the “Commission”).

3 (b) DUTIES.—The Commission shall perform the fol-
4 lowing duties:

5 (1) Identify, compile and synthesize the relevant
6 corpus of evidentiary documentation of the institu-
7 tion of slavery which existed within the United
8 States and the colonies that became the United
9 States from 1619 through 1865. The Commission’s
10 documentation and examination shall include but not
11 be limited to the facts related to—

12 (A) the capture and procurement of Afri-
13 cans;

14 (B) the transport of Africans to the United
15 States and the colonies that became the United
16 States for the purpose of enslavement, including
17 their treatment during transport;

18 (C) the sale and acquisition of Africans as
19 chattel property in interstate and intrastate
20 commerce;

21 (D) the treatment of African slaves in the
22 colonies and the United States, including the
23 deprivation of their freedom, exploitation of
24 their labor, and destruction of their culture,
25 language, religion, and families; and

1 (E) the extensive denial of humanity, sexual
2 abuse and the chattelization of persons.

3 (2) The role which the Federal and State gov-
4 ernments of the United States supported the institu-
5 tion of slavery in constitutional and statutory provi-
6 sions, including the extent to which such govern-
7 ments prevented, opposed, or restricted efforts of
8 formerly enslaved Africans and their descendants to
9 repatriate to their homeland.

10 (3) The Federal and State laws that discrimi-
11 nated against formerly enslaved Africans and their
12 descendants who were deemed United States citizens
13 from 1868 to the present.

14 (4) The other forms of discrimination in the
15 public and private sectors against freed African
16 slaves and their descendants who were deemed
17 United States citizens from 1868 to the present, in-
18 cluding redlining, educational funding discrepancies,
19 and predatory financial practices.

20 (5) The lingering negative effects of the institu-
21 tion of slavery and the matters described in para-
22 graphs (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), and (6) on living Afri-
23 can Americans and on society in the United States.

24 (6) Recommend appropriate ways to educate
25 the American public of the Commission's findings.

1 (7) Recommend appropriate remedies in consid-
2 eration of the Commission's findings on the matters
3 described in paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), and
4 (6). In making such recommendations, the Commis-
5 sion shall address among other issues, the following
6 questions:

7 (A) How such recommendations comport
8 with international standards of remedy for
9 wrongs and injuries caused by the State, that
10 include full reparations and special measures,
11 as understood by various relevant international
12 protocols, laws, and findings.

13 (B) How the Government of the United
14 States will offer a formal apology on behalf of
15 the people of the United States for the per-
16 petration of gross human rights violations and
17 crimes against humanity on African slaves and
18 their descendants.

19 (C) How Federal laws and policies that
20 continue to disproportionately and negatively
21 affect African Americans as a group, and those
22 that perpetuate the lingering effects, materially
23 and psycho-social, can be eliminated.

24 (D) How the injuries resulting from mat-
25 ters described in paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (4),

(5), and (6) can be reversed and provide appropriate policies, programs, projects and recommendations for the purpose of reversing the injuries.

(E) How, in consideration of the Commission's findings, any form of compensation to the descendants of enslaved African is calculated.

(F) What form of compensation should be awarded, through what instrumentalities and who should be eligible for such compensation.

(G) How, in consideration of the Commission's findings, any other forms of rehabilitation or restitution to African descendants is warranted and what the form and scope of those measures should take.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Commission shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the Congress not later than the date which is one year after the date of the first meeting of the Commission held pursuant to section 4(c).

SEC. 4. MEMBERSHIP.

(a) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—(1) The Commission shall be composed of 13 members, who shall be appointed, within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, as follows:

1 (A) Three members shall be appointed by the
2 President.

3 (B) Three members shall be appointed by the
4 Speaker of the House of Representatives.

5 (C) One member shall be appointed by the
6 President pro tempore of the Senate.

7 (D) Six members shall be selected from the
8 major civil society and reparations organizations
9 that have historically championed the cause of
10 reparatory justice.

11 (2) All members of the Commission shall be persons
12 who are especially qualified to serve on the Commission
13 by virtue of their education, training, activism or experi-
14 ence, particularly in the field of African American studies
15 and reparatory justice.

16 (b) TERMS.—The term of office for members shall
17 be for the life of the Commission. A vacancy in the Com-
18 mission shall not affect the powers of the Commission and
19 shall be filled in the same manner in which the original
20 appointment was made.

21 (c) FIRST MEETING.—The President shall call the
22 first meeting of the Commission within 120 days after the
23 date of the enactment of this Act or within 30 days after
24 the date on which legislation is enacted making appropria-
25 tions to carry out this Act, whichever date is later.

1 (d) QUORUM.—Seven members of the Commission
2 shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number may hold
3 hearings.

4 (e) CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.—The Commission shall
5 elect a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members.
6 The term of office of each shall be for the life of the Com-
7 mission.

