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Tell Us About Your Neighborhood | An online form allows you to quickly tell us what you're proud about where you live | [P. 11](#)

TO PRINT, USE [PRINT VERSION](#)

of note

Next MCFE Meeting

November 14, 2016, 7:45 p.m. @ the Executive Office Building in Rockville.
Topic: "State of the Environment"

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November's Community Heroes

It's Lene and Abeba Tsegaye, co-owners of the Kefa Cafe in downtown Silver Spring.

[READ PROFILE, P. 4](#)

Meeting Minutes

October 10 Meeting #879 [P. 12](#)
Executive Committee Meeting

[OCTOBER, P. 14](#)

Membership Application

Join or Renew Now [SEE FORM](#)

Federation Meeting 880

Monday, November 14, 2016

7:45 p.m. | Lobby Level Auditorium

Executive Office Building

101 Monroe Street, Rockville

AGENDA

7:45 Call to Order/Introductions

7:50 Approval of Agenda

7:51 Announcements

7:57 Approval of Minutes,
October 10 meeting **[P. 12]**

7:58 Treasurer's Report

7:57 Community Heroes: Abeda
and Lene Tsegaye **[P. 4]**

8:00 Program: The County's
Environment—Problems and
Solutions **[P. 3]**

9:20 Vote on Extending Deer Hunt-
ing in Residential Areas **[P. 10]**

9:35 Committee Reports

9:50 Old and New Business

10:00 Adjournment

About MCCF Meetings

All monthly MCCF meetings are open to the public. They are held on the second Monday of each month, September through June, at 7:45 p.m.

Meetings for the remainder of the year will be held in the **Lobby Level Auditorium of the Executive Office Building at 101 Monroe Street, Rockville, Maryland.**

Due to construction, access to the building is difficult; walkers must come through the cafeteria. You can park (free) in the lowest level of the EOB. Drive onto the ramp in the front of the building (ignore “permit parking only” sign), turn left at the second, lower level; use the intercom at the gate to the parking garage and at the door to the elevators to inform security you’re attending the MCCF Meeting. **[MAP/DIRECTIONS]** ■



The **Montgomery County Civic Federation, Inc.**, is a county-wide nonprofit educational and advocacy organization founded in 1925 to serve the public interest. Monthly MCCF meetings are open to the public (agenda and details at left).

The *Civic Federation News* is published monthly except July and August. It is emailed to delegates, associate members, news media, and local, state, and federal officials. **Recipients are encouraged to forward the *Civic Federation News* to all association members, friends, and neighbors.** Permission is granted to reproduce any article, provided that proper credit is given to the “*Civic Federation News* of the Montgomery County (Md.) Civic Federation.”

Civic Federation News

civicednews AT montgomerycivic.org

TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE, SEE PAGE 17

November Program: The County's Environment—Problems and Solutions

By Danila Sheveiko, Recording Secretary

The November 14th Program will take an objective look at the health of our environment and solutions to the County's most urgent environmental problems.

How is our air? What about water quality; is it getting better or worse? Is the fish caught in the Potomac River safe to eat? The County passed a law to curb energy use and greenhouse gas emissions a decade ago; are we meeting the mandate? We will try to answer these and other questions with easy-to-follow graphics backed up by publicly available data, including government reports, studies from regional environmental nonprofits, our own research, and investigations by the local press.

The County's ecosystems are fac-



ing numerous and growing threats—from stormwater pollution in our rivers and creeks to loss of wildlife habitat and, of course, human civilization's existential challenge we call

climate change and our local contribution to the global problem.

Yet practical real-world solutions to our environmental problems already exist, if only we can embrace them and work together with nature instead of against it, while improving our quality of life, generating green jobs, and building a resilient local economy. Technological and policy prescriptions are standing at the ready and the opportunities to implement them abound, like Executive Regulation 21-15 recently introduced by County Executive Leggett to adopt the 2012 International Green Construction Code, as well as other legislative and regulatory action the County can take up immediately to make a meaningful difference and assure a green future for all. ■

Community Heroes: Lene and Abeba Tsegaye, Owners of Kefa Cafe in Silver Spring

By Alan Bowser, First Vice President

Lene and Abeba Tsegaye are co-owners of the Kefa Cafe, one of Silver Spring's most important small businesses and community gathering places. Kefa Cafe is widely recognized as one of the most successful woman-owned and immigrant-owned businesses in Montgomery County.

