



MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION AGENDA

Session I - Annual Retreat

Monday, January 26, 2009

7:30 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers

(Please turn off all cellular phones and pagers prior to the meeting. Hand held signs brought into the Council Chambers may not be displayed in a manner which disrupts the meeting, blocks the view of spectators or cameras and poses a safety concern [e.g., signs mounted on stakes]. Your cooperation is appreciated.)

I. Call to Order

II. Announcements

III. Topic(s)

A. Financial Presentation

- *Economic Indicators*
- *Trends in Revenues & Expenses*
- *Real Property Assessments*
- *Undesignated Fund Balance*
- *Capital Improvements Plan*

B. Public Input

IV. Adjournment

This schedule is subject to change. Work Sessions are broadcast over Cable TV, Channel 13 and on the Internet at www.gaithersburgmd.gov/tv. Receive City agendas, minutes and news via e-mail. Log on to the myGaithersburg e-mail-based news service at www.gaithersburgmd.gov/myGaithersburg. Please contact 301-258-6310 prior to meetings to confirm accessibility accommodations.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETING AND WORK SESSION ITEMS

This list is not all-inclusive, and does not reflect priorities or scheduling
But is intended to provide a glance at future items to come before the City Council.

Regular Meeting of the Mayor and City Council

- Feb. 2 - Presentations - GHS ROTC, Winter Lights, MLK, Jr. Essay Readings, ERC Awards
- Public Hearing - Joint - T-389, Amend Chapter 24 of the City Code (City Zoning Ordinance), Article III, Entitled, "Regulations Applicable to Particular Zones," Division 2, Entitled, "R-90 zone, Medium Density Residential," Section 24-32. Entitled, "Dimensional Restrictions," to Modify Subsection (d) to Establish New Standards for Impervious Area In Front and Side Yards
- Pol. Discussion - T-388, Amend Chapter 24 of the City Code (City Zoning Ordinance), Entitled, "Zoning," Article IX, Entitled, "Signs," § 24-211 Entitled, "Signs Permitted In All Zones," Subsection (e), Entitled, "Election Campaign and Ballot Questions Signs," to Eliminate Conflicting Provisions and Renumber Accordingly

Session II – Annual Retreat

Saturday, February 7, 2009

*Coffee and Pastries 8:30 a.m., Formal Session 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Gaithersburg Upcounty Senior Center*

**Department Head Presentations
Strategic Plan Review**

(no public input during this session, not televised)

Call to Order

Announcements

ANNOUNCEMENT AFTER A CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

A closed meeting was held at City Hall by the Mayor and City Council on Monday, January 12, 2009, at approximately 9:17 p.m., pursuant to a motion adopted unanimously during the work session on January 12, 2009. The meeting was closed pursuant to Section 10-508(a)(7) and (8) and (a)(1)(ii), State Government Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to discuss a legal and personnel matter. Present at the meeting were Mayor Katz, Council Members Ashman, Drzyzgula, Marraffa, Sesma, and Spiegel, City Manager Jones, City Attorney Board, Assistant City Managers Felton and Tomasello (*not present for personnel matter*), and Public Works Department Director Arnoult (*not present for personnel matter*). Upon conclusion of the discussion, the closed meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:59 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Notice to the general public is hereby given that the Mayor and City Council of Gaithersburg plan to refer consideration of amendments to Chapter 7 of the City Code, the City's Ethics Chapter, to a Work Session tentatively scheduled for March 9, 2009. Following this Work Session, proposed amendments to the Ethics Chapter of the City Code will be advertised for a new public hearing.

Topics

MAYOR & COUNCIL AGENDA COVER SHEET

MEETING DATE:

January 26, 2009

CALL TO PODIUM:

Tony Tomasello, Assistant City Manager
 Harold Belton, Director of Finance

RESPONSIBLE STAFF:

Tony Tomasello, Assistant City Manager
 Harold Belton, Director of Finance

AGENDA ITEM:

(please check one)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Presentation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proclamation/Certificate
<input type="checkbox"/>	Appointment (Reappointments)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Hearing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Historic District
<input type="checkbox"/>	Consent Item
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ordinance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Resolution
<input type="checkbox"/>	Policy Discussion
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Work Session Discussion Item
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:

PUBLIC HEARING HISTORY:

(Please complete this section if agenda item is a public hearing)

Introduced	
Advertised	
Hearing Date	
Record Held Open	
Policy Discussion	

TITLE:
2009 Mayor & Council Annual Retreat – Financial Presentation

SUPPORTING BACKGROUND:
Staff will present a brief PowerPoint presentation on the following general topics –
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Economic Indicators * Trends in Revenues & Expenses * Real Property Assessments * Undesignated Fund Balance * Capital Improvements Plan
Following the financial presentation, the Mayor & Council will hear public input on issues for the retreat.
Note: The 2009 Mayor & Council Retreat is scheduled to be held on Saturday, February 7, 2009, from 9:00am to approximately 3:30pm at the Gaithersburg Upcounty Senior Center. Public input is not allowed during the Saturday retreat session.

