

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

OVERVIEW

Public input and feedback were critical to create a community-supported vision for Jeremiah Park. Public participation helps ensure that the proposed concept plan options address community concerns and ideas, foster an inclusive and transparent planning process, identify key opportunities and priorities, and build momentum to move the plan towards implementation.

This community engagement process spanned approximately six months and included of a series of Pop-Up Engagement Events (informational tables set up within the community at prime locations to promote the project and encourage participation), Community Workshops, and Public Surveys.

The first two months of the process were the Initial Data Collection Phase, spanning from April-May 2024, and included two Pop-Up Engagement Events, a Community Visioning Workshop, and a Public Survey. June-July was the Development of Concept Plans Phase consisting of a Pop-Up Engagement Event, Community Planning Workshop, and a Public Survey. Last was the Refinement of Concept Plans Phase, from August-September, including a Pop-up Engagement Event and a Community Open House. These phases ensured ample opportunities for input and feedback.

Additionally, a website was built and launched to serve as a hub for project information: jeremiahparkproject.com



INITIAL DATA COLLECTION

DEVELOPMENT OF CONCEPT PLANS

REFINEMENT OF CONCEPT PLANS

INITIAL DATA COLLECTION

SUMMARY

The first Pop-up Engagement Event was held on April 20, 2024 located outside of the CVS in the Westside neighborhood across from the Jeremiah Park project site. Community members were given a project overview and invited to attend the Community Visioning Workshop.

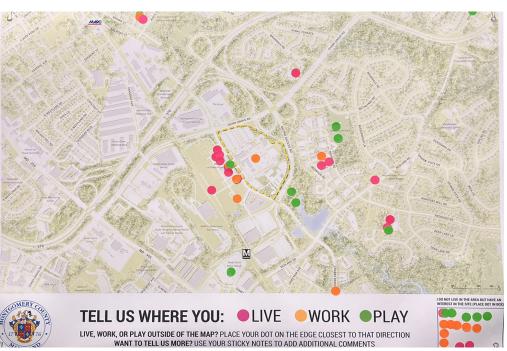
Approximately 35 community members attended the Community Visioning Workshop held on April 30, 2024 at the Montgomery County Division of Highway Services building, near the project site. Attendees were greeted at the entrance by project team members and given a packet of supplies including project information and materials to use to give input throughout the workshop. Team members facilitated a variety of board stations including an interactive "Live, Work, Play" board (seen to the right) and various existing conditions and precedent image boards. Attendees were given the opportunity to provide feedback on boards and talk through ideas with project team members.

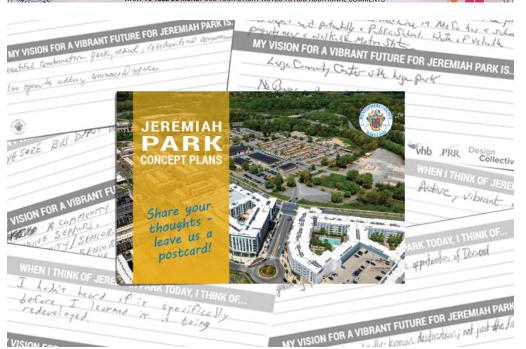
Following an overview presentation, project team members facilitated table discussions. With four table groups of 6-7 attendees, facilitators asked a variety of questions that allowed participants to share their thoughts in a collaborative discussion. A spokesperson from each table was selected and shared the collective ideas of their tables to the entirety of the attendees before the Community Visioning Workshop came to an end.

Before the close, attendees were encouraged to take the Jeremiah Park Community Survey to provide further feedback. This survey will be promoted at the second Pop-up Engagement Event on May 18, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Derwood Farmers Market and will remain open until midnight on May 28, 2024. Attendees were also given the opportunity to leave comments and questions in their own words on postcards (seen to the right).









A vibrant future for Jeremiah Park

The County is kicking off a community engagement and land planning initiative to explore opportunities for the redevelopment of Jeremiah Park, a County-owned site located at 16651 Crabbs Branch Way, Derwood, 20855.



The Shady Grove Sector Plan envisions the property as an inclusive, walkable community with a mix of uses. The County is exploring replacing the bus depot currently on-site with a new, modern, co-located bus depot that will support both Montgomery County Public Schools and the Montgomery County Department of Transportation as they transition to zero emissions vehicles, along with mixed-use development highlighted by amenities and open space.

The community's input is crucial to creating a vibrant and welcoming neighborhood.

Visit the project website for updates and to learn about other opportunities to stay involved: jeremiahparkproject.com



Timeline	April	May	June	July	August	September
Initial Data Collection April-May 2024						
Pop-up Engagement Event						
Community Visioning Workshop						
Public Survey						
Pop-up Engagement Event						
Development of Concept Plans June-July 2024						
Pop-up Engagement Event						
Community Planning Workshop						
Public Survey						
Refinement of Concept Plans Augu	ust-Septemb	er 2024				
Pop-up Engagement Event						
Community Open House						
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Connect with the project team at JeremiahParkProject@prrbiz.com.