For more than 20 years, the sisters, who fled from political persecution in Ethiopia in the 1980s, have operated one of the Silver Spring downtown business district's most popular coffee shops, serving an increasingly diverse clientele. In an era when the number of coffee shops chains are ever-increasing, the tiny Kefa Cafe continues to provide excellent coffee, pastries, other delicacies



and the highest quality service to an appreciative neighborhood.

Lene and Abeba are celebrated as “community heroes” by their neighbors because they have long celebrated the Silver Spring community. Their Bonifant Street cafe has been recognized as an important community gathering place, hosting scores of important civic meetings

and community events. Important non-profit organizations like Impact Silver Spring have their origins in community meetings held at Kefa. Several Montgomery County political campaigns have begun in the comfortable back room of the Kefa Cafe. The cafe's back room is known as “Space 7:10,” and regularly features the work of local artists, homeless sculptors and painters.

The Tsegaye sisters believe that it is important to give back and to support the downtown neighborhoods that have nurtured this woman-owned business since the early days of Silver Spring's revitalization. They have sponsored local soccer teams, provided refreshments for many civic organizations and non-profit organizations, and they have

Community Heroes, cont.

supported Progress Place, a nearby Silver Spring homeless shelter. They have lent their support to many newly-established businesses, immigrant and non-immigrant, in Silver Spring, demonstrating how to combine good business sense with community outreach to establish a successful enterprise.

The mutual affection and appreciation between the Tsegaye sisters and the Silver Spring community could not have been more apparent than following a recent fire that damaged stores at the corner of Bonifant Street and Georgia Avenue. The Kefa Cafe was forced to close temporarily as the Lene and Abebe sought to repair water and smoke damage from a fire in a neighboring



restaurant. When the cafe opened ten months later, a large and joyful crowd of neighbors and elected officials were there to welcome the coffee shop back into operation.

When Montgomery County was requesting proposals for a new kiosk business in the new Silver Spring Library, the surrounding neighborhoods successfully advocated for Kefa's proposal and raised a substantial amount of money for start-up costs.

Lene and Abebe Tsegaye have worked every day to strengthen the local Silver Spring community and to stand as enduring models of entrepreneurial talent and small business success in Montgomery County. Their generous support of neighborhood civic associations, community groups, and local nonprofit organizations have made them "community heroes." ■

