



# City of Bowie Memorandum

Thursday, June 4, 2026  
Daniel J. Mears, Acting City Manager

## STATUS REPORT

### 1. New Pick-Up Truck – Water Treatment Plant

The FY27 budget allocates for the purchase of a new pick-up truck to be used by the staff of the water treatment plant. The Public Works Department has identified a Baltimore County Contract, #SCN-1003179, and determined that Apple Ford of Columbia, Maryland, was awarded a contract for pick-up trucks meeting the needs of the staff of the water treatment plant. Seeking new bids would not be expected to yield better results.

The cost of the truck is \$88,496.72, which is within the budgeted amount of \$88,500.

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 Apple Ford in the amount of \$88,496.72.

### 2. Museum Programs and Community Outreach Update

To commemorate the 250th anniversary of Prince George's County, the City of Bowie Museums participated in the Prince George's County Block Party held at the Bowie Public Library and the Bowie Performing Arts Center on Saturday, May 30, 2026. Museum staff hosted an informational booth promoting the City's museums and upcoming programs and events. Commemorative 250th-anniversary giveaways and hands-on activities for both adults and children were offered, generating strong community engagement throughout the event.

Later that evening, the City of Bowie Museums hosted an outdoor screening of the movie musical *Hamilton* on the grounds of Belair Mansion. Approximately 100 visitors attended the event, filling the lawn and enthusiastically singing along with the film. Complimentary popcorn and cotton candy were provided, contributing to a festive and enjoyable atmosphere for attendees.

### 3. Food Pantry Facility Support Update

The Food Pantry operates out of the Kenhill Center, a City-owned facility. On May 27, a burning odor was reported from one of the HVAC units serving the building. Staff inspected the unit and determined that the blower motor had failed. The unit was taken out of service, and a replacement motor was ordered.

The replacement motor was received and installed this week, and the HVAC

unit was successfully repaired and returned to service. Throughout the repair period, the remaining HVAC units continued to provide cooling to the facility, helping maintain a suitable environment for food pantry operations.

4. Information Technology Department Cybersecurity Update – Endpoint Protection

The IT Department has successfully implemented full disk encryption across all compatible City and Police Department workstations, ensuring that all laptops and desktops are protected with XTS-AES 128 encryption in compliance with Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS). This marks a significant step forward in safeguarding sensitive information. In addition, all compatible systems have been upgraded to Windows 11. Because Windows 10 is no longer supported, even for non-critical security updates, this transition further strengthens the City's cybersecurity posture. Systems that cannot support Windows 11 are primarily older devices and are currently being replaced as part of ongoing hardware lifecycle efforts.

5. Allen Pond Park Amphitheater Pavilion Construction

Construction of the Allen Pond Amphitheater stage is progressing steadily at **70% completion**, with the project now shifting focus toward critical utility integrations and specialized system installations over the next month. Key upcoming milestones center on intensive coordination with Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE) to finalize permanent utility connections, alongside the rough-in and mounting of the venue's performance audio systems. Concurrently, crews will wrap up roofing and ceiling panel installations, while preparation begins for the new ADA-compliant accessible viewing pad. These targeted utility and technical advancements over the next four weeks keep the project firmly on track for its final inspections, site cleanup, and public debut.



**6. Green Bowie: Spring 2026 Snapshot**

The Department of Planning & Sustainability staff, through Green Bowie initiatives, in partnership with the resident-led Green Team and community partners, has had a busy couple of months! As a team, we conducted outreach and education on the following topic areas:

- ecological landscaping to support pollinators;
- reducing home energy use;
- planting native plants;
- promoting recreational fishing;
- cultivating personal wellness through movement and utilizing community amenities;
- supporting local food sources and,
- promoting sustainable actions that residents can take in their day-to-day lives.

This year marked the 18th annual stream clean-up where volunteers picked up trash from local streams, preventing 1045 pounds of trash from entering the Patuxent River. It was also the second year that residents were encouraged to support native pollinators by reducing mowing for the month of April through the “Low Mow April” initiative. Resident participation increased by 400 percent from 2025. We also hosted hands-on workshops creating herb and vegetable container gardens, transplanting native plants and garden clean-ups at the City’s four pollinator gardens and the community garden. While each of these events or actions is focused on a specific outcome or educational experience, it is the cumulative impact that fulfills the community’s vision to promote environmental stewardship while continuing to cultivate vibrant commercial centers, connected neighborhoods and a safe, united and culturally diverse community.

Spring 2026 impact of Green Bowie and the Green Team:

25 community events

670+ participants at Green Bowie events

53 new volunteers

503 volunteer hours

9,000 pounds of food scraps diverted from the landfill

1,045 pounds of trash collected at the annual stream clean up

34 flats of native plants transplanted

151 participants in Low Mow April

**7. Thrive Small Business Grant (Second Round)**

The Economic Development Office is pleased to announce the reopening of the Thrive Small Business Grant on June 4, 2026. This second-round funding opportunity will be available for a limited time, with applications accepted from June 4, 2026, through June 13, 2026.

This additional application period is designed to give business owners who were unable to apply during the first round another opportunity to access financial support. The grant aims to help small businesses continue to thrive, expand,

and grow while strengthening our local economy.

Eligible business owners are encouraged to submit their applications before the June 13 deadline.

For additional information regarding eligibility requirements and the application process, please contact Tiara Andrews, Business Retention Specialist, at [tandrews@cityofbowie.org](mailto:tandrews@cityofbowie.org) or 240-544-5617.

All completed applications must be submitted by email to [tandrews@cityofbowie.org](mailto:tandrews@cityofbowie.org) or dropped off in person at City Hall no later than June 13, 2026. Please see the application link below. <https://forms.office.com/g/7zKt0KHUrp>

We encourage all eligible small business owners to take advantage of this opportunity to secure funding and support for their continued success and growth.

**8. District 1 Council Seat Special Election – June 30, 2026**

The filing deadline for candidates seeking election to the District 1 Council Seat was May 29, 2026. Four candidates have filed for the office:

- Linda Tucker
- Zipporah Miller
- Stephen Donnelly
- Carl Robinson

The District 1 Special Election will be held on Tuesday, June 30, 2026, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Kenhill Center, 2614 Kenhill Drive, Bowie, Maryland. Only registered voters who reside within Council District 1 are eligible to vote in this special election.

For additional election information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 301-809-3029 or visit the City's website <https://www.cityofbowie.org/152/Elections>.