



City of Bowie

15901 Fred Robinson Way
Bowie, Maryland 20716

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2026

CALL MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Bowie City Council was held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026, in Council Chambers at City Hall. Acting Mayor Woolfley called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:

Acting Mayor Woolfley led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

QUORUM:

In attendance were Acting Mayor Woolfley, Councilmembers Brady, Estève, Ndebumadu (left chambers at 10:30 p.m. and joined virtually), Rogers (virtual) and Truesdale, Assistant City Manager Mears, City Attorney Ruff, City Clerk Hernandez and Staff.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS:

Councilmember Ndebumadu motioned to have Item G under New Business-Prince George's County Innovation Workgroup moved as Item A under New Business for the March 2 Council Meeting. Councilmember Truesdale second the motion. Motion passed 5-0 (Rogers did not vote).

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

1. Michaeline Gandolph, Bowie Food Pantry Director – Copy of comment attached.
2. Mark Wallace, Bowie Food Pantry Board President – Copy of comment attached.
3. John Henry – Urged the City to conduct a timely after-action review and public hearings regarding the recent snow event, expressing concerns about snow removal response, communication, and the impact on residents' ability to access essential services such as medical appointments, pharmacies, and grocery stores.
4. Brian Hubbard – Working with Carrie Bridges on a program to teach children how to create podcasts.
5. Scott Vinning – Expressed support for prior comments regarding snow removal concerns, raised issues about receiving a sidewalk violation notice despite being granted a medical waiver, and urged the City to address ongoing speeding and late-night racing issues that continue to disrupt residents.

PRESENTATIONS:

- A. Swearing-in of Bowie Police Officers – Acting Mayor Woolfley swore-in Police Officer Zaida Amado, Police Officer Solomon Morgenstern and Police Officer Tyrell Knight.

CITY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

None.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilmember Truesdale recognized the Bowie Senior Center for its Black History Month programming, thanked Betty Demps for her leadership, and honored the legacy of Reverend Jesse Jackson, acknowledging his lifelong contributions to justice, equality, and civil rights while requesting a moment of silence in recognition of his passing.

Councilmember Ndebumadu announced that she joined Senator Watson in Annapolis to testify in support of proposed legislation that would authorize an additional electronic vehicle dealer license for use in Bowie, which could attract a Rivian or Tesla service center, create approximately 100 high-paying jobs, and generate additional tax revenue and economic development opportunities for the City.