DESIRED OUTCOME:
Hear Presentation

Finance Presentation

January 26, 2009



AGENDA

- Economic Indicators
- Trends in Revenues & Expenses
- Real Property Assessments
- Undesignated Fund Balance
- Capital Improvements Plan

Strategic Directions

- Planning & Development
- Traffic & Transportation
- Olde Towne
- Priority City Services
- Housing Stock
- Community Policing
- Parks & Recreation
- Environment
- Economic Development
- Communications
- Facilities



Economic Indicators



Economic Indicators

- City ended FY 2008 well
 - Revenues exceeded budget & Expenditures under budget
 - Year-end Undesignated Fund Balance grew to \$19.9mm
 - Some undesignated funds will be available to balance next budget
- State and County budgets in “crisis mode”
 - Drastic budget cuts & project deferrals
 - Employee layoffs & furloughs
 - Inter-government funds certain to be reduced

Economic Indicators (cont'd)

- Retail & Automotive, Commercial Office, Residential Real Estate sectors particularly hard-hit
- Income Tax revenues affected
 - Higher unemployment rate
 - Reduced capital gains
- July 2009 real property assessments are consistently lower than previous cycle
 - Annual property tax revenue increases will be greatly reduced
 - The substantial increases in real property revenues that have been experienced annually in recent years will stop

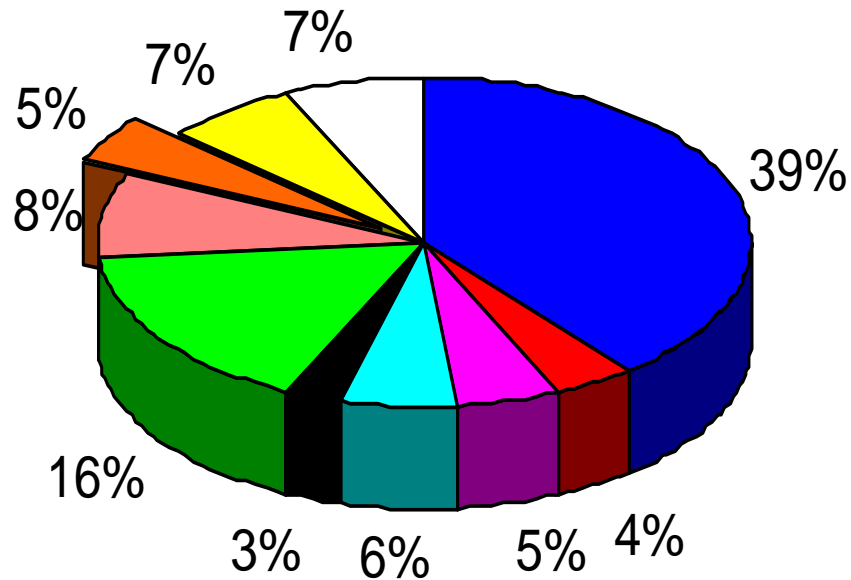
Economic Indicators (cont'd)

- Realities –
 - FY 2009 revenues are struggling and may not meet projections
 - FY 2010 revenues will be down significantly
 - FY 2010 budget will need to be adjusted accordingly in order to balance and maintain acceptable reserves
 - CIP funding will likely be severely restricted to avoid reductions in core service
 - Infrastructure and facility maintenance required to be prioritized under government accounting standards
- Clear that future budget growth is dependent on revenue growth

Trends in Revenues & Expenses

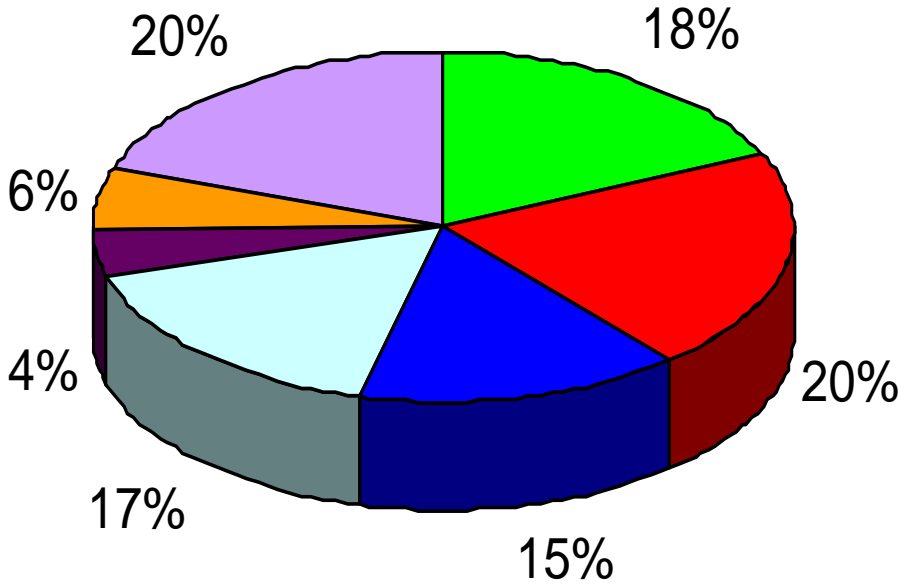


WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE - \$52.3 (Million)



