



City of Bowie

Memorandum

Thursday, June 11, 2026
Daniel J. Mears, Acting City Manager

STATUS REPORT

1. Senior Center Manager Receives Community Impact Award

Senior Center Manager Katrina Holmes was recently honored with a Community Impact Award by the Prince George's County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. The award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to serving their communities and improving the quality of life for residents.

Ms. Holmes has played a key role in strengthening partnerships between the Senior Center and community organizations. Through her leadership, the Senior Center has served as a venue for numerous meetings, educational programs, and community events that have expanded opportunities and resources available to local seniors. The recognition reflects Ms. Holmes' dedication to customer service, community engagement, and the continued enhancement of programs and services for the City's senior population.

The City congratulates Ms. Holmes on this achievement and thanks her for her continued commitment to serving our residents.

2. Department of Planning and Sustainability Bike and Pedestrian Safety Initiative

During the week of June 1st to June 5th, the City of Bowie celebrated Bike Week at Tulip Grove Elementary, where city staff led comprehensive bike and pedestrian safety sessions for K-5 students during their Physical Education classes. As part of this initiative, we distributed approximately 500 City of Bowie Bike Maps to the student body, providing them with valuable resources on local and national trail opportunities available within their community. The students were highly engaged, showing great enthusiasm while learning about essential safety tips, proper cycling practices, and the importance of using correct safety gear and equipment. Tulip Grove Elementary saw a consistent average of 20 students commuting to school by bike or scooter each day, reflecting a positive reception to the program. Moving forward, city staff will continue to partner with Tulip Grove and all local schools to further promote awareness regarding safe bicycle practices and to encourage a community-wide culture of safe and enjoyable active transportation.

3. Department of Planning and Sustainability Kicks off Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week (June 6-14, 2026)

To kick off Chesapeake Bay Awareness week, volunteers gathered in the Enfield

Chase neighborhood on Saturday, June 6, to adhere stainless steel medallions to the tops of storm drain inlets. These markers alert residents to the fact that what enters storm drains ends up in local streams, in this case Mill Branch, part of the Upper Patuxent River. This is a good time to remind residents that we are connected to the nation's largest estuary, the Chesapeake Bay. All streams in Bowie flow into the Patuxent River, which empties into the Bay, so what we do with our litter, pet waste, lawns, vehicles, and more has impacts on everything downstream. Visit <https://www.cityofbowie.org/2740/Pollution-Solutions> to find out what you can do to prevent polluted water from entering storm drains.

4. Bowiefest at the Farmers Market Recap

Bowiefest at the Farmers Market was successfully held with strong community participation and attendance. A total of 32 nonprofit organizations registered for the event, with 23 organizations ultimately participating. As part of the Bowiefest opening program, which would traditionally be held at the Amphitheater, a temporary stage was installed at the Farmers Market venue. Entertainment included a one-hour performance by Inspire Dance, followed by a one-hour performance by Dance Expressions.

The Bowiefest Reimagined activities were well attended throughout the day. The dance performances attracted a large audience, many of whom also visited participating nonprofit organizations and Farmers Market vendors. Numerous market vendors reported strong sales, and staff are optimistic that the event helped introduce new visitors to the Farmers Market and encourage future patronage.

5. End-of-Year Teen Mentoring Program Luncheon

On June 5, Youth Services hosted the annual End-of-Year Teen Mentoring Program (TMP) Luncheon at the Bowie Library to recognize the achievements and contributions of participating students and mentors.

Approximately 50 Teen Mentoring Program participants attended the event, which included a luncheon, games, participant testimonials, and an awards presentation. Awards were presented by Mayor Michael Estève, Delegate Kym Taylor, and representatives from Senator Watson's office. Special guests included Mayor Michael Estève, Delegate Kym Taylor, Kathleen Geary from Delegate Taylor's office, and Micheline Bowman from Senator Watson's office.

The event also highlighted the long-term commitment of the program's mentors. Several mentors shared that they have volunteered with the Teen Mentoring Program for more than three years, and two mentors noted that they were formerly mentees in the program while attending Bowie High School, demonstrating the program's lasting impact and success in fostering community engagement.

6. Information Technology – Fiber Repairs

The IT Department is preparing urgent repairs to the primary fiber connection between City Hall and the Kenhill Center. Several fiber strands have failed due to vegetation damage along the aerial route, causing intermittent outages and

increasing the risk of a major disruption. A vendor has identified the damaged section, and replacement fiber installation is scheduled for the week of June 15.

To maintain operations in the meantime, IT is using remaining functional strands, coordinating an alternate internet path for City Hall, planning weekend maintenance for splicing, reviewing vegetation management, and planning long-term redundancy options.

A planned outage of about six hours will be required during the splicing work. During this window, all City facilities except City Hall will lose internet and network services. The specific date will be announced once vendor scheduling is confirmed, and departments will receive advance notice.

While temporary measures are in place, additional disruptions remain possible until repairs are complete. IT considers the risk manageable but emphasizes the need for timely corrective action. No long-term public-facing impacts are expected. IT will provide ongoing updates as work progresses.