

Community Conversations
About Montgomery College's Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus

Meeting #2 – Comments, Thoughts, and Feedback From Yellow Sheets

May 9, 2017

Note: Each block below are the comments made by one person.

1.	Your faculty (here tonight) needs physical fitness and the county and state should fund it.
2.	Obviously Montgomery College cares about education and students. Takoma Park cares about swimming, weights and basketball. I am extremely disappointed.
3.	It seems the college has already set on a plan – these meetings seem to be a waste of time!
4.	I swim on a regular basis at the pool in Falcon Hall. It is a great faculty. Please don't tear down Falcon Hall. Roger Strouse
5.	As a physician, scientist and educator, I am greatly concerned about the quality of science education in our youth. The poor understanding of science and technology in today's society shocks me. Good, quality education in math and science is necessary for the success of our city, county, state and planet. With so many of the high paying jobs in this area being in science and technology fields, and so many of the students attending the college being from lower income homes, the lack of good science education locks them out of these careers. I don't really care what gets torn down but the fastest route to new science facilities is the best. Kawsar Talaat, Takoma Park resident.
6.	This meeting did not have fairness. (for college) The college is bound by finances. Dr. Pollard tried to give an explanation but the "community member" bent the ear and used idealization; the college wants parking instead of health. So untrue! Students are in archaic facilities. They need the best facilities immediately. Only students are suffering. Let's give equal opportunity to the TP/SS students.
7.	New aquatic center --- \$120,000? The new purposed building is on the same footprint of the Bliss Hotel. How many community members use Falcon Hall? Do they have use of the fitness center? Given the problems w/ water under the Cultural Arts Center, is it possible to even build on the Burlington parking lot?
8.	Do not take any land from Jessup Blair Park. Bob Colvin SS, MD 20910 301-589-1834
9.	The comments of the college representatives indicate that the demolition of Falcon Hall has been decided. Keeping Falcon Hall should be a high priority, especially since there is no money to replace it.
10.	What environmental impact studies have been done on any proposed construction? Those of us who live adjacent to P3 have had water and rodent problems post P3 renovations. That needs to be addressed this time around!!
11.	Students will not use athletic facilities that are over a mile away. Need swimming, basketball on campus!
12.	This is outside the bounds of Historic District. Their preferences should not control development of MC. MC should invoke active control of \bar{s} traffic for drop-off and parking Sorry about the pool. Can the City and SS create a special district that would allow \bar{s} traffic enforcement personnel? Science building will not be set back as far as Falcon Hall. Reach out as far as students live.
13.	As a Takoma Park resident, I use the pool frequently and also interact frequently with MCC students and value these opportunities to be part of the educational community.
14.	The college is over reaching. It simply cannot fit what it desires – a big new building – into the TP

	campus, because of the community objections which are legitimate, because of the lack of good sense and logic in demolishing fitness facilities, and because of the aesthetic constraints. A giant new building will be a monstrosity. The college must not force this. Sarah Kaufman. Baltimore Avenue
15.	Thank you for the meeting. I am a Takoma Park resident and the parent of a student who attended MC – TP and transferred to UMD. Thank you for updating the academic facilities for the students. That’s important!! I urge you to reconsider eliminating the athletic facilities, including the gym and swimming pool. They are important. It’s troubling that the TP campus is in the position of having to do away with them because of money, and this choice is not as stark for other locations. Thanks
16.	I think the Takoma Park residents were heard tonight and seemed very angry to keep a swimming pool, etc. As a professor in a health science program, teaching our students, they are very tech savvy. Students do not realize how much equipment ages, etc. costs. As our equipment ages, etc. students begin to wonder why MC does not keep up with the latest in technology. An upgraded building is important to keep our students enrollment up and help keep them well educated for completion and transfer. We, as a college, are trying to do all we can to support and educate our students. I felt that many of the Takoma Park residents were hostile and continued to attack the college and acted like MC was lying. Students today do not want 40 year old buildings.
17.	This process is a sham. I attended both meetings, hoping the 2 nd one would be an improvement over the 1 st one. No such luck. Sadly, the college president continues to be disingenuous in her claims and her comments – her lack of good faith is palpable.
18.	I think we are making progress. Let’s keep going. Thank you!
19.	Use bitly to shorten URL’s Where do students take classes during renovation? Hold next meeting at Montgomery College so students can attend. Need more seats! Make sure ward is not <u>over</u> represented. Many of these protesters will not even be alive in 10 years! Invite ‘protesters’ to attend class and have 1 on 1 with students.
20.	County must provide a more comprehensive analysis of Burlington vs. other options, including a health impact assessment.
21.	Meeting no. 1 website on screen tonight wasn’t the same as where we can review comments from meeting no. 1 on our handout tonight Keep MBT Bike Trail open throughout construction? Good that 4650 don’t drive to school. What about trees saved? Strongly agree with comments on representation.
22.	Athletics should be part of the school continuously. The students demographic were not represented because they were not informed. Why not send students a notice, and also area high schools? When you meet successful working people, athletics are often part of their college life. My impression is that all is decided.
23.	Land/building expansion---Has M College also looked at expanding into the property of Sligo Avenue and Fenton Street (old police station)? It appears, at present, to be vacant. Were communities asked to come (parents of students)? This should be expanded now or before 3 rd (next) community conversation. Burlington site is a much better choice for lower community impact. Students play on Falcon teams – where will they play ball? Where will pool be? How about near parking, bus and walking, say at Fenton Avenue and Sligo Avenue? Very doable, worth additional construction/overtime (note: 2-3 blocks from Burlington site.) Strongly in favor of this greater expense, as a taxpayer.
24.	Please establish a working group.
25.	Seems like college will not use Burlington site, and will not compromise. We have been duped into believing that these conversations can affect change, but this is not the case. Mont College wants community to rubber-stamp their Facility Master Plan.