Pepco to Build Shared Use Rec. Path on Trans. Line

By Peggy Dennis, Past President and Transportation Committee Member

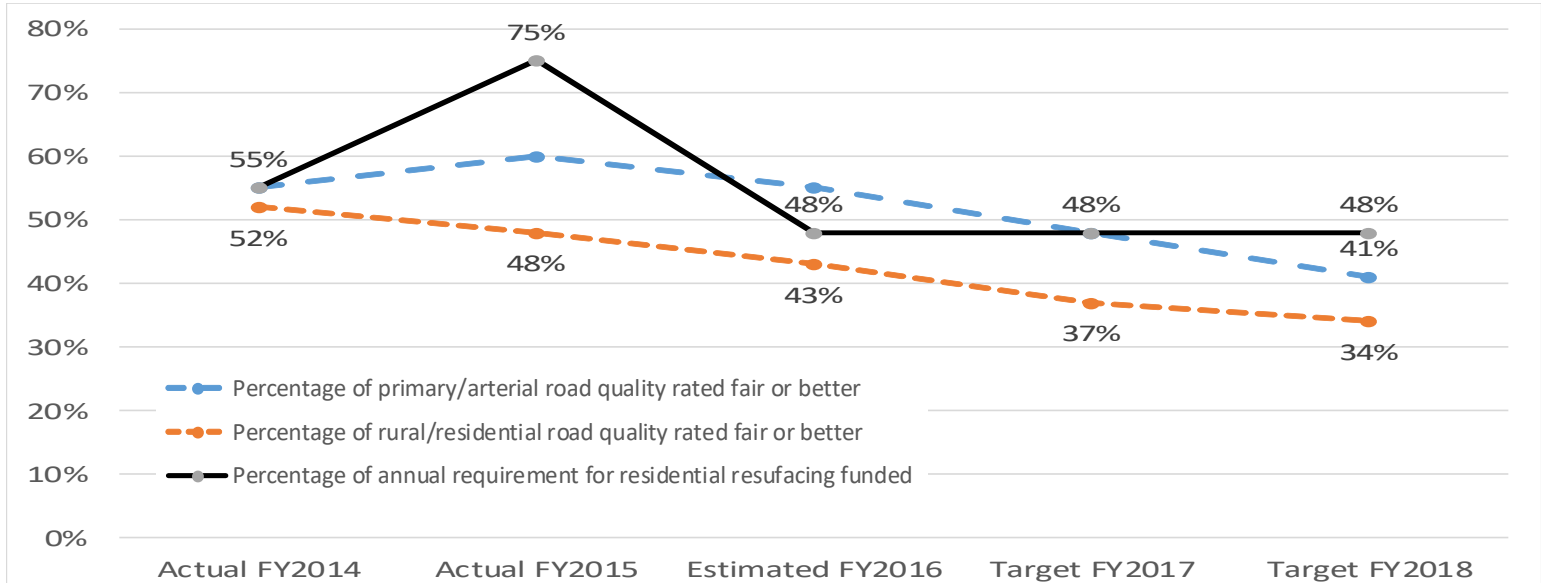
Score one for the MCCF! Several years ago, we sent [a letter to the vice president of Pepco](#) asking for the construction of a shared use recreational path along Pepco's transmission line from Westlake Dr. (Bethesda) to Piney Meetinghouse Rd. (Potomac). Exelon Corp. was then in negotiations to acquire Pepco. This was to have been a short "trial" project. When the merger was approved, Pepco not only did a 180-degree pivot from its former opposition, but agreed to run a path all the way to the Maryland SoccerPlex in Germantown. At the October 6 meeting of the Pedestrian Bicycle Traffic Safety Advisory Cmte., Pepco staff gave a [PowerPoint presentation](#) on plans to make good on its promise. ■

WHAT'S TRENDING IN THE COUNTY

An exploration of data trends in Montgomery County. Each month statistics for a different topic will be reported.

County Roadway Resurfacing Program Performance Measures

Provides for the contracted pavement surface treatment of the County's residential and roadway infrastructure.



Data Source: The Mont. Co. Dept. of Transportation's section of the [County Operating Budget and Public Services Program, Fiscal Years 2017-2022, page 46-4.](#)

Concussion Risk on County High School Synthetic Turf Football Fields Confirmed

By Danila Sheveiko

Newly uncovered documents show school system knew synthetic turf fields were dangerous.

A June 2016 independent testing report obtained by the Civic Federation earlier this month under the Maryland Public Information Act shows the synthetic turf field at Richard Montgomery High School failed to meet the minimum safety requirements set by FieldTurf, a manufacturer with contracts for all of the County's artificial turf fields. The LDD Sports, LLC, report verified the field:

*“to be **out of compliance and does not meet the requirements for play** based on the specifications as referenced in ASTM F1936-10 with locations above the maximum allowable*

limit of 200.”

This report appears to directly contradict earlier statements by Montgomery County Public Schools officials with regard to the safety of their synthetic turf fields. The report also reveals that in at least one case—Richard Montgomery—the school system knew the field was dangerous, but still let the manufacturer's warranty expire.

With a G-MAX score of 253, Richard Montgomery now becomes the most unsafe field among MCPS synthetic turf fields, with Walter Johnson a close second. To put that in perspective, according to the Sports Turf Managers Association, a G-MAX score of 200 is qualified by OSHA as **“Will Cause Death.”** G-MAX testing measures shock absorption and is therefore critical to

the health and safety of children and adults using the field; the lower the number, the safer the student athlete. Some professional sport teams limit the G-MAX scores to 120, and the NFL has set the maximum at 166. WJHS tested as high as 194.5 just months ago due to its defective plastic carpeting, a disconcerting fact uncovered by the Civic Federation over the summer that **garnered national media attention by *Forbes Magazine* and *USA Today***, as well as local television stations:

■ Sept. 5th, 2016: **“Are Montgomery County synthetic turf fields safe for play?”** ABC7.

■ Sept. 12th, 2016: **“HS Principal Responds to Crumb Rubber Turf Field Concerns in Montgomery County”** NBC4.

