



NOTICE OF COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING

NO. 98-27

THE CITY COUNCIL WILL MEET AT 6:30 P.M. ON MONDAY
DECEMBER 14, 1998 IN CONFERENCE ROOM #230 AT THE
NEW CARROLLTON MUNICIPAL CENTER.

Topics of Discussion

1. Mr. Frank Bitzelberger of Wooden & Benson Certified Public Accountants to Discuss the City Audit for FY1998. 6:30 P.M.
2. Dr. Sheldon Greenberg of Johns Hopkins University to Discuss Pros, Cons, Procedures, Feasibility and Costs Related to Creating a Municipal Police Department. 7:45 P.M.
3. Maryland Arts Council Grant Application.
4. Proposed Budget Amendment – Chapter CE-99 (Expense Budget for F.Y. 1999) Amendment No. 6.
5. Proposed Budget Amendment – Chapter CE-99 (Expense Budget for F.Y. 1999) Amendment No. 7.
6. Departure from Parking and Loading Standards Application No. 246.
7. Proposed Ordinance on Tax Credit for the New Carrollton Recreation Club.
8. Lease Purchase Agreement with Crestar.
9. Carrollton Mall.
10. Vehicle Extension Requests:
 - a) Rosalina Muse 8302 Nicholson Court
11. Follow-up to Administrative Officer Update.
12. Review of Council Meeting Minutes:
 - a) November 30, 1998 Council Workshop
 - b) December 2, 1998 Council Meeting

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13. Review of the List of Bills.
14. Report of the Mayor and Council.
15. Adjournment.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY OF NEW CARROLLTON
DECEMBER 14, 1998

The Council workshop meeting was called to order by Raymond J. Garvey, Chairman of the Council. Present were Council Members James H. Fippin, Rose M. Hurdle, Sarah C. Potter, and John A. Schaffer; Mayor Andrew C. Hanko, Administrative Officer Mark Latour, and Public Works Director Richard Robbins.

1. **Mr. Frank Bitzelberger of Wooden & Benson Certified Public Accountants to Discuss the City Audit for FY 1998.**

Copies of the audit were distributed for review, and Mr. Bitzelberger came to the table to join the discussion. Mr. Bitzelberger reviewed the audit page by page, and he explained that there are no comments this year. Mr. Bitzelberger referred to page five, which showed a favorable variance for the year. There was a brief discussion regarding prior year receipts and the amount allocated to the roads program. Mr. Bitzelberger referred to page four and the income and GAAP basis statements; and he explained that the actual numbers represent an accrual basis.

Council Member Fippin initiated a discussion regarding liquidity models, and Mr. Bitzelberger stated that there were none shown in this copy of the audit. Mr. Fippin questioned the funds for the lease-purchase of the new City vehicles, and Chairman Garvey explained that the funds are in the budget. An amount would be added each year. Mr. Bitzelberger referred to page 10 of the audit, and he further discussed the GAAP basis expenditures.

Chairman Garvey discussed the lease-purchase agreement again, and he mentioned that note nine regards the pension. The ICMA was a change this year, which is a separate trust, he explained about the federal code allowing this. Mr. Bitzelberger discussed the 457 plan, and he stated that this is not a qualified plan. It may not be rolled over to an IRA if the employee leaves employment like a 401K plan. Each depositor is insured by the FDIC up to \$100,000.

Mr. Bitzelberger further discussed the favorable variance figures, and the amount used on streets and sidewalks. Copies of the management letter would be forwarded to Mr. Latour for distribution to the Council. More discussion followed, and Chairman Garvey pointed out that raising the taxes was a good thing. Mr. Robbins pointed out that the roads program had a tremendous delay in it, and Mr. Bitzelberger further discussed the fund balance. Some of the designated items will become expenditures.

Council Member Fippin initiated a discussion regarding the bond rating, and Mr. Bitzelberger explained how the ratings were distributed to cities. There is no industrial base in the City of New Carrollton, and it is possible that the City could get a better rating. Mr. Latour stated that Mr. Bitzelberger's firm has been approved for another year, and Chairman Garvey thanked Mr. Bitzelberger for appearing tonight.