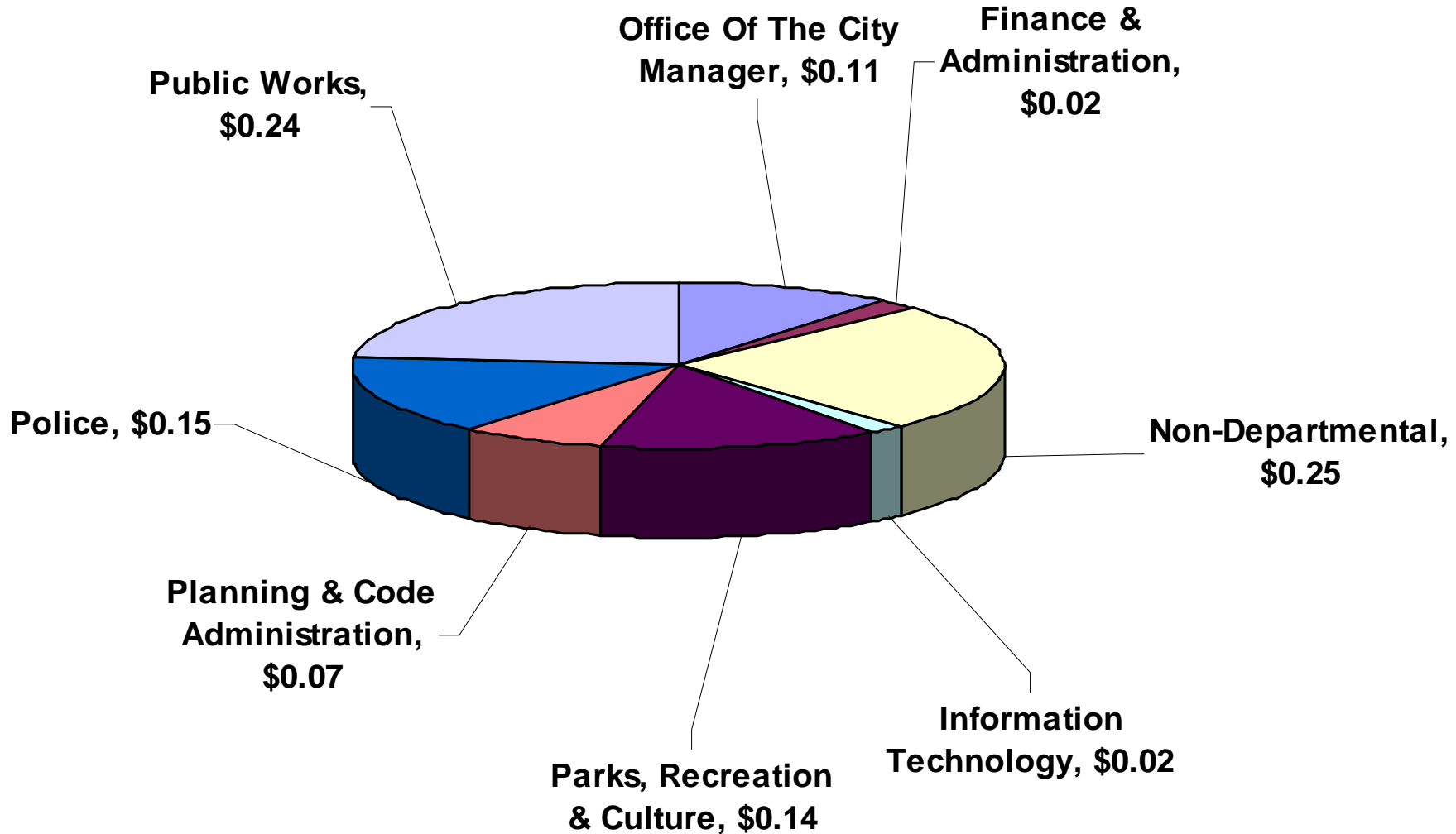
- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| ■ Local Taxes | ■ Licenses & Permits | ■ Federal Government |
| ■ State Government | ■ County Government | ■ Income Tax |
| ■ Service Charges | ■ Fines & Forfeitures | ■ Miscellaneous Revenues |
| □ Reappropriation | | |

WHERE THE MONEY GOES
TOTAL RECOMMENDED USES OF FUNDS BY FUNCTION - \$52.3
(Million)