Acting Mayor Woolfley announced the opening of the candidate filing process to fill the vacant mayoral seat following Mayor Adams' resignation, noting that candidate filings are due by March 6 and that the special election will be held on Tuesday, April 7.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Brady motioned to approve Consent Agenda items: A) Approval of February 2, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes; B) Adoption of Resolution R-17-26 Request for 50% Bond Reduction for Permit SDP-001-20 at South Lake Storm Drain for Roads C, D, and E Located at Summit Point Boulevard, Fairmont Drive and Gwynn Brooke Way; C) Adoption of Resolution R-18-26 Request for 50% Bond Reduction for Permit SDP-0001-21 at South Lake Road C on Summit Point Boulevard; D) Adoption of Resolution R-19-26 Request for 50% Bond Reduction for Permit SDP-0002-21 at South Lake Road D on Fairmont Drive; E) Adoption of Resolution R-20-26 Request for 50% Bond Reduction for Permit SDP-0003-21 at South Lake Road A on Prince George's Boulevard; F) Adoption of R-21-26 Request for 50% Bond Reduction for Permit SDP-0005-21 at South Lake Road B on Marketplace Boulevard; G) Adoption of Resolution R-22-26 Request for 50% Bond Reduction for Permit SDP-0007-21 at South Lake Road E on Gwynn Brook Way; H) Adoption of Resolution R-23-26 Request for 50% Bond Reduction for Permit SDP-0003-22 at South Lake Residential Phase 2A; I) Adoption of Resolution R-24-26 Request for 50% Bond Reduction for Permit SDP-0004-22 at South Lake Residential Phase 2B; J) Adoption of Resolution R-25-26 Accepting the Right-of-Way Improvements Constructed Under Permit ROW-0005-22 for Melford Pod 6 at 17301 Melford Boulevard and the Release of Construction Securities; K) Adoption of Resolution R-26-26 Accepting the Turnover and Acceptance of the Pond Into the City of Bowie Stormwater Management System and the Right-of-Way Improvements Constructed Under Permit SDP-1-0809 at Melford Boulevard and Marconi Drive (Pond 3), and Authorizing the Release of Construction Securities; L) Adoption of Resolution R-27-26 Allowing for the Release of Securities for the Erosion Sediment Contril of Melford Regional Pond 1, Pod 6 at Howerton Way for Permit SC-188-13-02; M) Adoption of Resolution R-28-26 Awarding a Contract for Allen Pond Park Boathouse Siding and Garage Door Installation to MAK Real Estate Investments, DBA MAK Remodeling Services in the Amount of \$55,498.04; N) Adoption of Resolution R-29-26 Awarding a Contract for Design of a Replacement Fly System at the Bowie Playhouse to IMEG Consultants Corp. in the Amount of \$71,696.00; O) Adoption of Resolution R-31-26 Appointing an Acting City Manager. Councilmember Estève second the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Acting Mayor Woolfley congratulated Mr. Mears on his appointment as Acting City Manager upon the departure of the current City Manager.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Adoption of Ordinance O-2-26 Amending Bowie City Code, Chapter 6 Elections to Remove Supplemental Registration Provisions and to Clarify That Registration Shall Be in Accordance With State Law, to Prohibit Write-In Candidates, and to Generally Clarify Election Processes and Procedures in the City - City Clerk Hernandez summarized Ordinance O-2-26, explaining that the ordinance updates Chapter 6 of the City Code relating to elections in order to align the Code with Charter Amendment Resolution CAR-3-25 adopted earlier in the year. City Clerk Hernandez stated that the proposed revisions modernize the City's election framework, clarify outdated or inconsistent language, reflect current operational practices, and improve consistency between the Charter and Code in preparation for future municipal elections. She further noted that the revisions were developed through a comprehensive review conducted by the Board of Elections, the City Attorney, and the City Clerk's Office.

Public Hearing:

Acting Mayor Woolfley opened the public hearing. City Clerk Hernandez reported that no individuals signed up to speak and no written comments had been received. Acting Mayor Woolfley declared the public hearing to have been held.

Councilmember Estève thanked staff for their work on the ordinance and commented that the revisions primarily modernized outdated language and improved clarity without significantly changing election procedures. City Clerk Hernandez explained that the principal procedural change would allow expanded electronic submission of certain election-related forms and campaign finance reports, while maintaining in-person filing requirements for initial candidate filings.

Councilmember Brady commended staff for the revisions and suggested several technical edits related to campaign finance reporting provisions and electronic submissions to eliminate redundant language and improve clarity.

Councilmember Ndebumadu requested clarification regarding proposed changes eliminating write-in candidates. City Clerk Hernandez explained that the Board of Elections recommended removing write-in candidates due to the administrative burden associated with tallying fictitious or non-serious names and because write-in candidates historically had little impact on municipal elections.

Councilmember Ndebumadu expressed concern about preserving the democratic process and suggested retaining write-in candidacies while exploring alternative modernization options. Councilmember Rogers agreed with retaining write-in candidates and emphasized the importance of incorporating technology improvements throughout the election process.

Additional discussion followed regarding recall petition thresholds and district boundary considerations. Acting Mayor Woolfley proposed reducing the recall petition requirement from 25% to 15% of registered voters, citing population growth and the increasing difficulty of obtaining signatures. Councilmembers discussed the balance between accountability and political stability, with several members expressing support for retaining the current 25% threshold. Councilmembers also discussed future redistricting needs resulting from growth in several areas of the City, including South Lake, Mill Branch, and Melford. City Clerk Hernandez advised that redistricting efforts would be the next major focus for the Board of Elections and the City Clerk's Office prior to the 2027 election cycle.

