



City of Mount Rainier
One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier, MD 20712
Phone: (301) 985-6585 Fax: (301) 985-6595

CITY MANAGER REPORT
FEBRUARY 4, 2014

Grants

The city is preparing the application for the Chesapeake Bay Trust 2015 Grant application for the expansion and creation of a Green Street on Buchanan Street, Mount Rainier, Maryland. This project will compliment previously awarded funding for the design of a bio-retention cell on Buchanan Street to reduce the pooling of water off the parking lot and Prince George's Pool. The draft of this application will be submitted for review this week for final submission on February 14, 2014.

There has been no announcement of funding from the Community Legacy Program. The city submitted a grant request for the construction of the bio-retention cell on Buchanan Street.

Assistant City Manager reports that the City will be eligible to apply CDBG funding for FY2015. See his report for further details. It is also reported that the city is eligible for funding through PEPCO for energy efficiency upgrades for its municipal buildings.

The weatherization grant request application submitted by the Town of Bladensburg through the Municipal Collaboration looks like it has a good chance of being funded. The City has been requested to establish a list of potential eligible homeowners. Veterans will be considered at the top of the list and the city manager has requested that a list of known veterans in the community be sent so that notifications can be provided to them so that they can apply for funding for energy upgrades to their respective single-family homes.

Rhode Island Avenue Development Update

Guy Silverman of Streetsense sent an email on January 23, 2014 stating that the meeting scheduled with the County representatives on January 21, 2014 was cancelled due to inclement weather and was rescheduled for February 3, 2014. Assuming the meeting took place, we should be hearing from either Streetsense or the County sometime this week or early next week.

Howard Ways, Executive Director of the Redevelopment Authority requested that I send a letter to the County Executive thanking him for supporting the partnership between the City and RDA

and the RDA efforts to purchase the properties in the 3300 block of Rhode Island Avenue. A draft of the letter is attached to this report for your review.

Other letters were drafted at the request of the Mayor and Council to the Maryland Public Service Commission concerning the PEPCO rate increase request, and the untimely work of WSSC on 34th Street during the past several months.

FY 2015 Budget Preparation

Community groups and city departments are preparing their respective budget requests for FY 2015. The requests are due Friday, February 7, 2014. The Manager and Treasurer will present to the Mayor and Council on March 4, 2014.

Meetings

Councilmember Jimmy Tarlau, Chief Scott and City Manager Wallace met with a citizen concerning a complaint regarding what the citizen stated as unresponsiveness of the Police Department. Following the meeting the citizen reported that the meeting went well and to her satisfaction and sent a Thank You card to the city manager expressing her gratitude for setting up the meeting.

The city manager attended the monthly MRBA meeting and reported on the current activities including the Rhode Island Avenue Development update.

The Mayor and Council hosted a public hearing on the proposed development options for the three properties located in the 3300 block of Rhode Island Avenue. Over 50 interested parties attended the hearing including residents, business owners, Artist Lofts Maintenance staff, and business owners (ACE hardware) from Washington, DC. The next step in the process includes the issuance of an RFP to potential developers during the next 90 days. The Redevelopment Authority will take into account the recommendations and suggestions and concerns expressed at the public hearing.

Other Matters

Representatives from the Planning Division of the Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission will present to the Mayor and Council at the March 4, 2014 regular meeting the proposed revisions to the Transportation District Overlay Zone (TDOZ) in the Gateway Arts District concerning the inclusion of Bed and Breakfast establishments in the District. The consideration for revisions were made at the request of the municipalities of Brentwood, Hyattsville, and Mount Rainier.