Synthetic Turf, cont.

Made from plastics and pulverized used tires known as tire crumb rubber, these fields are **failing to absorb impacts** like a natural grass surface would. Synthetic turf fields not only **cost much more than natural grass turf**, the tire crumb infill can accumulate dangerous pathogens and is known to contain **twelve known human carcinogens**. Both the crumb rubber and plastic grass contain lead, as the FieldTurf Mid-Atlantic Sales representative had to **admit under pressure** from the House Ways and Means Committee in Annapolis earlier this year.

Synthetic turf **problems are prompting lawsuits and early replacements** at schools and universities around the nation, but in Montgomery County, it looks like MCPS allowed the Richard Montgomery

field warranty to expire without challenge this August, after a July independent test by a different company, Athletic Field Consultants, Inc., showed that areas of the RMHS field G-MAX tested as high as 198.84.

The continued trickle of documents uncovered by the Civic Fed-

eration shows the school system's sole synthetic turf provider FieldTurf is having a hard time maintaining what appears to be the lowest standards in this loosely regulated industry, putting children's safety into question while MCPS looks the other way. ■

Update on Deer Hunting in Suburban Neighborhoods

By Peggy Dennis, Past President and Transportation Committee Member

I recently queried Paul Peditto, Director of the Wildlife and Heritage Service, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, about the term "safety zone" as applied to the permission forms in use by hunters. Currently Montgomery County imposes for a 100 yard "safety zone" around each location where a licensed hunter has permission to hunt for deer. In the past,

we believed that this required the permission of all property owners or residents within 100 yards of the hunting location. Mr. Peditto has provided a clarification which should make it easier for archery hunting to take place in suburban neighborhoods.

First, there is no requirement that the term "safety zone" be used on permission forms. "Hunting" involves two discreet but related activi-

Deer Hunting, cont.

ties. The first is the actual shooting or trapping of a wild animal. Only the landowner where the hunter will be physically present must sign the permission form in writing. The second activity pertains the tracking and retrieval of a wounded animal.

The hunter and/or the property owner who is permitting the hunt to take place on his property should contact surrounding property owners within the 100 yard zone to advise them that hunting will be taking place. These homeowners should be asked to provide permission (written or verbal) for the hunter to track and retrieve a wounded animal. There is no requirement that all surrounding property owners must agree to allow the hunter to track and retrieve a wounded deer to remove it from

their property.

Most property owners within the 100 yard zone should be willing to agree to tracking and retrieval. Those who are concerned about minimizing the suffering of a wounded animal will prefer that the animal be swiftly and humanely dispatched. And most homeowners would not want to return home to find a dead or dying deer in their yard.

It is up to the hunter to accept the risk of having a few properties where he does not have permission to track and retrieve. Should a wounded deer succumb on a property either within or beyond the 100 yard “zone,” if the hunter does not have permission to enter that property hunter, he should make a “reasonable” attempt to get permission immediately to track and retrieve. The hunter might knock on the door

and ask for permission. Failing that, the hunter might call the police or animal control to request their assistance in removing the animal.

Each year thousands of deer in Montgomery County are killed in deer-vehicle collisions. The cost of disposing of these carcasses is born by all of us. In contrast, all deer harvested by hunters are consumed and nothing is wasted. Hunters generally take their harvest for their own use and to gift to friends and family. The County pays for surplus venison to be processed and donated to soup kitchens to feed the homeless and hungry. I believe that this is a more humane and positive outcome. And Mr Peditto thanks us for our “ongoing commitment to facilitating hunting as a primary tool for managing our suburban deer populations.” ■

Resolution on Deer Hunting Issues to be Introduced at November Meeting

By Peggy Dennis

On February 13, 2012, by a vote of 19 in favor, 1 opposed and 1 abstention, Civic Federation delegates approved the following: “be it resolved that the Montgomery County Civic Federation urges our county and state officials to expand funding and to work collaboratively towards liberalizing appropriate regulations to extend the hunting season for deer and facilitate controlled and safe hunting on both public and private lands.” Since then, I have worked with County and State elected officials in support of this very strong position.

