

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch
City Manager

SUBJECT: ***Status Report***

DATE: October 10, 2013

1. Bowie Businesses - 2013 Updated Analysis of Census Data

According to the US Census Bureau's latest data (for 2011), there are 1,464 businesses employing a total of 22,960 people in the seven Zip Codes that comprise the Bowie area. Bowie's business base represents 10.5% of the total Prince George's County business base (13,991) and 9.4% of the total employees (243,227) in the County. Small businesses abound in Bowie with 800 or 54.6% having four or fewer employees. Compare that with the County total with 6,878 or 49.2% having four or fewer employees and the State total with 70,959 or 53.3% having four or fewer employees. Also observed is that 11.6% of all of the County businesses and 1% of all Maryland businesses with four or fewer employees are in the Bowie area, and 9.7% of all of the County businesses and 1.3% of all Maryland businesses with 100 or more employees are in the Bowie area.

Businesses are almost equally distributed north and south of US Highway 50 – 50.5% are north and 49.5% are south. Note that “north” includes Zip Code 20720 which has seen commercial growth outside of the City limits; and “south” includes Zip Code 20721 which has more commercial outside of the city than inside the City limits.

2. Bowie Business Shuttle Bus

The Bowie BizBus has successfully completed its first month of operation. The ridership in our inaugural operating month averaged 17 riders per day with a total of 342 passengers being carried for the 20 days the BizBus operated. Staff is working with Inovalon and St. John Properties to increase employee awareness about the BizBus.

3. Weed Warrior and Stream Cleanup Events

This Sunday, October 13, volunteers and Green Team members will meet at Whitmarsh Park from 2-4:30 p.m. for the fourth Weed Warrior workday. Registration is required by contacting Tiffany Wright (twright@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3043). Please share with your constituents and plan to join us as we remove invasive ivy vines from trees near the Bowie Playhouse.

On Saturday, October 19, the City's 12th Stream Cleanup will take place at a number of sites across the City. While the specific sites are still being finalized, information is available on the City's Green Bowie page. An update will be provided next week with the streams to be cleaned and the meet up locations. If you are interested in joining us, or if there is a stream you would like to add to the cleanup list, contact Tiffany Wright at twright@cityofbowie.org or 301-809-3043.

4. Sewer Foam Injection for Root Control

The Public Works Department located a Baltimore City contract (Contract# B50002616) for sewer foam injection control services through Duke's Root Control, Inc., upon which the City will be able to piggyback. The foam injection program has been very successful in controlling root growth inside City sewer lines and helping to prevent sewer backups. This year we have budgeted \$65,000 for this program. We will sign a contract and issue a purchase order to Duke's Root Control, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$65,000. This notification is consistent with Charter Section 62 of the City Code regarding cooperative bidding.

5. Vehicle Acquisition

The Adopted Fiscal Year 2014 Budget has allocated \$20,200 to purchase a 2013 ¾ ton Cargo Van for the Public Buildings and Grounds Division of Community Services. Staff reviewed bids for this item and found a current State of Maryland bid which will be honored by Sport Chevrolet in Silver Spring, MD for Council of Governments members for \$20,113 (Contract #001B3400309). Section 62 of the City Charter allows for cooperative bidding between Council of Governments members. This will serve as the seven-day notice to City Council of the intention to make such purchase.



City of Bowie

15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, Maryland 20716

MEMORANDUM

To: David J. Deutsch, City Manager

From: R. James Henrikson, Public Works Director

Subject: Whitemarsh Park Paving

Date: October 10, 2013

The Public Works and Community Services Departments have been investigating solutions to a drainage problem at Whitemarsh Park adjacent to the football field. The existing parking lot was originally constructed using asphalt material that was recycled from the millings of our resurfacing programs. For more than twenty years, this has provided an impervious surface that allows vehicles to park in all seasons. However, during heavy rains, stormwater can wash off small particles of surface gravel. In the last year, this surface material has filled up a storm drain inlet that was installed on the side of the parking lot adjacent to the football field. Without that inlet functioning, heavy rain storms have started to wash surface gravel onto the side of the football field. Public Works investigated ways to provide a hot mix asphalt surface in such a way to prevent the problem from continuing.

Last Friday, during a field inspection, the original manufacturer/installer of the football turf told Community Services staff that the City runs the risk of voiding the eight-year warranty on the turf if the problem with gravel contamination isn't resolved. When you met on site with us yesterday, we went over the option of providing a hot mix surface over a couple areas of the existing parking lot. Those areas are shown in the attached sketch in crosshatched lines.

A small diversionary dike to keep the water in the rest of the lot from draining toward the football field is recommended. This diversionary dike, which would be three feet wide and four inches high, serves the additional purpose of traffic calming, since it will be built to the same cross section as the speed bumps on Whitemarsh Park Drive adjacent to Sportfit. In effect, we would be paving a speed bump that would also serve the purpose of diverting water away from the football field. It would be painted with diagonal yellow stripes like the other speed bumps in the park.

By paving these sections of the park, we solve a serious drainage problem that jeopardizes the warranty on the turf field that cost almost one million dollars. The hot mix surface paving will also allow us to stripe parking spaces in the area of the football field. Striped spaces will increase the number of vehicles that can be parked in these areas. It will also allow us to paint handicapped parking spaces, which isn't practical on the existing surface. And with a hot mix surface, these areas could be plowed more effectively.

Per your request, we have reviewed the costs involved. To add a three-inch thick hot mix surface over the areas shown in the attached sketch is estimated to cost \$60,000. This cost is based on using the unit costs in our current resurfacing contract with Fort Myer Construction. In addition, we recommend adding a 1½-inch hot mix surface to the existing area to the south of the football field. This area has existing hot mix but the surface was deteriorated to the point that many asphalt patch repairs have been made. To add this area is estimated to cost an additional \$10,000, using the unit costs in the Fort Myer resurfacing contract. In addition, we recommend a thickening of the pavement under and slightly beyond the proposed diversionary dike to reduce the possibility of stormwater undermining the edge of the hot mix asphalt. This is estimated to cost \$7,000 for Fort Myer to excavate, grade and compact. Please note that Parks personnel will use their motor grader to level off the existing milled material prior to the hot mix being laid.

Based on the above, Public Works and Community Services request approval to execute a change order with Fort Myer Construction in the amount of \$77,000. Our existing contract with them is for \$1,951,700. This change order is well within the 30% allowable in the contract. And due to the very low bids that we received for the FY14 resurfacing and associated FY14 apron replacement programs, there is significantly more money available in this account beyond the \$77,000 requested.

JH

Attachment

1 inch equals 100 feet

Whitemarsh Park Parking Lot

- Data Source: MNCPPC (aerial year 2000)
- Prepared by The City of Bowie Information Technology Department
- All data is offered as is and without any actual or implied warranty as to accuracy.
- October 2005
- whitemarshparking.mxd

