

## MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: David J. Deutsch  
City Manager

SUBJECT: ***Status Report***

DATE: May 5, 2016

1. Drug Take Back Program

The Police Department in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration collected 401 pounds of prescription and non-prescription drugs during the program held on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.

2. Rain Barrel Workshop

On Wednesday, May 11, the City and the Bowie Lions Club will host a rain barrel workshop at the Kenhill Center at 7:00 p.m. Staff will provide a brief introduction to stormwater and watersheds, then the Lions Club will discuss the benefits of rain barrels and will teach attendees how to install and care for them. The Lions Club will have completely assembled, ready-to-install, 55-gallon rain barrels for sale for \$65. That's a \$10 discount from its regular price just for workshop attendees. All proceeds stay right here in Bowie to support local activities. Registration is preferred but not required. Light refreshments will be provided. For more information or to RSVP, contact the City's Watershed Manager, Tiffany Wright, at 301-809-3043 or by email at [twright@cityofbowie.org](mailto:twright@cityofbowie.org). Please pass this along to your constituents and feel free to join us on the 11th!

Since the City began working with the Lions Club on this workshop, nearly 240 rain barrels have been registered with the Planning Department, collecting more than 13,000 gallons of water (*estimated*) during each rain event.

3. ImagineBowie Celebration

An ImagineBowie Celebration event, hosted by the City and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, will be held on May 17<sup>th</sup> in the City Hall lobby from 5-9 p.m. and will showcase the ideas collected during ImagineBowie events over the last five months. After 14 engagement activities and input from over 800 residents, attendees will provide final thoughts on Bowie's plan for its future, its Sustainability Plan. The event will be open house style and have activities to receive community feedback. In addition, a collection of images from Bowie's past and present will be on display and a short film "*Centennial Celebration of Nature*" by local filmmaker Kali

Belden can be viewed. Attendees will also have the opportunity to pledge their support for a sustainable Bowie by making their own declarations on a digital “sustainability” tree.

Please RSVP to the event using this link [www.imaginebowiecelebration.eventbrite.com](http://www.imaginebowiecelebration.eventbrite.com), and invite your friends and neighbors with the attached event flyer.

4. Paper Shredding & Styrofoam Recycling Event

The Public Works Department has scheduled a paper shredding and Styrofoam recycling event at the Bowie High School parking lot on Saturday, June 18, 2016 from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Residents can bring up to five tall kitchen bags or five archive boxes for shredding, and may observe the documents being shredded. Styrofoam must be free of any debris (glue or tape). Our last event was held on June 20, 2015 and over 5 tons of paper were collected for shredding.

5. Letter Requesting Banquet Hall Use at 8333 Zug Road

Staff received an inquiry from Mr. Mark Saunders, owner of property located at 8333 Zug Road, concerning possible future uses for the vacant building on the 8.4-acre site located at 8333 Zug Road. The existing 18,000 square foot building was originally constructed in 1968 and was occupied by the New Jersey Steel Company. The last owner of record was Zug Road, LLC and the premises were used by the RJ Sunday landscaping company. Mr. Saunders purchased the property in 2010 as an investment and has been searching for viable uses. The property is zoned I-1 (Light Industrial) and is encumbered with the Old Town Bowie Development District Overlay Zone (DDOZ). In the early 2000s, a temporary use (Petroleum Management) operated on the property and brought waste from off-site gasoline tanks for remediation. Both the City and County received multiple complaints about that use, due in part to the amount of truck traffic associated with the operation. When the 2006 Bowie and Vicinity Master Plan was approved, the DDOZ included restrictions on truck traffic. Ultimately, Petroleum Management was not able to obtain a use and occupancy permit and the temporary use was discontinued. Mr. Saunders recently sent the attached letter to the City, asking for Council’s support for a zoning text amendment to permit a banquet hall in the I-1 zone as a Permitted Use. Staff recommends scheduling the request on an upcoming City Council agenda for discussion.

6. Resource Conservation Plan Municipal Input Session

On Wednesday, May 4, M-NCPPC held a municipal input session for its Resource Conservation Plan (RCP) at the Kenhill Center with about 30 people in attendance. Representing Bowie were staff from our Planning Department, Councilmember Trouth, and members of the EAC and Green Team. Other municipalities sending representatives were Greenbelt, Cheverly, Hyattsville and Mt. Rainier. After the M-NCPPC project manager presented on green infrastructure planning at various scales (regional, statewide and countywide), Mike Hunninghake from the University of Maryland presented about the Sustainable Maryland Certified Program and how it can help the County and municipalities integrate implementation of the RCP.