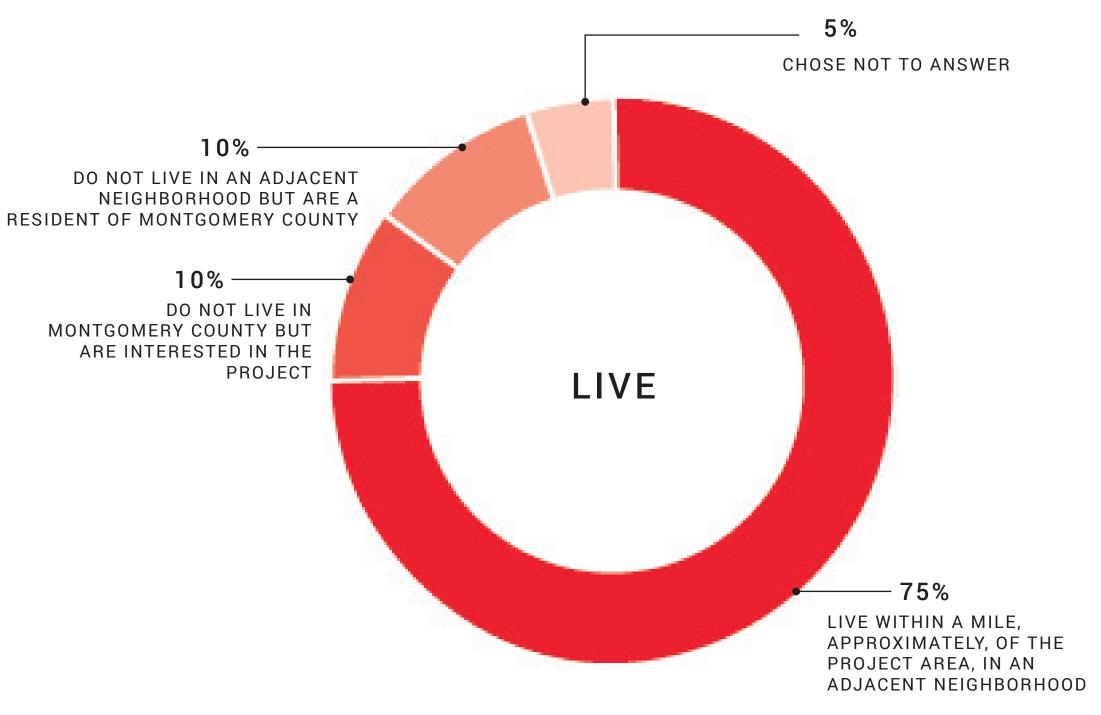


WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

Facilitators started the table discussions by asking the attendees a series of questions regarding where they each live and work in relation to the Jeremiah Park project site. Attendees were asked to raise their hand, as they felt comfortable, indicating their affiliation.

The compiled results of where attendees live, in relation to the project site, is shown in the chart to the right.*

The majority of participants live within a mile of the Jeremiah Park project area, in an adjacent neighborhood.