Chairman Garvey stated that this would be read in on Wednesday night, and it would be voted on then also.

2. Maryland Arts Council Grant Application.

Administrative Officer Latour explained that this is a 50/50 matching grant, which would allow the City of New Carrollton to develop seminars, which would be geared toward youth. The topics would be short story writing, sketching, collage and jewelry making, and painting. There would be a different instructor for each seminar, and the classes would be held at the Municipal Center. Council Member Potter pointed out that there is a typo on page 2 regarding "targeting for teenagers," and the Council agreed with this correction. Mrs. Potter stated that the award date for the Maryland State Arts Council grants usually is sometime in the month of March. This item would be on the agenda for Wednesday night.

3. Proposed Budget Amendment – Chapter CE-99 (Expense Budget for F.Y. 1999) Amendment No. 6.

Mr. Latour explained that this would fund street lighting improvements, network administration training, and Community Day. The money would come from the surplus funds mentioned earlier in the meeting by Mr. Bitzelberger. Mayor Hanko requested that there be a separate line item for Community Day, and the Council agreed. This item would be on the agenda for Wednesday night.

4. Proposed Budget Amendment – Chapter CE-99 (Expense Budget for F.Y. 1999) Amendment No. 7.

Mr. Latour distributed a new version of the amendment to the Council. There are two components. One involves employee salaries, and the other is for street repair. Mr. Latour further explained that there is an employee at the City Department of Public Works who has been underpaid since 1992. Public Works Director Robbins explained that the circumstances which allowed this to happen, and a discussion followed. Mr.

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Robbins explained that there would be an independent audit by Mr. Latour and Mr. Abraham, the City Accountant. The Council agreed that the employee should call Mr. Bitzelberger for advice, and then Mr. Bitzelberger could bill the Council for this service. The Chairman requested that an audit trail be set up, and Mayor Hanco responded that this would be ready for the Wednesday night meeting.

Council Member Hurdle complimented Mr. Latour for his excellent explanations of Budget Amendments 6 and 7 included in the Administrative Officer's Update in the workshop packet.

5. Departure from Parking and Loading Standards Application No. 246.

Mr. Latour explained that one of the businesses on Annapolis Road, the former Hub furniture store which is now the Room Store, has requested this item to reduce the number of parking spaces. The Council, with the exception of Council Member Schaffer, agreed with Mayor Hanco that this should be opposed because the location of the store is not in the City of New Carrollton. Council Member Schaffer pointed out that the staff has presented a good argument in favor of approving this, and a discussion followed.

Council Members Fippin and Hurdle, along with Chairman Garvey, are all in favor of opposing the reduction in parking spaces. Council Member Potter brought up the fact that there needs to be one parking space for every 500 square feet; and obviously, a furniture store needs additional square footage for display purposes. Council Member Hurdle firmly stated that the City needs to protect its boundaries, and Chairman Garvey summarized that this item would be on the agenda for Wednesday night.

6. Proposed Ordinance on Tax Credit for the New Carrollton Recreation Club.

Mr. Latour explained that the City Attorney has seen this, and Council Member Schaffer suggested adding some additional words to the first "whereas." The Council approved of the correction, and Mr. Schaffer pointed out that the word "public" should be dropped in regard to the "swimming pool." Mayor Hanco suggested that the City Attorney should approve of this wording. This item would be on the agenda for Wednesday night.

2. Dr.Sheldon Greenberg of Johns Hopkins University to Discuss Pros, Cons, Procedures, Feasibility and Costs Related to Creating a Municipal Police Department.

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Dr. Greenberg was invited to the table to join the discussion, and Chairman Garvey introduced him to the Council Members and administration. The Chairman explained that Dr. Greenberg would make his presentation first, and then the Council Members and administration would have an opportunity to ask questions, followed by those residents seated in the audience.