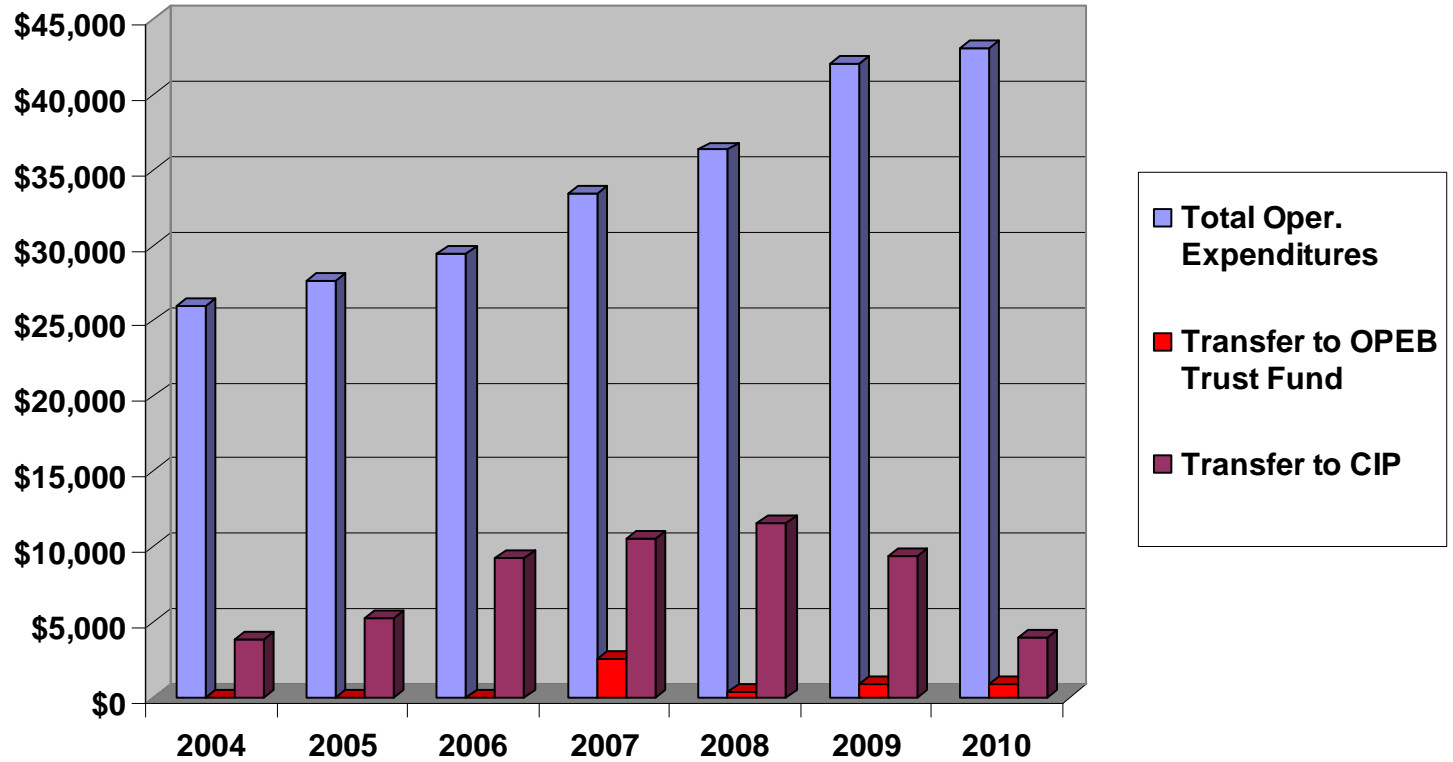
- General Government
- Public Safety
- Public Works
- Parks, Recreation & Culture
- Community Services & Development
- Miscellaneous
- Transfers

**Allocation of \$1 of taxpayers' 2009 expenditure budget
\$52.3 (Million)**



Total General Fund Expenditures & Transfer to CIP FY 2004 - FY 2010

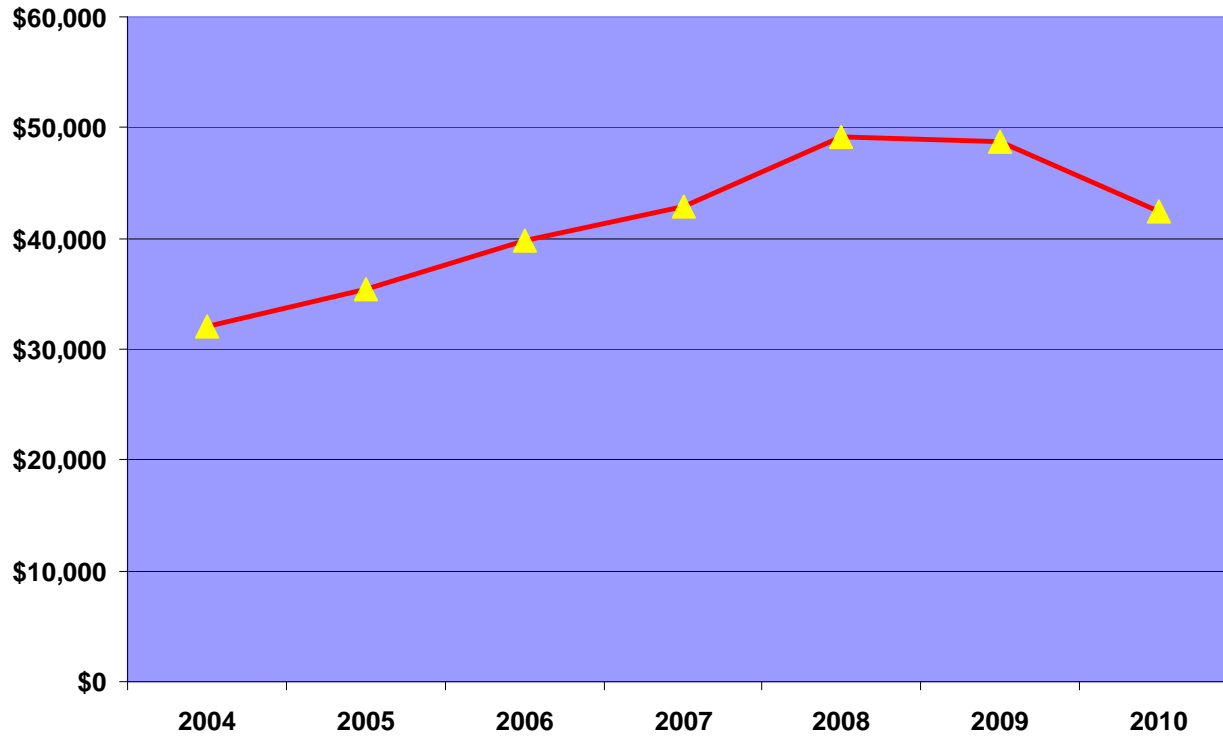
In Thousands



This chart represents expenditures for FY 2004- 2007 (actual), FY 2008 (unaudited), FY 2009 (budgeted) and FY 2010 (affordability projections).