8 (f) COMPENSATION.—(1) Except as provided in para-
9 graph (2), each member of the Commission shall receive
10 compensation at the daily equivalent of the annual rate
11 of basic pay payable for GS–18 of the General Schedule
12 under section 5332 of title 5, United States Code, for each
13 day, including travel time, during which he or she is en-
14 gaged in the actual performance of duties vested in the
15 Commission.

16 (2) A member of the Commission who is a full-time
17 officer or employee of the United States or a Member of
18 Congress shall receive no additional pay, allowances, or
19 benefits by reason of his or her service to the Commission.

20 (3) All members of the Commission shall be reim-
21 bursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary ex-
22 penses incurred by them in the performance of their duties
23 to the extent authorized by chapter 57 of title 5, United
24 States Code.

1 **SEC. 5. POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.**

2 (a) **HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.**—The Commission
3 may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this
4 Act, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and
5 at such places in the United States, and request the at-
6 tendance and testimony of such witnesses and the produc-
7 tion of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda,
8 papers, and documents, as the Commission considers ap-
9 propriate. The Commission may invoke the aid of an ap-
10 propriate United States district court to require, by sub-
11 poena or otherwise, such attendance, testimony, or pro-
12 duction.

13 (b) **POWERS OF SUBCOMMITTEES AND MEMBERS.**—
14 Any subcommittee or member of the Commission may, if
15 authorized by the Commission, take any action which the
16 Commission is authorized to take by this section.

17 (c) **OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.**—The Commission
18 may acquire directly from the head of any department,
19 agency, or instrumentality of the executive branch of the
20 Government, available information which the Commission
21 considers useful in the discharge of its duties. All depart-
22 ments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the executive
23 branch of the Government shall cooperate with the Com-
24 mission with respect to such information and shall furnish
25 all information requested by the Commission to the extent
26 permitted by law.

1 **SEC. 6. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.**

2 (a) **STAFF.**—The Commission may, without regard to
3 section 5311(b) of title 5, United States Code, appoint and
4 fix the compensation of such personnel as the Commission
5 considers appropriate.

6 (b) **APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN CIVIL SERVICE**
7 **LAWS.**—The staff of the Commission may be appointed
8 without regard to the provisions of title 5, United States
9 Code, governing appointments in the competitive service,
10 and without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and
11 subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title relating to classi-
12 fication and General Schedule pay rates, except that the
13 compensation of any employee of the Commission may not
14 exceed a rate equal to the annual rate of basic pay payable
15 for GS-18 of the General Schedule under section 5332
16 of title 5, United States Code.

17 (c) **EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.**—The Commission
18 may procure the services of experts and consultants in ac-
19 cordance with the provisions of section 3109(b) of title 5,
20 United States Code, but at rates for individuals not to
21 exceed the daily equivalent of the highest rate payable
22 under section 5332 of such title.

23 (d) **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.**—The
24 Commission may enter into agreements with the Adminis-
25 trator of General Services for procurement of financial
26 and administrative services necessary for the discharge of

1 the duties of the Commission. Payment for such services
2 shall be made by reimbursement from funds of the Com-
3 mission in such amounts as may be agreed upon by the
4 Chairman of the Commission and the Administrator.

5 (e) **CONTRACTS.**—The Commission may—

6 (1) procure supplies, services, and property by
7 contract in accordance with applicable laws and reg-
8 ulations and to the extent or in such amounts as are
9 provided in appropriations Acts; and

10 (2) enter into contracts with departments,
11 agencies, and instrumentalities of the Federal Gov-
12 ernment, State agencies, and private firms, institu-
13 tions, and agencies, for the conduct of research or
14 surveys, the preparation of reports, and other activi-
15 ties necessary for the discharge of the duties of the
16 Commission, to the extent or in such amounts as are
17 provided in appropriations Acts.

18 **SEC. 7. TERMINATION.**

19 The Commission shall terminate 90 days after the
20 date on which the Commission submits its report to the
21 Congress under section 3(c).

22 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

23 To carry out the provisions of this Act, there are au-
24 thorized to be appropriated \$12,000,000.

○

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Submitted by: Bonita Anderson

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

Reparations Commission Resolution

Suggested Action:

Mayor Byrd requested this item be added to the agenda.

