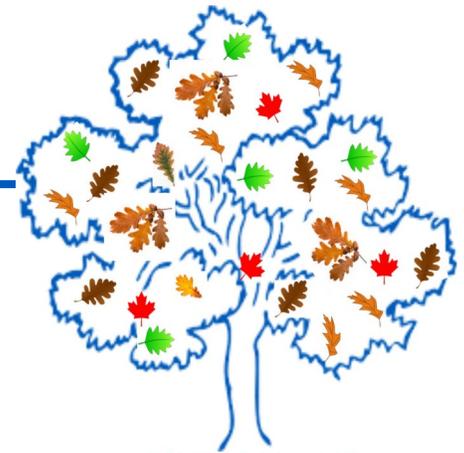


November 2018

WHITE OAK NEWS

White Oak Science Gateway



WHITE OAK, MD

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The White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan seeks to leverage the many assets located in the White Oak area and establish the foundation upon which the area may evolve into a community that offers more opportunities to learn, live, work and play. The Plan also envisions the commercial centers will evolve from conventional, auto-dependent suburban shopping retail centers, business parks and light industrial areas into vibrant, mixed-use, transit-served nodes.



THE WHITE OAK FACEBOOK PAGE

“Like” the White Oak Facebook Page at <https://www.facebook.com/WhiteOakScienceGatewayMasterPlan/>.

