MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: ***Status Report*** DATE: February 9, 2012

Status Report

1. Bowie Skate Park Registration
   Staff has proposed eliminating the requirement for skaters to be registered to use the Bowie Skate Park, as this practice is inconsistent with how similar skate parks in the region are currently being managed, and is possible as the initial fear of extensive litigation by facility users has not been realized for this sport. This change will also eliminate the need for staff to regularly turn away skaters who have not properly obtained necessary signatures on the registration form or who are not able to afford the registration fee, thus encouraging facility usage by area youth.

   Additionally, the annual revenues from registrations are offset 100% by the staff time and materials required to issue and monitor skate park registrations. Both the Financial Advisory Committee and the Community Recreation Committee have been made aware of and support the proposed change. This change is also supported by the Local Government Insurance Trust, the City's Risk Manager and the City Attorney. The change will become effective March 1, 2012.

2. Vehicle Acquisition
   Several months ago Car #15, a pool vehicle, was involved in a significant accident resulting in the vehicle being removed from the inventory. An acceptable replacement vehicle has been located on the State of Maryland contract #001B2400313. The vehicle is a 2012 Ford Fusion Hybrid. Including all safety equipment and recommended options, the vehicle is priced at $26,095 and is available from Apple Ford in Columbia, Maryland.

   Between the insurance reimbursement of $10,600 and the funds that have been accumulating in the Equipment Acquisition and Replacement Fund towards replacement of this vehicle, $28,050 has been identified to defray the cost. Funding will be provided through a supplemental budget ordinance. As provided in Section

62 of the City Charter, this will serve as the required seven-day notice of intent to purchase this vehicle.

3. Economic Development Committee (EDC)

   The EDC held their regular monthly meeting Wednesday. Plans for the May 11, 2012 business recognition awards luncheon were discussed. This year the event will be held at the West Bowie Village Hall on old Annapolis Road. Nominations are currently being accepted; a flyer has been e-mailed to each of you.

   The EDC also began an examination of business recruitment by discussing the various locations available. The Melford property represents the major location for business attraction available within Bowie. The EDC will gather additional information in order to evaluate the kinds of uses the City should try and attract and from that list further examine both City and County processes through which such business must go before they can open at their Bowie location. A meeting date for this further discussion has not yet been set.

4. Restaurant Guide Updated

   The City's Restaurant Guide has been updated and is available as a downloadable PDF on our website.

DJD/asf