Reparations Commission Resolutions

- This would be a 21 member commission to study and develop reparations for Black residents of Greenbelt
- Related links
 - Asheville, North Carolina
 - https://drive.google.com/file/d/171cMxxq7D5suSZQSA_DAVmvdQXEGf
 - <https://drive.google.com/file/d/10OeTaF8XY1ncdtBVzvIm-C7nCTQPfjdA/view>
 - Providence, Rhode Island
 - <https://www.providenceri.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Mayors-Executive-Order-2020-13-1.pdf>
 - Evanston, Illinois
 - <https://www.cityofevanston.org/home/showdocument?id=49061>
 - <https://www.cityofevanston.org/home/showpublisheddocument?id=54614>
 - Burlington, Vermont
 - Attached

Attachments:

[Resolution Supporting Local Reparations in Greenbelt.rev.pdf](#)

[Signed CC Resolution Establishing A Task Force To Study A Proposal For Reparations And To Consider A City Apology For The Institution Of Slavery revised ver.pdf](#)

Introduced:
1st Reading:
Passed:
Posted:
Effective:

RESOLUTION NUMBER XXXX

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LOCAL REPARATIONS IN GREENBELT

WHEREAS, Black People have been unjustly Enslaved; and

WHEREAS, Black People have been unjustly Segregated; and

WHEREAS, Black people have been unjustly Incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, Black People have been denied housing through racist practices in the private realty market, including redlining, steering, blockbusting, denial of mortgages, and gentrification; and

WHEREAS, Black People have been denied housing, displaced and inadequately housed by government housing policies that include discriminatory VA/FHA practices, Urban Renewal, and a variety of local and federal “affordable” housing programs; and

WHEREAS, Black People have been consistently and widely impoverished by discriminatory wages paid in every sector of the local economy regardless of credentials and experience; and

WHEREAS, Black People have experienced disproportionate unemployment rates and reduced opportunities to fully participate in the local job market; and

WHEREAS, Black People have been systematically excluded from historic and present private economic development and community investments and, therefore, black-owned businesses have not received the benefits of these investments; and

WHEREAS, Black people have been segregated from mainstream education and within present day school programs that include AG, AP, and Honors; and

WHEREAS, Black students have experienced the denial of education through admission, retention and graduation rates of every level of education and through discriminatory disciplinary practices; and

WHEREAS, Black People historically and presently receive inadequate, if not detrimental, health care as exemplified by disproportionate morbidities and mortality rates that result from the generational trauma of systemic racism, discriminatory treatment by medical professionals, and discriminatory medical practices such as involuntary sterilizations, denial of adequate testing, denial of preventative and curative procedures; and

WHEREAS, Black People have been unjustly targeted by law enforcement and criminal justice procedures, incarcerated at disproportionate rates and subsequently excluded from full participation in the benefits of citizenship that include voting, employment, housing and health care; and

WHEREAS, Black People have disproportionately been forced to reside in, adjacent to, or near Brown Zones and other toxic sites that negatively impact their health and property; and

WHEREAS, Black People have disproportionately been limited to the confined routes of travel provided by public transportation; and

WHEREAS, Black People have disproportionately suffered from the isolation of food deserts and childcare deserts; and

WHEREAS, systemic racism was created over centuries and will take time to dismantle; and

WHEREAS, state and federal governments have a responsibility to adopt programs, policies, and funding to address reparations; and

WHEREAS, Greenbelt was racially segregated from the beginning; and

WHEREAS, only white families were initially allowed to apply for residency; and

WHEREAS, the earliest plans for Greenbelt included an area that was intended to house Black families (Rossville Rural Development) but it was separate from the main parts of Greenbelt; and

WHEREAS, even at some distance away, inclusion of an area for Black families proved too controversial and the plans were dropped; and

WHEREAS, Maryland state Senator Sasscer and others objected and it appears from various records that the planners realized the controversy was jeopardizing the whole project. Prince George's County was deeply segregated at the time; and

WHEREAS, the promotional materials that the Resettlement Administration produced excluded images of people of color included; and

WHEREAS, prospective families had to declare their race on their application form, with race as a likely tool of exclusion; and

WHEREAS, many scholars and historians now believe that racist practices like these are some of the most glaring failings of the New Deal; and

WHEREAS, the first Black family did not move into Greenbelt until the late 1960s; and

WHEREAS, countless Black people in Greenbelt have provided many stories and examples of experiencing harassment and racist behavior in Greenbelt; and

WHEREAS, Greenbelt East and Greenbelt West were integrated before central Greenbelt; and

WHEREAS, it was and is especially difficult for Black families to obtain loans in order to meet the financial requirements of GHI; and

WHEREAS, when former Mayor Gil Weidenfeld read the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Brown v. Board of Education* at a city council meeting, he was booed, yelled at, and people walked out the room;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY The City Council of the City of Greenbelt that:

The City Council of the City of Greenbelt:

- (1) apologizes and makes amends for its participation in and sanctioning of racism against Black People;
- (2) apologizes and makes amends for its enforcement of segregation and its accompanying discriminatory practices;
- (3) calls on other organizations and institutions in Greenbelt that have advanced and benefitted from racial inequity to join the city in its apologies and invites them to address racism within their own structures and programs and to work with the city to more comprehensively address systemic racism;
- (4) calls on the State of Maryland to initiate policymaking and provide funding for reparations at the state level;
- (5) encourages the City Manager to utilize their talents when forming policy and programs that will establish the creation of generational wealth and address reparations due in the black community as mentioned above;
- (6) seeks to establish within the next year, a new 21 member commission appointed by the city council and empowered to make short, medium and long term recommendations that will make significant progress toward repairing the damage

caused by public and private systemic Racism. Other local government community organizations may also be invited to have representation on the Commission. The task of the Greenbelt Reparations Commission is to issue a report in a timely manner for consideration by the City and other participating community groups for incorporation into their respective short and long term priorities and plans.

