

Wheaton Redevelopment Program (P150401)

Category General Government
 Sub Category Economic Development
 Administering Agency Transportation (AAGE30)
 Planning Area Kensington-Wheaton

Date Last Modified 5/13/16
 Required Adequate Public Facility No
 Relocation Impact None
 Status Planning Stage

	Total	Thru FY15	Est FY16	Total 6 Years	FY 17	FY 18	FY 19	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	Beyond 6 Yrs
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EXPENDITURE SCHEDULE (\$000s)

Planning, Design and Supervision	14,689	6,053	5,493	3,143	628	1,886	629	0	0	0	0
Land	1,010	1,010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Site Improvements and Utilities	10,559	1,346	0	9,213	5,794	3,419	0	0	0	0	0
Construction	129,663	690	0	128,973	71,235	40,928	16,810	0	0	0	0
Other	12,063	221	565	11,277	3,828	5,813	1,636	0	0	0	0
Total	167,984	9,320	6,058	152,606	81,485	52,046	19,075	0	0	0	0

FUNDING SCHEDULE (\$000s)

Contributions	862	0	862	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Current Revenue: General	1,300	650	650	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Aid	418	417	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
G.O. Bonds	71,906	0	2,871	69,035	38,099	27,987	17,949	-15,000	0	0	0
Land Sale	15,000	0	0	15,000	0	0	0	15,000	0	0	0
Long-Term Financing	70,145	0	1,574	68,571	43,386	24,059	1,126	0	0	0	0
PAYGO	7,503	7,503	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
State Aid	850	750	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	167,984	9,320	6,058	152,606	81,485	52,046	19,075	0	0	0	0

APPROPRIATION AND EXPENDITURE DATA (000s)

Appropriation Request	FY 17	8,866
Appropriation Request Est.	FY 18	0
Supplemental Appropriation Request		0
Transfer		0
Cumulative Appropriation		140,043
Expenditure / Encumbrances		132,775
Unencumbered Balance		7,268

Date First Appropriation	FY 04	
First Cost Estimate		
Current Scope	FY 17	167,984
Last FY's Cost Estimate		143,847

Description

This project provides for the planning, studies, design, and construction of an office building, public parking garage, and a town square on the site of Parking Lot 13 and the Mid-County Regional Services Center (RSC) in Wheaton. The project components include 1) an approximately 303,000 s.f. office building to be owned by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC); 2) an approximately 400 space underground public parking garage to be delivered to the Wheaton Parking Lot District (PLD); and 3) a town square located on Lot 13 and the current RSC site. The new headquarters for M-NCPPC will occupy approximately 132,000 s.f. of the building, including space for a child care facility. The remainder of the building space will be used by the County for office and retail under a long-term lease agreement. The County intends to use its space for nearly 15,000 s.f. of street front retail space and move offices of the RSC, Wheaton Urban District, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Permitting Services, Department of Recreation, the Community Use of Public Facilities, and Environmental Health Regulatory Services in the Department of Health and Human Services to this building. The building will have a geothermal heating and cooling system which is likely to result in LEED Platinum certification for the office building. After the building is delivered to M-NCPPC, the Commission will transfer the ownership of the parcels at 8787 Georgia Ave. in Silver Spring and 11200 Amherst Ave. in Wheaton to the County. The County will then transfer 8787 Georgia Ave. to the developer who will develop a privately financed mixed-use project on the site. The delivery will include air rights above the land over the parking garage for the space comprising the office building and over that portion of the land located between the building and Reedy Drive. The town square will be maintained and programmed by the RSC for the community benefit. Publicly available WiFi will be among those community benefits. The obligations and relationship between County Government and M-NCPPC for the project are reflected in a Memorandum of Understanding dated May 31, 2013 and will be explicitly set forth in the Binding Agreements between the parties. This PDF also includes \$650,000 for consulting services to provide 1) a comprehensive parking study to identify potential redevelopment disruptions to the public parking supply and any related impacts of existing businesses and to identify potential mitigation options; 2) planning studies to review potential models and approaches to creating local jobs and job training opportunities prior to and during redevelopment, including relevant case examples in Montgomery County as well as innovative models from other local and national jurisdictions; and 3) a business assessment study to determine the number of businesses and the magnitude of the impact. The business assessment study is needed to support Council Bill 6-12 for the establishment of service provision and technical assistance to those small businesses adversely impacted by a County redevelopment project. As part of the agreement, this project also includes a privately owned mixed use residential building with independent financing and significant affordable housing components.

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Location

Montgomery County Public Parking Lot 13, between Grandview Avenue and Triangle Lane; the RSC site on Reedy Drive, Wheaton; 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring; and Veterans Urban Park at 11200 Amherst Avenue, Wheaton, Maryland.

Estimated Schedule

The project design started in July 2014 and construction is expected to begin in the Summer of 2016. Demolition of the RSC site will begin as soon as the site can be vacated. The town square is planned to be completed in Spring 2019 and the completion of the office building is scheduled by the end of FY19.

Cost Change

The cost increase is based on estimated costs of design and construction of a geothermal heating and cooling system for the office building and unexpected environmental remediation needs on the construction site. Two additional floors will also be added to the planned building to reduce expensive lease payments for County agencies, facilitate co-location for departments with program synergies, and enhance the presence of the County Government in Wheaton.

Justification

The Wheaton Redevelopment Program was established in 2000 with the goal of encouraging private reinvestment through targeted, complementary public investment. The complementary public investment that Wheaton most needs is investment in creating a centrally located public space and a daytime population that together will contribute to an 18-hour economy in downtown Wheaton. It is expected that this public investment will leverage private investment, some of which is already occurring in Wheaton. Plans & Studies: Wheaton CBD and Vicinity Sector Plan (2011), State of Maryland designation as a Smart Growth and TOD site (2010), Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel (2009). The International Downtown Association Advisory report (2008); Wheaton's Public Safety Audit (2004); The Wheaton Redevelopment Advisory Committee visioning process for the Wheaton core; National Mainstreet Center Planning Study (2000); WRAC activities since established in 2000.

Fiscal Note

Minor project funding includes: 1) \$418,000 FY09 federal grant, funded through the SAFETEA-LU transportation act; 2) A developer contribution of \$861,940 from M-NCPPC Public Use Space and Amenity Fund. November 5, 2010 Planning Board Resolution, 10-149, Site Plan 820110010; and 3) \$350,000 FY14 and FY15 State aid to support façade improvements and a pilot solar-powered trash compactor program. Non-tax supported long-term financing and PAYGO will be used to finance the costs for DEP, DPS and CUPF facility space. \$15M of the land sale proceeds from the M-NCPPC Headquarters in Silver Spring is programmed in FY20 to help finance the project costs. Total project cost includes \$8,930,000 for Streetscape and Façade work funded through FY12. The residential development on Lot 13 will not be funded in this PDF.

Disclosures

A pedestrian impact analysis has been completed for this project.

The Executive asserts that this project conforms to the requirements of relevant local plans, as required by the Maryland Economic Growth, Resource Protection and Planning Act.

Coordination

WMATA, Office of the County Attorney, M-NCPPC, Westfield Mall, Community Associations and Residents, private developers, Department of General Services, Department of Transportation, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Permitting Services, Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Mid-County Regional Service Center, and State of Maryland. Special Projects Legislation [Bill No. 33-14] was adopted by Council June 17, 2014.