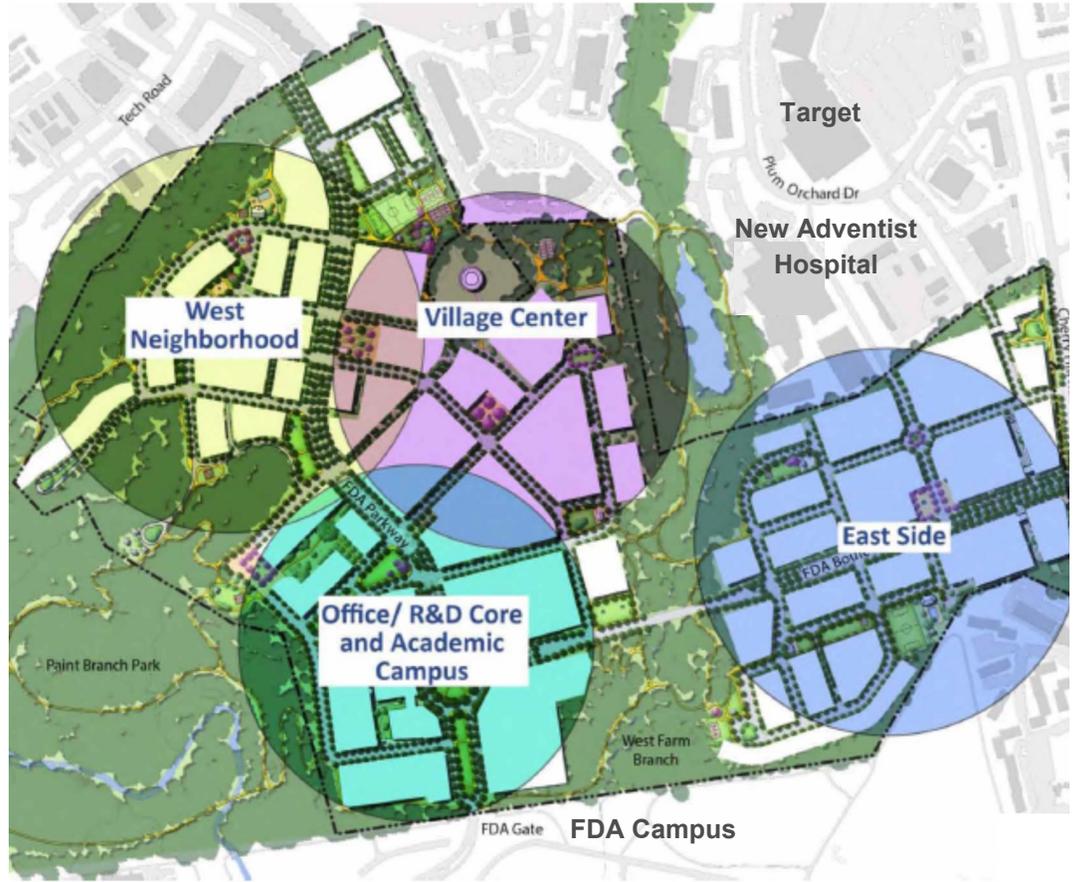
TWO MAJOR GROUNDBREAKINGS IN WHITE OAK

October included two major steps forward for White Oak: the groundbreakings of the new Viva White Oak community and the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) along Route 29. (CONT’ P. 2)

COMMUNITY NOTICES

- Open House with Department of Transportation for LATIP in Hillandale see [HERE](#): Thursday, November 8th at 6:30pm to 8pm; White Oak Recreation Center.
- Public Hearing for LATIP in Hillandale see [HERE](#): Thursday, November 15th at 7pm to 8:30pm; White Oak Recreation Center.
- Check the White Oak Website for agendas, details, meeting minutes, plans and updates at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/exec/wosg/index.html>.
- Check the East County Regional Services Center calendar for local clubs, medical clinics, and classes at <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/eastcounty/>.

TWO MAJOR GROUNDBREAKINGS IN WHITE OAK (CONT’)



(ABOVE: Gov. Hogan and Senator Van Hollen)

Several hundred guests attended the Viva White Oak groundbreaking on October 22, 2018. The history and future of the bio-life sciences development was shared by Percontee Executive Jonathan Genn. The 280-acre community is planning for approximately seven-million-square-foot of commercial development and 5,000 residential units.



ABOVE: Executive Leggett, Council Member Navarro and Council Member Floren; BELOW: Dignitaries “break” ground for Viva.



TWO MAJOR GROUNDBREAKINGS IN WHITE OAK (CONT’)

GetOnBoardBRT

BUS RAPID TRANSIT IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The US 29 BRT will travel between Silver Spring and Burtonsville, serving many communities including Briggs Chaney, White Oak, and Four Corners along the way. Service is scheduled to begin in 2020. The groundbreaking was on October 24, 2018.



(ABOVE: Executive Leggett, State Transportation Secretary Rahn, & County Transportation Director Rashdieh)

(BELOW: Dignitaries speak at the groundbreaking, conceptual BRT station, & conceptual BRT bus)



FRIENDS OF WHITE OAK MINUTES

JUNE 4, 2018

Members present were, Elisse Wright Barnes, Dave Feehan, Fizie Haleem, Brian Downie, Shana Davis-Cook, Barry Wides, and Pete Fosselman (staff). Shane Pollin, Kim Jones, June Henderson, Jeremiah Pope, and Richard Romer were necessarily absent. Several members of the community joined as well.

Pete welcomed everyone.

Agendas and Minutes were made available to the public.

Minutes

Approved by email from May 1, 2018.

From the Public

No comments

General updates were shared by Pete.

Curb Appeal – Barry Wides

Barry reviewed history of speakers from various agencies and the problems with sign pollution. Tools at the moment are 311 requests, but that is not enough or effective; and it doesn't resolve the issues with repeat offenders. Suggestion was made for "sting" operations by the police. Officer Reynolds of MoCo Police Headquarters was present and suggested FOWO reach to the new D3 Commander Montgomery. Pete will contact Commander Montgomery, as well as Greg Nichols at DPS and the Office of the County Attorney.

Marketing Contract

The contract with Sharp & Company has been ratified. The final details are in the hand of the Departments of Management & Budget and Transportation. Hope to have the firm start by July 1st. Next steps will be a visit from Sharp & Company to a FOWO meeting.