Accountability for achieving equity will be enforced in the appropriate offices. The report and the resulting budgetary and programmatic priorities may include but not be limited to increasing minority homeownership and access to other affordable housing, increasing minority business ownership and career opportunities, strategies to grow equity and generational wealth, closing the gaps in health care, education, employment and pay, neighborhood safety and fairness within criminal justice;

- (7) calls on the City Manager to give, at minimum, a bi-annual update to the City Council on the progress of work performed pursuant to this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be effective immediately upon its passage.

PASSED by the Council of the City of Greenbelt, Maryland at its regular meeting of _____, 2021.

Colin A. Byrd
Mayor

ATTEST:

Bonita Anderson
City Clerk

Resolution Relating to

ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY A
PROPOSAL FOR REPARATIONS AND TO CONSIDER A
CITY APOLOGY FOR THE INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY

revised version

RESOLUTION 7.06

Sponsor(s): Councilor Freeman,
Hightower, Stromberg, Tracy, Hanson,
Pine

Introduced: 08/10/20

Referred to: _____

Action: adopted

Date: 08/10/20

Signed by Mayor: 08/18/20

CITY OF BURLINGTON

In the year Two Thousand Twenty

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Burlington, as follows:

1 That WHEREAS, each year since 1989 and up to on June 19, 2019, a bill known as HR40: Commission to
2 Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act was introduced in the United States
3 House of Representatives; and

4 WHEREAS, on February 27, 2019, bill H.478 “Relating to establishing of a task force to study and
5 consider a State apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery” was introduced in the
6 Vermont legislature; and

7 WHEREAS, in both HR40 and H.478,¹ it is stated that

- 8 (1) approximately 4,000,000 Africans and their descendants were enslaved in the United States and
9 colonies that became the United States from 1619 to 1865;
- 10 (2) the institution of slavery was constitutionally and statutorily sanctioned by the Government of the
11 United States from 1789 through 1865;
- 12 (3) the slavery that flourished in the United States constituted an immoral and inhumane deprivation of
13 Africans’ life, liberty, African citizenship rights, and cultural heritage, and denied them the fruits of
14 their own labor;
- 15 (4) a preponderance of scholarly, legal, community evidentiary documentation and popular culture
16 markers constitute the basis for inquiry into the ongoing effects of the institution of slavery and its
17 legacy of persistent systemic structures of discrimination on living African-Americans and society
18 in the United States; and
- 19 (5) following the abolition of slavery the United States Government, at the Federal, State, and local
20 level, continued to perpetuate, condone and often profit from practices that continued to brutalize
21 and disadvantage African-Americans, including share cropping, convict leasing, Jim Crow,

¹ <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/40/text>

* * * * *

DISTRIBUTION:

I hereby certify that this resolution
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department(s) on

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

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Adopted by the City Council

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..... Clerk

Approved....., 20.....

..... Mayor

Attest:

Vol. Page

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ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY A PROPOSAL FOR REPARATIONS AND TO CONSIDER A CITY APOLOGY FOR THE INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY

redlining, unequal education, and disproportionate treatment at the hands of the criminal justice system; and

(6) as a result of the historic and continued discrimination, African-Americans continue to suffer debilitating economic, educational, and health hardships including but not limited to having nearly 1,000,000 Black people incarcerated yearly; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Senate and House approved into law in 2020 PR.2, “Declaration of rights; clarifying the prohibition on slavery and indentured servitude,” a constitutional amendment, replacing exceptions whereby slavery is permitted for persons under 21 years of age and in instances where persons are “bound by the person’s own consent, after arriving to such age, or bound by law for the payment of debts, damages, fines, costs, or the like” with language stating that “slavery and indentured servitude in any form are prohibited;” and

WHEREAS, Black Generation X’ers born after April of 1968 were the first generation of Blacks of African-American descent to be born “free” in the United States with the passing of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 giving African-Americans the right to education, patronize public facilities and places, apply for jobs, act as a juror in state courts and voting; the Civil Rights Act of 1968 also made hate crimes based on race a federal offense; and

WHEREAS, systemic racism is at the heart of our economy and continues to adversely impact BIPOC people, but most strikingly Black Americans across all systems of society, including employment, housing, education, access to health services, the justice system, economic development, and across all systems of government; and