Dr. Greenberg began his presentation by summarizing his background and past experience in law enforcement. He has been a department chair at Johns Hopkins for approximately four years, and he also spent 17 years with the Howard County Police Department. Dr. Greenberg has worked in approximately 10 or 12 jurisdictions.

Dr. Greenberg listed the 10 key issues to consider for having a police department: rationale; workload; resource allocation; administrative overhead; relationship between the police department and the county police; technical and supervisory service to officers; effect of police on economic development and liability; facilities; and salaries and selection of officers and retention. Other issues were discussed, and Dr. Greenberg explained that there are consultants available to assist the Council in making a decision.

Chairman Garvey stated that the key issue is the control of the police officers, and Council Member Hurdle agreed with him. Council Member Schaffer brought up the issue of 911 calls, and Dr. Greenberg explained that a police department needs 911 service because society is accustomed to it. Mr. Schaffer stated that the Contract Police Officers need to be more visible.

Dr. Greenberg commented on the issue of the visibility of police officers, and he explained that if they are seen a lot driving on the streets, they might not really be doing anything. There has never been a single study documenting that high visibility has led to a lower crime rate. Council Member Schaffer explained that the Contract Police Officers do not respond to the 911 calls, and it is the County beat officers that do so. Mr. Schaffer stated that he felt the key question is what does the City want the Contract Police Officers to do.

Dr. Greenberg stated that the Council should not let any outsider tell them what they need in regard to police service. Council Member Fippin suggested that there be a feasibility study done prior to placing a question on the ballot in May for the residents. Chairman Gravy asked how much a police department would cost, and Dr. Greenberg stated that a number of questions would need to be answered before an accurate cost could be determined. The bottom price for a police officer is \$50,000 each, including the vehicle.

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Municipal police may join the Fraternal Order of Police, the Teamsters Union, or the AFL/CIO. Mayor Hanko asked about administrative needs, and Dr. Greenberg stated that there should be a workload analysis done first.

Council Member Potter stated that she had heard that it cost one million dollars for a police officer from the time he is hired until the time he dies of natural causes. Dr. Greenberg stated that he had not heard of this, and small jurisdictions do not have the same standards as large jurisdictions. A portion of the budget for the police department should be allocated for training. If the City is not getting the service from the County, the Council should ask them to explain immediately what is going on. Mayor Hanko pointed out that he is the police liaison.

Dr. Greenberg then gave examples of some of the police departments in other municipalities, and he stated that sometimes small police agencies are not good. There are always some citizens who will complain about coverage and visibility.

Council Member Fippin asked if there are block grants available for start up of a police department, and Dr. Greenberg responded that there will be starting in the year 2000. The Council should contact Senator Paul Sarbanes' office for additional information. Mr. Fippin then asked if more municipalities are starting up their own police departments, and Dr. Greenberg responded that is unknown how many police departments are in the United States. This is because the federal mandate only requires reporting about departments having 10 or more officers.

Chairman Garvey stated that the Council would have to do its homework, and Council Member Hurdle commented that 24 cities and towns in Maryland have their own police departments. Mrs. Hurdle stated that she talked with the Chief of Police of the Berwyn Heights Police Department, and she strongly felt that by the year 2000 the City of New Carrollton might need its own police department. The City is changing, and she is not pleased with the information regarding the police, which is published in the City Newsletter. Mrs. Hurdle then mentioned the recent closing of the drive-through windows of the Crestar Bank located in Carrollton Mall, and she stated that she felt that this should not have happened with the four organizations of police available to that area. Bank checks are mentioned in the Newsletter, and Mrs. Hurdle stated that she felt that the police should be taken out of political hands, and having a police chief might accomplish this. Mrs. Hurdle summarized that there is not much feedback or follow-through by the contract police, and she strongly feels that the current system is not working.

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At this time the Chairman asked for questions from the audience, and Ms. Yvonne Smith of Harland Street spoke about an incident when her neighbor's vehicle was stolen. There was a considerable amount of confusion about who was supposed to respond. The resident felt that New Carrollton should use the County police and not have contract police at all. Dr. Greenberg explained that this is a problem that needs to be resolved separately from the issue of having a police department. The Prince George's County Police Department is large enough to give an appropriate response time; however, sometimes there is a legitimate excuse.

