

THE MASTER PLAN PROCESS

STAFF DRAFT PLAN – This document is prepared by the Montgomery County Department of Park and Planning for presentation to the Montgomery County Planning Board. The Planning Board reviews the Staff Draft Plan, makes preliminary changes as appropriate, and approves the Plan for public hearing. When the Board's changes are made, the document becomes the Public Hearing (Preliminary) Draft Plan.

PUBLIC HEARING (PRELIMINARY) DRAFT PLAN – This document is a formal proposal to amend an adopted master plan or sector plan. Its recommendations are not necessarily those of the Planning Board; it is prepared for the purpose of receiving public hearing testimony. The Planning Board holds a public hearing and receives testimony on the Draft Plan. After the public hearing record is closed, the Planning Board holds public work sessions to review the testimony and to revise the Public Hearing (Preliminary) Draft Plan as appropriate. When the Board's changes are made, the document becomes the Planning Board (Final) Draft Plan.

PLANNING BOARD (FINAL) DRAFT PLAN – This document is the Planning Board's recommended Plan and it reflects the revisions made by the Board in its work sessions on the Public Hearing (Preliminary) Draft Plan. The Regional District Act requires the Planning Board to transmit the Plan directly to the County Council with copies to the County Executive. The Regional District Act then requires the County Executive, within sixty days, to prepare and transmit a fiscal impact analysis of the Planning Board (Final) Draft Plan to the County Council. The County Executive may also forward to the Council other comments and recommendations regarding the Planning Board (Final) Draft Plan within the sixty-day period. After receiving the Executive's fiscal impact analysis and comments, the County Council may hold a public hearing to receive public testimony on the Plan. After the record of this public hearing is closed, the Council's Planning, Housing, and Economic Development (PHED) Committee holds public work sessions to review the testimony and then makes recommendations to the County Council. The Council holds its own work sessions, then adopts a resolution approving the Planning Board (Final) Draft Plan, as revised.

ADOPTED PLAN – The Master Plan approved by the County Council is forwarded to The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission for adoption. Once adopted by the Commission, the Plan officially amends the various master or sector plans cited in the Commission's adoption resolution.

THE MASTER PLAN PROCESS IN BRIEF

Planning Board submits and
County Council approves:
Annual Work Program

Park and Planning staff initiates
community participation
and prepares:
Issues Report

Park and Planning staff reviews
Issues Report with Planning Board
and then prepares:
Staff Draft Plan

Planning Board reviews Staff Draft
and, with modifications as neces-
sary, approves plan as suitable
for public hearing.
**Public Hearing (Preliminary)
Draft Plan**

Planning Board reviews public
hearing testimony, receives County
Executive comments at Board
work sessions, and adjusts Public
Hearing Draft to become:
Planning Board (Final) Draft Plan

County Executive reviews Plan-
ning Board Draft and forwards
fiscal impact analysis and
comments to County Council.

**Planning Board (Final) Draft
Plan Transmitted to
County Council**

County Council holds public
hearing and work sessions and
approves, disapproves, or amends
Planning Board Draft, which is for-
warded to M-NCPPC to become:
**Approved and Adopted
Master Plan**