Powder Mill Road – Slip Ramp Meeting Follow-up

The meeting to discuss transportation improvements for the intersection of Powder Mill and New Hampshire was held on May 24th. About 80 participated, but many were not from Montgomery County. The consensus was the community wants a more comprehensive plan and does not like the slip ramp concept. Fizie mentioned her concept of an underpass. History was shared from former plans and the charge in the LATIP for the County to look at the bigger picture and include the BRT. The next meeting should have a better presentation speaker (too technical) and visual (poor lighting) wise. Pete noted the DOT will return to the community with a revised plan that takes comments from the May meeting into consideration. (over)

FRIENDS OF WHITE OAK MINUTES (CONT')

Pulte lot clean-up

Pete was able to get in touch with Pulte Homes who is cooperating on the clean-up of the lot near Old Columbia and Stewart. There was also discussion of deeding the lot to the County as a passive park for the community.

July, August and September meeting dates

Pete to do a Doodle Poll for next dates. There will be no August meeting.

Adventist Minor Site Plan Amendment

The hospital has applied for an amendment to the site plan that involves changing an entrance location, window treatments, utility room changes, and adding 2 floors to the south tower. Pete to find out the reasoning for the increase in stories for the tower.

Board Comments

Fizie mentioned she heard about a Town Center meeting for the community on June 7th and Brian confirmed it. Pete was not aware of the meeting and will contact Finmarc for any additional details.

Next Steps

Meeting adjourned

OCTOBER 23, 2018

Members present were Elisse Wright Barnes, Shane Pollin, Dave Feehan, Shana Davis-Cook, Barry Wides, and Pete Fosselman (staff). Kim Jones, June Henderson and Brian Downie were necessarily absent. Several members of the community joined as well. Jeremiah Pope, Fizie Haleem and Richard Romer have resigned from the Board due to relocation or conflicting commitments.

Pete welcomed everyone.

Agendas and Minutes were made available to the public.

Minutes

Approved by email from June 4, 2018.

From the Public

No comments

Presentation on Local Area Transportation Improvements (LATIP) for Hillandale with the Department of Transportation (DOT) (over)

FRIENDS OF WHITE OAK MINUTES (CONT')

Chris Conklin and Andrew Bossi of DOT were guest speakers. Pete explained the purpose of the presentation. He also announced the community meetings for Hillandale LATIP: October 24th with Prince George's County, November 7th with the ECCAB, an open house on November 8th and a public hearing on November 15th.

Chris gave an LATIP overview, its history and the meeting the County held last May. An email will be shared soon for comments to be sent to DOT staff.

Chris and Andrew explained the proposals which include traffic calming and landscaping for Elton Road, a new slip ramp at New Hampshire & the Beltway, lane widening & and improvements at the east and west sides of Powder Mill & New Hampshire. In addition, there are six concepts for Elton Road and the western portion roads of Hillandale on the Prince George's County side. Of the six concepts, DOT prefers number five which restricts a portion of Wooded Way to eastbound only direction.

Duffie is waiting on the decision about the proposed improvements.; they will either pay for and build the improvements or write a check to DOT for their LATIP hotel fee.

Comments & Questions

Shana asked for details on the Powder Mill and if it's identified in the master plan?

Yes, Chris explained and it's on p. 54 of the master plan.

Shana asked when Duffie Companies would pay the LATIP fee for the new Hilton hotel?

Fee is normally due by occupancy of the project unless otherwise bonded as the applicant works with DOT.

Pete asked about the effects on BRT station?

The design of the BRT (and, for that matter, also the State's 495/270 Traffic Relief Plan) are still too early and too large in scale for this proposal at Hillandale to be a significant factor.

In both cases the Hillandale proposal would be incidental. If either project has to reconstruct the intersection, interchange, or street frontage: it is unlikely to be because of the Hillandale proposal and more likely to be because of the scale of the other projects' work already demanding reconstruction.

Barry asked if the trucks were the primary users being targeted with reference to U-turns at Powder Mill?

The impacts of trucks are a longstanding issue and certainly a move that would benefit. However, it's not just trucks that are performing these U-turns. They can include cars from businesses along Elton as well as cars from the neighborhood. Shana asked the build schedule for the improvements? (over)

FRIENDS OF WHITE OAK MINUTES (CONT')

Shane responded that Duffie is prepared to install the calming improvements on Elton Road 1st, then the slip ramp and Powder Mill would follow. But he is not sure which would be next. However, the slip ramp and the Elton changes go hand in hand. Without the ramp there can be no LATIP funded calming improvements on Elton. Chris said that DOT would not dictate the order of improvements just as the order of improvements is not dictated in the programs on which the LATIP is modeled.

