



**NEW MARK COMMONS  
HOMES ASSOCIATION, INC.**

C/O ABARIS REALTY INC.  
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Mayor and Council  
City of Rockville  
111 Maryland Avenue

September 1, 2022

Dear Mayor and Council,

On August 4, the New Mark Commons Board had Manish Tewari, Research Manager, Community Planning and Development Services, attend our meeting. At this time New Mark Commons was requested to provide the City with feedback on the identified implementation actions within the 2040 Comprehensive Plan for Rockville.

The New Mark Commons Board is submitting the following statement of priorities for our community within the Comprehensive Plan.

1. Although understood to be complicated by the I-270 proposed and evolving expansion plans, the NMC Board remains very concerned about the safety aspects of the I-270 and Falls Road. Hence our top priority goes to advocate the MDOT SHA to study potential improvements at the I-270 interchange with Falls Road (MD-189 ) that increase safety, visibility, and mobility for all modes, such as improved visibility at off ramps, safer lane movements, and bicycle and pedestrian safety enhancements. NOTE: At the meeting on the Maryland Avenue changes, the City expressed great frustration with this situation as it is controlled by the State Highway Administration and the City has no success in repetitive appeals to the State for improvements.
2. Improved lighting in, and explore potential maintenance and upgrades to the bicycle and pedestrian tunnel under Maryland Avenue that connects the New Mark Commons neighborhood with Monument Park.
3. Retain the City right-of-way for the existing bicycle and pedestrian connection between the New Mark Esplanade and Monroe Street (Dogwood Park).
4. Explore the demand for additional equipment, shelters, and facilities at Elwood Smith Park and additional programming and related improvements and/or expansion of Elwood Smith Community Center, as part of any related CIP project to strengthen and expand their programming and services
5. Focus on improving factors that enhance quality of life.

Sincerely,

New Mark Commons Board of Directors  
Kathleen Moran, NMC President  
Alex Belida, NMC Vice President  
Karin Boychyn, Treasurer  
Joeseeph Jordan, Secretary  
Lisa Halvorson, Member at Large  
Tim Petros, Member at Large  
Samuel Scheib, Member at Large