

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: ***Status Report***

DATE: November 15, 2012

Status Report

1. Economic Development Committee (EDC)

The EDC held their regular meeting on Wednesday morning. Event planning is underway for the annual Business Recognition Awards. The nomination process will open in January 2013 and close in mid-March 2013. The awards will be presented at a breakfast meeting on Wednesday, May 8, 2013 at the Comfort Inn in Bowie. Additional details will be provided to Council and the public by January 2013.

The EDC continued their discussion about Bowie and Mixed Use. The City's Economic Development Director provided an overview of developed Bowie: there are 18,839 housing units; 1,150 multifamily (apartment) units; 504 senior/age-restricted units; and a total population above 54,787. There are over 9.1 million square feet of non-residential structures in the City. The mix includes 4.2 million square feet of retail with 4.6% vacant; 1.7 million square feet of office with 15.1% vacant; 543,285 square feet of industrial with 2.7% vacant; 336,700 square feet of Flex with 32.8% vacant; and 2.4 million square feet of "Other" space (e.g. churches, special use, multifamily) with essentially none vacant. The City's Planning and Economic Development Director provided an overview of Mixed Use as defined and intended in Prince George's County and explained some of the reasons it is a desirable type of land-use/development for Bowie. Finally, an expert guest speaker provided the big picture for mixed use. Mr. Stephen Ferrandi, a commercial land sales broker with KLNb and a lecturer at the Johns Hopkins University real estate program, talked about the history of mixed use, the modern implementation of it, and several key concepts needed to plan for and execute successful mixed use projects; a copy of Mr. Ferrandi's slides are in your package.

The next meeting of the EDC is Wednesday, December 12, 2012 and the topic is a detailed look at Bowie's population and residential housing supply and demand.

2. State of the Environment Report

The Department of Planning and Economic Development has completed this year's

State of the Environment Report, which documents environmental accomplishments achieved in the City during the last fiscal year (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012). The annual report, prepared principally by the City's Watershed Manager, also tracks the progress of the objectives stated in the 2007 Environmental Infrastructure Action Strategy Plan. The report can be found on the City website on the Green Bowie pages or on the Planning Department page under Recent Publications.