



Montgomery County Planning & GIS Services 2014 Annual Report

2015 Commission & Boards

Planning Commission

Chair:

Robert Miller

Vice-Chair:

Scott Kroll

Secretary:

Cynthia Wells Disney

Members:

Coy Allen

Bryan Rice

Sonia Hirt

Bryan Katz

Steve Howard

Trey Wolz

Chris Tuck (BOS Liaison)

Board of Zoning Appeals

Chair:

Richard M. DiSalvo, Jr.

Vice-Chair:

Michael V. Reilly

Members:

C.P. "Chuck" Shorter

David Moore

Zach Milton

Robert Miller (alternate)

AFD Advisory Committee

Chair:

Britt A. Boucher

Members:

John Garrett

Thomas A. Loflin

William McElfresh

Gregory W. Miller

Richard J. Obiso, Jr.

Robert J. Styne

Robert K. Miller

(PC Rep.)

Chris Tuck

(BOS Rep.)

2014 Planning & GIS Services Major Projects

Comprehensive Plan Amendments:

There were two (2) Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use map updates in 2014. Both the former Elliston-Lafayette Elementary School site and former Prices Fork Elementary School site were previously designated as Planned Light Industrial and Civic, respectively, in the Comprehensive Plan. Both properties were amended to the mixed use designation in their respective Village Plan. The designation change of the site in Elliston also prompted an amendment to several adjoining properties, which were also changed to mixed use.

An update to the Transportation Resources chapter of the Comprehensive Plan began in 2013 and was sent to VDOT for their review on December 31, 2013. The chapter was updated to meet new requirements of the Code of Virginia, §15.2-2223. Changes included an updated inventory of transportation resources, a more thorough and recent assessment of transportation needs, and a list of transportation improvements, including projects in VDOT's Six Year Improvement Program, the MPO's fiscally-constrained plan, and the County's six year improvement plan for secondary road projects. This project was placed on hold during 2014 but will be reevaluated during 2015. Staff will continue to work with VDOT and a modified draft will be reviewed by the Planning Commission, and a subsequent public hearing will be held prior to approval of the chapter.

Zoning Ordinance Amendments:

Two zoning ordinance amendments were reviewed this year.

1) The Board of Supervisors approved an amendment regarding Contractor's Service Establishments in Chapter 10, entitled Zoning, Sections 10-30 (4), 10-31 (3), 10-31 (4) and Section 10-61. The amendment revised the definition of a Contractor's Service Establishment and expanded the districts in which it was permitted by-right or by special use permit.

2) Also reviewed was an amendment to allow the removal or filling of clean earth fill in A-1 by SUP and to establish additional regulations and definition for this use. The Planning Commission has tabled this ordinance amendment for further review.

NRVPDC Project Collaboration:

Montgomery County Planning staff collaborated with the New River Valley Planning District Commission (NRVPDC) to administer the Safe Routes To School Grant for the Auburn School Strand and Belview Elementary School. The state awarded a total of \$500,000 in grant money for projects at both schools. Staff has been participating in a regional Agritourism project that is being administered by the NRVPDC and will continue their participation in 2015.

Agricultural and Forestal Districts:

The Agricultural and Forestal District Committee met in August 2014 to review the renewal of AFD 14 (Fisher's View). The Board of Supervisors approved the renewal of the district on October 14, 2014. The district consists of thirteen (13) parcels and approximately 532 acres.

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In addition to major projects that staff work on throughout the year, Planning & GIS staff have diligently been working on everyday activities. A total of 355 predevelopment letters were processed and 273 of those were approved as zoning permits. Tables included below outline other activities of the department.

Rezoning Requests				
Case Number	Property Owner	Request	Acres	Outcome
RZ-2014-11614	Montgomery County Board of Supervisors	Rezone A-1 to RM-1 & TND-Infill for senior housing & multifamily	8.328	Approved with proffers
RZ-2014-12474	NRVP&P LLC	Rezone A-1 to GB for Recycling Facility	0.473	Approved
Special Use Permit Requests				
Case Number	Property Owner	Request	Outcome	
SU-2014-11582	City of Radford	199 ft. Telecommunication Tower	Approved with conditions	
SU-2014-11611	P&G Ventures, LLC	Farm Machinery Sales & Service	Approved with conditions	
*SU-2014-11946	James Tannahill	Accessory structure in excess of 1200 sq. ft./ 18 ft. in height	Approved with conditions	
SU-2014-12335	James Carter	Family Subdivision in excess of lot assignments	Approved with conditions	
SU-2014-12471	Betty R. Payne Armsey Living Trust	Contractor's Storage Yard	Withdrawn	
SU-2014-12472	John Barr	Amend SUP for Kennel and Accessory structure in excess of 1200 sq. ft/ 18 ft. in height	Approved with conditions	
SU-2014-12474	NRVP&P LLC	Recycling facility	Approved with conditions	
*Denotes cases heard by Board of Zoning Appeals				

Board of Zoning Appeals
The Board of Zoning Appeals heard no cases this year other than the Special Use Permit application(s) indicated above.

Subdivision Type	No. Received	No. Approved	Pending	Withdrawn
Major	1	1	0	0
Minor	17	12	5	0
Boundary Line Adjustment	48	42	5	1
Family	8	6	2	0

LAND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (LDO)

- ◆ Provided LDO Administration (creating user logins, table entry options, change requests for application customization, etc.)
- ◆ Worked with Permitting and Inspections and OVELA, our iGIS application developer to create an Advanced Permitting & Inspections portal(APIX) .
- ◆ Worked with Permitting and Inspections, IT and ACS, our LDO application developer to implement the Field Data Application for Code Enforcement/Compliance and Building Permitting and Inspections.
- ◆ Worked with OVELA, our iGIS application developer to extend LDO to the Web to create a citizen access portal.
- ◆ Assisted Planning and Zoning staff in reviewing, organizing, and scanning legacy rezoning and special permits for entry or correction in LDO. Further extended benefits and training of LDO end users for county departments, constitutional offices and where possible to the general public.

