

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: ***Status Report***

DATE: February 28, 2013

1. Prince George's County Fire Department Life Saving Efforts

On Friday, March 1, at 11 a.m., Fire Chief Marc Bashoor will hold a press conference at Bowie's Northview Fire/EMS Station on Health Center Drive to announce several new initiatives aimed at preventing fire mishaps and tragedies. With a recent spike in the number of house fires in the County – including Bowie – and after the recent tragic Glenarden house fire, the men and women of the career and volunteer services of the Fire/EMS Department are combining tried and proven public education methods with new and innovative ways to communicate their message.

City staff and the Fire Department are partnering to use all available messaging and educational techniques to deliver safety messages to our residents.

Post press conference, firefighters from the four Bowie Fire/EMS Stations will return to their communities and visit neighborhoods that have suffered a recent home fire. Safety information, smoke alarm battery checks, installations of new smoke alarms, and assistance in planning home escapes will be performed.

City staff and the Mayor will be in attendance. Other officials are welcome and encouraged to attend. Further details, contact Alan Creveling at ext. 3079.

2. Indoor Sports Facility Feasibility Study – Additional Dates

In addition to the upcoming stakeholder meetings and site visits scheduled for March 11-13th, the Sports Facility Advisory (SFA) team will be in Bowie on Tuesday, May 7th to present a preliminary/draft report to the community and receive their comments. A final report discussing the potential need for and, if affirmed, design of a new Indoor Sports facility will be presented to Council at the regularly scheduled Monday night meeting on June 3rd.

3. Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant

The City has received a \$35,000 grant from the Chesapeake Bay Trust's Outreach and

Community Engagement Grant Program that will be used to implement recommendations of the 2011 Urban Greening Strategy. More than two-thirds of Bowie's tree canopy is on residential land, and the report recommends engaging residents in tree planting to increase urban tree canopy. This grant provides funding to hire a consultant who will work with Planning Department staff to conduct outreach, surveys and focus groups to identify the interest level and potential barriers of private tree planting. The ultimate goal will be to work with residents who wish to address these barriers and increase private tree planting in the City.