Of note at this meeting, which is a change to what Council was previously told, is that the RCP will now incorporate the Anacostia Trail Heritage Area. Council will recall having approved a request to change the ATHA boundary to include some of Bowie's trails and historic areas. The M-NCPPC project manager also noted that any municipality that does not currently have its tree canopy coverage data or that would like additional supporting mapping or research information could contact their office. City staff received this information from M-NCPPC several years ago.

Next Steps: The RCP will be on the agenda for the July 28 Planning Board meeting for permission to print. If approved, it will then undergo a public hearing in September (date to be determined).

Attachments



# Imagine **BOWIE** CELEBRATION

## Event Info



### DATE

May 17, 2016



### TIME

5:00–9:00 p.m.



### LOCATION

City Hall  
15901 Excalibur Road  
Bowie, MD 20716

## Leave Your Mark on Bowie's Future!

Stop by the **ImagineBowie Celebration** anytime between **5:00 p.m.** and **9:00 p.m.** on **May 17** to celebrate 100 years with 100 ideas for Bowie's future.

A collection of images from Bowie's past and present will be on display along with a list of goals developed by you—the citizens of Bowie—for Bowie's Sustainability Plan.

Attendees can give final thoughts on the plan by participating in voting exercises at the event. To conclude the celebration, all participants will be invited to take an affirmative pledge for the future of Bowie.



If you live or work in Bowie, attend this event! Register using the link below.

**Eventbrite**

[www.imaginebowiecelebration.eventbrite.com](http://www.imaginebowiecelebration.eventbrite.com)

## Contact Us



Kristin Larson, Sustainability Planner



<http://www.cityofbowie.org/greenbowie>



[klarson@cityofbowie.org](mailto:klarson@cityofbowie.org)



301-809-3044

**Stay Involved:**



#imaginebowie



[greenbowie.mysidewalk.com](http://greenbowie.mysidewalk.com)

## Project Partners



The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission  
Prince George's County Planning Department  
[www.pgplanning.org](http://www.pgplanning.org)

# Real Tech, LLC

8333 Zug Road  
Bowie, MD 20715

To Michael Esteve,

Mr. Esteve as per our conversation on Monday 4/11/16, I am sending you this letter regarding the expansion of permitted uses for 8333 Zug Road, Bowie, MD.

As stated in the meeting on Monday, I have spoken with PG county council member Todd Turner about this issue. At our meeting, council member Turner indicated that he would only consider proposing an expansion of the I-1 zone permitted uses if the City of Bowie has a favorable opinion of the expansion.

Therefore, I formally request that you and Bowie city council consider forming an opinion on the expansion of the permitted uses of 8333 Zug Road to include the following.

Recreational or Entertainment Establishment of a Commercial Nature – An establishment which provides entertainment, recreation, or amusement for profit. This term shall not include an “Amusement Arcade”, “Reducing/Exercise Salon or Health Club”, or a “Massage Establishment” but shall include any form of a “Rental Hall” or “Dance Hall” or “Banquet Hall” not sanctioned by another special exception or private club. (CB-56-2011)

My client and I encourage the city to add stipulations and restrictions to the zoning to ensure that concerns of the city are addressed. In particular, a stipulation that adult / erotic performances are forbidden.

My client intends to use the Banquet hall as follows.

1. Rental for a variety of upscale events including weddings, retirements, community events and church events.
2. Serving Alcohol as part of an event.

Please be aware that current zoning allows for a variety of construction businesses to make use of the property. I have spoken to several about how they would use the property and the

number and type of trucks that would be utilized. A Banquet Hall would address concerns from the surrounding community regarding trucks coming to and leaving the property.

The current zoning allows for "Private Clubs". "Private clubs" can engage in any activity covered underneath Banquet Hall (and significantly more) with the exception that attending individuals must first pay a membership fee and join the club.

The current zoning allows for "Auditorium" (CB-56-2011) which is also a similar use to Banquet Hall.

In addition, I have been contacted multiple times regarding production of Marijuana at the property. This may be a permitted use, at the moment it is unclear.

I would prefer that Banquet Halls with restrictions become a fully permitted use. This would ensure that my clients would know exactly what they could and could not do without having to go through a lengthy review process. However, as stated in Monday's meeting, the use could be marked as a SE (Special Exception) / DSP requiring a case by case review for each client.

Sincerely,



Mark Saunders

Owner Real Tech, LLC and 8333 Zug Road