CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION

99 CENTERWAY, GREENBELT, MARYLAND 20770



Julianna J. McHale Director

TO: Mayor Jordan and the Greenbelt City Council

FROM: Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

RE: Open Forum of October 8, 2016

DATE: March 28, 2016

Attached is the Senior Citizens' Advisory Committee's report from the Senior Citizen Open Forum held October 3, 2016.

We felt the 2016 Open Forum went well. *Centers, Greenbelt Connection, Safety, FBI Impact, Senior Housing* and *Connectivity* were the major topic areas. As you will see in the attached report, these primary areas of interest are identified with the specific issues under each heading.

The SCAC feels that it is unnecessary to hold a work session this year, but some follow-up response in regards to the report recommendations would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Paula Williams

Paula Utilians

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Chair, November, 2016 - October 2017

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

Annual Open Forum Report to Council Held October 8, 2016

Attendance 34

(Boxwood: 1; GHI: 10, Greenbriar: 5, Greenbrook Estates: 1, Old Greenbelt: 9, Windsor Green: 1, Woodland Hills: 1, Non-resident staff: 4)

POSITIVE COMMENTS:

- Greenbelt News Review
- ➤ GAIL Program
- ➤ City Staff
- ➤ Greenbelt Coop store
- ➤ New Deal Café
- ➤ Greenbelt Theater

- > Greenbelt Police Department
- > The walkability in Greenbelt
- > Aquatic and Fitness Center
- > GIVES
- Advisory groups help citizens get involved

The above positive comments were made during the Annual Senior Citizens' Open Forum on October 8, 2016. Announcements were made at the Forum by the Public Safety Committee chair, Cindy Comproni, Sharon Johnson from GAIL, and Karen Haseley from the Recreation Department.

The issues below were raised and discussed. From these issues, the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee identified the following categories: 1) Centers; 2) Greenbelt Connection; 3) Safety; 4) FBI Site Impact; 5) Senior Housing and 6) Connectivity. These categories follow with the issues raised at the forum listed underneath each item.

CENTERS:

Community Center:

Padded chairs would be great.

A bench near the door closest to the Roosevelt Center is needed so that waiting for the Connection will be easier.

Issues about the Adult Day Care Center

Roosevelt Center

Umbrellas at the center are not being raised and monitored during the summer months. It is difficult for some people to raise them.

Concrete curbs make tripping easy

Benches are uncomfortable for "short" people

ADDENDUM

The 2015 SCAC Open Forum Report recommended the following in the Post Script:

After the Open Forum meeting was finished, there was an informal discussion amongst some audience members and Senior Citizen Advisory Committee members regarding the need for additional senior housing in Greenbelt. It was suggested that Greenbelt should consider implementing a senior housing stipulation, similar to Bowie's, (new housing construction must include 20% of units for senior housing) whenever new housing developments are approved. The SCAC strongly recommends Council take this under consideration.

The SCAC would like to know if any consideration has been given to the above recommendation.