**Total General Fund Revenues
FY 2004 - FY 2010**

In Thousands



This chart represents revenues for FY 2004-2007 (actual), FY 2008 (unaudited), FY 2009 (budgeted) and FY 2010 (revenue projections).

Revenue Trends (000's)

	FY 08 Actual	FY 09 Budget	FY 10 Projection
Local Taxes	19,263	20,520	21,805
Licenses & Permits	3,006	2,151	1,863
Federal, State & County	14,237	15,683	13,528
Service Charges	4,654	4,383	4,261
Fines & Miscellaneous	9,059	5,996	1,690
TOTAL	\$50,218	\$48,733	\$43,146

Real Property Assessments



Real Property Assessments

- Most residential properties in the City re-assessed for cycle starting 7/01/2009
- Manual review of bills indicates 10% to 15% decreases are common
- Most households will still have increases for the next year or two
- Homestead Credits limited annual increases such that most properties will still be relatively under-assessed through 2010 with leveling off expected in 2011



Undesignated Fund Balance



Undesignated Fund Balance

- Policy provides a benchmark for an acceptable *minimum* level of reserves
- Calculation –
 - FY 2009 is budgeted to end with ≈\$16.2mm in the UFB
 - Policy requires ≈\$12.2mm; in compliance
 - ≈\$4.0mm available for FY 2010 budget
- No UFB funds available for FY2011 if fully programmed in FY 2010



Capital Improvements Plan



Capital Improvements Plan (CIP)

- Current expenditure plan is not sustainable at current levels
 - Total CIP reduced each of last two years; further reductions needed likely as revenue slows
- Infrastructure and facility maintenance costs growing
 - “Discretionary” funds more limited
- Subsequent “ripple effect” on operating budget as new facilities open

Capital Improvements Plan (Cont'd)

- A number of accounts are only partially funded or have no funding at all
- Partnership contributions (State and County) difficult to predict
- Prioritization of individual projects needed (discuss at 02/07 retreat)

Partially Funded Capital Projects

- Gaithersburg Aquatic/Recreation Center

- Current Balance
 - \$11,500,000
- Estimated Cost
 - \$24,000,000+
 - \$1.2 Lake Placid Dam work
- County Funding Plan Being Studied

- Gaithersburg Senior Center

- Current Balance
 - \$2,131,000
- Estimated Cost
 - \$15,000,000+
- Proposed County Contribution
 - \$4,000,000 / Proportionate share
 - Operating funds TBD

Unfunded Capital Projects

■ “Nike” Park

- Current Balance
 - \$ - 0 -
- Estimated Cost
 - \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000
(Recreational use)
- Potential Senior Center Site

■ Artificial Turf Field

- Current Balance
 - \$ - 0 -
- Estimated Cost
 - \$1,000,000
- Replacement Escrow
 - \$100,000/yr

Unfunded Capital Projects

- Crown Farm
Historic
Preservation

- Current Balance
 - \$ - 0 -
- Estimated Cost
 - TBD

- New Police Station

- Current Balance
 - \$ - 0 -
- Estimated Cost
 - \$10,000,000+

Unfunded Capital Projects

- N. Fredrick Avenue Corridor Plan
 - Current Balance
 - \$40,000
 - Estimated Cost
 - TBD
- Kentlands Firehouse
 - Current Balance
 - \$5,000
 - Estimated Cost
 - TBD

Finance Presentation

January 26, 2009



Public Input

Adjournment

From Staff



January 12, 2009

Karuna Pujara, Chief
Maryland State Highway Administration
Highway Hydraulics Division
707 N. Calvert Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: Robertson Property- MD 117 Long Draught Branch Restoration

Dear Ms. Pujara,

We were very pleased to learn that the State Highway Administration (SHA) is again in discussions with the State regulatory agencies on moving forward with the Long Draught Branch Stream Restoration project. This project is a key goal of the Mayor and City Council, and we believe it will provide significant environmental benefits.

It is our understanding that SHA needs to perform soil borings on the Robertson property (Parcel P815 on Tax Map FT22) to collect data for submission to the regulatory agencies to support their stream restoration concept design, but refusal to provide access by the current property owner have prevented these borings from being taken. Accordingly, SHA is considering purchasing the property at this time so the necessary borings can be taken and the project can hopefully move forward in an expeditious manner.