Barry said he thought the County Council could earmark funds for more upgrades.

Shana recommended the FOWO write a letter of advocacy.

Andrew explained the proposed changes for the Prince George's side as indicated on the handout with the six options.

Shane said Duffie is trying to fix issues at Powder Mill and if Elton is closed, it will increase the traffic out onto Powder Mill.

Shana asked if DOT has studied the impact on Green Forest Drive?

No, they have not. It is worth keeping in mind that increasingly restrictive calming measures (such as converting portions to one-way or severing Elton) would push more local neighborhood traffic to these streets.

On the other hand, cut-thru traffic is less likely to use these routes as compared to Elton/Wooded. Elton/Wooded provides a very direct path, and other routes are so serpentine that at a certain point using Powder Mill becomes the optimal route in lieu of cut-thrus.

Barry asked who are we helping?

Shane said the improvements will remove Westbound I-495 trips from both New Hampshire and Powder Mill. The removal of these trips will improve the flow of New Hampshire at Powder Mill. Improved flow on New Hampshire will reduce the incentive to cut through the neighborhood. Development and associated trips are coming whether these improvements are implemented or not. Shane also mentioned, as a Duffie associate, he will recuse himself from advocating on behalf of FOWO.

Shana suggested FOWO wait until their November meeting to make a recommendation and write a letter. It was agreed.

Pete noted these changes offered are not the end of LATIP for Hillandale because there may be future development in the area and those projects will also have to pay their share of the LATIP fee.

Presentation of the Visual Pollution Solution

Dave noted Fizie (who is no longer on the Board because she moved) is no longer part of the
(over)

proposal. Per Dave's memo the idea is like the Adopt a Road Program with the intent of cleaning up signs, trash and graffiti. In many cases, like the Bethesda Urban Partnership (BUP), these services are provided by Business Improvement Districts (BIDs).

Barry mentioned he has a program through his synagogue, but it has not been active. Barry thought a more robust version of the program should be looked at. He also noted a program through Adventist Hospital that helps hire homeless people.

Group agreed they should pursue Dave's proposal as well as additional ideas.

Pete will reach out to a neighbor who is on BUP Board. And he will talk to DOT about any community funds that may be available. Pete will talk to the County's director at the homeless shelter on Gude Drive. Comments by Pete

Update on overall development projects in White Oak. The September 2018 newsletter has details.

Next meeting will be determined ASAP for November. Two members have not responded to the Doodle Poll.