*Based on 20 responses

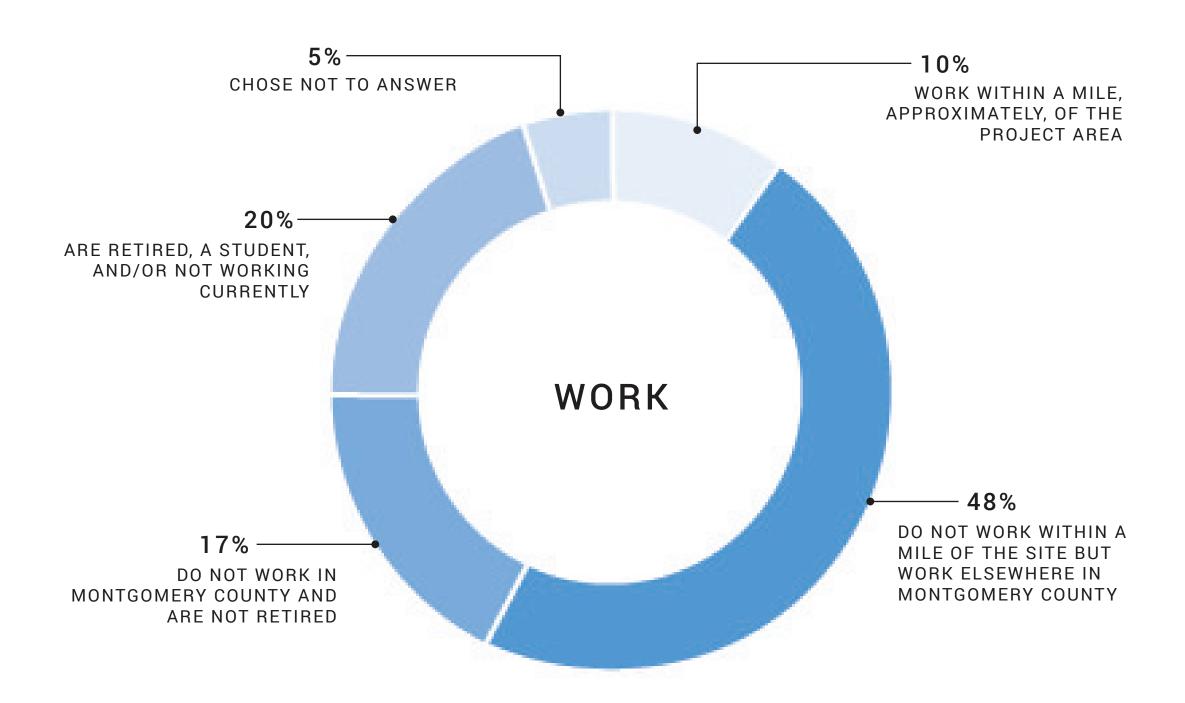


WHERE DO YOU WORK?

Facilitators started the table discussions by asking the attendees a series of questions regarding where they each live and work in relation to the Jeremiah Park project site. Attendees were asked to raise their hand, as they felt comfortable, indicating their affiliation.

The compiled results of where attendees work, in relation to the project site, is shown in the chart to the right.*

Most of the participants who chose to answer work beyond a mile from the site, elsewhere in Montgomery County.



*Based on 20 responses





TABLE DISCUSSIONS SUMMARY

Following an overview presentation on the Jeremiah Park project, team members facilitated table discussions. With four table groups of 6-7 attendees, facilitators asked a variety of questions that allowed participants to share their thoughts in a collaborative discussion.

Ouestions were asked such as:

What are the main current strengths and assets of the area surrounding Jeremiah Park? What features make it a desirable place to live/work/play/attend school/ etc.?

What are the current challenges of the Jeremiah Park site and the surrounding area?

The Strengths and Challenges, to the right, were summarized from the notes taken at all four table discussion groups.

Overall, many shared similar ideas that Jeremiah Park has the potential to transform and benefit the surrounding communities, while overcoming challenges of the bus depot, circulation, and access.

The Table Discussions Summary continues on the following page.

STRENGTHS:

- » Proximity to Metro
- » Multi-modal public transit options
- » Proximity to major roads and highways
- » Walkability to surrounding neighborhoods
- » Opportunity for growth
- » Ability to connect to surrounding neighborhoods
- » Some senior housing is currently available

CHALLENGES:

- » Parking is a challenge; need more on-street and short-term parking; more parking at the Daley in Westside
- » Street safety: speeding on Crabbs Branch Way; speed from nearby off-ramp carries onto Shady Grove Road and Crabbs Branch Way; accidents with casualties; school bus stop near fast intersection
- » Commuter and truck traffic; people depend on cars in this community
- » Large amount of idling cars and noise from cars
- » Getting to Metro is not pedestrian friendly
- The neighborhood adjacent to Metro Access Road is not accessible
- » Amount of buses; currently more buses than other vehicles
- » Retail is not user friendly; can not access existing retail at Westside
- » Lack of tree canopy
- » Potential homelessness
- » Issues with keeping the site secure









TABLE DISCUSSIONS SUMMARY, CONT.

Along with the current Strengths and Challenges of the Jeremiah Park project site, summarized on the previous page, attendees were asked a variety of question about what they would like the redevelopment of Jeremiah Park to be.

Ouestions were asked such as:

What is your vision for the future of Jeremiah Park? What features will make it a desirable place to be/ visit and a benefit to the community?

What combination of the following uses would you like to see at Jeremiah Park site? Residential, Retail/Shops, Restaurants, Offices/Professional services, School/Education, Open Space, Amenities

The project may include a variety of housing types, that range in affordability and size. What residential types would you like to see at Jeremiah Park? Midrise Apt. or Condo Buildings (similar to the Daley and Laureate at Westside), Small Apt. or Condo Buildings (tri or multiplexes), Townhomes, or other

What kinds of locally-serving retail or professional services would you like to see at Jeremiah Park? What is missing from the surrounding area that would benefit the community? For example, professional services — doctor's, dentist's, accountant's, etc. offices; urgent care; banks; grocery, household goods, and/or convenience stores; food and drink — restaurants, bars, cafes; educational, job training services; or other

In the 4-acre park or elsewhere on site, what features would you most like to see? For example, public space for gatherings/events; active space – courts, playgrounds, multipurpose fields; leisure or passive space – natural landscapes, walking paths, shaded seating areas; a community garden; environmental features – native plantings, rain gardens, shade tree canopy; or other

OPPORTUNITIES + VISION:

- » A place for people to come together
- » Create destinations for all ages
- » Community and family-oriented retail/shops
- » Boutique grocery store
- » Restaurant(s) with outdoor dining
- » Mixed-use development with integrated open space; medium density; 4-6 story buildings including multi-family building(s) with ground floor retail
- » Development similar to Rio Lakefront in Gaithersburg, MD
- » Less dense housing than Westside
- » Improve parking; provide more parking

- » Multi-level bus garage, instead of surface parking
- » Walking and biking paths
- Tennis and pickleball courts
- » Pedestrian/bicycle connection between Derwood shared use path and Blueberry Hill Park
- » Passive and active open space with soccer field, community garden, outdoor learning space, mixed-use fields, dog run, playgrounds
- » Multi-purpose field with small pavilion, food truck parking, fountain to play in







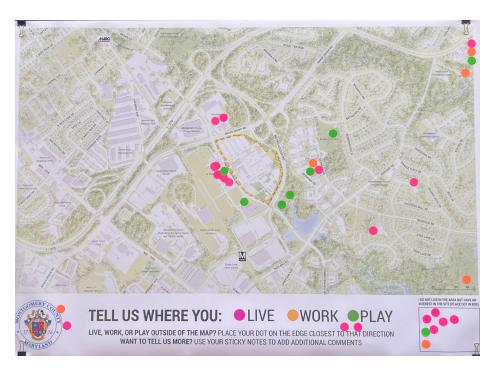
SUMMARY

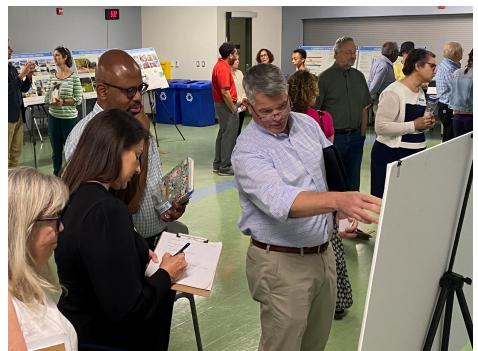
Following the first public workshop for the Jeremiah Park project, held on April 30, 2024, further community outreach occurred at two Pop-Up Engagement Events. On May 18, 2024, a Pop-Up Engagement Event was held at the Derwood Farmers Market. The focus of this event was to build awareness of the project. promote the first Jeremiah Park Community Survey, and encourage community members to provide feedback before the close of the survey on May 28, 2024. The next Pop-Up Engagement Event was held on June 8, 2024 at the Derwood Farmers Market. The goal of this event was to again build awareness and invite community members to the Community Planning Workshop, held later that month.

On June 18, 2024, the Community Planning Workshop was held to share a series of concept plan design options for Jeremiah Park with the public and receive feedback. This second workshop was held at the Montgomery County Division of Highway Services building, near the project site. Attendees were greeted at the entrance by project team members and given a packet of materials they could use to give input throughout the workshop; project information sheets were also provided. Attendees were then asked to participate in an interactive "Live, Work, Play" board (seen to the right). Prior to the project presentation, attendees were given the opportunity to view various existing conditions, precedent images, and the three concept plan design options.

An overview presentation reviewed the project timeline and work to date, a summary of the first public workshop and survey, and the three concept plan design options. As presented, the concept plans were informed by the input received at the first Workshop and the survey results, as well as the existing conditions analysis and program requirements.

Following the presentation, project team members facilitated concept plan board stations. Participants were encouraged to ask questions and provide feedback on all three concept plan design options.





Join us for a Community Planning Workshop on the future of Jeremiah Park

Montgomery County wants your input on reimagining Jeremiah Park and creating a plan for a vibrant, inclusive community.

Project leaders are hosting the second in a series of public workshops to review possible concept designs and discuss community members' hopes and concerns about the site's redevelopment.

Tuesday, June 18, 2024 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Bring the kids! We'll have snacks and a fun activity space to get the kids involved in the vision for their community!



Please register in advance

Can't make the meeting?



Visit the project website for updates and to learn about other opportunities to stay involved: JeremiahParkProject.com.

Connect with the project team at JeremiahParkProject@prrbiz.com.

Workshop location



Language and American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation is available at each meeting upon request and must be requested when people register. Requests for interpretation must be made five business days before the scheduled event. Accommodations for disabilities will be made upon request. If you need any services or aids to participate in this event, please call the ADA Compliance Manager at 240-777-6197 or email a request to ADACompliance@ MontgomeryCountyMD.gov. Please provide as much notice as possible, preferably three days in advance. Last-minute requests will be accepted but may be impossible to fulfill.

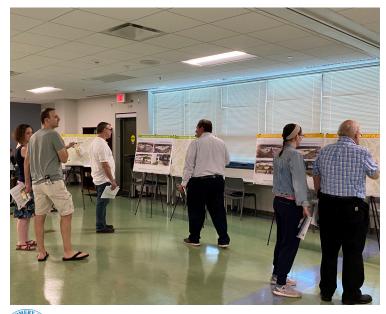
For general inquiries about the project, please email JeremiahParkProject@prrbiz.com.



