

OFFICIAL MINUTES
Carroll County Planning and Zoning Commission
Work Session
Carroll County Master Plan

December 8, 2011

Location: Carroll County Office Building

Members Present: Dennis Wertz, Chairman
Charles M. Chadwick, Vice Chair
Melvin E. Baile, Jr.
Alec Yeo
Richard J. Soisson
Richard S. Rothschild, Ex-Officio
Cynthia L. Cheatwood, Alternate

Members Absent: R. Wayne Barnes

Present with the Commission were the following persons: Tom Devilbiss and Kelly Martin, Department of Land Use, Planning, and Development; Daphne Daly, Bureau of Planning; Gail Kessler, Department of the County Attorney; Clay Black and Kim Brandt, Bureau of Development Review; Neal Roop; Greg Dods; and Mike Gist.

Ms. Cheatwood noted that the map of existing schools does not include two of the newest schools—Ebb Valley Elementary and Manchester Valley High.

Mr. Devilbiss indicated that representatives from the Carroll County Volunteer Emergency Services Association (CCVESA) were present to discuss Fire and EMS related issues with the Commission.

The Commission provided CCVESA with a copy of Chapter 9: Facilities & Services, so they could review the language regarding Fire and EMS.

Ms. Brandt, Bureau of Development Review, indicated there are five fire companies that are consistently adequate. She explained that the other nine are not inadequate, but they are in the approaching inadequate category. Ms. Brandt noted that when staff has a development project where all the other facilities and services are adequate, but Fire and EMS is approaching inadequate, the Commission can conditionally approve the project to move forward.

Mr. Yeo suggested that language be added to the text on page 77 to address that situation. He noted that he had read on the CCVESA website that there is split support for the Emergency Services Master Plan, which would make him reluctant to add a sentence in the Master Plan which references that document as a useful tool.

Mr. Neal Roop, CCVESA, indicated a committee is currently meeting to update the Emergency Services Master Plan which was last updated in 2009. The updates include possible locations for future substations and consideration of a county-wide EMS program. He explained that 13 of the 14 fire departments have paid 24/7 EMS crews (Harney has no ambulance). Sykesville and Westminster each have two paid crews. Mr. Roop noted that 12 of the 14 fire departments have

a paid driver working a 40-hour work week. Some departments pay for additional EMS or truck drivers.

Mr. Yeo noted that a County led committee is currently reviewing the concurrency management process as it relates to Fire and EMS.

Mr. Roop suggested that some situations need to be reviewed on a case by case basis. There are eight fire departments located within municipalities and six fire departments located in more rural areas. The departments in the more rural areas must drive further to get to their fire calls.

Mr. Mike Gist, CCVESA, noted that the vote that Mr. Yeo had referenced earlier was related to another issue, not the Emergency Services Master Plan.

Mr. Roop explained that the Emergency Services Master Plan was approved on a 14-0 vote in August 2009.

Mr. Yeo suggested that CCVESA review the language prepared for the County Master Plan and get back to the Commission with their comments.

The Commission discussed the volume of calls handled by the various fire departments.

Mr. Greg Dods, CCVESA, explained that data is being compiled regarding the percentage of calls for each box area. He noted that there is a trend analysis for all the fire departments which he will provide to staff.

The Commission requested that CCVESA provide written comments within one month.

Commissioner Rothschild entered the meeting.

The Commission continued with its review of Chapter 9, spending considerable time discussing language in the Plan relating to the County's policy of requiring developers to pay for or provide the facilities their developments will require, including roads.

Ms. Daly indicated she would add language to the Plan which references the concurrency management standards for each category, also adding language which defines adequate, approaching inadequate, and inadequate.

Commissioner Rothschild expressed his concerns regarding the tons of waste that were estimated to be generated as reported under Solid Waste.

Ms. Daly explained that those numbers were taken from the current Solid Waste Management Plan, but she would meet with appropriate staff to review the language. She indicated that she would also add language to describe the purpose of the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Ms. Cheatwood suggested that language be drafted under the Water & Sewer category on page 81 to address the issue of State requirements versus Maryland Department of the Environment restrictions.

Mr. Devilbiss indicated staff could pull together language that was prepared in the Water Resources Element.

The next Master Plan Work Session is scheduled for Monday, December 12. The Commission adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m.

Secretary

Approved