Community Comments on Silver Spring Proposal

For years there has been a plea for new development in Silver Spring to provide for more infant and child day care.  Day care is classified as an amenity in the list a developer can choose from.

Development of the Silver Spring CBD is resulting in a lot of one and two bedroom apartments, similar to the development proposed for the Park and Planning site.  Many of these units are initially occupied by couples with a child, others are quickly adding a child.

Please consider child day care for the Silver Spring Park and Planning site.  The site is large enough to accommodate child day care facility, but a lot of parents will see the retail while dropping off/picking up children and will mention it to other families in their buildings.  One of the development team mentioned how difficult it is to find a good day care group that doesn’t get sold in a few years and change completely.  Please check: <http://thearcofmontgomerycounty.com/program-services/children/karasik-child-care-center.html>.  The Arc of Montgomery County owns and operated the Karasik Child Care center in a former public school building at 10611 Tenbrook Drive in Silver Spring. It might be good to start with an established group.

After attending the informational meeting on Monday, I was encouraged to see that many elements of concern had been incorporated into the design.  Of primary importance being connectivity to downtown between Woodland and Fenton and the height of buildings along Spring Street.

Based on what I saw with diagrams and sketches, walking through the well-designed corridor and open space on the property to get downtown will be a pleasure.

What remains of concern is the height of the "tower" at the corner of Georgia Ave. and Spring St. and the building next to it on Spring St.  I understand that the desire was to have a presence on the corner and to make a statement, but it appears to be too high and too much for the townhouses across the street that have zoning for a 35 foot height limit. As I mentioned at the meeting, according to Josh Sloan from the Planning Department, with the new zoning rewrite's implementation the maximum height at the property border along Spring Street would be the same 35 feet with incremental height progression as it steps back from the property line to reach its maximum height.

I very much appreciate the opportunity to give input into this development and look forward to further conversations and meetings.