Following discussion, consensus of the Council was to retain write-in voting provisions, maintain the recall threshold at 25%, incorporate suggested technical revisions, and table Ordinance O-2-26 for further review and consideration at a future Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Adoption of Resolution R-30-26 Adopting the Housing and Community Development Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for Fiscal Year 2025 (HUD FY24) - Grants Manager George Jones presented Resolution R-30-26 regarding the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for HUD Fiscal Year 2024. Mr. Jones explained that the report represents the second year of the City's approved five-year plan required under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and summarizes expenditures and program accomplishments for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

Mr. Jones advised that the designated CDBG project areas for Fiscal Year 2024 included the single-family housing rehabilitation program, fair housing training, workforce development training, and activities benefiting low- and moderate-income residents. He noted that the annual action plan identified goals and objectives intended to address local housing and community development priorities. He stated that the City received \$197,279 in HUD CDBG funding for Fiscal Year 2024.

Public Hearing:

Acting Mayor Woolfley opened the public hearing. City Clerk Hernandez reported that no individuals signed up to speak and no written comments had been received. Acting Mayor Woolfley declared the public hearing to have been held.

Councilmember Brady asked staff about the long-term outlook for federal CDBG funding and program stability. Mr. Jones explained that the City is currently in the third year of a five-year entitlement period and noted that while annual funding allocations may fluctuate, the program has remained stable and favorable overall.

Councilmember Rogers commended Mr. Jones and Director Buggs for their work administering the City's grant programs and highlighted the importance of increasing public awareness regarding available grant-funded resources and services.

Councilmember Ndebumadu also praised the department's work, particularly the entrepreneurship and technology-focused workforce development initiatives and noted that the programs align with broader county and state economic development strategies established through Maryland House Bill 306 related to innovation and technology advancement in Prince George's County.

Councilmember Estève motioned to adopt Resolution R-30-26. Councilmember Brady second the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

B. January 2026 Snow Removal Update – Emergency Manager Director, Lee Cornwell, presented an overview of the City's response to the January 24–25 winter storm event. Emergency Management staff advised that the City had already initiated its after-action review process, including a departmental "hot wash" meeting held on February 4 to gather operational feedback. Staff explained that the City would follow the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program process to develop a formal after-action report and improvement plan identifying strengths, operational challenges, and recommended corrective actions. The report was anticipated to be completed by mid-March.

The Office of Emergency Management began monitoring weather forecasts several days in advance and conducted coordination meetings with department heads and key stakeholders prior to the storm. Staff explained that the Emergency Operations Center was activated on the evening of January 24 and remained staffed throughout the event to coordinate resources, issue public communications, maintain situational awareness, and support snow and ice removal operations. Staff reported that the storm produced approximately 11 inches of snow followed by significant sleet and freezing rain, creating hazardous ice conditions compounded by extreme cold temperatures and below-zero wind chills. Public Works crews and contractors operated continuously throughout the response period, maintaining 193 miles of City streets and clearing access to critical City facilities. Staff noted that the storm exceeded the City's normal operational thresholds and that temperatures below 20 degrees significantly reduced the effectiveness of road salt. By January 29, all City streets were reported to be passable.

Councilmember Estève thanked staff for their efforts and stated that many concerns raised by residents mirrored discussions occurring in surrounding jurisdictions experiencing similar storm conditions. He asked questions regarding staffing levels, contractor availability, equipment resources, resident communications, HOA responsibilities, sidewalk clearing requirements, and coordination with County agencies. Councilmember Estève also suggested that the after-action report include recommendations for enhanced public communication strategies, clarification of resident responsibilities, improved coordination with County roadway operations, and additional recognition for employees who worked extended hours during the storm response.

Councilmember Rogers commended Public Works staff, Emergency Operations Center personnel, and City management for their responsiveness during the storm. She noted concerns regarding future impacts associated with continued growth in areas such as South Lake, Mill Branch, and Melford, and suggested that the after-action review evaluate route priorities, possible alternative salt storage locations, intergovernmental coordination agreements with Prince George's County, and enhanced communication opportunities between the Emergency Operations Center and Councilmembers during emergency events.

Councilmember Truesdale thanked staff for the overview and acknowledged the challenges associated with managing a storm of this magnitude. He discussed possible future collaboration opportunities regarding snow storage locations and emphasized the importance of continued public education regarding HOA responsibilities, vehicle snow removal, and support services for vulnerable residents during extreme weather events.

Councilmember Brady commended staff for their efforts during what he described as an unusually difficult storm event and discussed concerns related to public expectations, State and County roadway response issues, and public communications. He suggested exploring short-term equipment leasing options, improving coordination with State and County agencies, evaluating future satellite Public Works operations in the southern portion of the City, and including comparative response data within the after-action report.

