

October 8, 2013
Buffington RE/MAX Olney Community Room
3300 Olney-Sandy Spring Road

7:30 I. CALL TO ORDER

1. Introductions (Name, Association, Representative/Alternate/Guest)
2. Approval of September Minutes/Agenda

7:35 II. PUBLIC COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

7:45 III. NEW BUSINESS

1. State Highway Administration
2. Timing of lights along Georgia Avenue
- Brian Young & Anyesha Mookerjee
Division of Traffic Engineering & Operations

8:45 IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. Bikeways in Olney in the Countywide Corridors Functional Master Plan. See page 2 of agenda for proposed motion
2. Zoning Rewrite (ZTA 13-04). See page 2 of agenda for proposed motion

9:00 V. OFFICERS/COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

1. President's Report (see page 2 of agenda)
 2. Correspondence Report
 3. Chamber of Commerce Report (www.olneymd.org)
 4. Olney Town Center Advisory Committee Report
 5. Nomination Committee Report
 6. Civic Federation Report (www.montgomerycivic.org)
 7. Transportation Report (see page 3 of agenda)
- Barbara Falcigno
Greg Intoccia
Joe Buffington
Helene Rosenheim
Matt Zaborsky
Arnie Gordon
Paul Jarosinski

9:30 VI. ADJOURNMENT

President's Report

Community Meeting on the Sandy Spring Village Minor Master Plan Amendment at 7 pm on October 23, 2013 at the Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department, Oak Room (17921 Brooke Road, Sandy Spring).

<http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/community/sandyspring/>

Olney Days will now be under the Olney Civic Fund (OCF). Since Olney Days is a civic event, it is more appropriate to be in a 501c3 (OCF) instead of a 501c4 (GOCA). The full tax deductibility of OCF donations makes it more attractive for individual Olney residents to contribute to Olney Days. For the past several years, Olney Days has required subsidies from GOCA to meet its budget. Transferring the responsibility of Olney Days to OCF reduces this obligation.

At 7 pm on October 23 in the 2nd floor cafeteria of the Council Office Building (100 Maryland Ave, Rockville), there will be an informational forum for homeowner and condo association leaders. Bring questions as representatives from Planning Board, the Dept of Transportation, Office of Consumer Protections, and other MoCo departments will be present to hear your concerns and to answer your questions. Share your ideas on subjects including: How can you make sure your voice is heard by the County Council? How does the Zoning Code Rewrite affect your neighborhood? Which Transportation projects will ease congestion in your community? Who do you call to fix local problems? How can you weigh in on development in your community?

Old Business

Bikeways in Olney are in the Countywide Transit Corridors Functional Master Plan. The Olney Town Center area is designated as one of the priority areas for bikes and pedestrians. The sidewalks/multi-use trails in the town center are good (some could use improvements) but the connections to the town center from many of the residential locations are deficient in getting to Town Center. They need to be 12 foot wide multi-use trails and ADA compliant.

PROPOSED MOTION: The Bicycle and Pedestrian Priority Area for Olney should be expanded to include access points from surrounding areas into the Town Center. GOCA recommends the boundaries of the Priority Area be Gold Mine Road in the north, Emory Lane in the south, Cashell Rd in the west, and Old Baltimore Rd in the east.

The County Council is holding an additional public hearing on the Zoning Rewrite (ZTA 13-04) on November 12, 2013. GOCA has not testified on this topic yet.

PROPOSED MOTION: GOCA endorses the goal of simplifying the current zoning code. However, GOCA insists that the Master Plan be dominant over the zoning. All development plans must conform to the master plan. This means that the Commercial/Residential (CR) zones must be recommended in the applicable master plan. Floating zones must not be applied without public input. Non-residential and institutional uses would not be allowed without notice and input to nearby neighbors.

Background for November 12 GOCA Meeting

Countywide Transit Corridors Functional Master Plan

Planning Board Draft:

http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/viewer.shtm#http://montgomeryplanning.org/transportation/highways/documents/ctcfmp_planning_board_draft_production_version_7-24-2013.pdf

Presentation of Staff Draft 3/18/2013: http://montgomerycountymd.gov/brac/resources/files/brt-mnccppe_corridorsfunctionalmasterplan-bic-031813.pdf

ITDP Report: http://www.itdp.org/documents/ITDP_-_MCDOT_Demand_and_Service_Planning_Report.pdf

Recommendation to Re-Evaluate Olney Area Speed Cameras

The GOCA Transportation Committee requested statistical information on Olney area speed cameras. The Montgomery County Police Department – Automated Traffic Enforcement Unit (MCPD-ATEU) provided the following information on May 28, 2013:

Speed camera statistics for Calendar year 2012:

17700 (NB) Georgia Ave (approaching Sandy Spring Bank).....	17,743 citations
19600 (NB) Georgia Ave (approaching Brookeville).....	8,528 citations
1300 (WB) Route 108 (near Sherwood Elementary School).....	2,821 citations
1500 (EB) Route 108 (near Sherwood Elementary School).....	5,270 citations
3400 Block EB Olney Laytonsville Road (Route 108 next to Olney Post Office).....	13,247 citations
3400 Block WB Olney Laytonsville Road (St John's Episcopal School).....	13,600 citations
3500 Block WB Olney Laytonsville Rd (Rt 108 roughly across from Olney Post Office).....	3,383 citations

Observations: Total 2012 Olney area speed camera tickets for the seven locations above: 64,592 tickets totaling \$2,583,680, an average of 177 tickets per day. (Data includes only 7 cameras above, and excludes other nearby cameras, e.g. Gold Mine Road).

The Olney community incurs an average of \$7,078 per day in speed camera fines (7 cameras). Olney has 3.5% of the Montgomery County population but the 7 Olney area cameras generate 18% of camera revenue based on 365,386 total speed camera tickets for 2012.

For calendar 2012, Montgomery County cameras imposed an average of \$169,947 in fines per year, but the 7 Olney vicinity cameras imposed \$369,097 in fines per camera per year, more than double the rate of the rest of the county cameras (based on September 11, 2012 report to the Public Safety Committee entitled “Update – Speed and Red Light Camera Programs” listing 56 fixed camera positions, 20 portable cameras, and 6 mobile cameras). We have not seen accident data specific to Olney that correlates /substantiates the number and placement of Olney area speed cameras.

Transportation Committee Recommendation: We appreciate the data provided by the MCPD-ATEU. We are concerned about the disproportionate number of speed cameras in the Olney vicinity; the disproportionate number of citations given to Olney residents/visitors without corresponding accident evidence; and the significant financial burden imposed on Olney residents/visitors. We recommend GOCA formally request the Montgomery County Office of the Inspector General review the Olney camera placements, specific accident data at the camera locations, and speed limits. GOCA Transportation Subcommittee 10/8/2013.