As civic activists we sometimes feel that our Councilmembers don’t listen to us or introduce legislation that will improve our quality of life. In June, under growing pressure

from neighborhood associations, the County Council unanimously voted to ask our State delegation to introduce four bills pertaining to deer hunting. Their request is beginning to bear fruit.

At the meeting on Monday, November 14, I will introduce the following floor resolution.

Be it resolved that the Montgomery County Civic Federation:

■ *Thank the County Council for their continued support for archery hunting to shrink the deer herds in suburban neighborhoods.*

■ *Support local bill MC 10-17 (Montgomery County—Archery Hunting—Safety Zone) to reduce the safety zone from 100 yards to 50 yards.*

■ *Ask our State Delegation to*

introduce legislation in the 2017 session to allow Sunday deer hunting on private land during the 130-day hunting season, not just on two Sundays.

■ *Ask our State Delegation to introduce legislation to extend the hunting season for one month through February.*

MCCF delegates from neighborhoods that have way too many deer (that’s most neighborhoods in the “down county”) should attend the November meeting to vote in support this resolution.

[Editor’s Note: This is the same resolution Ms. Dennis put forth in both the September and October newsletters. A vote on it at the September general meeting did not pass; it was tabled in October.] ■

MCCF Opposes Abolishment of the Office of People's Counsel, Testifies November 1st

MCCF opposes [Bill 41-16](#), "Community Zoning and Land Use Resource Officer," which was proposed (without consultation with communities) to permanently abolish the Office of the People's Counsel from the County Code and replace it with a Resource Officer who would not be allowed to participate in hearings.

At its October 10 meeting, MCCF passed an emergency resolution opposing this Bill which was just introduced on October 4. A Community Resource Officer would be no comparison to the responsibilities of the Office of People's Counsel, which is an attorney responsible for representing the public interest in land use and zoning matters.

MCCF pushed hard to establish this office and it was finally placed in the County Code in 1990. The

funding for the OPC in 2008 was \$246,000 for 1.8 positions. In 2010, the County Council removed funding for this important office ostensibly for fiscal reasons.

Three development ombudsmen/coordinator positions (\$577,000) have been funded—with MCDOT CIP

funds—since the time that the OPC was defunded, essentially using debt service to pay for public positions that assist developers but the County Council has not restored funding to the position that is supposed to represent the public interest.

[View MCCF's Nov. 1 testimony.](#) ■

Your 'Welcome to the Neighborhood' Profiles Wanted

Montgomery County is fortunate to have many communities that are excellent places to live and where residents take great pride in their homes, neighborhood amenities, and local history. This column will allow member associations to talk about the positive attributes of their community and what they would like to see in the future as enhancing these qualities and preserving what keeps

people here in the County.

The [format for a community profile is available here](#) for downloading. See the [September newsletter](#) (p. 16) for an example of a profile for those interested in writing about their neighborhoods.

Submissions should be emailed to civicfednews@montgomerycivic.org by the 14th of each month for review. ■

Minutes of the October 10, 2016, General Meeting #879 Held in Rockville

By Danila Sheveiko, Recording Secretary

Call to Order: President Jim Zepp called the 879th session to order at 7:51 p.m. Introductions followed.

Agenda: It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda as amended to have resolutions follow immediately after the program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ **Board of Education Candidates Forum** will be hosted by the Luxmanor Citizens Association on October 25th.

■ Montgomery County Taxpayers League will hold their **monthly meeting on October 26th** at the 6th Floor Conference Room, Council Office Building.

Minutes: It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the September 12th general meeting as they appeared in the newsletter. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Zepp distributed Treasurer Jerry Garson's report that showed a balance of \$12,620.46 with net expenditures over income for period of \$1,268.60.

PROGRAM

The October program focused on the upcoming General Assembly session and local ballot questions. Delegates were guided through the legislative process by Jennifer Bevan-Dangel, Executive Director of Common Cause Maryland, "the only government watchdog" in the State of Maryland. Ms. Bevan-Dangel re-

viewed the **General Assembly online legislation portal** and went through the process of how a bill becomes a law in Maryland, as well as shared some geographic intricacies of lobbying in Annapolis, including best places to park or catch a legislator on the run. About two to three thousand bills are filed during each annual 90-day session, with about three to five hundred becoming law.

Common Cause offers an **annual Webinar on lobbying** like a pro.