Dr. Greenberg explained that he would come up with a list of questions for the Council should they decide to ask a consultant for assistance. The major concerns might be the amount of response time to 911 calls, the amount of money paid for the services of the contract police, and the possibility of not having the contract police at all.

Mr. Shelton, a resident seated in the audience, spoke about his dissatisfaction with the contract police, and Dr. Greenberg responded that it is not good to over-react to the exceptions. Based on his experience, the Hyattsville district is the most improved of all of the districts in Maryland.

Mayor Hanco asked Ms. Smith to give him the name and telephone number of the resident whose call was stolen, and the Mayor would set up a meeting with Major Hunt. Dr. Greenberg suggested that the Council might wish to put together a performance checklist for the contract police, and Mayor Hanco responded that the contract officers give daily and monthly reports. The officers might be evaluated for three weeks in the winter, spring, and summer. The officers might be given a time sheet during periods of performance checks to account for their time. The Council needs to learn what a police department does, and unfortunately it is the horror stories that are the ones that get conveyed. These incidents should not be the way the police are judged.

Mr. Bevard of Mentana Street, who was seated in the audience, expressed his concerns about how many hours per day the contract officers should provide coverage. The demands on the officers may be too broad or too general, and maybe they should be tightened up. The Council can set the hours and time for problem solving activities. Mayor Hanco stated that currently there are 16 hours per day of police coverage. If the contract police officers were in the area, then they would respond to calls for service first.

Dr. Greenberg suggested the Council might consider a parking company to write parking tickets rather than use a trained, sworn police officer. Other counties are doing this. Dr.

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Greenberg explained that Chief John Farrell is one of the better chiefs of police out there today, and he suggested that the Council invite Chief Farrell to a Council meeting. Concrete numbers and questions should be determined first.

Council Member Hurdle stated that she felt that the Neighborhood Watch has been the key factor in reducing the number of breaking and entering incidents in the City. There could be a question for a referendum in May, and Dr. Greenberg would come back for a meeting to discuss this issue further sometime in January.

Mrs. Bevard suggested that there be a police corner in the City Newsletter, and this would inform the citizens of what is going on in the City. Mr. Shelton stated that when someone calls the County police, and there is a delayed response; there would be no reason for the officer to state that they don't want to come into the City because of the contract police. Chairman Garvey summarized that the Council has a lot of homework to do.

Mrs. Shelton commented on the plastic drug bags, which she has been finding near and around her home, and Dr. Greenberg suggested that she call and report this to the police. The reason for this is that a record is being created; and if there are enough reports, then that will create a flag. Chairman Garvey thanked Dr. Greenberg for attending the meeting tonight.

After a brief discussion, it was decided that Dr. Greenberg would be invited back on a Monday evening other than the regular Council workshop Monday. There would be refreshments at that meeting.

8. Lease Purchase Agreement with Crestar.

Administrative Officer Latour explained that the agreement has not been signed because there is an attorney's opinion stating that the City of New Carrollton is a non-profit organization. Included in the packet is a document, which would cost the City not more than \$5,000. The City Attorney is not qualified to do this. A discussion followed. This item would be on the agenda for Wednesday night.

9. Carrollton Mall.

Ms. Torrie Mosley, a reporter from the New Carrollton Gazette came to the table to join the discussion. She has been visiting the local malls on Sunday, and when she arrived at Carrollton Mall she was surprised to see there were hardly any stores open.

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Mayor Hanko reported that last Tuesday he and Mr. Latour attending a meeting with the owners of the shopping center, Carrollton Realty to discuss the security and safety at the mall. The meeting was very productive, and they mentioned that they are very close in retaining a large tenant for the mall. A letter of intent was signed today, and Mr. Albert Turner set up this meeting. This information would be in the Mayor's report on Wednesday night.

