

# **ECA Newsletter**

**February 2018**

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## 2018 ECA Membership Renewals

Look for the annual ECA Membership Renewal letter in your mailbox over the next few weeks. We hope you'll continue to be an active member of our community and a supporter of the ECA. Membership dues will remain at only \$25/year, and they go to support a variety of ECA activities and events, as well as production of the ECA Neighborhood Directory (both paper and digital forms). When you get the renewal letter, you'll see several major improvements to the process this year, including the ability to renew online with a credit or debit card, PayPal, or Venmo. (Of course, you'll still be able to renew by check if you want.) In conjunction with the annual renewal process, we will also be unveiling an expanded and updated ECA website that will help you with the renewal process, explain how to use the online version of the ECA Neighborhood Directory, help you update your own family's Directory listing, and much more. Stay tuned!

## New Member of the ECA Board of Directors

The ECA Board of Directors has elected Julie Clark as a new member of the ECA Board. She will serve as Assistant Secretary for the remainder of the current Board term (through October 2019). Julie and her husband Nicholas have been Edgemoor residents for many years, and Julie has been an active volunteer in several previous ECA activities. We're excited to have her join us in managing the affairs of the ECA.

## Montgomery County Bicycle Master Plan

As you may know, the Montgomery County Planning Board conducted a public hearing on the draft Bicycle Master Plan on January 25. The Board received testimony from more than 270 people. Over the next couple of months, the Board will be meeting

regularly in work sessions to refine the plan. The first work session was on February 15. All work sessions are open to the public and held at the Planning Department auditorium (8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD). For additional information about the plan, visit the Bicycle Master Plan website: <https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/functional-planning/bicycle-master-plan/>. For Planning Board work session schedules and agendas, visit the Planning Board's website: <http://montgomeryplanningboard.org/agendas/>.

### Bethesda Metro Plaza Development

As reported in the November ECA Newsletter, Brookfield Properties has begun the submission and approval process for a major development in the plaza above the Bethesda Metro station. Brookfield has now submitted a sketch plan to Montgomery County Planning. You can read a little about the still-evolving plans in this Bethesda Beat article: <http://www.bethesdamagazine.com/Bethesda-Beat/2018/Bethesda-Metro-Center-Developer-Lays-Out-Two-Scenarios-for-Plaza-Project/>. The article includes a link to a copy of the sketch plan, but that link may not work because of the way the Planning website is set up. If not, you can review all the sketch plan documents by starting here:

[http://www.mcatlas.org/Development\\_Info/Default.aspx?apno=320180110](http://www.mcatlas.org/Development_Info/Default.aspx?apno=320180110) and then clicking on the link to "View Plans and Reports." The most informative document is probably the narrative "Statement of Justification" for the Brookfield plan, which I am attaching to this newsletter. The ECA Board will continue to follow this project through the approval process and keep you informed of further developments.

### Help Prevent Thefts from Vehicles

I just heard this morning of two separate incidents of theft from vehicles last night in the neighborhood. Please heed the advice of the Montgomery County Police. "Lock your doors and remove all valuables from your vehicle or secure your personal property out of sight in the glove compartment, console or trunk."

(<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/POL/Resources/Files/PDF/brochures/THEFT%20FROM%20VEHICLE%20FLYER2016.pdf>) If we don't take personal responsibility for doing this, we continue to make our neighborhood attractive to thieves by making it easy work for them. In addition, please report all theft from vehicle incidents to the Police on the 2<sup>nd</sup> District's non-emergency number (301-279-8000).

### Edgemoor Tip of the Day - Montgomery County Paperless Airplane

Everyone knows how much fun paper airplanes are to make and fly. But, did you know about the "Paperless Airplane"? That's the blog of news and information produced by Montgomery County's Office of Public Information. It's a great source of information for all Montgomery County residents about county actions, events,

activities, and schedules. You can visit the blog online at <https://montgomerycmd.blogspot.com/> but you can also get it to fly right into your inbox by signing up for email or SMS on that page.

*The ECA Newsletter is a compilation of information relevant to Edgemoor residents. It is distributed on an occasional basis on the EC-Net email discussion group.*