



**City of Rockville Report – Rockville Economic Development, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
January 22, 2026**

December 15, 2025 Mayor and Council Meeting

Introduction of an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 5 of the Rockville City Code Entitled “Buildings and Building Regulations,” Article XIV (Green Building Code Regulations)

The Mayor and Council introduced the ordinance. The 2024 updates to Chapter 5 included several amendments to the City’s *Energy Conservation Code*, which are substantially more progressive than the base text of the International Green Building Code (IgCC) and the National Green Building Standard (NGBS), and will continue to make Rockville a regional leader in this area. The item will be on the February 2 agenda for adoption.

The following is a summary of the significant changes that were recommended:

Article XIV

Key Updates/Recommendations:

- Relocation of scoping requirements
- Relocation of definitions
- Requirement to obtain third-party certification

International Green Construction Code (IgCC)

Key Updates/Recommendations:

- Deletion of majority of Chapter 5 (Site Conditions), addressed elsewhere in City Code
- Providing flexibility to use off-site renewable energy to meet requirements for on-site renewable energy, with documentation
- Incorporating EV-Charging Infrastructure requirements above the amount established in amendments to the Energy Conservation Code

Authorization to Support an Application for the FY24-25 Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Rail Passenger Rail Program Grant at the Rockville Metro Station

The Mayor and Council authorized staff to apply for the grant. The City of Rockville Department of Public Works is collaborating with the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) to prepare a grant application for the FY 24-25 Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Rail Passenger Rail Program Grant.

The city's project is to evaluate and prepare a preliminary design for an enhanced pedestrian bridge linking the Rockville Town Center and the Amtrak/MARC and WMATA rail platforms at Rockville Station, as well as evaluate and prepare a concept plan for a train hall to serve rail passengers. This project is one component of a larger MTA project to increase accessibility to the Rockville Station and to improve passenger rail service along the Brunswick Line. The application is due in February 2026, and the awards are expected to be announced in the summer.

Approval of a Resolution to Designate the Rockville Metro Station and the Surrounding Area as a Maryland Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Site - Action Item – CPDS

The Mayor and Council directed staff to apply for the State's TOD (Transit-Oriented Development) designation for Rockville Metro Station and surrounding area as an economic development initiative that makes Rockville an attractive place for investment. The main benefit for the designation is access to the State's Capital Grant and Revolving Loan Fund, that provides financial assistance to local jurisdictions and development partners to promote development at State-designated TOD sites. The fund provides local jurisdictions with funding for either design planning (up to \$250,000) or construction of public infrastructure improvements at an eligible TOD site (up to \$1M). The program requires a 10% local match. It also allows developers to apply for up to a \$1M loan for gap funding of development projects at TOD sites. The State is currently reviewing the city's application. The approval process typically takes approximately 3 months. Once designated, the TOD designation is valid for another 10 years by applying for a renewal.

January 5, 2026 Mayor and Council Meeting

The Mayor and Council held a budget priorities discussion on January 5, 2026. Staff shared community feedback received to date and emphasized the importance of community input in shaping budget priorities and aligning with Mayor and Council goals. The Mayor and Council discussed a number of their key initiatives, which were reviewed and refined during their September Retreat, and discussed how their Guiding Principles are used internally as budget proposals are evaluated. The FY 2027 Proposed Budget will be introduced at the March 9, 2026 Mayor and Council meeting.

January 12, 2026 Mayor and Council Meeting

Adoption of Ordinance to Amend Chapter 10.5 of the Rockville City Code

The proposed amendments to Chapter 10.5 of the City Code, The Forest and Tree Preservation Ordinance, were adopted with a minor amendment by Mayor and Council on 1/12/2026. The amendment was to ensure that the Mayor and Council are alerted of amendments to the City's Forest Conservation Manual. The adopted ordinance goes into effect immediately. Staff are preparing various means of notifying the community, developers, and applicants. For additional information, please see the staff report at the following link.

<https://rockvillemd.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=7792488&GUID=1064FE74-FF07-45F18959-F87358AEA767&Options=&Search=>

Upcoming Mayor and Council Meeting

February 2, 2026 Meeting:

- Introduction of a Resolution to Annex the Property at 1000 Westmore Avenue (WINX Property)
- Adoption of the Ordinance to Amend the Green Building Regulations
- Briefing and Endorsement of the DMW Moves Plan