It has always been our understanding that SHA would deed the Robertson property to the City once the proposed restoration project was completed, and we realize that SHA does not want to own the Robertson property permanently in the event the restoration does not move forward. Therefore, in the event SHA purchases the Robertson tract, the City will agree to accept ownership regardless of whether or not the restoration project is ultimately completed. With transfer of ownership, the City will assume responsibility of maintenance of the stream.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend you and your staff for diligently pursuing this project despite the difficulties encountered in obtaining consent from the regulatory agencies. As stated above, we truly believe this is a worthwhile project and is in the interest of our residents.

City of Gaithersburg • 31 South Summit Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877-2098
301-258-6300 • FAX 301-948-6149 • TTY 301-258-6430 • cityhall@gaitthersburgmd.gov • www.gaitthersburgmd.gov

MAYOR
Sidney A. Katz

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Jud Ashman
Cathy C. Drzyzgula
Henry F. Marraffa, Jr.
Michael A. Sesma
Ryan Spiegel

CITY MANAGER
Angel L. Jones

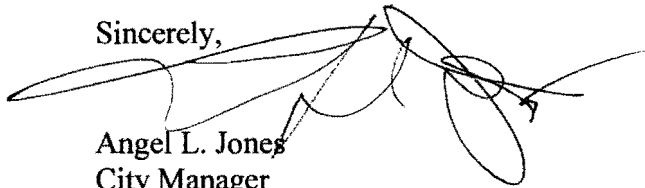
Ms. Karuna Pujara

Page 2

January 12, 2009

I hope this information is helpful. Please feel free to contact me at 301-258-6310 if you should have any questions or wish to discuss.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angel L. Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Angel L. Jones
City Manager

cc: Mayor and City Council
Darrell Mobley, District Engineer
Frederick J. Felton, Assistant City Manager
James D. Arnoult, Director of Public Works and Engineering
Erica Shingara, Environmental Service Director
Greg Ryberg, Site Development Coordinator



Gaithersburg
A CHARACTER COUNTS! CITY

Distributed to M&CC: 1/26/09
AJ, FF

January 16, 2009

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senate
509 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-2003



Dear Senator Mikulski, *SENATOR*

As the 111th Congress convenes, we would like to stress our support for the speedy passage of a strong Economic Stimulus Package to pull our Nation out of recession. The economic downturn has had a significant impact on Gaithersburg, and most of the approved development projects in the pipeline are not moving forward at this point. This slowdown will have major impact on our tax base for years to come, and will limit our ability to provide essential services to our residents.

Our residents are suffering due to the state of the economy. Many have lost good jobs, and the foreclosure rates in Gaithersburg rank among the highest in Montgomery County. As a result, we are witnessing unprecedented demands on community services such as fuel assistance funds, health and wellness clinics, and food banks. Therefore, it is essential that the Stimulus Package provide assistance to residents in distress such as additional job training resources and health care.

We specifically request that the Economic Stimulus Package include funding for State of Maryland projects such as the Watkins Mill Road Interchange and the Corridor Cities Transitway. We are also requesting \$1 million that would allow the City to move forward with construction of our new Senior Center. Finally, we have two stream restorations projects and three stormwater management projects that would be ready to proceed in under six months if Federal funding could be secured. In addition to providing essential infrastructure and improving the quality of life our residents, these long planned projects will stimulate the economy and create meaningful jobs.

We also request that you support funding the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program as part of the Economic Stimulus Package. Congress passed legislation creating this program in 2007 to provide grants to local governments to renovate old buildings using energy efficiency technologies, promote renewable energy solutions, create incentives for residents to use transportation alternatives, and to implement energy saving campaigns.

City of Gaithersburg • 31 South Summit Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877-2098
301-258-6300 • FAX 301-948-6149 • TTY 301-258-6430 • cityhall@gaitthersburgmd.gov • www.gaitthersburgmd.gov

MAYOR
Sidney A. Katz

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Jud Ashman
Cathy C. Drzyzgula
Henry F. Marraffa, Jr.
Michael A. Sesma
Ryan Spiegel

CITY MANAGER
Angel L. Jones

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski

January 16, 2009

Page 2

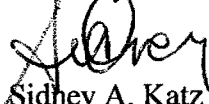
If the EECBG Program is funded, the City of Gaithersburg will seek Federal funds to help us continue to be a leader in programs such as energy conservation and environmental protection. In addition to the benefits to the environment, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has estimated that \$5 billion could be used effectively by local governments to stimulate the economy through job creation.

Finally, we request that you consider including funding for Montgomery County Public Schools in the Economic Stimulus Package. Two of our schools, Gaithersburg High and Brown Station Elementary, are long overdue for modernization.

Please note that we have discussed the requests above with Governor O'Malley's staff, and they are supportive of the City contacting you directly.

Your ongoing assistance is greatly appreciated. If you or your staff should have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Assistant City Manager Fred Felton at 301-258-6310.

Sincerely,



Sidney A. Katz
Mayor

SAK/ms

cc: City Council
Angel L. Jones, City Manager
Frederick J. Felton, Assistant City Manager
Izzy Patoka, Governor's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs



Gaithersburg
A CHARACTER COUNTS! CITY

Distributed to M&CC:1/26/09

January 15, 2009

Dear Hidden Creek resident:

Thank you for attending the December 2, 2008, Council in the Communities meeting that was held in your community. Staff has reviewed the action items that were identified during the meeting, and their responses are below:

1. **CMO Residents expressed serious concerns about the vacant Summit Shopping Center, and inquired if there was anything the City could do to facilitate demolition. (Felton)**

Response: Staff and officials contacted the current property owner. Unfortunately, he is unwilling to demolish the building. We consulted the City Attorney, and she indicated that the City did not have the legal authority to require demolition.