BOARD FACILITATION SUMMARY

Following an overview presentation, project team members facilitated discussions at board stations. Participants were encouraged to ask questions and provide feedback on all three concept plan design options. The following summarizes what was heard at each board station as well as general comments on uses, open space, connectivity, and other topics.





GENERAL COMMENTS

- » A place for people to come together
- » Create destinations for all ages
- » Community and family-oriented retail/shops
- » Liked the minimal street infrastructure shown in the concept plans, particularly with only two street connection points on Crabbs Branch, as shown in Option 1; this will make the Jeremiah Park mixed-use more feasible, and it will be more likely that a signal will be warranted at the Tribeca/Crabbs Branch intersection (desired)
- » Request to show the approved build-out of the Westside development plan (not currently shown on concepts); looks blank, but there will be development
- » Create access from bus depot to the retail on-site and the Westside development retail; access will allow bus depot employees to benefit from retail
- » Add a "divided" [median] along the main entrance on Tribeca Street
- » Include more community elements:
 - Retail
 - Walkability
 - Library
- » All options are false choices
- » Need more parking
- » Shady Grove Street entrance could be "dicey"
- » Move retail from across Shady Grove Rd (Giant shopping center) to this site and put bus depot on that site

PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIVITY

- » Concern about a safe pedestrian connection to the Metro station from Jeremiah Park
 - Crossing Crabbs Branch Way at grade seems like an unpleasant and potentially unsafe option
 - Suggestion to create an elevated walkway from Jeremiah Park to the Metro
 - Suggestion to create a new shared-use path along Metro Access Road that connects Jeremiah Park to the Metro station without the need to cross Crabbs Branch Way

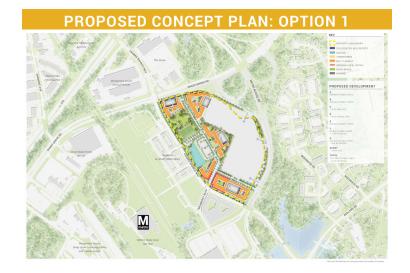
- » Would like a more direct connection from Crabbs Branch Way to far side paths of Metro Access Road (acknowledged that this is outside the realm of this study)
- » When looking at ped/bike connectivity for Jeremiah Park, think about broader connections to nearby trails, Lake Needwood, and Rock Creek Trail
- » There is an existing nature path on the other side of Metro Access Road. Could there be a connection from the "G" Block (see concept plans) to that path?

LANDSCAPE/ OPEN SPACE

- » Trees throughout the site should be humanscale; cited example of old-growth pines in surrounding neighborhoods that are 80+' tall and become a hazard as they age and die
- » Is it possible to have fruit trees or an orchard on site?
- » Create more of an open space network; connect the green spaces
- » Face townhomes on the green space



BOARD FACILITATION SUMMARY, CONT.



PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN: OPTION 1

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THOUGHTS OR QUESTIONS? USE YOUR STICKY NOTES TO TELL US MORE..

PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN: OPTION 1

Retail

- » Stakeholders noted that retail has been a struggle at Westside; it is good to have the CVS, but not much else has come in (not many other retailers have signed leases at Westside).
- » How will additional retail work in Jeremiah Park?
- » Discussed Grocery Store preferred location and interest at the Gramercy/Crabbs Branch signalized intersection.

School

- » Concern for school children crossing a street to access the Park
- » Request for the team to study locating the school site near / adjacent to the bus depot (on Block E).
 - Given the length of time until a school may be built, this location may be planted / landscaped (in the interim) to help screen the depot - and perhaps the site may stay open space.
 - A 4-acre school site is small



Open Space

- » Request for Playground for all ages
- » Create destinations for all ages
- » The park should be across the street from the school site (on Block D)

Residential

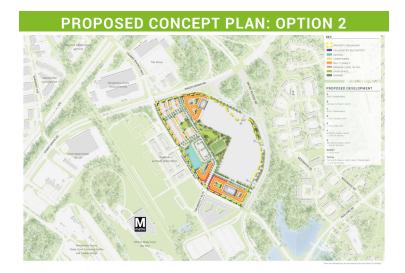
» Preference noted for the concept plan option with more townhouses (Option 2)

Depot

» It is good that bus access is off Metro Access Road; it will only work that way



BOARD FACILITATION SUMMARY, CONT.



PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN: OPTION 2

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THOUGHTS OR QUESTIONS? USE YOUR STICKY NOTES TO TELL US MORE..

PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN: OPTION 2

Retail

- » Is another grocer necessary?
- » Would rather see a market-style store than a large grocer

School

- » The road going between school and the park is a negative; would prefer to see the park attached to the school or have a pedestrian-friendly street between the two.
- » Flip school parking to the front on Crabbs Branch Way to avoid school traffic circulating through the neighborhood
- » Having the school sitting on Crabbs Branch Way could lead to students being dropped off on Crabbs Branch Way, causing unsafe conditions for students and worse traffic



Open Space

- » Need additional playgrounds
 - Current multi-family residents in Westside use the playground near the Westside Townhouses, and there are too many people / there is too high a demand for that playground

Residential

- » Positive that the townhouses are facing other townhouses (Westside townhouses)
- » Could some of these townhouses be two-overtwos?
- » Too dense in number of units:
 - Cut the density in half
 - Add more open space
 - Reference Preliminary Plan
 - The tradeoff of having a bus depot on site was a lower-density development
- » Add senior housing
- » Concern over rent control

Depot

» The rear of the depot faces the community across Metro Access Road

BOARD FACILITATION SUMMARY, CONT.





THOUGHTS OR QUESTIONS? USE YOUR STICKY NOTES TO TELL US MORE.

PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN: OPTION 3

Retail

- » Would like to see larger-scale grocer along the lines of Wegmans, with outdoor seating and specialty food offerings
- » The Giant on the north side of Shady Grove Rd is undersized
- » Would like to see some small retail in the park that could be accessed from both the park side and from Crabbs Branch side, i.e., food kiosks
- » Is there a way for depot employees to access the streetlevel retail in the mixed-use area on foot rather than having to drive all the way around to Crabbs Branch Way?
 - Include one or two ped connections between the depot and the neighborhood.

School

- » Flip school parking to the front on Crabbs Branch Way to avoid school traffic circulating through the neighborhood
- » Would like school and park site to be a single contiguous block to keep school children from having to cross a street to reach the park (assuming the school site isn't large enough for playing fields)
- » Suggestion to put the school next to the depot for screening and SWM purposes

Open Space

- » Concern about safety issues with the park fronting Crabbs **Branch Wav**
 - Could there be fencing or some sort of separation to keep kids from running into the road?
- » Preference for the park to be located on the back side of the site, next to the depot
- » See College Gardens Park in Rockville and Dewey Local Park as precedents for high-quality open space designs

