



WHEATON URBAN DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Luisa Montero-Diaz
Director

February 24, 2017

County Executive Isiah Leggett
101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Executive Leggett:

Community engagement in the redevelopment process is a top priority for the Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee (WUDAC). In January 2017, WUDAC held a well-attended meeting with MCDOT Director Al Roshdieh and Jose Thommana regarding the status of the Wheaton Redevelopment Program. We appreciate Mr. Roshdieh's and Mr. Thommana's willingness to participate in the meeting. We also appreciate and recognize the County's efforts thus far to work with Wheaton businesses through the Small Business Assistance Program.

One common complaint emerging from the January 2017 meeting was that the County's communications to the community regarding redevelopment have not been adequate over recent months. Many people in the meeting were concerned that the County does not have a construction calendar available to the public, which includes start of construction along with other important events that will affect the surrounding businesses.

WUDAC requests an updated construction calendar regarding the Town Square, the underground parking facility under Lot 13, and the new M-NCPPC building. We are interested in important dates, such as the start date for construction, closing of parking spots, demolition dates, site preparation, and expected completion dates for each project. As construction moves forward, the calendar should be updated regularly. We appreciate MCDOT's stated commitment to attend our monthly WUDAC meetings to provide project updates.

WUDAC also requests more timely information on the status of the residential building on Lot 13. The last substantive public meeting regarding the residential component of Wheaton redevelopment was in March 2015. According to that presentation, the residential component should have reached all Financing Milestones by August 2016. Although Mr. Roshdieh provided a general update at the January meeting, we urge the County to inform the public as to the status (and next steps) for this project.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the revitalization of Wheaton's urban district.

Sincerely,

Leah Haygood, Chair
Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee

cc: Al Roshdieh, Director, Montgomery County Department of Transportation
Jose Thommana, Chief, Division of Parking Management, MCDOT
Montgomery County Councilmembers