Meeting adjourned

MISSION OF THE FRIENDS OF WHITE OAK

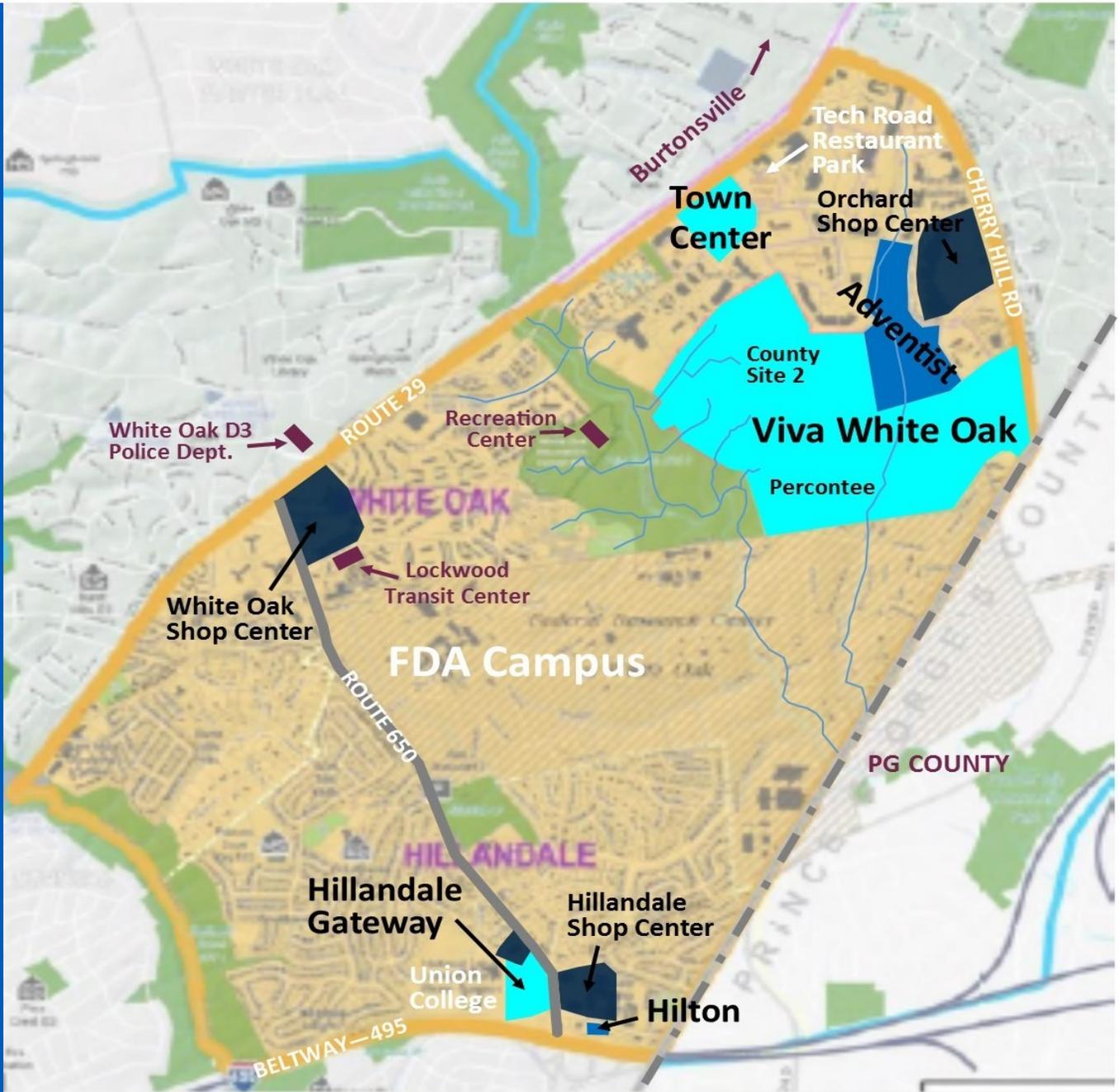
The Friends of White Oak will focus on the implementation of the White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan as approved by the Montgomery County Council and supported by the community. We are residents, businesses, and property owners who represent a broad diversity of backgrounds and interests; and advocate for responsible development in White Oak.

FACTS ABOUT THE WHITE OAK TREE

The white oak tree (Latin = Quercus alba) is a long-lived tree used for shade in landscapes and it is one of the most important timber species in the United States. The "National Audubon Society Field Guide to Trees" reports that the white oak has the nickname stave oak, since its wood is integral in making barrels. Shipbuilders in colonial times valued the wood as well. Today, white oak goes into products such as flooring, furniture and beams. The white oak's range includes most of the eastern United States. The tree is vital to the animals that exist where it grows.

While some of the biggest white oaks measure as tall as 150 feet, the average tree of this species grows between 80 and 100 feet high. The trunk's diameter can exceed 4 feet and the tree takes on a broad round look when mature. On some individual white oak trees, the lower branches become gnarled and grow horizontal to the ground. While they aren't commonly found in nurseries due to their slow rate of growth, white oaks are prized landscaped specimens for the shape of their wide-spreading branches. The slow-growing trees are also long-lived with specimens surviving for hundreds of years. The white oak is difficult to transplant successfully due to its slow growth, making a full-grown oak even more valuable.

WHITE OAK DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS



= Permitting/Under Construction
 = Planning
 = Future Dev

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