WHEREAS, the median wealth of a Black family is 1/13th the median wealth of a White family and according to a report by the Public Assets Institute and Burlington African American people and families are most disproportionately impacted by poverty, with an estimated 32.5 percent living in poverty; and

WHEREAS, unemployment rates for African Americans have averaged twice those of Whites since data has been on record; the turnover rate for the State of Vermont is three times that of Whites and Blacks are underrepresented in leadership positions; and

WHEREAS, Black students are disciplined at far higher rates in our schools and are far more likely to come in to contact with School Resource Officers and numerous reports speak to the racial disparities in schools and disproportionate police contact with Black children; and

WHEREAS, Black Burlingtonians are exponentially far more likely to be stopped, searched, arrested and be the target of police use of force incident than their Whites counterparts; and

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ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY A PROPOSAL FOR
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53 WHEREAS, per the Council resolution, “Racial Justice through Economic and Criminal Justice”
54 which passed on June 29, 2020 that declares racism a citywide health crisis and the City’s declaration in
55 conjunction with the Racial Justice Alliance that racism is a public health emergency, we remain mindful that
56 stark and persistent health inequities exist in the United States based on race, which are caused by systemic
57 racism; and

58 WHEREAS, systemic racism is a principal social determinant of individual and public health,
59 impacting economic, employment, education, housing, justice, and health opportunities and outcomes, all of
60 which further adversely impact the health of Blacks; and

61 WHEREAS, the coronavirus is now exacerbating these disparities, and Black and Latino people in the
62 U.S. have been nearly three times as likely as White people to become infected with the virus and nearly two
63 times as likely to die, and those disparities are even more marked among younger age groups; and

64 WHEREAS, these same disparities exist in Vermont, and during the current pandemic, though Black
65 residents comprise just over 1 percent of Vermont’s population, they account for approximately 10 percent of
66 the total confirmed COVID-19 cases as of July 8, 2020; and

67 WHEREAS, in housing, only 4 percent of homes in Burlington are owned by Blacks though people of
68 color comprise 18 percent of Burlington’s population, and potential home applicants who are Black are four-
69 and-a-half times more likely than White applicants to be denied for a home loan (83.3 percent to 18.2 percent);
70 and

71 WHEREAS, in Chittenden County, 26 percent of Black residents are in poverty compared to 10.6
72 percent of White residents, 8.1 percent of Black residents are unemployed compared with 4.3 percent of White
73 residents, and 39.6 percent of Black residents have a bachelor’s degree or higher compared with 49.9 percent
74 of White residents;

75 WHEREAS, the resolution, “Racial Justice through Economic and Criminal Justice” resolved “that the
76 City establish a Task Force to consider an apology and/or reparations for the role that Burlington has played in
77 chattel slavery” and this Council is committed to carrying through on the directives of this historic resolution;

78 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a Task Force is established to study reparations and
79 consider a proposal for reparations and consider a City apology for the institution of slavery; and

80 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force shall consist of 5 members; one member shall be
81 appointed by the Mayor, or designee; one member shall be appointed by the President of the City Council, or
82 designee; one member shall be appointed by the Vermont Racial Justice Alliance; one member shall be

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ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY A PROPOSAL FOR REPARATIONS AND TO CONSIDER A CITY APOLOGY FOR THE INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY

83 appointed by the Vermont Human Rights Commission; and the final member shall be the Racial Equity
84 Inclusion and Belonging Director, or designee; and

85 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members shall be drawn from diverse backgrounds to represent
86 the interests of communities of color throughout the City, have experience working to implement racial justice
87 reform; to the extent possible, represent geographically diverse areas and shall serve as members for the life of
88 the Task Force. Vacancies in the Task Force shall not affect the powers of the Task Force and shall be filled in
89 the same manner that the original appointment was made; and

90 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force may, consistent with all City procurement and
91 other policies and all applicable laws and rules, recommend to the Administration and the Council the
92 appointment of such personnel as the Task Force considers appropriate to carry out its mission; request that
93 the REIB Director procure supplies, services, and property by contract in accordance with the Task Force
94 budget below and the City's procurement policy; and may recommend to the Administration and the Council
95 that the City enter into contracts with departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the United States,
96 agencies, private firms, institutions, and agencies for the conduct of research or surveys, the preparation of
97 reports, and other activities necessary for the discharge of the duties of the Task Force; and

98 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any subcommittee or member of the Task Force may, if
99 authorized by the Task Force, acquire directly from the head of any department, agency, or instrumentality of
100 the City available information that the Task Force considers useful in the discharge of its duties; and all
101 departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the City shall cooperate with the Task Force with respect to
102 such information and shall furnish all information requested by the Task Force to the extent permitted by law.
103 The Task Force shall keep confidential any information received from a public agency that is confidential or
104 exempt from the Public Records Act; and

