



## Ashton Village Center Implementation Advisory Committee

Meeting: May 20, 2025

Meeting Came to order at 7:05

### **Members Present**

Amy Medd - Chair

Julia Roberts – Vice Chair

Nadine Mort – Recording Secretary

Kathleen Wheeler

Leianne Clements

Ali Azimi Bolourian

Jessica Sidar Roth

Paul Mangus

### **Members Absent**

Stephen Faehner

James Meehan

### **Other Attendees:**

Jamey Pratt – Montgomery County Planning Department

Jewru Bandeh - Director of the Montgomery County East County Regional Services Center

### **Agenda.**

1. Jewru asked that a community engagement item be added to the agenda. The agenda was approved with the new item added.
2. The minutes from the January 21, 2025, meeting were reviewed and approved without change.
3. Nadine reported on the Rt 108 crosswalk updates from Councilmember Dawn Luedtke's executive assistant Aaron Kraut. (See email from East County RSC's Cicero Salles in NOTES below.) Jewru indicated he would send a drawing of the project by Thursday or Friday of this week.
4. Changes to bus routes will leave Ashton without any public transportation. The committee would like the county to be aware that this area will be left without public transportation. Members were especially concerned if the Southeast corner is developed, with Kathleen noting that the county depends on some new residents using public transportation when reviewing development proposals. Jewru offered to set up a meeting with the Montgomery County Department of Transportation regarding this route. The committee agreed to this meeting.



5. Development application in Sandy Spring – a party is interested in the property next to the Sandy Spring Store at 913 Olney-Sandy Spring Road, but an application has not been made as of yet.
6. Speed on NH Ave – Jessica reported that her community is very concerned about three recent car accidents. She reached out to SHA and spoke to the specialist Sina Khales. SHA has done a speed study at Tree Lawn Drive, which is where a very bad accident recently happened. Jim Meehan also reached out to Aaron Kraut, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Dawn Luedtke. Jewru asked Jessica to send him the emails she has from SHA and offered to contact the correct person at the State Highway Administration to set up a meeting with the committee. Kathleen mentioned that big trucks are using their air brakes going into Ashton. Committee members stated that a sidewalk or sidepath of some sort at least down to Tree Lawn would be an ideal starting point. Jewru suggested that the Committee request this improvement as part of the county's operating budget. Jessica to include a couple of brief bullet points about the main issues in her email to Jewru.
7. Jewru updated the group about recent happenings in White Oak, and in particular that they are working with the owners of the Sears building there. He discussed that his office is promoting several small-scale revitalization projects/developments to promote "place-making" opportunities. He thinks Ashton is a good candidate for such an event and offered to meet with anyone who would like to propose and/or work on such a concept.
8. Member term updates –Julia, Paul, Jessica and Leanne terms are all finishing up. Julia and Paul have decided to move on.

#### Any Other Business

9. Paul updated the committee regarding the donation of the historic Sandy Spring Bank building to the Sandy Spring Museum. At this point he was not aware if the museum had accepted the donation. Paul stated that it will cost too much to bring the building up to code given its single entrance, which complicates its use for anything other than a bank.
10. Jewru reminded the committee that the Planning Board was offering a Planning Academy for area residents. Encouraged our members to participate.
11. Jamey reminded the committee that we would have elections at the next meeting.
12. Several members of this committee are also members of the Sandy Spring Civic Association and they reported that the SSCA voted to write a letter of concern to the Planning Board regarding the large scale commercial development proposed for Ashton Rd by Korean Mission Church. Recently discovered issues with the



cemetery—turns out there are 40 graves instead of 12—have caused a delay in the Planning Board hearing.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:57PM

Notes;

**Salles, Cicero** <[Cicero.Salles@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Cicero.Salles@montgomerycountymd.gov)>

Mon, May 12  
1:57 PM (8  
days ago)

To Councilmember, Douglas, Chris, [Timothy\\_D\\_Britton@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Timothy_D_Britton@mcpsmd.org), Councilmember, Dave, Senator, [anne.kaiser@house.state.md.us](mailto:anne.kaiser@house.state.md.us), [bernice.mireku-north@house.state.md.us](mailto:bernice.mireku-north@house.state.md.us), Pam, Antoinette, Jamey, me, Jewru

Good afternoon, Everyone,

Just wanted to update everyone with SHA District 3 information. SHA's Traffic and Safety Office is developing the project to install a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) with ADA geometric improvements along MD 108 at Ashton Club Way/Hidden Garden Lane. The project is currently in design. They anticipate design completion within six to nine months, and a construction start shortly thereafter.

The larger MD 108 from MD 650 to Norwood Road project is actively under design with the District Engineering Systems Team (EST). They anticipate design completion in fall 2026. They will give us more details as the work progresses. Best regards,

**Cicero Salles**

White Oak Planning Manager

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