



*WORK SESSION of the Greenbelt City Council held Wednesday, June 4, 2008, for the purpose of holding a stakeholder meeting with the Greenbelt Homes, Inc. (GHI) Board.*

*Mayor Davis started the meeting at 8:00 p.m. It was held in the Multipurpose Room of the Community Center.*

*PRESENT WERE: Councilmembers Konrad E. Herling, Leta M. Mach, Rodney M. Roberts and Mayor Judith F. Davis.*

*STAFF PRESENT WERE: Michael P. McLaughlin, City Manager; Celia Craze, Director of Planning and Development; and Cindy Murray, City Clerk.*

*ALSO PRESENT WERE: Sylvia Lewis, Suzette Agans, David Morse, Diana McFadden, Luisa Robles, GHI Board: Ed James, GHI Woodlands Committee: Dianne Wilkerson, GHI Audit Committee: Pat Novinski, GHI Architectural Review Committee: Gretchen Overdurff, GHI Manager: Bay Woods, Greenbelt News Review: Kathleen Gallagher and Bill Orleans*

#### *City's Visioning Events*

*Mayor Davis described the City's first community wide visioning events held in January and February of this year in three different locations of the city. One reoccurring suggestion was the need for better communication between the city and the residents. This suggestion was incorporated into the upcoming FY09 budget with funding being allocated to hire an additional public information position and sending out a quarterly city news letter.*

#### *Charrette Summary*

*David Morse reported lots of ideas came out of the Charrette regarding Roosevelt Center. Mayor Davis noted that one idea she heard was for a Farmers Market which will start this Sunday in the parking lot between the Municipal Building and Roosevelt the Center. Ms. Mach suggested some improvements be made to the welcoming (entrance) areas. Mr. Herling mentioned funding has been approved for cameras in the lower parking area by the old post office.*

*Questions were raised regarding the private ownership of the Center. Mayor Davis answered the major owner is Mr. Christacos but the Co-op is owned by a different private owner as well as the Professional Building. She further stated there has been some discussion regarding the merchants forming a cooperative.*

*Ms. Overdurff reported that the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission has now completed approximately 80% of design phase of the waterline improvement project and work is scheduled to begin in late spring of 2009. She also reported there is a meeting scheduled in July between WSSC, GHI and the City.*

#### *Verizon FIOS*

*Mayor Davis reported the City granted a franchise to Verizon last year and FIOS has already been made available in a small section of Greenbelt East. Mr. McLaughlin stated the Verizon work is on-going with crews either hanging or laying lines throughout the City. .*

#### *City Election Voting*

*Mayor Davis reported the City has been approached by the ACLU on behalf of the Prince George's County NAACP raising a concern about the City's at large voting system. She encouraged everyone to attend a public meeting on the matter scheduled on June 30, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Room.*

#### *Update on Development within the City*

*Mayor Davis reported that the real estate market has slowed down development in the City. Beltway Plaza is still working on development plans but they are far from the acceptance stage. AIMCO has recently sold Springhill Lake and the City expects to know who the new owners are by the end of the month.*

*Mayor Davis also reported the new Pubic Works Facility construction is proceeding on schedule.*

#### *Drainage Affecting Gardenway Underpass*

*Mayor Davis reported the City continues to work with nearby residents to monitor the drainage affecting the Gardenway underpass. A large area drains to that point which has a relatively small 24 inch outfall. A possible fix is to replace the pipe with a larger one, but the replacement would be very expensive and does not alter the fact that a large area drains towards the underpass.*

*Mr. McLaughlin reported Public Works crews check storm drains every two weeks and whenever large rain storms are predicted .*

#### *Senior Housing*

*Mayor Davis reported the Community Resource Advocate has been working on review of the senior housing issue and a report is due by end of June. She stated that Council encourages senior affordable housing in Greenbelt to enable residents to remain in the City. Ms. Lewis indicated GHI has been looking into the issue also and looking into what properties may be available but there was nothing specific at this time. Mr. Roberts suggested GHI consider the old*

*nursing home property.*

*Other Matters*

*Mayor Davis reported the City of Coral Springs has a check list for developers to use when applying for building permits to determine if the building will meet LEED certification.*

*Ms. Mach reported the National League of Cities is holding a Green Cities Conference and Expo next spring in Portland Oregon.*

*Meeting ended at 10:10pm.*

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Cindy Murray*

*City Clerk*