Staff also contacted the contract purchaser who has sketch plan approval to redevelop the shopping center. Despite current market conditions, he indicated he was still planning on moving forward with the redevelopment and was in the process of lining up financing and a new partner. The developer assured staff that he would demolish the center as expeditiously as possible once he had financing and final approval.

2. **CMO Residents inquired as to when Verizon FiOS service would be available in the Hidden Creek community. Please provide the latest information from Verizon (Tomasello)**

Response: The City is currently negotiating with Verizon relative to the FiOS service. Construction may commence as soon as summer of 2009, however the timetable for individual neighborhoods has not been developed.

3. **P&CA Residents expressed about ongoing problems associated with trash, abandoned shopping carts, and vandalism at the Summit Shopping Center. (Roman)**

Response: Staff cited the owner of the Summit Shopping Center to secure all buildings, remove trash, debris, shopping carts, and graffiti from the exterior walls and utility boxes.

City of Gaithersburg • 31 South Summit Avenue, Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877-2098
301-258-6300 • FAX 301-948-6149 • TTY 301-258-6430 • cityhall@gaitthersburgmd.gov • www.gaitthersburgmd.gov

MAYOR
Sidney A. Katz

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Jud Ashman
Cathy C. Drzyzgula
Henry F. Marraffa, Jr.
Michael A. Sesma
Ryan Spiegel

CITY MANAGER
Angel L. Jones

While staff routinely inspects the property, residents can forward maintenance concerns to Neighborhood Services at 301-258-6340.

4. **P&CA** A resident stated that new lighting was being installed in the quad area between Pelican Avenue and Whetstone Glen. The resident requested that shielding be provided for these new lights to prevent excessive light shining into residents' windows. **(Ossont)**

Reponse: Staff is currently working with the developer to install the remaining lights as required by the approved site plan. Once all lights have been installed, City staff will meet on-site with the community to determine which lights should be shielded. The City has provided shields for lights in proximity to residential units in other neighborhoods and may require the developer to do so on a case by case basis.

5. **P&CA** Residents inquired whether the stormwater management pond behind Frog Leap Lane would ultimately be a wet or a dry pond. **(Ossont)**

Response: The referenced pond will be a wet pond. The portion of the pond separated by the large concrete weir is a sand filter, and will not retain water. The opposite side of the pond will retain water, the depth of which will depend on the various rain events.

6. **PW** Residents indicated that an existing guard rail on Girard Street east of the Hidden Creek community caused a sight distance problem when turning onto Girard from Whetstone Glen Street. **(Mumpower)**

Response: This issue comes up several times a year in various locations throughout the City. Stop bars, in general, are set back some distance from the road edge to accommodate pedestrian movements. At most stop bars, a driver will find restricted sight distance. To resolve this issue, the driver must come to a full stop at the stop bar then pull forward to the edge of the intersecting roadway- in this case Girard Street. When the driver complies, he is in front of the guardrail and has adequate sight distance to safely turn out.

7. **PW** Residents requested that street lights be installed on Odend'hal Avenue between Lost Knife Road and Goshen Road. Please contact Montgomery County DOT officials to determine if this is feasible. **(Mumpower)**

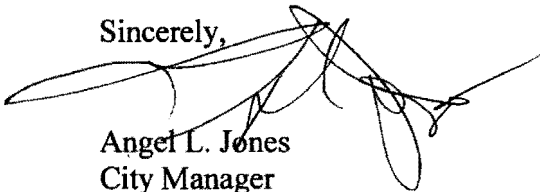
Response: Staff approached Montgomery County about this several issue years ago. At the time, there was not funding in their budget to move forward with this project estimated at about \$250,000. Staff does not believe this will be a priority for the County considering their budget.

8. PW Residents were concerned that school buses picked up children on Goshen Road rather than pulling into the community. Please contact MCPS Transportation officials to determine if changes are appropriate. **(Mumpower)**

RESPONSE: Staff has contacted MCPS with this issue and will provide a follow up when a response is received. However, when this issue has come up previously, we have been told that MCPS policy requires students to walk out from their subdivisions to the main roadway for pick up at bus stop locations.

I hope this information is helpful. If you should have any questions or wish to discuss, please contact me or Assistant City Manager Fred Felton at 301-258-6310.

Sincerely,



Angel L. Jones
City Manager

ALJ/ms

cc: Mayor and City Council



CITY OF GAITHERSBURG
31 South Summit Avenue
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877
Telephone: 301-258-6330

NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING

The City of Gaithersburg Mayor and Council and Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing at the time and place noted below.