RESOLUTIONS

■ Resolution to support the 2016 Ballot Question A to amend the County Charter and provide a special election to fill a vacant office of County Executive was passed.

■ Resolution to support the 2016

Oct. Mtg. Minutes, cont.

Ballot Question B to amend the County Charter to limit County Council and County Executive office holders to three consecutive terms, or 12 consecutive years in office passed.

■ Resolution to support the 2016 Ballot Question C failed. Question C would amend the County Charter to define a partial term as two or more years, which would exempt office holders of partial terms of less than two years from the term limits imposed should Question B pass.

■ Resolution to oppose **Bill 41-16** to eliminate the Office of People's Counsel from County Code passed.

[SEE P. 11.]

■ Resolution to oppose **Zoning Text Amendment 16-09** to permit rooftop signage on every elevation of building passed.

■ Resolution to support **Bills 38-16** and **39-16** to require registration of certain vacant properties and impose penalty for failure to register a foreclosure purchase passed.

■ Resolution to support resident request to reduce the Floor Area Ratio to 1.5 along Grubb and Lyttons-ville Roads in the **Greater Lyttons-ville Sector Plan** passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education

■ Board of Education to **apply for waiver** for 2017-2018 school year start date.

Environment

■ On September 28th, County Executive Leggett filed **Executive Regulation 21-15** to adopt the 2012 International Green Construction Code. The **bill appears to be weakening existing green building**

standards.

Transportation

■ WMATA is **expanding Metro maintenance times** and changing operating hours.

Planning and Land Use

■ Public Forum on ZTA 16-05, that would eliminate public hearings for placement of small cell towers in front of homes, October 26th 7 p.m., Ridgeview Middle School.

■ Final Public Forum with Planning Department on ZTA 16-03 on Short-Term Nightly Rentals in Residential Zones, November 29th, 7 p.m. at the Planning Department, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Md.

OLD BUSINESS

■ Resolution to support expansion

Minutes of the October 20th, 2016 Executive Committee Meeting, MCCF

By Danila Sheveiko, Recording Secretary

The Executive Committee (Ex-Comm) convened via conference call.

Call to Order: Jim Zepp, President, called the meeting to order at 7:47 p.m. Present: Paula Bienenfeld, Carole Ann Barth, Danila Sheveiko, Jerry Garson, Harriet Quinn, Jacquie Bokow, Bailey Condrey, Alan Bowser, and Peggy Dennis.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda: Jim Zepp called for and received unanimous approval of the proposed agenda as corrected and amended.

Approval of Minutes for September ExComm Meeting: Jim

Zepp called for and received unanimous approval of the minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Jerry Garson reported a balance of \$12,620.46.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ The Luxmanor Citizens Association is hosting a **Board of Education Candidate Forum** on October 25th.

■ County Council is **holding a town hall** meeting in Silver Spring on November 9th at 7:30 p.m., Sligo Middle School.

■ **Conservation Montgomery's Annual Meeting** is November 18th, 6:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. at The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh Street, Bethesda, MD 20815—a networking reception followed by a debut of the new Home Tree Care 101 video series and a discussion of County tree canopy

efforts.

■ **Progressive Neighbors** invited Jim Zepp to debate Councilmember Marc Elrich on Ballot Question B Term Limits on October 27th at 7:00 p.m., Silver Spring Civic Building, 1 Veterans Plaza, Silver Spring, 20910.

■ Early voting starts on October 27th and runs through November 3rd. **Find your 2016 Early Voting Center here.**

MORE

Oct. Mtg. Minutes, cont.

of deer hunting times and reduction of reduction of minimum setback for archery hunting was tabled. **[SEE P. 10]**

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m. ■

Oct. ExComm Minutes, cont.

█ County Executive Leggett filed Executive Regulation 21-15 on September 28th to adopt the **2012 International Green Construction Code** via Method 2 legislation, so the County Council can only take an up-or-down vote with no amendments. If the Council does not act, the bill automatically becomes law in 60 days.

