



THE CITY OF  
**TAKOMA PARK**  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

# DEPARTMENT ROUNDTABLE

HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**February 2014**

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# Mission



## Our mission is to . . .

- protect the health and wellbeing of the community through the development, preservation and enhancement of public and private infrastructure;
- increase opportunities for local businesses, preserve affordable housing options, and advance the standard of living of community residents; and
- improve the physical, cultural, and social experience of all residents.

*physical environment - economic stability - quality of life*

# Measures of Success



## We judge our success by the . . .

- physical condition of our neighborhoods and commercial corridors
- community's interest in walking, biking, and riding the bus
- private and public funds we leverage
- public's participation in the programming we offer
- requests for service we receive
- feedback of the people we assist

*physical environment - economic stability - quality of life*

# Projects and Achievements



## **Focusing on the physical environment**

- Commercial Façade Improvements
- Home Repair Programs

## **Focusing on economic stability**

- Community Grants
- Emergency Assistance Programs

## **Focusing on our quality of life**

- Bicycle Improvements
- Cultural Programming

*physical environment - economic stability - quality of life*

# Trends



## We see . . .

- changing homeownership options
- a shift in affordable rental opportunities
- an increased desire to age in place
- a growing demand for assistance to meet basic needs
- interest in creating a safe, walkable, bike-able, bus friendly community
- support for the advancement of the Purple Line and Bus Rapid Transit
- growing interest and demand for higher density, mixed use neighborhoods
- increased challenges in securing financing for small businesses
- a growing interest in the “buy local” economy

*physical environment - economic stability - quality of life*

# Going Forward



## Challenges

- Two primary - and distinct - commercial areas
- Lack of available development and redevelopment sites
- Limited financial capacity of local businesses and business associations
- Impact of the economy on housing market

*physical environment - economic stability - quality of life*

# Going Forward



## Opportunities

- Low commercial vacancies and rapid turnover of retail space
- Recent changes in ownership of larger commercial properties
- Growing interest in private investment in housing/commercial ventures

*physical environment - economic stability - quality of life*