C. FY26 Mid-Year Budget Report - Assistant City Manager Mears introduced the City's Mid-Year Budget Objectives Report, explaining that the report provides Council with a status update on departmental budget objectives and financial conditions midway through the fiscal year. He advised that each department would provide highlights from its respective section of the report and respond to Council questions throughout the presentation.

Under the City Manager's Department section, Assistant City Manager Mears highlighted ongoing progress toward Phase II of the City's solar farm project, which is intended to ultimately generate electricity equivalent to 100 percent of the City's facility usage. He noted that construction delays associated with interconnection and permitting issues had shifted the anticipated start date to Spring

2026. He also highlighted the success of the Maryland Women's Business Center Shop Local Accelerator program at Bowie Town Center, noting that the first cohort of small businesses had completed the program and a second cohort had begun operations.

Councilmember Rogers asked staff how businesses graduating from the accelerator program would continue to be supported and inquired about potential collaboration opportunities with the Bowie Business Innovation Center (BIC). Councilmember Truesdale echoed support for greater collaboration with the BIC and discussed the importance of providing market analysis and entrepreneurial support for participating businesses. Acting Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley stated that staff would continue evaluating lessons learned from the first year of the program and provide additional information to Council regarding future support efforts.

Councilmember Brady commented that the accelerator initiative should be incorporated into broader economic development planning efforts, including work related to the Bowie Town Center Master Plan and Economic Development Corporation discussions. He also encouraged completion of Council strategic planning efforts and suggested incorporating QR-code technology into City historic sites and facilities to provide visitors with self-guided informational content. Councilmember Brady further requested additional information regarding anticipated cost savings associated with the City's solar farm project.

Information Technology Director Peterson then provided an update regarding Phase II of the City's Smart City Initiative. Mr. Peterson reported that the City had hired a Digital Transformation Coordinator to lead modernization efforts and noted the launch of a partnership with the University of Maryland AI Clinic to assist with applied artificial intelligence research, data analysis, and strategic guidance at no cost to the City. He also advised that the City had established connections with nationally recognized municipal data analytics programs to evaluate best practices for future implementation in Bowie. Mr. Peterson stated that future phases of the Smart City Initiative would focus on continuous review and adaptation of the City's technology goals and data-driven decision-making processes.

During discussion, Acting Mayor Woolfley referenced a municipal telematics and artificial intelligence program used in Memphis that utilizes cameras mounted on public works vehicles to identify infrastructure issues such as potholes and code violations. Staff advised that telematics and vehicle technology systems remain an area of ongoing interest for the City.

Acting Finance Director Lola Ogunremi then highlighted Finance Department objectives relating to maintaining the City's Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) awards for excellence in financial reporting and budget presentation. Ms. Ogunremi reported that the City's Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report would be submitted for GFOA review at the end of February and noted that the City has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 51 consecutive years and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 31 consecutive years. Councilmembers commended the Finance Department for maintaining the City's strong financial reporting standards and reputation.

Police Chief Preston provided an update regarding the Police Department's Fiscal Year 2026 goals, reporting that the Department remains on track to accomplish all established objectives. Chief Preston highlighted the launch of a new online citizen reporting system for minor police incidents, noting that the system is currently operational on the City website while staff continues integrating the platform with the Department's records management system. He also advised that the Department recently conducted interviews for two police cadet positions intended to support future staffing needs. Chief Preston further reported that overall crime during the first two months of calendar year 2026 had decreased approximately 40 percent compared to the same period in 2025, significantly exceeding the Department's goal of reducing overall crime by 10 percent.

Community Services Director Nick Spurgeon then highlighted several departmental initiatives, including ongoing collaboration with Bowie CLAW on animal welfare and kitten adoption events. Mr. Spurgeon reported that recent adoption events resulted in approximately 65 kitten and cat adoptions and noted that the program supports humane feral cat population management through trap-neuter-return initiatives. He also provided an update regarding implementation of new code compliance and permitting software through Tyler Technologies, explaining that the upgraded system will improve field operations, GIS integration, and permitting efficiencies. In addition, Mr. Spurgeon reported continued progress on the Golf Course Driving Range Renovation and Hole No. 9 Green Replacement Project, including installation of a new covered and heated driving range facility with Toptracer technology, food service amenities, and family-style restrooms, with a projected grand opening anticipated in June 2026.

