



# Montgomery County Planning & GIS Services 2013 Annual Report

## **2014 Commission & Boards**

### **Planning Commission**

**Chair:**

Bryan Rice

**Vice-Chair:**

Frank Lau

**Secretary:**

Cynthia Wells Disney

**Members:**

Coy Allen

Joel Donahue

Sonia Hirt

Bryan Katz

Scott Kroll

Vacant

Chris Tuck (BOS Liaison)

### **Board of Zoning Appeals**

**Chair:**

Richard M. DiSalvo, Jr.

**Vice-Chair:**

Michael V. Reilly

**Members:**

William Stephen Howard

C.P. "Chuck" Shorter

David Moore

### **AFD Advisory Committee**

**Chair:**

Britt A. Boucher

**Members:**

John Garrett

Thomas A. Loflin

William McElfresh

Gregory W. Miller

Robert K. Miller

Richard J. Obiso, Jr.

Robert J. Styne

Joel Donahue

(PC Rep.)

Chris Tuck

(BOS Rep.)

## **2013 Planning & GIS Services Major Projects**

**Comprehensive Plan Amendments:** There were two (2) comprehensive plan future land use map updates. The former Elliston-Lafayette Elementary School site and former Prices Fork Elementary School site were previously designated as Planned Light Industrial and Civic, respectively, in the comprehensive plan. Both properties were amended to the Mixed Use designation in their respective village plan. The designation change of the site in Elliston also prompted an amendment to several adjoining properties, which were also changed to mixed use.

The Transportation Resources chapter of the Comprehensive Plan was updated in 2013 and sent to VDOT for review on December 31<sup>st</sup>. The chapter was updated to meet requirements of the Code of Virginia, §15.2-2223. Changes included an updated inventory of transportation resources, a more thorough and up to date assessment of transportation needs, and a list of transportation improvements, including projects in VDOT's Six Year Improvement Program, the MPO's fiscally-constrained plan, and the County's six year improvement plan for secondary road projects. After receiving comments from VDOT, a modified draft will be reviewed by the Planning Commission, and a subsequent public hearing will be held prior to approval of the chapter in 2014.

**Zoning Ordinance Amendments:** Several sections of the zoning ordinance were reviewed and revised this year. Major changes included: Residential Chicken Keeping (Sections 10-41 (19) and 10-61); Amateur Radio Tower (Sections 10-21 through 10-36, 10-41, and 10-61); Park and Ride Lot (10-21 through 10-36, 10-41, and 10-61); and Telecommunication Tower, Attached (Section 10-61).

Other minor amendments included: Section 10-22 (Conservation District); Section 10-41(2A) (Temporary Family Healthcare Structures); Section 10-43 (Landscaping and Buffering); Section 10-51 (Board of Zoning Appeals); Section 10-54 (Special Development Approvals); and Section 10-55 (Procedures before the Board of Zoning Appeals).

**NRVPDC Project Collaboration:** Montgomery County Planning staff collaborated with the New River Valley Planning District Commission to submit Safe Routes To School Grant Applications for the Auburn School Strand and Belview Elementary School. The state awarded a total of \$500,000 in grant money for projects at both schools. Staff will begin work with the NRVPDC to implement the grant projects in 2014. Staff has been participating in work groups for the Livability Initiative since 2011 and will continue their participation in 2014.

**Agricultural and Forestal Districts:** The Agricultural and Forestal Committee met in August 2013 to review the renewal of AFD 7 (Wilson Creek/Den Creek), 9 (Elliston/Peddler Hills), and 10 (Mount Tabor Road). The Board of Supervisors approved the renewal of the districts 7 and 9 on November 13, 2013. The Board further approved the combination of AFD districts 2 and 10, and renewed properties within AFD 10 for a period of 6 years to coincide with the AFD 2 renewal date. AFD Districts 7 and 9 will remain in effect until December 31, 2021. In 2014 the AFD Committee will review the renewal of AFD-14 (Fishers View).

In addition to major projects that staff work on throughout the year, Planning & GIS staff have diligently been working on everyday activities. A total of 355 predevelopment letters were processed and 273 of those were approved as zoning permits. Tables included below outline other activities of the department.

