Mid-County Regional Center

Luisa Montero-Diaz, Director June 2021

COVID-RELATED

- The Mid-County COVID Community Committee (MC-CCC) continues to meet; as the vaccine situation has shifted, the Committee's role is also shifting to supporting community-based vaccine sites and messaging/outreach to certain communities. This group has been an asset to the County's vaccination efforts, i.e., outreach efforts by posting posters in their neighborhoods, distributing flyers in apartment buildings, metro stations and businesses, producing social media, putting out the word through Next Door and their listservs, etc.
- The Mid County streeteries continue to function; although the tents and heaters have been removed, the County continues to support the Wheaton Streetery with tables and chairs. The Wheaton Urban District received some complaints from a nearby residential building about loud music coming from the streetery participants; however, with help from Police and DEP, we've been able to resolve the immediate concerns.
- The Hughes hub partnered with Safeway for a vaccine event that delivered 500 doses. Most of the people who came were from the surrounding communities. As part of this even, the American Association of Pharmacists recorded two videos of the event (in Spanish and English) that focused on mitigating vaccine hesitation.
- The County is working with Westfield Wheaton to provide vaccines on site. We are also working with a few other potential sites in Mid County for small community-based 'pop-up' vaccine sites.

NON-COVID

Wheaton

- Wheaton Urban District is planning a first event on the Marian Fryer Town Plaza on July 9th. This will be launch of a summer concert series and will include the Plaza dedication.
- Installation of the MNCPP-C commissioned mural for the north side of the new building has begun. The temporary murals on the fencing of the HOC/Duffie Companie construction site have been installed. These were produced by local artists through the Wheaton Arts Parade.
- The Small Business Assistance Program continues to distribute final funds to some of the Wheaton/Triangle businesses although provision of technical assistance by LEDC has been completed. About \$1.7 million dollars has been distributed through the course of this program thus far, with another \$500 \$700K in the pipeline.

Mid-County

- MCRSC has been helping Oak Chapel Methodist Church mediate with the Argyle Country Club regarding the danger of golf balls being hit so that they reach the Church's property. This is a long-term issue that has no easy legal solution. Thus, District 4 Police has been assisting with mediation and attempts to come to a viable solution that works for both parties.
- The Wheaton Regional Park Master Plan update is nearing completion.

Advisory Boards

- The May meeting of the Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee included an update from Michael Paylor, Chief of Traffic Engineering/MCDOT on the traffic flow and mitigation projects in the

Urban District. Mission First Homes also briefed the group about the re-development of the Har Tzeon- Agudath Achim synagogue site on University Blvd converting 2/3 of it for affordable senior housing.

- The May meeting of the Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board included a discussion with Council Vice President Albornoz regarding issues of Mid County interest. The MCCAB submitted their recommendations for the FY22 Operational Budget.

Administrative & Community Engagement

- Community Meetings: Wheaton Providers Coalition met for a second time including providers based in the Wheaton area; Wheaton art groups and artists came together as we have for the last year to share resources and information.
- MCRSC coordinated a COVID pre-registration table at the Impact Silver Spring/El Poder de Ser Mujer/ Hughes Hub entrepreneurial fair.
- Wheaton/Kensington Chamber Awards Event scheduled for June 23rd. MCCAB and WUDAC will again be selecting community organizations and heroes for recognition.
- One Montgomery Green will hold their annual Gala on June 24th.
- Met with FAsMarketplace in support of their 'Fall into Fashion' event which will highlight and encourage local shopping in Wheaton.
- The Wheaton Arts Parade & Festival is being planned for in-person on September 19th. WUD is working with the organization to plan for traffic flow, parade route, use of Plaza, outreach, etc.
- The Wheaton/Kensington Civitan Club partnered with MUM to provide goodie bags for children during MUM's food distribution event at PepperTree Apartments with MCRSC contributing Wheaton swag and COVID vaccine information.
- WUD met with representatives of all the tenants in the Wheaton building to share information about Wheaton and plan how to engage staff in the Wheaton community as they return to on-site.
- WUD partnered with Moms Demand Action to light the Marian Fryer stage canopy orange in recognition of National Gun Violence Awareness Day

Wheaton arts/cultural facility Plants on Georgia Ave