Planning and Sustainability Director Hall then discussed ongoing revitalization efforts related to Bowie Town Center. Mr. Hall stated that the project remains a key long-term priority for the City and emphasized the importance of integrating economic development, sustainability, and environmental planning objectives. He advised that staff continues to build upon recommendations developed by the Economic Development Committee and the Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel process, with additional community outreach and stakeholder engagement planned as efforts progress.

Public Works Director Ahn provided updates regarding several operational initiatives. Mr. Ahn reported that the City is transitioning toward an in-house food waste collection program after determining that contracting the service externally would be financially unsustainable. He advised that the City has ordered specialized food waste collection vehicles and anticipates beginning implementation of a voluntary pilot expansion serving approximately 5,000 households in Fall 2026. Mr. Ahn also reported continued progress on the City's LED streetlight replacement program, noting that approximately 1,600 of the City's 6,200 streetlights have been converted to LED fixtures. Additionally, he provided an update regarding ongoing water and sewer recapitalization efforts, stating that the City has completed approximately 10 miles of water main rehabilitation and five miles of sewer rehabilitation as part of the long-term infrastructure improvement program.

Councilmember Brady asked questions regarding the long-term outlook and scalability of the food waste collection program. Mr. Ahn explained that the City has sufficient operational capacity to expand the program citywide over time but intends to implement the service gradually in order to allow for public education and participation growth. Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley also commented on the importance of continued investment in water and sewer infrastructure improvements.

Acting Finance Director Lola Ogunremi then presented the City's Mid-Year Financial Summary. Ms. Ogunremi reviewed revenue and expenditure trends for the General Fund, Equipment Acquisition and Replacement Fund, Capital Projects Fund, and Water and Sewer Fund. She reported that General Fund revenues at the midpoint of Fiscal Year 2026 totaled approximately \$53.7 million, representing an increase of approximately \$3.9 million over the prior fiscal year midpoint. Ms. Ogunremi also noted increases in real property tax revenues and explained that Water and Sewer Fund revenues increased significantly due to receipt of General Obligation bond proceeds supporting water distribution recapitalization projects.

During discussion, Councilmember Rogers expressed concern regarding long-term budget sustainability and future spending trends, while Mayor Pro Tem Woolfley noted that Council would face significant budget considerations during upcoming Fiscal Year 2027 deliberations. Staff further advised that although expenditures generally remain on track, the City will continue monitoring fund balance trends and budget performance closely moving forward.

D. Police Department Update - Police Chief Preston presented the Police Department's quarterly update, reporting that all civilian vacancies had been filled and that the Department currently has 59

sworn officers, including three officers attending the police academy, toward an authorized strength of 75 positions supported in part by a recently awarded \$625,000 COPS Office grant focused on nuisance abatement efforts. Chief Preston noted that recruitment efforts continue and advised that the police hiring and training process generally takes approximately one year before officers become fully operational.

Chief Preston reported that calls for service increased in 2025 while use-of-force incidents decreased from 14 to eight. He also highlighted reductions in shoplifting and motor vehicle thefts, an 82 percent investigative case closure rate, and continued community engagement efforts including National Night Out and the Citizens Police Academy.

Deputy Chief Liberati provided an overview of the Traffic Management Committee, explaining that the group reviews traffic concerns, accident trends, roadway safety issues, signage, and enforcement strategies in coordination with multiple City departments. He noted that speed camera violations decreased significantly between 2024 and 2025 due in part to roadway conditions and changes in driver behavior.

Councilmember Rogers asked whether the Traffic Management Committee is open to the public. Staff clarified that the committee is an internal staff group, but noted that residents may attend meetings of the City's Public Safety Committee, which is open to the public.

E. Amphitheater Project Impact on Summer Special Events - Community Services Director Nick Spurgeon presented an update regarding the Allen Pond Amphitheater Replacement Project. Mr. Spurgeon advised that demolition of the existing amphitheater structure would begin the following week and noted that the project replaces an amphitheater facility originally constructed in approximately 1971 that has exceeded its useful life. He explained that the project includes replacement of the stage structure, upgraded underground electrical infrastructure, vendor utility connections, and related site improvements intended to support future programming and events at Allen Pond Park.

