

MINUTES

Baltimore County Planning Board Meeting, January 17, 2013

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Minutes
January 17, 2013

Call to order, introduction of Board members, pledge of allegiance to the Flag, and announcements

Vice Chair, Paul Miller, called the meeting of the Baltimore County Planning Board to order at 4:00 p.m. The following members were:

Present

Mr. Paul Miller
Mr. Gerard J. Wit
Mr. Wayne C. McGinnis
Ms. Nancy Hafford
Mr. Mark Schlossberg
Mr. Rainier C. Harvey, Sr.
Mr. Scott Holupka
Mr. Scott Jenkins
Mr. Eric Lamb
Mr. John Polek

Absent

Mr. Edward J. Gilliss
Mr. Randy Thompson
Mr. Jeffrey Gordon
Mr. Howard Perlow
Mr. N. Scott Phillips

County staff present included Andrea Van Arsdale, Jeff Mayhew, Curtis Murray, Lynn Lanham, Janice Graves and Kathy Schlabach from the Department of Planning; Keith Dorsey and Ed Blades from the Office of Budget and Finance; and David Thomas and Kevin Sabolcik from the Department of Public Works.

Mr. Miller congratulated Mr. Holupka on being reappointed to serve on the Baltimore County Planning Board until December 2015.

Review of today's Agenda

There were no changes to the Tentative Agenda as published, which is filed as Appendix A.

Minutes of the November 15, 2012 meeting

Ms. Hafford moved to accept of the Minutes of the November 15, 2012 meeting as circulated. Mr. Polek seconded the Motion, which unanimously passed at 4:07 p.m. Absent were Messrs. Gilliss, Thompson, Perlow, Phillips, and Gordon.

A copy of the approved Minutes is filed as Appendix B.

Item for Introduction

1. Basic Services Maps

Mr. David Thomas, Assistant to the Director of the Department of Public Works, referred Board members to the copies of the 2013 Basic Services maps and accompanying memoranda contained on a CD that were distributed to each member at the board meeting. He explained that each year, the Department of Public Works is required to report on Basic Services Maps, including Sewer Deficient Areas and Areas of Concern, Transportation Zones, and Water Supply Areas.

Mr. Thomas introduced the issues briefly, noting that for public water, there are no areas in Baltimore County that have deficiencies. The 2013 map showing sewer deficient areas and areas of concern is essentially the same as the 2012 map. The Transportation Report for 2013 identified two new D level intersections that do not affect building permits; York and Timonium Roads and Pulaski Highway and 66th Street. The following intersections still remain at an F level: Loch Raven Boulevard and Joppa Road, Falls Road and Seminary Avenue, Falls and West Joppa Roads, and Frederick Road and Bloomsbury Avenue. York Road and Burke Avenue intersection is rated and mapped as an E level.

Mr. Lamb asked if there is a comprehensive plan to fix or lower the F level intersections. Mr. Thomas indicated that the County is working with the State to resolve the performance issues.

Mr. McGinnis expressed concerns with sewer overflows in Baltimore County. More specifically, Mr. McGinnis inquired about the most recent 20 million gallon spill and what Baltimore County plans to do to address this issue. Mr. Thomas responded that he would follow-up with a memorandum or other documentation that will respond to Mr. McGinnis' inquiry.

In response to other questions from Board members, Mr. Thomas stated that in regard to signalized intersections, the County is required to annually examine and identify areas not performing to specifications. Baltimore County coordinates with the State Highway Administration with regard to timing, funding and physical constraints for service level improvements.

Ms. Hafford moved to set a public hearing before the Board on February 7, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. to hear comments and concerns from citizens. Mr. Jenkins seconded the motion, which unanimously passed at 4:20 p.m. Absent were Messrs. Gilliss, Thompson, Perlow, Phillips, and Gordon.

There will be a vote on the Basic Services Maps at the February 21st meeting of Board.

A copy of the proposed maps CD and staff report is filed as Appendix C.

Special Presentation by County Executive Kevin Kamenetz – Introduction to the 2013 Capital Improvement Program Process

Mr. Miller commended County Executive Kevin Kamenetz and his Administration for the County's fiscal prudence and budgetary efficiency and then invited the County Executive to speak to the Board on the Capital Improvement Program. Mr. Kamenetz opened his remarks by thanking the Board for providing him the opportunity to speak to them today.

Mr. Kamenetz stated that the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget is an "off" year in the biennial budget process. He noted that an off-year usually requires minimal adjustments since the bond distribution and funding levels requiring voter approval for FY14 were established during last year's budget formulation process. He was very pleased to highlight that the voters of Baltimore County approved the \$255 million bond amount previously presented to the Board for FY14 in the November general election. School construction and improvements remain a priority at the local and state level of government. The FY14 bond funding for school improvements is a 42% increase over the previous year's referendum. Baltimore County at this point in time has been recommended to receive \$23.8 million for school improvements from the State, with more anticipated.

The County Executive informed the Board that the January 7th supplemental appropriation request also includes \$6.9 million to expedite the county's contribution for infrastructure improvements and the construction of the second garage at the Owings Mills Transit Center. This completes Baltimore County's contribution to the project. Providing funding for the infrastructure and second parking garage ensures all the components are in place for the development to be successful.

Additionally, it was brought to the Board's attention that the FY16 and FY18 bond amounts are less than FY14. This is intended to keep debt levels within debt affordability parameters and allow Baltimore County to maintain its triple Triple-A bond rating. Less than 1% of counties in the nation have earned a triple Triple-A rating. This rating allows Baltimore County to obtain low interest rates on debt. In fact, in early December, Baltimore County sold \$365 million in General Obligation Bonds at 2.05%, the lowest interest rate in county history.

As in previous years Mr. Dorsey, Director of Budget and Finance and Mr. Blades, Deputy Director of Budget and Finance were present to answer any questions that Board members may have. Executive Kamenetz expressed his appreciation to the Board for their commitment to the citizens of Baltimore County.

Supporting data is filed as Appendix D.

Other Business

2. Hess Road bridge update by Kevin Sabolcik, Chief of Structures, Department of Public Works

Kevin Sabolcik addressed the Board in response to a Board member requesting an update on the status of the Hess Road bridge project.

Mr. Sabolcik's discussion included a brief synopsis of the project history and the re-scoping of the project from a federally funded full bridge replacement to an all County funded bridge rehabilitation effort. The structure will remain a single lane crossing. The existing abutments will be rehabilitated and a new superstructure will be installed. Baltimore and Harford Counties jointly own this bridge; Harford County DPW is the lead agency on the project.

The preliminary design phase is currently underway; construction is funded for FY 2014 with actual construction taking place in late calendar year 2014 or 2015.

The overall project cost (design and construction) will be in the \$500,000 to \$600,000 range. Baltimore County would be responsible for half the cost, about \$300,000.

Wayne McGinnis inquired about the need to purchase right-of-way in-fee on federally funded projects, specifically if there is a federal requirement regarding fee ownership. Mr. Sabolcik stated that this is an issue that would be addressed by Baltimore County Real Estate Compliance.

A copy of the materials provided to the Board regarding the status and progress of the Hess Road bridge project is filed as Appendix E.

3. Reports of the Landmarks Preservation Commission meetings of November 08, 2012 and January 10, 2013.

Mr. Harvey, Sr. highlighted the November 08, 2012 and January 10, 2013 meetings of the Baltimore County Landmarks Preservation Commission. A copy of the Landmarks Preservation Reports is filed as Appendix F.

4. Legislation

Mr. Murray advised the Board that there were several County Council legislative actions since the last Planning Board meeting that may be of interest to the Board. Mr. Murray gave a brief explanation of the following County Council Bills, Resolutions, and Confirmation:

- Bill 74-12 – Residential Performance Standards

- Bill 75-12 – Final Historical Landmarks List
- Bill 76-12 – Manufacturing, Heavy (M.H.) Zone Regulations
- Res. 105-12 – Baltimore County Water and Sewerage Plan
- Res. 106-12 – Baltimore County Master Plan 2020 – Red Line Project
- Appointment – Baltimore County Ethics Commission

A copy of the legislation presented is filed as Appendix G.

Mr. Miller announced that Mr. Wit would be the Chair of the Capital Improvement Program Committee and reminded the Board that the first work session would be the following Thursday January 24, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment of the Board Meeting

Mr. Polek moved to adjourn the Board meeting. Mr. Harvey, Sr. seconded the Motion, which passed unanimously at 4:50 p.m. Absent were Messrs. Gilliss, Thompson, Perlow, Phillips, and Gordon.

Cjm

APPROVED 2/7/2013