



City of Bowie

Memorandum

Thursday, May 16, 2024
Alfred D. Lott, ICMA-CM, CPM,
City Manager

STATUS REPORT

1. Kenhill Dr / MD 197 Complete Streets Stakeholders Meeting
City Staff will hold a Stakeholders Meeting to inform residents on the advancement of the Complete Streets design for Kenhill Drive, between Kembridge Drive and MD 197, for construction in FY 2025. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room of the Kenhill Center next Wednesday, May 22nd.
2. Bowie Business Retention Networking Event
The City of Bowie Economic Development Office and the Bowie Business Innovation Center partnered to host "Collaborate, Connect and Grow," a business networking event held on Thursday, May 9th, 2024, at M Lounge at Bowie Town Center. The event focused on bringing businesses and partnering agencies with the City of Bowie together to network and learn from each other. The event allowed businesses to engage in a more relaxed atmosphere and learn how to collaborate, connect, grow, and expand. Many attendees had the opportunity to meet the different agencies and to connect with other businesses to build relationships and form collaborations.

Eighty businesses attended. The partnering agencies that attended were the Maryland Women's Business Center (MWBC), Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation, FSC First, Bowie Police Department (Chief Preston and two Community Services Officers), and the City of Bowie Sustainability Office. Guest speaker Thomas Ellis, Chief Sales Coach at EWC Consultants, spoke about the importance of networking and how to network more effectively. To help the attendees network, we created a City of Bowie passport book that made the networking process much more manageable. Each business representative was given a passport book that instructed them to do different tasks with the agencies there, like taking a picture of the MWBC's tagline or taking a photo with the PGC EDC representative. The passport made the guests feel more comfortable getting to know the different agencies and helped them network. The event was a complete success and was well received by the business owners and the partnering agencies.

We look forward to having an event like this annually. We plan to have the event at local businesses within the city and target the business community's specific needs while making the Economic Development office more visible and accessible to all businesses.

3. Information Technology – Replacement Core Switches

The FY24 Budget includes funding in Business Operations to upgrade C-Net equipment. Part of that upgrade is replacing the core network switches located at City Hall. After a careful analysis, it was determined that the City would utilize the State of Maryland Hardware 2012 Master Contract (060B2490022) to purchase the new Cisco equipment. Requests for quotes were sent to the 58 authorized State of Maryland Cisco vendors and 5 responses were received.

ePlus Technology Inc	\$59,034.82
DISYS Solutions Inc	\$59,544.66
DSR, Inc.	\$59,984.00
En-Net Services, LLC	\$60,526.80
Advanced Computer Concepts	\$77,032.95

As provided by Section 62 of the City Charter, this will serve as the required seven-day notice of intent to issue a purchase order to ePlus Technology Inc. in the amount of \$59,034.82.

4. Land Exchange with M-NCPPC

Today, the Prince George's County Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend approval of a land exchange with the City involving the transfer of the 61.41 Cora Bowie property on Mill Branch Road to M-NCPPC in exchange for multiple parcels, totaling 56.33 acres, located on both sides of Mount Oak Road, west of the CSX railroad tracks. Earlier this year, City Council directed staff to proceed with obtaining a transfer agreement. The Planning Board's recommendation must be finally approved by the full bi-county Commission. A City Council Ordinance pertaining to the land exchange is on your agenda for Introduction next week.