105 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor shall call the first meeting of the Task Force to occur
106 on or before October 1, 2020; Three members of the Task Force shall constitute a quorum; the Task Force
107 shall elect a chair and vice chair from among its members; and the term of office of each shall be for the life of
108 the Task Force; and

109 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force shall

- 110 1) Study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans living in Burlington as a result of
111 the institution of slavery, including both the transatlantic and domestic "trade" that existed from
112 1565 in colonial Florida and from 1619 through 1865 within the other colonies that became the

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ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY A PROPOSAL FOR REPARATIONS AND TO CONSIDER A CITY APOLOGY FOR THE INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY

United States, and that included the federal and state and local governments that constitutionally and statutorily supported the institution of slavery; and

- 2) Study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans living in Burlington as a result of the de jure and de facto discrimination against freed slaves and their descendants from the end of the Civil War to the present, including economic, political, educational, and social discrimination; and the lingering negative effects of the institution of slavery and the discrimination on living African Americans descending from slavery in Burlington; and
- 3) Study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans as a result of the manner in which instructional resources and technologies are being used to deny the inhumanity of slavery and the crime against humanity of people of African descent in Burlington; the role of Northern complicity in the Southern-based institution of slavery; and the direct benefits to societal institutions, public and private, including higher education, corporate, religious, and associational; and
- 4) Recommend appropriate ways to educate the Burlington public of the Task Force's findings; and recommend appropriate remedies in consideration of the Task Force's findings on the matters described in this section; and submit to the City Council the completed study and recommendations; and
- 5) Identify, compile, and synthesize the relevant corpus of evidentiary documentation of the institution of slavery that existed within the United States and the colonies that became the United States from 1619 through 1865 and specifically its manifestations in Burlington; and
- 6) Include, in making recommendations, how the recommendations comport with international standards of remedy for wrongs and injuries that may apply to the City and that include full reparations and special measures, as understood by various relevant international protocols, laws, and findings; how the City of Burlington would offer a formal apology on behalf of the people of Burlington for the perpetration of gross human rights violations and crimes against humanity on African slaves and their descendants, if such an apology is recommended by the Task Force; and how Burlington and Vermont laws and policies that continue to disproportionately and negatively affect African Americans as a group, and how those that perpetuate the lingering effects, both material and psychosocial, can be eliminated; and
- 7) Include, in documentation and examination, the facts related to the capture and procurement of Africans; and the transport of Africans to the United States and the colonies that became the United States for the purpose of enslavement, including their treatment during transport; and the sale and

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..... Mayor

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ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY A PROPOSAL FOR
REPARATIONS AND TO CONSIDER A CITY APOLOGY FOR THE
INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY

acquisition of Africans as chattel property in interstate and intrastate commerce; and the treatment of African slaves in the colonies and the United States, including the deprivation of their freedom, exploitation of their labor, and destruction of their culture, language, religion, and families; and the extensive denial of humanity, sexual abuse, and chattellization of persons, and specifically how those were manifested in Burlington; and

- 8) Include, in documentation and examination, the facts related to the role of the federal, state, and local governments of the United States, specifically the governments of Vermont and the City of Burlington, in supporting the institution of slavery in constitutional and statutory provisions, including the extent to which the governments prevented, opposed, or restricted efforts of formerly enslaved Africans and their descendants to repatriate to their homeland; and the federal, state, and local laws, specifically those of Vermont and the City of Burlington, that discriminated against formerly enslaved Africans and their descendants who were deemed U.S. citizens from 1868 to the present; and the other forms of discrimination in the public and private sectors against freed African slaves and their descendants who were deemed U.S. citizens from 1868 to the present, including redlining, educational funding discrepancies, and predatory financial practices; and the lingering negative effects of the institution of slavery and the matters described in this section on living African Americans and on society in the United States, specifically in Burlington; and
- 9) Include, in making recommendations, how the injuries resulting from matters described in this section can be reversed or remedied and provide appropriate policies, programs, projects, and recommendations for the purpose of reversing or remedying the injuries; how, in consideration of the Task Force's findings, any form of compensation to the descendants of enslaved Africans living in Burlington could be calculated; what form of compensation should be awarded, through what instrumentalities, and who should be eligible for such compensation; how the City can advocate on a larger scale, on the federal and state level for such reparations, and how, in consideration of the Task Force's findings, any other forms of rehabilitation or restitution to African descendants living in Burlington is warranted and what the form and scope of those measures should take; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force may hold hearings and sit and act at any time and location in Burlington; request the attendance and testimony of witnesses; request the production of books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, and documents; and

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Approved....., 20.....