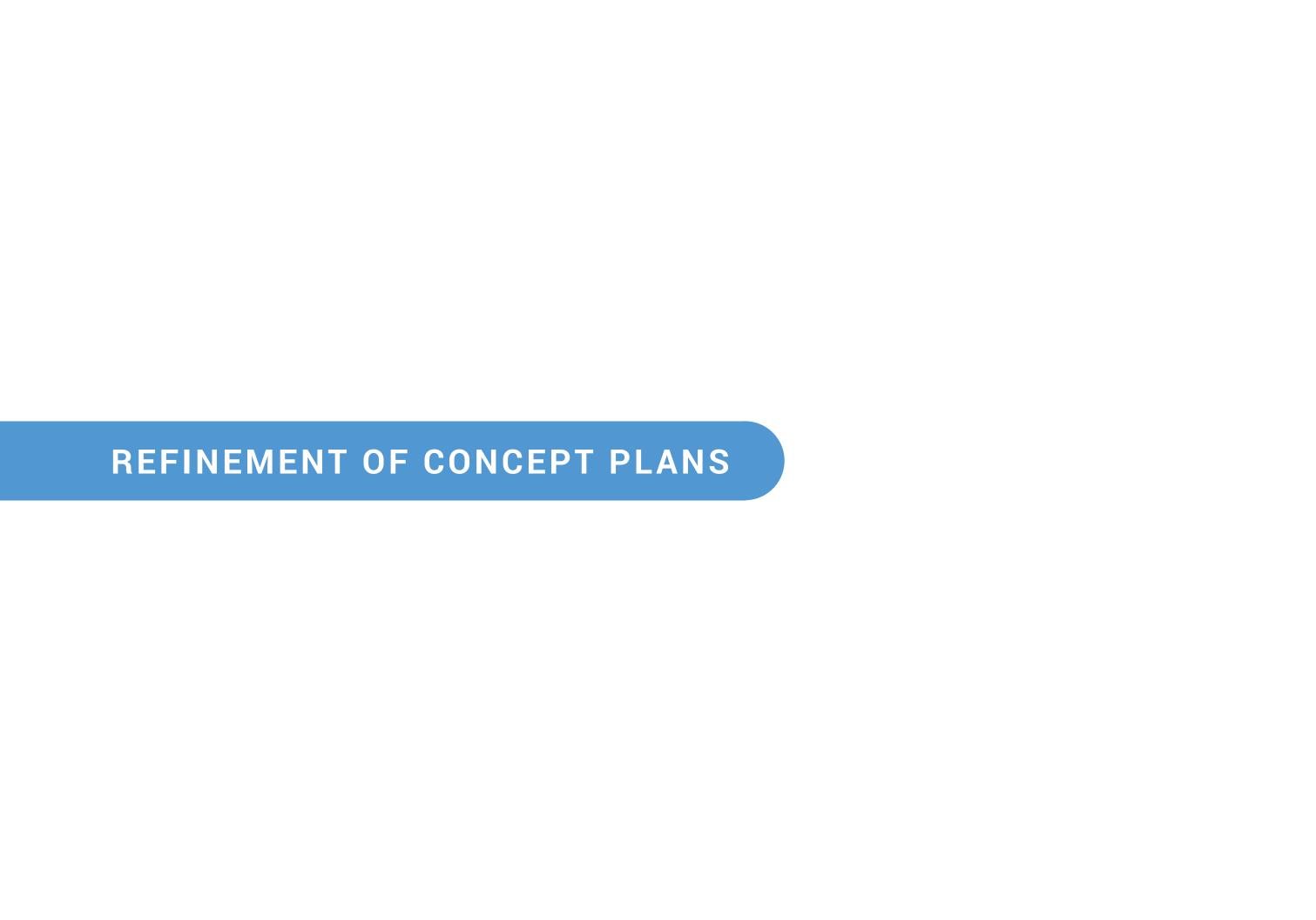
Residential

- » Liked the additional open spaces near the townhouses
- » Multiple participants liked the single row of townhouses shown in Option 3
 - · Referring to other options with townhouses backing up to one another, one participant said, "I don't want to sit on my deck and look out at a bunch of other people sitting on their decks"

Depot

- » Request for the depot be as small as possible; the community has battled and lost on every front for years
- » Preference to flip the footprint of the depot and the park, i.e., a 4-acre depot and a 20-acre park



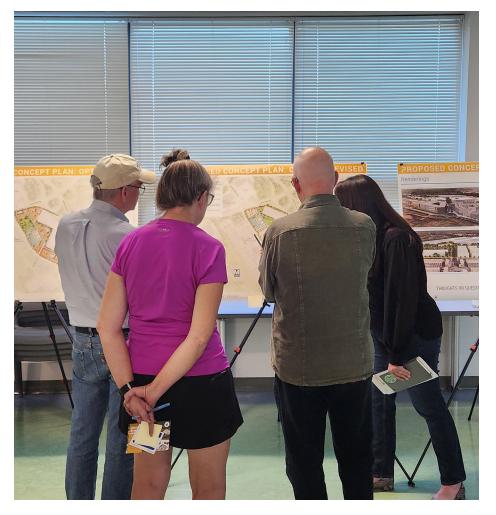


SUMMARY

Community outreach continued after the June workshop. On July 8, 2024. a Pop-Up Engagement Event was held at the Starbucks located near the project site. The focus of this event was to continue to build awareness of the project and to promote the second Jeremiah Park Survey. For the second survey. Community members were asked to provide feedback on the three concept plans presented at the June workshop. The survey was open from July 15, 2024 to August 18, 2024.

On September 9, 2024, a Community Open House was held to share revisions made to the Jeremiah Park concept plan options with the public. The changes made were based off of feedback received at the Community Planning Workshop and Survey 2. The Open House was held at the Montgomery County Division of Highway Services building, near the project site. Community members were invited to visit the Open House at their convenience between 5:00-7:30pm. The structure of this event was informal, with team members stationed at various boards to answer any questions and listen to input. Survey 2 overall results were summarized at the first station. Additionally, each of the three revised concept plans, with coordinating 3D views, were displayed on boards in groups. Each concept plan board station included a comparison of the original concept plan, shared at the Community Planning Workshop in June, and the revised plan, along with summary bullet points highlighting the input received and the primary revisions (see the following pages for more information).

Community members were encouraged to ask questions and provide feedback on all three revised concept plan options.





Join us at the Jeremiah Park Open House as we share concept plan options!



Project leaders are hosting a community open house for the planning of Jeremiah Park. In our previous workshops we gathered input and listened to community members. At the open house community members are invited to view concept plans with updates from community feedback and share thoughts with the project team.

Monday, September 9, 2024 5:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

This is a drop-in event with no formal presentation. Please stop by any time.

Bring the kids! We'll have snacks and an activity to get the kids involved in the vision for their community!



Please register in advance to help the project team plan for attendance

Can't make the meeting?

Visit the project website at JeremiahParkProject.com:

Concept plans will be posted to the website after the community open house

- Learn more about the project's history
- See results from the most recent community survey
- Make your voice heard on the future of Ieremiah Park

Connect with the project team at JeremiahParkProject@prrbiz.com.

