

# City of Rockville Report – Rockville Economic Development, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting September 25, 2025

### September 8, 2025 Mayor and Council Meeting

### **Vision Zero Progress Update**

The Mayor and Council received an update on the implementation of the City's Vision Zero Action Plan from the period of January 1 through June 30, 2025, as well as progress updates on the Pedestrian Master Plan and the Bikeway Master Plan. The City's Vision Zero Action Plan's goals are focused on eliminating all serious injuries and fatal crashes by 2030. The Plan is organized into four categories: engineering, education, enforcement, and policy. City staff continue to advance ongoing action items such as evaluating, designing, and constructing sidewalks, assessing and improving intersections, and building out the City's bicycle network. Additionally, staff continue to engage with the community and participate in public events, organize and schedule infrastructure improvements, identify new projects, and coordinate with other agencies. For additional details on the progress updates, please see the attached link.https://rockvillemd.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=7643069&GUID=AD5162B7-1338-43AE-973C-

link.https://rockvillemd.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=7643069&GUID=AD5162B7-1338-43AE-973C-537401E04A90&Options=&Search=

### Accept Consultant's Final Report on the Election Code Update

The Mayor and Council accepted the final report from the consultant on the City Code Election Update. The Mayor and Council held a series of work sessions on city election reform with the election consultant and provided feedback and guidance on various topics, including topical areas that were pertinent as the consultant worked to finalize their report and recommendations. The consultant made recommendations in the following categories:

- Election Laws
- Election Process and Procedures
- Campaign Finance
- Board of Supervisors of Elections
- Ballot Measures

The next phase is the rewrite of the City Election Code to update and implement election reforms. For additional details, please see the staff report at the attached link.

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### September 15, 2025, Mayor and Council Meeting

## Consideration of Approval of an Amendment to an Approved Project Plan for 198 E. Montgomery Avenue to Permit Conversion of Previously Approved Street-Level Retail into 13 Residential Units

Before considering this matter, the Mayor and Council held a public hearing. The Mayor and Council adopted a a resolution to amend the Planned Development and approve the Project Plan application. The approval enables the applicant (Comstock 33 Monroe, LLC) to convert 13,011 square feet of existing vacant street-level commercial space into 13 residential dwelling units, known as the BLVD Lofts. The dwelling units will be designed as two-level lofts and will include (1) 1-bedroom unit, (11) 2-bedroom units, and (1) 3-bedroom units. Most of the proposed dwelling units will be located along East Middle Lane, with several others located on Helen Heneghan Way and Monroe Street. The applicant is required to submit a site plan implementing Project Plan Application PJT-2025-0020 by September 15, 2026, for consideration and approval by the Planning Commission.

### 2026 State Legislative Priorities (Including Legislative Bond Initiatives) - Worksession

The Mayor and Council held its annual work session to identify and select priorities for its comprehensive State legislative priorities program for the upcoming General Assembly Session. The 448<sup>th</sup> Maryland General Assembly Session in Annapolis will begin on January 14 and end on April 13, 2026. Staff provided the Mayor and Council with a presentation of the proposed priorities. The Mayor and Council provided broad direction on several priorities, including modernizing municipal revenue structures, advocating in support of the City's Vision Zero and Pedestrian Master Plan efforts, advocating for legislation supporting climate action goals, legislation strengthening tenant protections, and options for capital improvement projects in which the City could seek legislative bond initiative funding from the State. Staff will return on October 6 with a resolution that includes all of the direction provided by the body for adoption. For additional details on the priorities, please see the link to the staff report and presentation at

https://rockvillemd.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=7649800&GUID=AA89691A-2503-4FC3-ADEE-E0B933B818DF&Options=&Search=

### **Economic Development Worksession**

The Mayor and Council held a discussion on Economic Development in the City of Rockville. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Mayor and Council directed the City Manager (and City Attorney, as appropriate) to create a comprehensive Rockville Economic Development Plan in conjunction with REDI to be presented to the body in approximately one year. Additionally, the Mayor and Council directed the creation of a City of Rockville Economic Development Strategic Plan, including processes for communication and collaboration between REDI, City departments, and the Mayor and Council

#### **Upcoming Mayor and Council Meeting:**

### October 6, 2025 Mayor and Council Meeting

- Historic District Commission Annual Report Special Presentation
- Public Safety Worksession