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2014 GIS AND MAPPING SERVICES

- ◆ Work with county departments and constitutional offices to deploy, enhance, train and use the updated Pictometry aerial imagery in office as well as field situations including public safety and fire/rescue vehicles.
- ◆ Converted selected mobile home park lot numbers to E911 addressing and assisted in private street naming.
- ◆ Produced a cemetery atlas and Family Burials and Cemeteries brochure.
- ◆ Implemented iGIS website with a cross platform (Apple, Android, & Windows) application for use with personal computers, tablets, and smart phones.
- ◆ Prepared mapping and detailed soil acreages for additional parcels for Commissioner of the Revenue's Land Use Value Assessment Program
- ◆ Assisted Montgomery County Public Schools Transportation and Facilities with GIS mapping, aerial imagery and data needs.
- ◆ Assisted Metropolitan Planning Organization and Technical Advisory Committee with boundary re-delineations based on 2010 Census
- ◆ Provided staff support to County Administration and Economic Development with property acquisitions and other projects.
- ◆ Provided citizens, taxpayers, realtors, appraisers, interested parties GIS data, maps, and E911 site addresses.
- ◆ Continue to market/leverage the County's investment in LIDAR, orthophoto and GIS data in order to maximize cost recovery, effectiveness and efficiency to the benefit of the taxpayers.
- ◆ Created and assigned E911 addresses and public road names
- ◆ Provided support for Voter Registrar – Precinct boundary and polling places
- ◆ Continue cemetery inventory for land development and subdivision requirements
- ◆ Assisted in cellular tower site plan review, viewshed mapping and telecommunication structures/provider database updates.
- ◆ Provided GIS and mapping support for the Sheriff's Office for special events, task force, and Public Safety Answering Point dispatch GIS data updates.
- ◆ Continued to review and enter elevation certificates, LOMR's, LOMA's into GIS database and mapping layers
- ◆ Modified GIS layers in support of Planning and Zoning needs as well as other county agencies.
- ◆ Prepared supporting maps and modified GIS layers for revenue sharing and rural addition program
- ◆ Maintained iGIS website for external (general public) and internal inquiries
- ◆ Provided local GIS support for Virginia Game and Inland Fisheries Officers & US Marshals Office
- ◆ Participated in Virginia Geographic Information Network (VGIN) VBMP committee.

GIS AND MAPPING SERVICES NRV REGIONAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY

- ◆ Administration and project management of VITA Wireless Board PSAP 2013-14 Grant for GIS data merging and near real time updates with our towns and Virginia Tech for the Authority's benefit.
- ◆ Prepared PSAP map (County Fire Quadrants, County EMS Districts, Sheriff Beats, Sheriff Reporting Areas, and County and Town Fire and EMS second and third team calls) layers in support of the Authority's selected Computer Assisted Dispatch/Mapping vendor.
- ◆ Established GeoData Services which will allow the Authority to acquire GIS updates.

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Ongoing Training:

Scott Kroll, Sonia Hirt, and Trey Wolz successfully completed the CPEAV Planning Commissioner Training Program. Scott Kroll attended the Land Use Conference Plan Virginia Legal Seminar. Bryan Rice, Joel Donahue, Trey Wolz, Scott Kroll, Frank Lau, Brian Katz, Brea Hopkins, and Dari Jenkins attended the annual Planning Commissioners' Dinner. Brea Hopkins attended the VAZO Fall Conference. In addition to the training noted above, a Joint Planning Commission meeting was held with the Town of Blacksburg at the Blacksburg High School to discuss development, transportation issues, and future land use in the Prices Fork area.

PLANNING & GIS SERVICES STAFF UPDATES



In January 2015 Montgomery County Planning & GIS Department welcomed Emily Gibson as their new Planning Director.

Gibson previously worked for Gloucester County and most recently served as their Senior Comprehensive Planner, supervising the Planning Division of the Planning & Zoning Department. During her tenure in Gloucester, she also served as a Planner I, Planner II and Planner III.

Gibson was appointed in 2008 by Mathews County Board of Supervisors to serve on their Planning Commission. She is a Certified Planning Commissioner, and is very active with the American Planning Association, where she serves as the Vice President of Legislative and Policy Affairs for the Virginia Chapter of APA. She has made presentations to a number of Virginia Association of Counties (VACo) committees, and has been a presenter at VACo's annual New County Supervisors' training. She has also appeared before General Assembly committees to discuss planning issues and regulations, and has served as Region 9 Director for PlanVirginia since 2011.

Gibson has Bachelor of Science in Environmental Policy and Planning, with a minor in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics from Virginia Tech. Her husband's family is from the New River Valley and they look forward returning here with their son.

It is with much sadness that we report Montgomery County lost a great man and public servant in 2014.

Mr. Joel Donahue served on the Montgomery County Planning Commission from June 2010 until June 2014. He served as vice-chairman in 2012-2013. During his service on the planning commission, Mr. Donahue served as a liaison to the Agricultural & Forestal District Advisory Committee and the Public Service Authority. Mr. Donahue will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved him.

PLANNING & GIS SERVICES STAFF

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