WORK SESSION OF THE GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL/LEGISLATIVE DINNER held Tuesday, December 15, 2015, at Greenbelt Marriott, for the purpose of discussing the City's legislative priorities and other legislative matters.

PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers 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 McLaughlin, City Manager; David E. Moran, Assistant City Manager; John Shay, City Solicitor; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.

ALSO PRESENT WERE: State Senator Paul Pinsky; State Delegates Anne Healey, Tawanna Gaines and Alonzo Washington; and County Councilmember Todd Turner.

Mayor Jordan welcomed the legislators. He said the purpose of the gathering was for the City to discuss its legislative priorities for 2016.

The following City priority issues were reviewed.

SUPPORT FBI HEADQUARTERS IN GREENBELT: Support bringing the new FBI Headquarters to Greenbelt.

The Delegation expressed its support. They agreed this is a great opportunity for economic development and Smart Growth. Senator Pinsky suggested the City start to determine its service needs if the Greenbelt site is chosen, such as a fire truck to service a 17 story building and be ready to go to the County with its needs.

GREENBELT ROAD STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS: Fund the SHA Streetscape Improvement Program on Greenbelt Road (MD 193).

Council Member Turner reported this project is now #2 on the County's priority list.

M-NCPPC TAX FAIRNESS: Amend State law so that residents of the new Greenbelt Station pay the same M-NCPPC tax rates as other Greenbelt residents.

The Delegation indicated they would work to address this issue.

PROTECT MUNICIPAL FUNDING SOURCES: Protect municipal funding priorities such as Highway User Revenues, School Resource Officer contribution, Program Open Space, CDBG funding, Youth Service Bureau monies, M-NCPPC grants/contracts and Purple Line funding.

Mayor Jordan said this was a Maryland Municipal League (MML) priority also. Delegate Gaines indicated they had already met with Scott Hancock and Candice Donoho, MML, regarding this priority.

CHILDREN LIVING IN GREENBELT STATION SHOULD ATTEND GREENBELT SCHOOLS: Modify school boundaries to allow these children to attend Greenbelt schools.

Council Member Turner said he has a meeting scheduled tomorrow with Dr. Maxwell, CEO Prince George's County Schools, and would bring up this issue.

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OPPOSE KENILWORTH AVENUE EXTENDED: Continue to oppose the extension of Kenilworth Avenue north of Cherrywood Lane.

Council noted there may be some improvements to Kenilworth Avenue associated with the relocation of the FBI, but said they would continue to oppose any improvements beyond that location.

Other Items

The legislators thanked the City for its hospitality. They invited Council to attend the 22nd District Legislative Reception in Annapolis on January 18, 2016. Council thanked the legislators for attending.

The meeting ended at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Murray
City Clerk

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