

Mid-County Regional Center

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November 2018 Report

Wheaton Urban District

- The second year of the Small Business Assistance Program has seen increased activity. Thus far 30 disbursements have been made to 16 recipients. Two new recent applications bring the total to 27 applicants. In FY19, \$205,877 has been disbursed bringing total disbursements to \$470,592. The average impact amount is about \$20,222. County Council has appropriated an additional \$200,000 to use this year.
- The pedestrian safety educational outreach campaign was carried out over 4 weeks in Wheaton deploying outreach teams that are working with the Wheaton Urban District team. MCDOT and RSC are working with Westfield for educational events during the Holidays. An enforcement campaign for drivers and pedestrians was launched; in September it focused on the Aspen Hill area and in October, it focused on the Wheaton CBD. It targeted not only pedestrian safety, but speed, red lights, aggressive and distracted driving. For driver enforcement, 845 citations/warnings were issued; for pedestrians, 699 citations/warnings were issued.
- In addition, curb markings have been painted and a pedestrian barrier will be installed (SHA and MCDOT). MCDOT continues to explore moving bus stops and improving the crosswalk at Price. The safety concerns are not just in Wheaton but span the length of Georgia Ave. between Forest Glen and Aspen Hill.
- The Feasibility study for an arts/cultural facility is nearing completion with briefings held for key decision-makers and the community stakeholders group.
- WUDAC held their annual planning retreat. Priority areas are: (1) Creating civic spaces in the urban district, including pop-up parks and continued support for an Arts/Cultural Facility; (2) Physical & institutional connectivity, including walkability, working with SHA, and with WMATA and Westfield; (3) Administration & Accountability including oversight of ongoing re-development and management of A&E District.

Administration & Community Activities

- Glenmont Forest Neighborhood Civic Association annual meeting
- Connecticut Avenue Estates Civic Association meeting
- Rock Creek Palisades Civic Association Block party
- Glen Way Gardens Condominium Association Neighborhood Event
- Presentation on community organizing and civic engagement to graduate social work students at USG
- Avery Road Treatment Center groundbreaking
- Third annual Wheaton Film Festival (an AHCMC Wheaton Cultural Arts grantee)
- Meeting between GOCA and Bethel Outreach Church about possible housing for low-income seniors.