Meeting: **MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**
Application Type: **TEXT AMENDMENT**
File Number: **T-389**
Applicant: **GREG OSSONT FOR PLANNING COMMISSION**
Day/ Date/Time: **MONDAY FEBRUARY 2, 2009, AT 7:30 P.M.**
Place: **COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GAITHERSBURG CITY HALL
31 SOUTH SUMMIT AVENUE**

*****IMPORTANT*****

This is an ordinance to amend Chapter 24 of the City Code (City Zoning Ordinance) Article III, entitled, "Regulations applicable to particular zones," Division 2, entitled, "R-90 zone, medium density residential," § 24-32, entitled, "Dimensional restrictions," to modify subsection (d) to establish new standards for impervious areas in front and side yards. (A copy of the draft ordinance can be viewed at www.gaithersburgmd.gov.) This is an opportunity to publicly participate, other than providing written testimony that must be submitted before the public hearing record closes. Contact the Planning and Code Administration City Planner (listed below) at (301) 258-6330 if you should have any questions and/or to learn more about this process and your ability to offer testimony and input.

Joint Mayor and City Council & Planning Commission meetings can be viewed live on Gaithersburg Cable Television Channel 13, and at anytime (on demand) two weeks after the public hearing via the Internet and Web TV at <http://www.gaithersburgmd.gov>.

CITY OF GAITHERSBURG

By: _____
Rob Robinson III, Planner
Planning and Code Administration

NOTICES SENT THIS 20th DAY OF JANUARY, 2009, TO:

APPLICANT AND INTERESTED PARTIES

(A list of interested parties and agencies is available in the file in the Planning and Code Administration.)

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

PLANNING COMMISSION

CITY STAFF

Angel L. Jones, City Manager

Frederick J. Felton, Assistant City Manager

Tony Tomasello, Assistant City Manager

Lynn Board, City Attorney

Britta Monaco, Public Information Director

Doris Stokes, Administrative Assistant

Jeff Baldwin, City Web Administrator (via email)

For Release January 20, 2009

**Arts Barn Invitational Gallery Presents “Love One Another”
*Mixed Media Paintings by Dr. Carl Weiss***

Gaithersburg, MD. The Arts Barn Invitational Gallery presents “Love One Another” a mixed media exhibit of paintings by Dr. Carl Weiss. The paintings will be on display February 3 through March 3, 2009. A closing artist’s reception will be held on Tuesday, March 3 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

In fourth grade, Carl Weiss became aware of his gifts as an artist and studied art at several institutions including The National Academy of Design and the Cooper Union Institute of Art. For about half of his working life he was an artist and designer, including serving as a senior designer of college textbooks for Harper and Row and as chief art director of Random House and its subsidiaries.

The other half of Dr. Weiss’s working life was in psychology. He received an undergraduate degree in psychology from Brooklyn College and studied clinical psychology at New School for Social Studies and at the Psychological Association for Psychoanalysis. He received his doctorate from Columbia-Pacific University. He taught psychology at Queens College and had a private practice as a psychotherapist in New York and Massachusetts.

Dr. Weiss co-authored “Terror in the Prisons” (Bobbs-Merrill Publishing Company), a critically acclaimed book that is still a “must” read for students of criminal justice. With his wife, Dr. Rae Weiss, he also co-authored “How to End Mental Depression” (Acro Publishing Company).

Dr. Weiss is the producer of the popular “Know Your Neighbor Program” on Asbury Methodist Village TV, an outgrowth of an experience he had co-hosting a daily call-in show entitled “Coping Through the Day” on New York City’s municipal station, WNYC.

Please note that all images are copyrighted by the artists. The Arts Barn is located at 311 Kent Square Road in Gaithersburg. Viewing hours are Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information please call Andi Rosati, Arts Barn Director, at 301-258-6394 or visit the City’s website at www.gaithersburgmd.gov/artsbarn.

###

Mayor
Sidney A. Katz

City Manager
Angel L. Jones

Council Members

Jud Ashman Cathy C. Drzyzgula Henry F. Marraffa, Jr. Michael A. Sesma Ryan Spiegel

For Release January 20, 2009

Gaithersburg Adds Seventh Location to Safe Speed Enforcement Program

Gaithersburg, MD. A seventh speed camera location has been approved for enforcement efforts under the City of Gaithersburg's Safe Speed program. The newest location in the 900 block of Quince Orchard Road will become operational on January 29, 2009.

Jurisdictions within Montgomery County were granted the authority to operate the cameras by the State of Maryland in 2006. Conducted in conjunction with the City of Rockville, the Town of Chevy Chase and Montgomery County, Gaithersburg's Safe Speed program authorizes the use of the cameras in residential and school zones with speed limits of 35 miles per hour or less.

The Gaithersburg Police Department conducted traffic surveys to determine locations most in need of speed reduction efforts. Existing enforcement areas include Diamond Drive, Marquis Drive, North Summit Avenue, Quince Orchard Boulevard, Watkins Mill Road, and West Deer Park Road..

The goal of the Safe Speed program is to reduce speeding on residential streets and streets near schools in an effort to prevent injuries and fatalities among pedestrians and motorists. Since it became operational in July of 2007, Gaithersburg Police have noted a reduction in the number of citations issued.

Detailed information about the program, including locations of photo radar enforcement efforts, instructions for paying fines and a list of frequently asked questions, is available on the City's website at www.gaithersburgmd.gov/police. For additional information contact the Gaithersburg Police Department at 301-258-6400.

###

Mayor
Sidney A. Katz

City Manager
Angel L. Jones

Council Members

Jud Ashman Cathy C. Drzyzgula Henry F. Marraffa, Jr. Michael A. Sesma Ryan Spiegel