Rezoning Requests				
Case Number	Property Owner	Request	Acres	Outcome
RZ-2013-10713	Curtis W. Goad & Connie J. Hale	Rezone A-1 to GB for a full service restaurant	0.418	Approved
RZ-2013-11095	Cary Hopper	Rezone A-1 to RM-1 for triplex and duplex	1.606	Approved with proffers
RZ-2013-11194	SHAH Development, LLC	Rezone A-1 to RM-1 for townhomes	8.01	Approved with proffers

Special Use Permit Requests			
Case Number	Property Owner	Request	Outcome
SU-2013-10561	Douglas W. Sink	Antique/specialty shop	Approved with conditions
SU-2013-10962	Anthony R. Graves	Expansion of deer meat processing operation	Approved with conditions
*SU-2013-11089	Julie Kay Snyder	Accessory structure in excess of 1200 sq. ft./ 18 ft. in height	Approved with conditions

\*Denotes cases heard by Board of Zoning Appeals

Subdivision Type	No. Received	No. Approved	Pending	Withdrawn
Major	2	0	2	0
Minor	18	14	4	0
Boundary Line Adjustment	52	43	9	0
Family	7	4	3	0

**Board of Zoning Appeals**

The Board of Zoning Appeals heard no cases this year other than the Special Use Permit application(s) indicated above.

**LAND DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (LDO)**

- ◆ Provided LDO Administration (creating user logins, table entry options, change requests for application customization, etc.).
- ◆ Helped design and implement the Field Data Application for Code Enforcement/Compliance and Building Permitting and Inspections.
- ◆ Worked to extend LDO to the Web to create a citizen access portal.
- ◆ Assisted Planning and Zoning staff in reviewing, organizing, and scanning legacy rezoning and special permits for entry or correction in LDO. Further extended benefits and training of LDO end users for county departments, constitutional offices and where possible, to the general public.
- ◆ Began investigation to implement a cross platform (Apple, Android, & Windows) LDO application for use with personal computers, tablets, and smart phones for rezoning and special use permits.

**NRV REGIONAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY**

- ◆ Provided regional radio communications support for public safety/fire and rescue radio system project for countywide radio propagation study and needs assessment, 18 GHz microwave backup link move and realignment. Also provided communication and GIS logistical implementation support for new Blacksburg-VT UHF radio system and associated frequency coordination and FCC licensing.
- ◆ Administration and project management of VITA Wireless Board PSAP 2013-14 Grant for GIS data merging and near real time updates with our towns and Virginia Tech for the Authority's benefit.

**GIS AND MAPPING SERVICES**

- ◆ Worked with county departments and constitutional offices to deploy, enhance, train and use the updated Pictometry aerial imagery in office as well as field situations including public safety and fire/rescue vehicles.
- ◆ Converted selected mobile home park lot numbers to E911 addressing and assisted in private street naming.
- ◆ Worked with libraries to create and publicize family cemetery information.
- ◆ Prepared RFP and replaced iGIS web portal with a cloud based, cross platform (Apple, Android, & Windows) application for use with personal computers, tablets, and smart phones. Added LDO status functionality for Planning & Zoning and Building Inspections.
- ◆ Prepared mapping and detailed soil acreages for additional parcels for Commissioner of the Revenue's Land Use Value Assessment Program.
- ◆ Assisted Montgomery County Public Schools Transportation and Facilities with GIS mapping, aerial imagery and data needs.
- ◆ Assisted Metropolitan Planning Organization and Technical Advisory Committee with boundary re-delineations based on 2010 Census.
- ◆ RAAP Well Study for Health Dept.
- ◆ Prepared GIS data and maps for Agri-business.
- ◆ Prepared GIS data and maps for New AVA-Blue Ridge Highlands AVA (Viticulture).
- ◆ Performed GIS analysis for Emergency Services – North Fork Road – Intermodal closure.
- ◆ Prepared maps for Hokie Half Marathon Route (US Track & Field).
- ◆ Prepared maps for Military Fun Run.
- ◆ Provided staff support to County Administration and Economic Development with property acquisitions and other projects.
- ◆ Provided citizens, taxpayers, realtors, appraisers, and interested parties GIS data, maps, and E911 site addresses.
- ◆ Continue to market/leverage the County's investment in LIDAR, orthophoto and GIS data in order to maximize cost recovery, effectiveness and efficiency to the benefit of the taxpayers.
- ◆ Created and assigned E911 addresses and public road names.
- ◆ Provided support for Voter Registrar – Precinct boundary and polling places.
- ◆ Continue cemetery inventory for land development and subdivision requirements.
- ◆ Updated billboards and signs inventory for inclusion into LDO and GIS.
- ◆ Assisted in cellular tower site plan review, viewshed mapping and telecommunication structures/provider database updates.
- ◆ Provided GIS and mapping support for the Sheriff's Office for monthly crime incidents, special events, task force, and Public Safety Answering Point dispatch GIS data updates.
- ◆ Continued to review/enter elevation certificates, LOMR's, LOMA's into GIS database and mapping layers.
- ◆ Modified agricultural & forestal district GIS layers.
- ◆ Prepared supporting maps and modified GIS layers for revenue sharing and rural addition program.
- ◆ Provided local GIS support for Virginia Game and Inland Fisheries Officers & US Marshals Office.
- ◆ Participated in Virginia Geographic Information Network (VGIN) LiDAR and parcel mapping committees.