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ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY A PROPOSAL FOR
REPARATIONS AND TO CONSIDER A CITY APOLOGY FOR THE
INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY

174 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force shall submit a written report of its findings and
175 recommendations to the City Council no later than the date that is one year after the date of the first meeting
176 of the Task Force held; and

177 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the Task Force who are not City employees shall be
178 entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses at a rate equivalent to the State of Vermont
179 rate for members of State boards for not more than twenty-six meetings; and

180 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the sum of \$50,000.00 shall be appropriated from the City Racial
181 Justice Fund for the operations of this Task Force to be administered by the REIB Director consistent with all
182 City policies and applicable laws; and

183 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force shall terminate ninety days after the date on which
184 the Task Force submits the report to the City Council.

185

186

187 PF/Resolutions 2020/ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY A PROPOSAL FOR REPARATIONS AND TO CONSIDER A CITY
188 APOLOGY FOR THE INSTITUTION OF SLAVERY

189 8/4/2020

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City Attorney's Office, Linda Blanchard

ORIGINAL

RESOLUTION RELATING TO

Establishing A Task Force To Study A Proposal For Reparations And To Consider
A City Apology For The Institution Of Slavery

Adopted by the City Council

August 19, 2020

Clerk

Approved August 18, 2020

Mayor

Attest:

Lori Olberg
Lori Olberg
Licensing, Voting and Records Coordinator

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City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Submitted by: Bonita Anderson

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

Request for Limbing of Tree Branches around the Community Gardens

Suggested Action:

Ms. Davis requested this item be added to the agenda.

Attachments:

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Submitted by: David Moran

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

County Legislation CR-26-2021 (Maglev Opposition)

Suggested Action:

Reference: CR-26-2021

CR-27 is a County Council Resolution opposing the proposed Baltimore-Washington Superconducting Maglev Project. It was introduced by Council Chair Hawkins on March 16, 2021.

Staff recommends Council support CR-26 and direct staff to send a letter to the entire County Council urging their support and send a letter to Council Chair Hawkins thanking him for introducing the Resolution.

Attachments:

[CR-26-2021.pdf](#)

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2021 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-26-2021
 Proposed by Council Member Hawkins
 Introduced by _____
 Co-Sponsors _____
 Date of Introduction March 16, 2021

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Baltimore-Washington Superconductive Maglev Project - Opposition

3 For the purpose of opposing the Baltimore-Washington Superconductive Maglev Project (SC
 4 Maglev Project) given the significant negative impact that it would have on the health, safety and
 5 welfare of County residents and on persons that operate businesses in the County.

6 WHEREAS, the SCMaglev Project will have a negative environmental impact surrounding
 7 the construction of the Project and long-term challenges associated with interrupting natural
 8 preservation areas and existing wildlife ecosystems; and

9 WHEREAS, the SCMaglev Project will have an adverse impact on the livelihoods of Prince
 10 Georgians who reside within current residential housing stock/neighborhoods and attend schools
 11 that would be displaced as a result of land taking for Project; and

12 WHEREAS, the SCMaglev Project will cause a lack of usage access to Prince Georgians
 13 bearing the burden of the incoming infrastructure without being able to utilize it for
 14 transportation allowing zero access points from within County boundaries as a rider; and

15 WHEREAS, the SCMaglev Project will result in a lack of economic benefits to Prince
 16 George's workforce lacking any formal assurance that jobs would be dedicated to residents
 17 throughout the duration of constructing the Project; and

18 WHEREAS, the SCMaglev Project will result in potential accidents due to the nature of the
 19 levitation technology and lack of analyses surrounding safety concerns to life surrounding the
 20 stationed infrastructure.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
 22 County, Maryland, that it opposes the SCMaglev Project given the significant negative impact

1 that it would have on the health, safety and welfare of County residents and on persons that
2 operate businesses in the County.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Council is directed to send a copy of
4 this Resolution to Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Secretary Gregory Slater, Maryland
5 Department of Transportation, Ms. Holly Arnold, SCMaglev Comments, Maryland Transit
6 Administration, Ms. Lauren Molesworth, Maryland Transit Administration, Environmental
7 Planning, Mr. Brandon Bratcher, Federal Railroad Administration Office of Communications,
8 U.S. Department of Transportation, Chair, Prince George's County Senate Delegation, Chair,
9 Prince George's County House Delegation, Members, Prince George's County Council, County
10 Executive Angela D. Alsobrooks, Tara H. Jackson, Acting Chief Administrative Officer, Office
11 of the County Executive, Terry L. Bellamy, Director, Department of Public Works and
12 Transportation, Elizabeth Hewlett, Chair, Prince George's County Planning Board, M-NCPPC,
13 Andree Green Checkley, Prince George's County Planning Department, M-NCPPC, Debra S.
14 Borden, Deputy General Counsel, M-NCPPC, and Metropolitan Washington Council of
15 Governments.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2021.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Calvin S. Hawkins, II
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: March 22, 2021

Submitted by: Shaniya Lashley-Mullen

Submitting Department: Administration

Item Type: OTHER BUSINESS

Agenda Section: OTHER BUSINESS

Subject:

* Appointment to Advisory Board

Suggested Action:

Reference: Application and Signed Code of Conduct

The Council interviewed Wanna Coker for appointment to the Board of Election (BOE).

