

**Greenbelt City Council
Goddard Space Flight Center**

Stakeholder Work Session

**March 22, 2017
8:00 p.m.**

**Council Room
Greenbelt Municipal Building
25 Crescent Road**

List of Topics

1. Introductions
2. Overview of Operations
3. Future of Goddard
 - Federal Budget Preliminary Assessment
 - Status of James Webb Space Telescope
4. Update on Goddard Master Plan
5. Federal Capital Improvements Program – New Projects at Goddard
6. Thank You - NASA/GSFC Tour for National League of Cities Small Cities Council
7. Other Items

WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, March 2, 2015, with NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC).

Mayor Jordan started the meeting at 8:01 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Room of the Municipal Building.

PRESENT WERE: Judith F. Davis, Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Silke I. Pope, Edward V. J. Putens, Rodney M. Roberts, and Mayor Emmett V. Jordan.

STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager, and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Chris Scolese, Center Director, Ray Rubilotta, Director of Management Operations, and Phillina Tookes, Legislative Affairs Specialist, NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center; Michael Sykes, Prince George's Sentinel; Rachel Kuipers, Greenbelt News Review; and others.

Mr. Scolese provided an update of operations at NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), including its science missions in development. He commented on the recent launch of the DSCOVR Space Weather Satellite, In-Space Robotic Servicing activities, Asteroid Retrieval activities, James Webb Telescope development along with other projects. Mr. Scolese noted that the Astrophysics Focused Telescope Assets (AFTA) is now assigned to GSFC.

Mr. Scolese announced that GSFC will have an Open House on Saturday, September 19, from 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Hubble Space Telescope.

Mr. Scolese said GSFC is very fortunate to have strong support from both the Maryland State Delegation and the Virginia State Delegation. He said that GSFC had received a budget increase for the past two years.

Mayor Jordan asked about the impacts of sequestration. Mr. Scolese said NASA/Goddard had fared well but mentioned that uncertainty about the future makes planning very difficult.

Mr. Rubilotta reviewed the GSFC Capital Improvements Program. He said the new Shipping and Receiving Facility will be completed later this month, the new Flight Projects Building will be completed by August and funding is now in place for the new Instrument Development Facility. Mr. Rubilotta noted that all new construction projects at GSFC are LEED Gold. He added that when buildings are demolished, all materials of a salvageable nature are recycled.

There was discussion regarding the Water Tower Redevelopment Site project. Council encouraged GSFC to continue working with the Maryland Historical Trust during the detailed design phase of the project to ensure that the proposed new construction has minimal adverse visual and design impacts on the GSFC Historic District.

Mr. Rubilotta provided an update on renovation work at the GSFC Visitors Center. He reported on a number of new exhibits, including a dinosaur footprint that had been found on site. Mr. Rubilotta said the Visitors Center is in constant use by school groups.

Ms. Mach asked if GSFC had ever placed a display at the Baltimore-Washington International Airport. Mr. Scolese said yes, adding that there would be displays at BWI, Dulles Airport and Reagan Airport this year in honor of their 25th Anniversary of the Hubble Telescope.

In response to a question from Ms. Davis, Mr. Scolese said their internship program receives approximately 5,000 applications annually. He said about 500 of these interns are accepted and come from local high schools and colleges.

Mayor Jordan asked if NASA/Goddard had any interaction with the Owens Science Center. Mr. Rubilotta said yes, some of their scientists interact with the Center. He added that the NASA/Goddard Day Care Center also visits the Science Center.

Mr. Herling and Ms. Pope mentioned the Greenbelt Theatre would be reopening soon following the renovation project. There was discussion regarding having some science related films offered at the Theatre.

Council thanked the representatives for attending. Mr. Scolese thanked Council for its support of NASA/GSFC. Ms. Tookes said she would send information on upcoming events at the Center to the City Clerk to be passed on to Council. Mayor Jordan requested that the NASA/GSFC employee newsletter also be provided.

Council Reports

*Ms. Davis –Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments National Capital Regional
Emergency Preparedness Council Meeting*

Informational Items

Several informational items were discussed.

The meeting ended at 10:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Cindy Murray
City Clerk*