Open House location



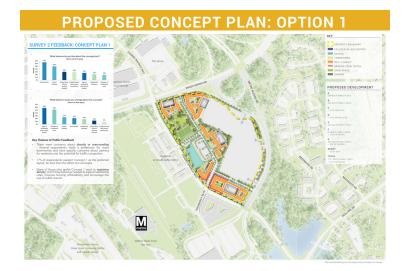
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BOARD FACILITATION SUMMARY



PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN: OPTION 1 REVISED



PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN: OPTION 1 REVISED



REVISED CONCEPT PLAN: OPTION 1

Revisions Made to this Concept:

- » Townhomes are added in Blocks A and D. Multi-Family buildings are removed from Blocks A, B, and E and expanded in Blocks F and G.
- » The bus depot is shifted northwest, closer to Shady Grove Road and farther away from Crabbs Branch Way.
- » The park is reoriented to be a linear buffer between the community and the bus depot.
- » The school is relocated to Block C, improving access by the larger community, while remaining relatively central to the proposed development.
- » Parking counts, both on-street and off-street, are included in Proposed Development.

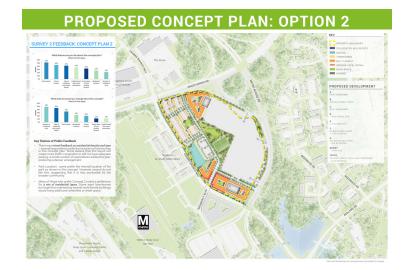
Stakeholder Comments on Revised Concept:

- » Make bus depot footprint as small as possible; build multilevel bus garage.
- » Concern over the sound produced at bus depot.
- » Use low carbon concrete for bus depot structure.
- » Incorporate solar and green roofs on bus depot, school, and residential.
- » Townhomes need access to Metro without going through Westside. Add/enhance sidewalks along Metro Access Road up to Crabbs Branch Way.
- » Crossing Shady Grove Road, from a pedestrian/bike safety standpoint, is a challenge.
- » No natural gas to this new development.
- » What are the plans for the lot reserved for a school that may or may not be built? Can it be maintained or served as an extension of the park?

THOUGHTS OR QUESTIONS? USE YOUR STICKY NOTES TO TELL US MORE.



BOARD FACILITATION SUMMARY, CONT.



PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN: OPTION 2 REVISED



PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN: OPTION 2 REVISED



REVISED CONCEPT PLAN: OPTION 2

Revisions Made to this Concept:

- » 30% of respondents on Survey 2 responded that Block E was their preferred school location, though none of the previous concepts showed that.
- » The locations of the park and school were flipped, with the park now in Block D, closer to Crabbs Branch Way, and the school in Block E, helping to buffer the bus depot and lessen school bus traffic on Crabbs Branch Way.
- » Parking counts, both on-street and off-street, are included in Proposed Development.

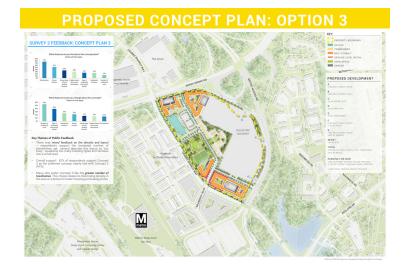
Stakeholder Comments on Revised Concept:

- » Prefer park closer to Crabbs Branch Way.
- » Combine Blocks D & E so that the school and park are on one block and Gramercy Blvd. hugs the consolidated bus depot.
- » School and park placement are good.
- » Reuse school parking lot as a community center with a parking garage.
- » Townhouse option feels counter to the density ideally allowed by this project; suggest replacing Blocks A & C with multi-family.

THOUGHTS OR QUESTIONS? USE YOUR STICKY NOTES TO TELL US MORE..



BOARD FACILITATION SUMMARY, CONT.



PROPOSED CONCEPT PLAN: OPTION 3 REVISED



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REVISED CONCEPT PLAN: OPTION 3

Revisions Made to this Concept:

- » None; this concept plan layout was preferred in the Survey overall, nearly tied with Concept 1.
- » Respondents like the park location in Concept 3 more than any other element in all three concepts, preferring the location of the park on Crabbs Branch Way closest to Gramercy Boulevard.
- » 52% like the school location in Concept 3.
- » Additionally, a mix of townhomes and multi-family was generally preferred over all multi-family options.
- » Parking counts, both on-street and off-street, are included in Proposed Development.

Stakeholder Comments on Revised Concept:

- » Make the bus depot multi-level to reduce its area.
- » Allow multi-level parking on bus depot for neighborhood.
- » Incorporate a living roof on bus depot.
- Use the roof of the bus depot: Park? Green roof?
- » Work with WMATA to reuse garage closest to Gramercy Blvd. for Block G parking.
- » Have underground parking for school and park.
- » School must have a playground.
- » Add a street between Blocks A & C with a right turn in and right turn out.
- » Label bike ramp under Crabbs Branch to Metro.
- » Include/enhance pedestrian crossing at apartment building [at Gramercy Blvd.] across Crabbs Branch Way.
- » Provide pedestrian crossing at bus depot [across Metro Access Road] to Needwood.

THOUGHTS OR QUESTIONS? USE YOUR STICKY NOTES TO TELL US MORE.

