

## WHEATON URBAN DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Isiah Leggett County Executive Luisa Montero-Diaz Director

October 13, 2016

County Executive Isiah Leggett 101 Monroe Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Rockville, MD 20850

Dear County Executive Leggett:

The Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee (WUDAC) would like to express our appreciation for the County's successful effort in obtaining re-designation of Wheaton as an Arts & Entertainment (A&E) District. Not only did the Maryland State Arts Council approve the re-designation, but it also approved WUDAC's recommendation to expand the A&E District to include the new library/recreation center and Westfield Mall.

As part of the proposal development process, a five-year strategic plan was formulated which reflects the interests and inputs of artists, businesses and the broader community. To implement this strategic plan and realize fully the benefits of an A&E designation in this new environment, WUDAC believes the A&E District needs dedicated management and recommends that necessary funding and staffing be provided.

WUDAC requests your consideration of how to best manage and take full advantage of the Wheaton A&E District re-designation within the Wheaton Urban District and under the Mid-County Regional Service office. One consideration should be how to make use of the interest among Wheaton residents, businesses, artists and arts groups to support the Wheaton A&E District. WUDAC stands ready to support you, the A&E District and the revitalization of Wheaton.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Wheaton Urban District, specifically residents and businesses here, and the growing potential for arts and entertainment.

Sincerely,

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Leah V. Haygood Chair, Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee