Montgomery Planning Commission

#### 2425 Reedie Drive Floor 14 Wheaton, MD 20902

MontgomeryPlanning.org

# Bethesda Downtown Sector Plan Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC)

## **Meeting Minutes**

Friday, April 14th, 2023 @8:15 AM

Notes to be Taken by: Amanda Farber

Hybrid Meeting (Microsoft Teams and in-person) B-CC Regional Services Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane East Room B

### 1) Norfolk Avenue Streetery Update

- TJ Dant from Regional Services Center provided a brief update on the Norfolk Streetery improvements.
- The BUP Arts and Entertainment District Board approved incorporating a mural on the street to add design features and highlight section of road designated for emergency and other vehicle passage as needed.
- Furniture and planters have been ordered and project should be completed by summer.

### 2) Woodmont Avenue Streetery Update, Robert Gonzales, MCDOT

- Will have more information to present in May or June; many options on the table for Woodmont Ave.
- DOT has hired consultants; currently planning is just at concept stage.
- No dedicated funding for the project yet; will need to get further along in the process

### 3) NEW BUSINESS

- Question about Metropolitan Plaza renovation water issues on the plaza and in the County Metropolitan Garage below. HOC needed to replace the water membrane. Currently in 2<sup>nd</sup> of 4 phases; has been a very long process.
- Previous fountain feature by the Chipotle and stairs will not be replaced.
- IAC members reported that some areas of plaza are currently not well maintained; suggestion for better signage for public awareness especially at various access points including stairwells, bridge, elevators.
- IAC members reported that County Metropolitan Garage needs clearer parking signs and more kiosks. Would be good if there were a single system for parking in County lots in Bethesda. Mr. Gonzales indicated they are moving towards using license plate

readers in all garages; drivers will need to sign up for the app. Request to discuss parking and parking system with Jose Thomanna from DOT at upcoming meeting

- Question about the status of the Planning Department's Urban Loading Study which was supposed to have been completed in July 2021. Planning staff reported that the study is on hold pending staffing and other issues. IAC members stated a need for the study and report to be completed.
- Schedule for future meeting note takers through the end of the year listed (may be adjusted):
  - May Andy O'Hare
  - June Jack Alexander
  - July Joyce Gwadz
  - August Jad Donohoe
  - September Michael Fetchko
  - October Patrick O'Neil
  - November Stacey Band
  - December Christopher Smith

#### Attendees:

Amanda Farber Matt Gordon Andy O'Hare Christopher Smith Dedun Ingram Jack Alexander Jad Donohoe Joyce Gwadz Michael Fetchko Stacey Band Naomi Spinrad

TJ Dant Robert Gonzales

Stephanie Dickel Larissa Klevan Hyojung Garland