Mr. Spurgeon advised that construction activities and contractor staging requirements would temporarily impact portions of Allen Pond Park and require modifications to summer programming, particularly BowieFest and Juneteenth Jubilee activities traditionally held at the amphitheater. Staff recommended replacing the larger festival formats with a series of smaller community-centered events, including concerts, arts activities, educational programming, and family-oriented events throughout the summer.

Councilmember Estève asked staff to provide background regarding the amphitheater replacement project. Mr. Spurgeon explained that the project has been under consideration for many years and is being funded primarily through a \$1.7 million HUD grant, which will also support future improvements at Allen Pond Park, including a splash pad project. Mr. Spurgeon stated that construction is anticipated to be completed during Summer 2026 and that staff intends to hold a grand reopening concert and ribbon-cutting event once the facility is complete.

Acting Mayor Woolfley acknowledged the challenges associated with the construction schedule and thanked staff for developing alternative programming options during the temporary closure of the amphitheater.

Councilmember Ndebumadu additionally asked whether vendors and community stakeholders had been notified regarding the modifications, and staff advised that outreach would occur following Council discussion.

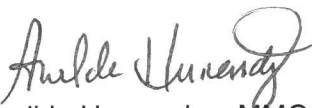
F. Governors Green Apartments Code Update - Community Services Director Nick Spurgeon provided an update regarding ongoing rodent abatement efforts at the Governor's Green Apartment

complex following resident complaints regarding rodent activity. He stated that City staff and Ross Management had conducted site visits and implemented several corrective measures, including improved dumpster enclosures, enhanced waste management practices, resident education efforts, and a coordinated rodent abatement plan.

Staff further advised that, as of the date of the meeting, approximately 202 rats had been captured as part of the abatement efforts, including 108 through snap traps, and noted that certain treatment activities had temporarily paused during recent ice conditions before resuming on February 13. Councilmember Truesdale requested that a more detailed update memorandum be included as a future agenda attachment for Council review.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Estève motioned to adjourn the regular City Council meeting. Councilmember Rogers second the motion. Motion passed 5-0 (Ndebumadu did not vote). The meeting adjourned at 11:58 p.m.


Awilda Hernandez, MMC
City Clerk

Approved by the City Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland on May 18, 2026.

City Council Year-End Presentation

Directors Remarks:

Good evening members of the City Council. Thank you for the opportunity to share a brief year-end update. I'm Michaeline Gandolph, Executive Director of the Bowie Food Pantry.

The Bowie Food Pantry is a nonprofit that services qualifying residents of Prince George's County. Nearly 47% of the households we serve are residents of the City of Bowie, highlighting how important this resource is to the local community.

This past year has been one of the busiest we've experienced since covid- especially during the final quarter. We had over 6,000 client visits, 382 new clients, of which 129 new clients were from Oct, Nov and December. These numbers do not include the federal families and individuals we served during the government shutdown. This reflects the growing need for food assistance in our community.

Over the course of the year our pantry distributed over \$778,000 worth of food to families and individuals in need. Remarkably about 80% of that food was physically donated, demonstrating the strength of community partnerships and support of our mission.

Our pantry also provides additional support services beyond food distribution. We offer financial assistance for mortgage, rental and utility payments to qualifying clients through an application process. In partnership with the Bowie Senior Center Transportation Department, we prepare food bags and the Senior Center delivers the groceries weekly to seniors who have no means of transportation, rotating between residential deliveries and senior living facilities. We also partner with local garden volunteers, including from the Bowie Crofton Garden Club, to raise fresh produce for clients. The City of Bowie provides access to garden space on Kenhill Center grounds that is conveniently located near our building. In 2025 the estimated total value of produce raised for the Food Pantry was \$11,166.

In October, we partnered with the City of Bowie to host a Pop-up distribution event to support residents impacted by the government shutdown and changes to SNAP benefits which distributed \$3,350 worth of food for 50 residents during that event.

I would like to turn it over to our Board President, Mark Wallace for closing remarks

Board President Remarks:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank the City Council for its continued awareness of food insecurity in our community and recognizing the role organizations like ours plays in addressing it.

