

**SSUDAC Meeting Summary**  
**June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Members Present:** Diana Brown, Carmen Camacho, Dan Figueroa, Don Hague, Mel Tull, Suzy Zusy

**Members Absent:** Brian Abramson, Mussie Betre, Curtis Johnson, Sheldon Johnson, United Therapeutics

**Call to Order and Introductions:**

- Mr. Don Hague, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.
- The committee unanimously voted to approve the May 2015 meeting minutes for the record.

**Reports:**

**Police Briefing & Crime Report**

Lt. Jennifer McNeal, Montgomery County Police 3<sup>rd</sup> Precinct

- Lt. McNeal reported two robberies in the downtown area; both along the DC line. The robberies took place in the evening hours - one at Fenton St. & Bonifant St. and the other along Colesville Rd. near the Silver Spring Metro Station. Arrests have been made in both cases.
- Reports of gang-related violence have been made outside of the CBD, further north along Route 29.
- Lt. McNeal also gave a brief overview of current crime statistics as compared to last year - crime rates are down overall with the exceptions of aggravated assault and thefts from automobiles. Thefts from Garages 5, 7 and 21 were recently reported.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> District Station has increased its staffing detail to include 2 new overtime officers and 2 new bike patrol officers to the CBD bike teams.
- The Montgomery County Police Department has launched its pilot body-camera program for officers on an initially volunteer basis.

## Dialogue with David Dise, Director, General Services

David Dise, Director, MCG General Services

- Mr. Dise provided an overview of multiple General Services projects in the downtown Silver Spring area.
- The Silver Spring Transit Center is nearing completion, and Mr. Dise provided the following updates on its status:
  - Major work to the structural struts and concrete overlay has been completed. 260 additional beams and 267 additional bracing beams have been installed, as well as a new layer of latex-modified concrete.
  - The fire protection usage permit has been cleared, and all paperwork for the Permitting Services final inspection has been filed.
  - WMATA's electronic real-time signage system is currently being installed within the facility, and the final stages of preparations and Metro inspections are underway.
  - Don Scheuerman of DGS and the Urban District's Red Shirt staff will work together to decommission the Interim Operations Site (IOS).
- Mr. Dise provided an overview of the layout for the new Progress Place building to be located behind Firestation One, and provided an update on the Washington Properties bid process.
- Construction is tentatively set to begin in August of 2015.
- Mr. Dise and members of the committee, along with Ms. Nikki Stanaitis of Interfaith Works, discussed the programs and various usages of the space.
- The new Silver Spring Library on Wayne Ave. is scheduled to open on June 20<sup>th</sup>, and the old library is currently in the RFP process for suggested reuse purposes. The current proposed usage for the space is as an intergenerational community center.

## Open Forum

Mel Tull, Lee Development Group

- Members of the Advisory Committee set aside time for an open forum discussion of multiple issues, including the expiration of classification of Silver Spring as an Enterprise Zone and the subsequent renewal of the Development Impact Tax and its impact on area developers.
- The committee unanimously voted to send a letter to the County Council with commentary on the Impact Tax as it relates to Silver Spring.

### **Silver Spring Urban District Report**

Richard Bingham, Chief of Operations, Silver Spring Urban District

- Mr. Bingham provided a general update on operations within the Silver Spring Urban District.
- Urban District administrative staff members are continuing to work with Human Resources to fill the vacant Program Specialist II position, as well as evaluating other vacancies within the department.
- Mr. Bingham reported the passing of an Urban District Public Service Aide, Ms. Maryam Abdullah, on June 3<sup>rd</sup> of 2015.
- The Urban District continues to focus on equipment repairs and the installation of trees and repair work on trip hazards.

### **Regional Area Director's Report**

Reemberto Rodriguez, Director, Silver Spring Regional Center

- Mr. Rodriguez distributed an informative document containing the job duties and responsibilities of all positions within the Urban District.
- The Urban District budget has been approved for an additional \$150,000 annual funding increase. Committee members suggested that these additional funds could go towards further maintenance services for the Urban District, as well as seasonal banners to display downtown.
- The State Highway Administration will continue its work on East-West Highway through the month of June, including the construction of two additional pedestrian crosswalks.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.