There would be a business meeting on the 28th of January. Chairman Garvey suggested that the Community Oriented Police attend a Council meeting.

10. Vehicle Extension Requests:

a) Rosalina Muse 8302 Nicholson Court.

The Council agreed that a 30-day extension would be granted, and this item would be on the agenda for Wednesday night.

11. Follow-up to Administrative Officer Update.

Chairman Garvey reviewed each item individually, and he initiated a discussion regarding problems on Auburn Avenue. The four cities would be having a meeting regarding an emergency plan.

Council Member Fippin mentioned that the Internal Revenue Service would be re-locating 600 to 700 jobs to the New Carrollton Federal Building.

12. Review of Council Meeting Minutes:

a) November 30, 1998 Council Workshop

b) December 2, 1998 Council Meeting.

The minutes were given to the Recording Secretary for correction.

13. Review of the List of Bills.

The list of bills was circulated for review.

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14. Report of the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Hanko reported on a meeting with officials of the New Carrollton Boys' and Girls' Club, and he also announced that the Prince George's County Municipal Association would be meeting in New Carrollton at 7:00 p.m. tomorrow evening. There was a brief discussion regarding the holiday lighting contest, and the judges would be going out tomorrow evening. Chairman Garvey suggested that Chief Farrell be invited to a meeting after Dr. Greenberg is invited again.

Council Member Potter stated that she would like to know what happened to the Council calendar. Mr. Latour stated that he would get it back. Mrs. Potter mentioned again that she would like to have two additional flags for the Scouts to carry during the Council Meetings.

Council Member Fippin complimented Council Member Potter and her husband on the production at the Publick Playhouse recently.

Council Member Hurdle reported that she has made many telephone calls regarding the plaque for City Hall commemorating the World War II veterans. The Sentinel would be doing the plaque, and the Mayor would be putting an article in the Newsletter. The Mayor will plan a reception for the night the plaque is presented.

Chairman Garvey commented on the problem regarding students standing in residents' front yard while waiting for the school bus. The Chairman stated that he felt that the police should do something about this problem.

Chairman Garvey distributed items for the Wednesday night meeting.

15. Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary M. Oldfather

Mary M. Oldfather
Recording Secretary



To: Mayor and Council
From: Administrative Officer
Date: 12/14/98

RE: Update

ACTION UPDATE:

- A. Mark Levy spoke with Mayor Hanco on December 11th about a legal action he has pending against John Wright, Joe Welch and the City for towing his vehicles from Auburn Avenue, which he contends (with the concurrence of the County Police Department) is outside the City limit.

The City has some maps which show that part of Auburn Avenue is inside the City limit. We have other maps which show that none of Auburn Avenue is in the City limits. Does the Council want to authorize AB Consultants (the City Engineers) or a surveying firm they recommend, to do this work? This could cost several thousand dollars.

- B. Julius Robinson of 8426 Carrollton Parkway called. He urges the Council to make Carrollton Parkway a one way street. He says there are lots of kids who play on this street and too many cars come speeding by. Does the Council wish to pursue this?
- C. Carpet has been ordered for all areas previously discussed except for the Council Meeting Room. None of the people we spoke with could provide us with the "denim" carpet without the dots. More samples will be brought to the Council so that you may choose a color which is in stock.

I watched a recent City Council Meeting on the television in City Hall and the orange/brown rug showed up as bright green!
In terms of the area where Vinny and Mr. Abraham work, there is no plan to put in new carpet immediately. These carpets may be replaced later in the year if the budget allows, or in the next budget year.

- D. I spoke with County Councilman Hendershot about the parking of oversized vehicles on Auburn Avenue, and other County roads near the City limit, such as Good Luck Road, Riverdale Road and Harland Street. I asked if there is a way the City can tow these vehicles without objection of the County. He asked me to put this to him in writing. He said he would get back to the City with answers.

A draft of a letter to Mr. Hendershot is enclosed in this packet. Is the Council in agreement with the gist of this letter? If so, the letter will be sent on City of New Carrollton stationery.