CHECK OUT OUR NEW



[www.montgomerycountyva.gov/igis](http://www.montgomerycountyva.gov/igis)

# 2013 Annual Report

**Ongoing Training:** Joel Donahue, Mike Reilly, and Bob Miller attended the PlanVirginia Planning and Zoning Legal Seminar. Steven Sandy attended the Rural Planning Caucus Conference. Bryan Katz and Coy Allen successfully completed the CPEAV Planning Commissioner Training Program. Bob Miller, Bryan Rice, Joel Donahue, Cindy Disney, Brea Hopkins, Dari Jenkins, and Steven Sandy attended the annual Planning Commissioners' Dinner. Brea Hopkins and Dari Jenkins attended the VAZO Fall Conference where Brea successfully fulfilled the requirements to become a Certified Zoning Administrator. Brea Hopkins and Erin Puckett attended the APA Virginia Conference.

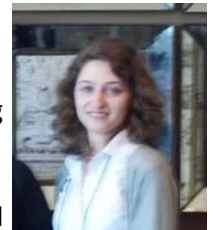


Steven, Katrenna and Phillip Sandy  
[thesandysinuganda.blogspot.com](http://thesandysinuganda.blogspot.com)

## PLANNING & GIS SERVICES STAFF UPDATES

2014 will bring about change for the Planning & GIS Department. After nearly 20 years in local government and the land use planning profession, Steven Sandy has left his position as Director of Planning & GIS Services to move to Uganda, Africa in January 2014. He and his wife joined a newly formed non-profit agency called Life Center Ministries – Africa to work full-time as missionaries (supported by the monthly and one-time donations of friends and family) and change the lives of the people in east Africa. Their plans are to provide improved healthcare as well as nutrition, agriculture and biblical training programs. Steve stated “We see this partnership as a “once in a lifetime opportunity” and we are very excited to have this opportunity at this point in our lives. “ Staff wishes him the best on his new adventure. If you would like additional information on Steve’s efforts in Uganda you may contact him at: [smsandy@gmail.com](mailto:smsandy@gmail.com) .

We may be saying goodbye to one staff member, but in May 2013 we welcomed Erin Puckett to the department. Erin became employed as the Sr. Program Assistant and has been enthusiastically learning all she can. She received her Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree from Virginia Tech in 2013. While there, she worked as a Graduate Assistant for two professors in the Urban Affairs and Planning Department, contributing to research in transportation planning and disaster recovery. Prior to coming to Southwest Virginia, she spent several years in Orange County, NY, working for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Newburgh, first through the AmeriCorps VISTA program and later as the ReStore Assistant Manager. She received her Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Science and Environmental Thought and Practice from the University of Virginia in 2007.



## PLANNING & GIS SERVICES STAFF

Position to be filled  
Planning Director  
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