CITY OF GREENBELT, MARYLAND 20770

25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation | 301.397.2200



fun · fitness · friendship

TO:

Colin Byrd and the Greenbelt City Council

FROM:

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

RE:

Open Forum of September 21, 2019

DATE:

November 19, 2019

Mayor Byrd and Greenbelt City Councilmembers:

Attached is the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee's Report from the annual Senior Citizen Open Forum held September 21, 2019.

We felt the 2019 Open Forum went well. There were many topics as you will see in the attached report. SCAC has indicated its priorities at the end of the report.

The committee feels that it is unnecessary to hold a work session this year, but some follow-up responses regarding the report recommendations would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Marti Galvin

Senior Citizen's Advisory Committee Chair,

October 2019 - October 2020

A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

Administration: 301.397.2200

FAX: 301.397.2203

Youth Center: 301.397.2200

Aquatic and Fitness Center: 301.397.2204

Springhill Lake Recreation Center: 301.397.2212

Community Center: 301.397.2208

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

ANNUAL OPEN FORUM REPORT TO COUNCIL
Held September 21, 2019
Attendance 36 (18 from Greenbelt Center and 8 from East Greenbelt, 0 from West Greenbelt)

The Forum opened with a brief introduction of guests and SCAC attendees. Below are the positive comments and issues that were raised and discussed.

Good News about GREENBELT!

The Places

Community Center and the Senior Lounge, dog park, playgrounds, Roosevelt Center including the Old Greenbelt Theater, the COOP grocery store, and the businesses, nature, open spaces, walkability, bike lanes, Greenbelt Library, Greenridge House, Aquatic and Fitness Center, farmers market

Organizations and Programs

Police Department, News Review, the Connection, GAIL, GIVES, City Council, Holy Cross Senior Fit, Golden Age Club, Health and Wellness Fair, Labor Day Festival, Easter Egg Hunt, exercise classes

The People

Employees of the City, new friends, volunteer organizations, community engagement, political involvement

Issues/Needs

Economic Development

- How to fill vacant office spaces
- Senior Housing

CARES

- Resources (\$\$\$) for hoarding
- Monthly Blood Pressure Screening at Community Center

Planning & Community Development

- Need more bus shelters (ex- near Hanover & Greenbrook Drive)
- Springhill Lake Recreation Center is not large enough to accommodate Franklin Park residents and special activities
- Senior Housing
- Affordable housing/renting
 - Due to high demand
 - Need to protect what housing we have now

Police

- Move U-Turn sign near Library
- Cars speeding on Eastway and roundabouts in East Greenbelt
- Education on how to use roundabouts
- Alcohol use at Buddy Attick Park
- Sleeping/Vulgarity/Smoking in Roosevelt Center
- Designate spaces for smoking at Roosevelt Center
- Franklin Park residents parking in the Springhill Lake Recreation Center parking lot

Public Works

- More or better signage at Buddy Attick Park- no alcohol, etc.
- Poison Ivy/Oak (near steps at Co-Op and between Community Church and Parkway)
- Handicapped button does not work outside at the Community Center entrance near the Nursery School
- Install a new handicap button at the Community Center Historic entrance.
- Need for Handlebars in Elevators at Community Center
- Back interior steps at G.C.C. need better lighting and contrast edging

Recreation & Parks

- Monthly Blood Pressure Screening at Community Center
- More intergenerational programs
- More green space/recreation space at Franklin Park
- Need more parking at Franklin Park

Greenbelt Council

- MAGLEV
- BWI Parkway traffic
- Water leaks at Greenway Shopping Center
- Senior Housing

SCAC 2019 recommendations

- More Senior Housing is needed in Greenbelt. (also priority recommendations in 2016 & 2018)
- 2. There is a great need for an enlargement of the Springhill Lake Recreation Center and especially it's parking lot.
- 3. People need education on how to properly use roundabouts.