Approval of this item on the consent agenda will indicate Council's intent to appoint Ms. Coker to BOE.

Attachments:

CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND

25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1891

3/19/2021 12:32 PM

City Council Meetings & Work Sessions March – April



Regular Meeting, (Virtual)	Mon.	03/22	8:00 pm
Advisory Board Interview, (Virtual)	Wed.	03/24	7:40 pm
Work Session – Davenport Comprehensive Financial Review Report Presentation			
Budget Work Session – Overview, Revenues & General Government/Other Funds/Non-Departmental & Funds Transfers, (Virtual)	Wed.	03/24	8:00 pm
Work Session – Maglev DEIS Review, (Virtual)	Mon.	03/29	8:00 pm
Budget Work Session – Planning / Economic Development, (Virtual)	Wed.	03/31	8:00 pm
Work Session – Apartment Owners, (Virtual) <i>(tentatively)</i>	Tues.	04/06	8:00 pm
Work Session – GEAC, (stakeholder) (Virtual)	Wed.	04/07	8:00 pm
Regular Meeting, (Virtual)	Mon.	04/12	8:00 pm
Closed Session (CBA), (Virtual) <i>(tentatively)</i>	Wed.	04/14	8:00 pm
Budget Work Session – Misc. – Museum/Grants & Contributions/Social Services, (Virtual)	Mon.	04/19	8:00 pm
Budget Work Session – Public Works/Capital Projects, (Virtual)	Wed.	04/21	8:00 pm
Four Cities Meeting (Greenbelt), (Virtual)	Thurs.	04/22	7:30 pm
Regular Meeting/ 1 st Public Hearing, (Virtual)	Mon.	04/26	8:00 pm
Budget Work Session – Recreation, (Virtual)	Wed.	04/28	7:30 pm

- Councilmembers will present reports on conferences, meetings and events as the last item of business at Monday Work Sessions.

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.

Due to the COVID-19 precautions, the Council Meetings will be held online and is planned to be cablecast on Verizon 21, Comcast 71, and 996 and streamed to www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipalTV. Unless otherwise noted, Council meetings will be virtually by zoom. Zoom meeting information for public participation is posted on the City's website at www.greenbeltmd.gov on the meetings 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

3/19/2021 12:32 PM

Ready to be scheduled:

Apartment Owners (*tent. April 6*)
Local Economy Recovery (*May 12*)
Executive Session (*CBA*)
Executive Session (*Cable Ordinance*)
Greenbelt Fair and Just Policing Act of 2020
Congressman Hoyer (*joint meeting with other municipalities will be scheduled by the Congressman's office*)
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
DPW&T (*Bikeshare Program*)
BARC
Hotels
Juneteenth
Pepco
WSSC

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
CBA Legislation (for all non-managerial City Employees) (*referral submitted to CRAB & ERB*)
Term Limits legislation (*referral submitted to CRAB*)

Annual														
Advisory Group Chairs	3/16	2/17	7/18	7/19	6/20									
Franklin Park at Greenbelt Station Mgmt.	8/16	11/17	12/18	12/19	12/20									
Greenbelt East Advisory Coalition	3/16	7/17	3/19	6/20										
Greenbelt Homes, Inc.	6/16	7/17	7/18	7/19	10/20									
Greenbelt Station	8/19	12/19	8/20											
County Executive/ County Council	12/13	9/16	1/19	8/20	11/20									
Biennial														
Roosevelt Center Merchants	11/16	1/18	1/20											
Beltsville Ag. Research Center/ NPS Greenbelt Park	03/14	7/16	8/18											
	7/15	1/18	1/20											
Beltway Plaza	9/14	3/17	9/20											
Greenbelt Community Garden Club	3/21													
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										
PG Co. Economic Development Corp.	8/14	4/17	7/19											
School Board	2/16	5/17	10/18	3/19	9/20									
State Highway Administration	6/15	10/17	11/20											
Every Three Years														
Apartments	2/18													
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												
WSSC	12/12	9/16												
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										
Other/As Needed														
M-NCPPC/Planning Board (Major Issue)	6/06	7/14	10/19											
Business Coffee (Every Four Months)	10/17	2/18	8/18	11/18	2/19	5/19	8/19	12/19	3/20	8/20	11/20	2/21		
State's Attorney (4 years)	2/11	4/15	9/19											
Roosevelt Center Owner	9/15	8/20												

(Rev. March 4, 2021)