

*WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL held Monday, July 18, 2011, for the purpose of receiving a WMATA Update on Development at Greenbelt Metro.*

*Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 8:03p.m. It was held in the Council Room of the Municipal Building.*

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

*STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager, and David Moran, Assistant City Manager.*

*ALSO PRESENT WERE: Charles Scott and Nat Bottigheimer, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA); John Krouse, College Park; Chad Williams, M-NCPPC; Bill Orleans and Mary Clarke, Greenbelt News Review.*

*Mr. Bottigheimer provided an overview of the history of development activity at the site. He stated that Metroland had been granted an extension for time of performance under their agreement with WMATA. This included time for Metroland to seek a Federal tenant for the site. Mr. Bottigheimer stated the new agreement allowed WMATA to incorporate its new joint development guidelines. When asked about the length of this agreement, Mr. Bottigheimer stated that the time extension was for 3 years to 2014.*

*Mr. Putens asked who the potential Federal tenant might be. Mr. Bottigheimer responded that they had heard the same rumors as the City but nothing was known for sure.*

*Mayor Davis asked about the City's agreement on the north core. Mr. McLaughlin indicated that the City's agreement was with Metroland, not WMATA.*

*Mr. Roberts asked why WMATA would continue to work with principals at Metroland who were being investigated by the FBI. Mr. Bottigheimer responded that WMATA was cautious about this and has expressed concern about those partners who are being investigated.*

*Mayor Davis asked about the Beltway interchange and if WMATA was advocating for this. Mr. Bottigheimer responded that WMATA had not had conversations with the State about this. He stated that the need for interchange improvements depends on what is being developed there.*

*Mr. Herling asked about the type of development WMATA was seeking. Mr. Bottigheimer responded that everyone hoped for a walk-able, pleasant place. He cited the U.S. Department of Transportation building in D.C. as a good example of structures that provide building security but also make it an attractive place.*

*Mr. Putens asked about security cameras being installed on the College Park side of the Greenbelt station. Mr. Scott indicated that WMATA was using Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) funds to install station entrance cameras.*

*Mayor Davis asked about Greenbelt Station being cited in the media as having high crime. Mr. Scott noted that vehicle crime continues to be a problem. Mr. Putens asked if there was a regular patrol in the parking lot. Mr. Scott responded that WMATA officers work the entire Metro system.*

*Ms. Pope asked about the steps being taken to reduce crime. Mr. Scott responded that WMATA police were using license plate scanners, Segways and also the Blue Tide program was discussed.*

*There was discussion about the roundabout. Mayor Davis asked about paving the parking lot and Metro Access Drive. Mr. Bottigheimer responded that they would check into this and get back to the City.*

*Mayor Davis asked about better bike and pedestrian access at Metro stations. Mr. Bottigheimer noted that WMATA was working on a system wide plan to address bike and pedestrian needs throughout the system.*

*Mr. Roberts asked about WMATA expansion particularly the Green Line. Mr. Bottigheimer responded that the WMATA Board was cognizant that the current system was reaching capacity. He indicated the Board was focused on taking care of the core system.*

*Mayor Davis commented on single tracking, escalator replacement, etc. and noted these repairs were necessary. Mr. Bottigheimer responded that WMATA was addressing these basic capital needs. Mr. Herling asked about timeframes to complete this work. Mr. Scott stated that the major repairs would be underway for 2-3 years, but capital repairs would be ongoing.*

*Mr. Herling asked about use of the bike lockers and noted a recent fee increase. Mr. Bottigheimer agreed to investigate and provide this information. Mr. Herling asked about the lack of snow removal at WMATA parking lots, specifically Greenbelt. Mr. Scott agreed to follow-up on this as well.*

*Mr. Krouse wondered if having unmanned parking lot booths had an impact on crime. Mr. Bottigheimer responded that they had not looked at this specifically.*

*Mr. Roberts asked how often the mobile police observation tower was occupied. Mr. Scott responded that WMATA would check into this.*

*Mr. Orleans asked about the development agreement with Metroland and if there was a character clause that allowed WMATA to pull out. Mr. Bottigheimer responded yes, there were business ethics requirements in the agreement.*

*Mayor Davis thanked the WMATA representatives for answering Council's questions.*

#### *Informational Items.*

*Mr. McLaughlin mentioned CB-15. He also noted the Baltimore-Washington Parkway widening hearing. Mr. Moran referenced CB-18. He also noted a redistricting public hearing for the State Redistricting Commission.*

*Mayor Davis noted the ethics work session. She also asked that Council get information on their membership and training expenses. Mayor Davis relayed that TRU-G had asked to change its work session format to allow for a hearing at the beginning of the meeting.*

*The meeting ended at 9:38p.m.*

*Respectfully Submitted*

*David E. Moran  
Assistant City Manager*