**East County Citizens Advisory Board (ECCAB)**

Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center

3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904

**Wednesday April 2, 2014**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**Members Present:** Peter Myo Khin, Fatmata Barrie, Samantha Blizzard, Marya Ford, Alison Praisner-Klumpp, David Kochanski, Peter Myo Khin, Allan Mulligan, Jerry Samet, Ian Swain

**Staff Present:** Jewru Bandeh, Miquitta Scott

**Guests:** Ed Weiler, Jonathan Genn, Lydia Sullivan, Mensah Adjogatt, Mark Doore,

Mara M. Parker, Fred Stichnoth, Geraldine Brown, Gary Newman, Eileen Finnegan,

Mark Pharaoh.

**Citizens’ Forum**

* Comments were made regarding the status of the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Purple Line, Inter County Connector as related to Eastern Montgomery County.
* Concerns were brought up about the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) route along Randolph Road, and the need to keep the process moving.
* Reports on potholes along Old Columbia Pike and other parts of the community

**Special Guest (Hans Riemer, Montgomery County, At-Large Councilmember)**

* The Speaker discussed issues related to the status of the White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan and related transportation plans impacting the east County region – BRT, CCT (Upcounty), Purple Line (other parts of the County), and challenges to addressing Route 29 transportation related concerns and diverse interests.
* Councilmember Riemer briefly touched on County budget related issues –Montgomery County Public Schools funding allocation, including need for major school construction, County’s Capital Improvements Program and advocacy for more state funding. The current Operating Budget under discussion by County Council was highlighted.
* He talked about energy tax and the discussions on this issue. In addition, the speaker talked about the following: Status of the Zoning Rewrite, Metro priority needs,
* Recommendations of the Night Time Economy Task Force and the survey he conducted on this issue. He stated the need for creating creative workforce housing and transportation as a growing need in Montgomery County.

**Director’s Report:**

A verbal report was provided to the board. The main highlights included:

* Summer Youth Job Fair scheduled for April 5, 2014. Transportation to/from Silver Spring will be provided for participating East County youth.
* The ECRSC is working with Montgomery College to expand education and community services to East County/ECCAB leadership/engagement in the process.
* Planning for the opening of the 3rd District Police Station in White Oak is on the way.
* Construction of the signal light on New Hampshire at Quaint Acres is almost complete. ECRSC is still working with MCDOT and MCPS on traffic issues along Old Columbia Pike/ Paint Branch High School parking lot.
* Weekly employment/job readiness workshop at ECRSC is ongoing.
* ECRSC is updating HOAs/Civic Associations/Businesses/Apartments link on website.

**Chair’s Report**

* The March 5 Summary of Minutes will be presented in May for approval due to a lack of quorum.

**Council Staff Updates**

* County Council approved the 10 mile creek amendment.
* The Council will start deliberation on the operating budget in committees after the recess.
* Increase in Ride-On fares, jobs creation & economical development, White Oak SG Master Plan is some of the major issues to be picked up by the Council.

**Committee Reports**

* The Quality of Life committee will meet and serve as the first focus group (for identifying needs and priorities) for Montgomery College East County expansion initiative.
* The ECCAB Zoning, Planning and Infrastructure committee met to outline an agenda to serve as monthly topics for discussion. Areas of interest to the committee include - White Oak SG Master Plan, Burtonsville shopping center and transportation, economic development.
* The OLO report on the Performance of MCPS High Schools – A FY 2014 Update will be the topic of a community meeting to be scheduled for mid May.

**Old Business – None**

**New Business**

* ECCAB nominated committee member Ian Swain as the new ECCAB Secretary
* A Nominating Committee consisting of Peter Myo Khin, Marya Ford and Ian Swain (with Samantha Blizzard as an alternate) was created to interview new ECCAB applicants.
* ECCAB letter to the County Executive/Council regarding the County Council staff recommendation on the Rapid Transit System.
* Invite County Council staff to provide an overview of the OLO performance report on MCPS high schools.

**Announcements**

* Mark Pharaoh, Chair of the East County Recreation Advisory Board distributed a letter addressed to County Execute Ike Leggett proposing a Park/Recreation facility in Burtonsville.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjournedat 9:25pm