ISSUES DISCUSSED

█ Monthly Program: The November program will focus on the state of the County's environment. Metrics on air and water quality, tree canopy, carbon footprint, and other environmental indicators will be used to highlight the most urgent and critical threats to the County's environment, followed by a presentation on real-world solutions that

can stall and reverse the degradation of our ecosystems.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education

█ Montgomery County Public Schools wants to get a waiver to start school before Labor Day and are considering legal action. The Superintendent came out with recommendations for the Walter Johnson cluster, which is very overcrowded, to re-open the Woodward school as a high school again on Old Georgetown Road and turn it into a vocational education school, but there was no proposal to build a new school, even though it was one of the promises of the new White Flint Sector Plan, so this increases the number of "modular classroom additions" aka portables. An independent report for Richard Montgomery High School synthetic

turf field was uncovered via the Civic Federation's Maryland Public Information Act request to MCPS. The report shows G-MAX score as high as 253, so the field can't absorb impacts and that could lead to an increase in concussions and other serious injury.

Public Finance

█ Marriott International will keep its headquarters in Montgomery County with **\$62 million in government incentives**, evenly split between the County and the State of Maryland, or roughly \$18,000 per job created. Marriott made a similar deal back in 1999.

Planning & Land Use

█ **Bill 41-16** sponsored by Councilmembers Berliner and Hucker to eliminate the Office of the People's

Oct. ExComm Minutes, cont.

Counsel from County Code has a public hearing scheduled for November 1st. The Civic Federation took a position to oppose this bill at the October 2016 general session. Several Delegates are planning to testify. **[SEE P. 11]**

▮ **Zoning Text Amendment 16-05**, Telecommunications Towers in Residential Zones, is experiencing a lot of pushback, especially in parts of Gaithersburg, Potomac, and Rockville. The County Council decided that there will be a **public forum on this topic** after all on Wednesday, October 26th, at Ridgeview Middle School in Gaithersburg.

▮ The new Subdivision Staging Policy is through the two Council committees—Planning, Housing and Economic Development, and Government Operations that makes

recommendations on the impact tax rates. Councilmember Floreen and the PHED Committee proposed to eliminate the school facility payments which are paid when a particular school cluster goes over capacity. Many areas, including former and current enterprise zones, are not subject to impact taxes.

▮ Subdivision Regulations Rewrite is still in **PHED Committee work-sessions**, to be held on October 31st and November 7th in the 7th floor hearing room.

▮ **Zoning Text Amendment 16-14**, sponsored by Councilmember Floreen, proposes to grandfather expansion rights for any special exception under the old Zoning Code.

Transportation

▮ WMATA is proposing to reduce operating hours at the White Flint and Forest Glen Metro Stations,

also proposing to eliminate J7/J9, the one express bus route WMATA runs down I-270, because it is costing them too much money.

▮ Corridor Advisory Committees for BRT are having attendance issues.

▮ Options for the **MD 586/Veirs Mill Road Bus Rapid Transit Study** were presented to the Rockville City Council, but the vote was delayed. The Planning Board will vote on November 3rd to move forward with the design.

▮ Proposed closure of Hermitage Avenue next to the Wheaton Library is drawing opposition.

▮ PEPCO's shared use path requires money in the DOT Capital Improvements Program budget for future improvement on County roads intersecting PEPCO's transmission lines.

mccf

Oct. ExComm Minutes, cont.

▮ The County Council is proposing to add another \$8 million to the budget for roadway resurfacing. Despite \$48 million worth of needed improvements, only \$20 million is requested. The public hearing is scheduled for November 8th – Election Day. County performance measures indicate that we will have a smaller and smaller percentage of roads in good condition in the coming years.

OLD BUSINESS

▮ Review of proposed amendments to the draft policy/procedures for MCCF communications.

NEW BUSINESS

▮ Newsletter deadline and articles Wednesday, October 26th at 6 p.m. to Jacque Bokow at *civicfednews* AT

verizon.net.

▮ Date and location of next two ExComm meetings:

| November 17th—**Mid-County Community Recreation Center**, 2004 Queensguard Rd, Silver Spring, Md. 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

| December 15th— via teleconference. 7:45 p.m.–9:45 p.m.

Adjournment: Jim Zepp called for and received unanimous approval for adjournment at 10:01 p.m. ▮

mccf

Montgomery County Civic Federation

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Submit contributions for the next issue by the 26th of the current month. Send to CFN at *civicfednews* AT *montgomerycivic.org*.

Send all address corrections to membership AT *montgomerycivic.org*.

VIEW PAST ISSUES ONLINE [HERE](#)