INFORMATION UPDATE:

- E. David Wolf, Jack Conroy and Postmaster Larry Hoeck have all been made aware of the presentation to Michael Capone on Wednesday evening December 16th.
- F. The oversized vehicle on Leahy Road was stickered last week to be towed this week. On Friday morning, December 11th, Mr. Welch was at Leahy Road to tow this vehicle. This vehicle, however, has now been moved to Auburn Avenue.

The moving van on Cathedral was scheduled to be towed last week. Mr. Welch brought in an extra large tow truck to tow this vehicle. When the owner of the vehicle saw the tow truck coming, he rocketed out of his house, jumped into the moving van, and drove it outside the City limit. It is now being parked on the far side of Good Luck Road.

- G. The PGCMA Legislative Dinner is scheduled for January 7th. A copy of the registration materials is enclosed in your packet. Please return your completed attendance forms to me tonight so I can call in the count on Tuesday and have a check prepared.
- H. Earlier in the week, Mayor Hanko met with representatives of the Prince George's County Police Department, the Carrollton Mall and Heritage Square, as well as with State's Attorney Jack Johnson, concerning drug, crime and safety issues in and around Carrollton Mall. In addition to the negative impacts of these problems on nearby residents, these problems make it difficult for Carrollton Enterprises to attract shoppers, keep their existing tenants, and attract new tenants.

Major Hunt said he will embark on a program of identification of the loiterers and drug dealers in the mall, and will develop improved follow-up on this situation.

I believe it would be appropriate for the City to apply for a Maryland HotSpot Communities Grant. Applications for this grant will be due in June or July. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor have requested an additional seven million dollars for this program in the coming fiscal year.

- I. Due to a Christmas party his kids are involved in, Duane Rosenberg will be coming late to the December 16th Council meeting.
- J. Vinny will be meeting with representatives of Greenbelt, College Park and Berwyn Heights in December to begin developing an emergency plan for the Four Cities area.
- K. I received a call on December 9th from Kathy Thornton of the Prince George's County Human Relations Commission. She is involved in the Human Relations Commission's Community Mediations Board. She had been referred to the City by Major Hunt and Captain Joy. Her aim is to set up a mediation session between Mark Levy and the City. She says the mediation is voluntary and there is no enforcement power. She says the purpose of the mediation is to openly discuss the issues and to try to find a solution which is acceptable to all parties. Mayor Hanco has agreed to represent the City.
- L. This agenda packet includes two proposed budget amendments. The items in Amendment No. 6 had been discussed with the Council earlier. These items are increased funding for street lights, for computer network administration classes for Vinny, and for Community Day.

Proposed Budget Amendment No. 7 is to provide funds for the City roads program, and to compensate Mr. Greg Wills for having been underpaid since 1992 due to a mistake in record keeping which began in 1992 and which has affected Mr. Wills' paycheck in each pay period since then.

Funds for Proposed Amendments No. 6 and No. 7 would come from the previous year's surplus which Mr. Bitzelberger will be discussing Monday evening. I was unable to reach Diane Mock or Frank Bitzelberger to discuss this proposed amendment, and Mr. Bitzelberger may suggest a change to No. 7 on Monday evening.

M. The next meeting of the City's businesses is scheduled for January 28th, 8:30am at Antonio's. Romaine of Bomani's Gallery is especially interested in the businesses at the mall developing a stronger relationship with the City. She is very concerned about the crime, safety and drug problems at the mall.