We are made up of two part time employees and 85 active volunteers. Our volunteers continue to be the backbone of our operation, contributing more than 500 volunteer hours each month, typically we are open for business only 26 hours each month- our volunteers work many critical hours behind-the-scenes to support our daily operation.

Our drive through distribution model, which began during COVID, and which we have continued to use since then due to its increased efficiency, has become essential to meeting the increased demand. We operate out of the parking lot, allowing clients to remain in their vehicles while volunteers load groceries directly into their trunks. This approach is very efficient, preserves dignity while being discreet and is particularly helpful for our senior population. On some distribution days we serve as many as 68 clients in just two hours. This space is expansive enough for us to also receive donations during this time and to conduct all of these operations safely and efficiently.

We are proud of what this organization, our volunteer and our community have accomplished together this year. The support the city has offered has been a major part of our success and we thank everyone involved at the City and Council who have assisted in our mission to address food insecurity in our community.

The numbers shared tonight represent more than statistics they reflect neighbors helping neighbors, volunteers giving their time and a community working together to ensure families and individuals have access to basic food necessities.

As we move into the coming year, we remain committed to being a stable source of food access that the community can depend on.

Thank you for your time this evening and for your continued support. We invite each of you to come for a tour of the pantry and see firsthand how we operate.

BOWIE FOOD PANTRY

2025 REPORTING - PRELIMINARY

PRINTED 1/17/2026

ACTIVITY	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	Grand Total
Total Client Visits	446	444	516	505	456	487	465	506	486	640	558	563	6072
Total Grocery Bags/Bins	892	888	1032	1010	912	974	930	1012	972	1280	1116	1126	12144
DISTRIBUTIONS													
Total Food/Other Value	\$52,995	\$53,090	\$61,225	\$61,485	\$57,302	\$57,775	\$56,710	\$64,780	\$61,530	\$79,330	\$92,595	\$79,470	\$778,287
City of Bowie Food/Other	\$23,715	\$23,595	\$28,210	\$28,146	\$23,818	\$28,515	\$28,040	\$30,785	\$28,195	\$36,925	\$43,355	\$39,205	\$362,504
City of Bowie %	44.75%	44.44%	46.08%	45.78%	41.57%	49.36%	49.44%	47.52%	45.82%	46.55%	46.82%	49.33%	46.58%
Bowie Area Food/Other	\$15,450	\$14,885	\$17,555	\$16,474	\$16,716	\$14,680	\$14,950	\$17,865	\$17,085	\$22,885	\$25,360	\$21,275	\$215,180
Bowie Area %	29.15%	28.04%	28.67%	26.79%	29.17%	25.41%	26.36%	27.58%	27.77%	28.85%	27.39%	26.77%	27.65%

HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

RESIDENCY	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	ANNUAL AVERAGE
City of Bowie	143	149	159	154	150	153	162	164	157	186	202	179	163
All Others	189	201	214	212	214	191	180	203	206	259	232	216	210
TOTAL	332	350	373	366	364	344	342	367	363	445	434	395	373
HOH GENDER													
Male	85	89	94	86	86	84	85	81	86	100	96	94	89
Female	247	261	279	280	278	260	257	286	277	345	338	301	284
FAMILY STATS													
Children under Age 18	265	304	301	278	274	278	274	272	273	354	344	291	292
Head of HH >= 60	165	176	185	192	175	172	173	194	189	219	217	209	189
Other HH Members >= 60	39	48	44	50	46	49	44	46	49	64	61	54	50
HOMELESS													
City of Bowie	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	3	4	2	3	3
All Others	0	1	2	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

NEW CLIENTS

RESIDENCY	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
City of Bowie	8	9	19	6	4	10	9	13	5	16	26	5	130
All Others	15	13	22	17	25	19	13	17	29	42	32	8	252
TOTAL	23	22	41	23	29	29	22	30	34	58	58	13	382
City of Bowie Homeless	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Other Homeless	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

PANTRY OPERATIONS

DESCRIPTION	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	ANNUAL AVERAGE
Volunteer Hours	448.50	368.00	526.50	531.50	491.50	484.00	463.00	502.50	500.50	562.50	730.00	504.00	509.38