

# Hyattsville Environment Committee (HEC)

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

**HEC members:** Melissa Schweisguth (acting chair), Janet Nackoney (Notes), Dawn Taft (staff), James Ball, Malgorzata (Gosia) Bereziwicz, James Wigley, Joseph Demarco

**Guests:** Greg Smith, Maximiliano Vasquez, Scott Wilson

### Notes

1. Welcome, Committee Roll Call, & Guest Orientation.
2. Approval of [May meeting minutes](#): **APPROVED**
3. Public Comment Period
  - GS has followed up with more information about the PG County zoning and land use bills CB 15-2024, CB 27-2024, and CB 52-2024. Each bill would severely limit the county's ability (including Hyattsville) to achieve any goals under a climate action plan.
    - **CB 15-2024** is a zoning re-write that eliminates certain reqs for review. Several provisions hold the risk of triggering sprawl. It will also allow data centers to be built on agricultural zones. **Status:** No public hearing has been scheduled yet.
    - **CB 27-2024** is the companion to first CB 15 amendment above. Status: Scheduled to be heard by the full Council on July 16.
    - **CB 52-2024** would exempt data centers from undergoing a Preliminary Plan of Subdivision Review by the Planning Department and Planning Board. Data show that hundreds of properties might be eligible for data center development. **Status:** Has been referred to the Council's PHED Committee, which plans to discuss it on June 20.
4. Climate Action Plan Next Steps (James)
  - DT: Following up from last meeting, the City welcomes our help in helping to draft the RFP. This work can begin at any time. DPW will submit for proposals for the CAP as soon as time allows and we have a solid RFP developed. DPW will support the development and review of the RFP with review and specific questions funneled through the Department of Public Works directors.

- GS: It seems like the next big task is to define the potential scope of the impacts and actions you'd like to RFP to cover, and whether you'd like to focus on mitigation, adaptation, resilience, justice, etc.
- **Action:** We will follow up on this at next meeting

## 5. New Business

- Waste Study: RFP solicitation was sent out twice, but the City didn't receive any bidders. Unfortunately, we have run out of time to spend the funds.
- Open Meetings Act: We are all now required to take a training on the Open Meetings Act. This is also stated in the Committee Handbook.  
**Action:** DT will get more information about this and follow up.

## 6. Announcements

- Follow-ups from last meeting:
  - i. [Hyattsville Strategic Plan](#) formerly Hyattsville Sustainability Plan. Now managed by Debi Sandlin at 301-985-5000.
  - ii. Green Summit: Set for Oct 19th. HEC should receive an official invitation to have a table. Should HEC have a table? We have time to decide. **Action:** move to next month's agenda
  - iii. Mosquito Control: Residents can request an exemption from mosquito spraying. In addition, HEC is welcome to propose to the City Council an exemption for the entire City. **Action:** Discuss this in next month's meeting.
    1. Also, the City will be welcoming a new intern in August to help with GAT traps and raising awareness about mosquito control.

## 7. Adjournment