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Memorandum

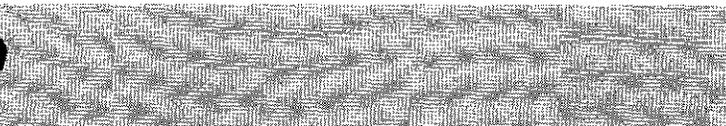
To: Mayor & City Council
From: Vinny Hughes, Assistant City Administrative Officer
Date: 12/11/98
Re: Crestar Agreement-Update

The Crestar agreement has not yet been finalized. As you may recall, Bob Manzi was uncomfortable with the wording of the lease purchase agreement and thought the agreement was unfairly slanted against the City. In addition, Mr. Manzi did not feel qualified to provide the tax opinion needed for the document. While an agreement was being prepared, Crestar's original offer of 4.21% financing expired and due to fluctuations in the Treasury rates the rates have risen slightly to 4.33%. These rates remain considerably lower than we anticipated and budgeted for. In addition, the vehicles and equipment came in at a lower price than we anticipated. Over the period of four years the slightly higher interest rate will result a in higher total payments of only \$241.98.

Bob Manzi recommended to the City of Greenbelt that they use the services of the law firm of Miles and Stockbridge to prepare a lease purchase agreement and qualified tax opinion for a nearly identical deal. Since the firm essentially has a document ready, the firm can provide both an agreement and a tax opinion to us for a maximum of \$5,000.

At this point, I would recommend that the City retain Miles and Stockbridge to prepare the lease purchase agreement and qualified tax opinion. I believe this will put some closure to this process. There are sufficient funds in each departmental line item to cover the slight increase in rates as well as the legal fees of Miles & Stockbridge. Miles & Stockbridge has committed to complete the work for less than \$5,000.

During the FY 99 budget process, the City estimated that the four year lease purchase cost would be \$133,184 (yearly cost of \$33,296). Including the legal fees of \$5,000, with principal of \$93,454.14, interest rate of 4.33%, the City can expect to pay a total of \$106,949.12 with no year exceeding the \$33,296 budgeted.





Memorandum

To: Mayor and City Council
From: Mark Latour, City Administrative Officer
Date: 12/10/98
Re: Proposed Shuttle Bus for New Carrollton Federal office Building and Route 450 Businesses

Earlier this week, I met with Jim Raszewski, Chief of the Division of Transit, and Frank Bell of Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation concerning the proposed Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) Shuttle Bus Loop. The meeting was very positive and informative.

According to both men the population of New Carrollton and the surrounding area is relatively underserved with mass transportation and could use an additional bus service. The County has several shuttle loop services similar to the proposed IRS Loop service serving large complexes such as the Greenbelt Federal Building. Unfortunately, ridership for those loops are low.

Several favorable factors may help the City to obtain the proposed loop service:

- In the Metropolitan DC area there is a focus on linking suburban commuter patterns with mass transportation, such as METRO.
- In order for most routes to be successful, they will need to service high population areas (i.e.- apartment complexes and condominiums), commercial areas, and residential areas (i.e. - single family homes). The City of New Carrollton has each of these. Further, we have contacted surrounding apartment complexes such as the Whitefield Chapel Apartment Complex, to gain their support for the idea. Mr. Raszewski felt it would be very helpful to include this apartment area.
- Again, the city is underserved with busing.

According to Jim, it appears that a revised version of the proposed loop service will make it onto the County's Five-Year Transportation Plan. The Five-Year Plan is funded in part by the State and the funding levels obviously dictate the number of projects implemented each year. The first year of the Five-Year Plan is Year 2000 and the earliest that this project could be funded is 2001.



Council Calendar

December

Dec. 17th	7:00PM	Thursday	PGCMA Mtg.
Dec. 23 rd	Noon-3:00PM	Wednesday	City Holiday Party

January

Jan. 1st	Office Closed		
Jan. 4 th	7:00 PM	Monday	Council Workshop
Jan. 6 th	8:00 PM	Wednesday	Council Meeting
Jan. 7 th	6:00-10:00PM	Thursday	PGCMA
			Legislative Diner
			at Andrews AFB
Jan. 14 th	8:00PM	Thursday	4 Cities Mtg.
			hosted by New
			Carrollton
Jan. 18 th	Office Closed		
Jan. 19 th	7:00 PM	Tuesday	Council Workshop
Jan. 20 th	8:00 PM	Wednesday	Council Meeting
Jan. 28 th	8:30AM	Thursday	City Business Mtg.
			at Antonios