





DOWNTOWN COLUMBIA PLAN A General Plan Amendment



nning and Zoning

A Community Vision (2007)

-Established a vision and framework for the master planning process A General Plan Amendment (2010)

-Official master plan for Downtown and amendment to Howard County's general plan Redevelopment Monitoring Report (2018)

-First update on progress made towards master plan goals

From Vision to Reality



September 2018

Purpose and Structure

DEVELOPMENT

TRANSPORTATION and TRANSIT

ARTS and CULTURE

ENVIRONMENT and SUSTAINABILITY

HOWARD COUNTY

Development

 Inform the public of the plans, projects, and actions transforming Downtown Columbia

 Record and relate development to date to goals established in the master plan

Downtown-wide and by neighborhood focus

Development: Phasing Development

Minimum threshold.	Maximum threshold.		Goals for pacing
MUST be reached before	Development MUST NOT		development to achieve
proceeding to next phase	exceed before next phase		balance of uses at all times
		•	

Table 1: Downtown Revitalization Phasing Progression								
Use Type	Pha	se 1	Phase II C	umulative	Phase III C	umulative	Phase IV Completion	Overall
	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Uр То	Max
Retail (SF)	300,000	676,446	429,270	1,100,000	558,540	1,250,000	691,460	1,250,000
Office/Conference (SF)*	1,000,000	1,531,991	1,868,956	2,756,375	2,737,912	4,300,000	1,562,088	4,300,000
Hotel Rooms**	100	640	200	540	300	640	340	640
Residential Units**	656	2,296	1,442	4,700	2,228	5,500	4,016	6,244

Table 2: Building Permits Issued Through August 2018						
Use Type	Issued	Plan Total	Percent of Plan			
Retail (SF)	181,116	1,250,000	14%			
Office/ Conference (SF)*	660,966	4,300,000	15%			
Hotel Rooms**	0	640	0%			
Residential Units**	1,199	6,244	19%			



Development: Neighborhoods

A more cohesive community with distinctive identities



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The Neighborhoods of Downtown Columbia







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Development: The Mall

The place where the community gathers to shop, eat, and be entertained

Table 3: The Mall; Building Permits Issued through August 2018					
Project	Use Type	Square Feet	Building Permit Issue Date		
Mall	Retail/Restaurant	73,924	April 2012		
Expansion	Demolished	36,349	April 2013		
Net Total	Net Retail/Restaurant	37,575			













Development: Warfield A traditional mixed-

use neighborhood for families



Table 4: Warfield; Building Permits Issued through August 2018

Project	Use Type	Units	Square Feet	Building Permit Issue Date	
The	Retail/Restaurant		13,764	March 2014	
Metropolitan	Residential	ial 380 M		Warch 2014	
TEN.M and	Retail/Restaurant		24,678	March 2016	
m.flats	Residential	437		Warch 2010	
Total	Retail/Restaurant		38,442		
Iotai	Residential	817			



Table 5: Merriweather Post Pavilion Renovation through August 2018				
Project	Use Type	Square Feet	Building Permit Issue Date	
	Box Office	1,293		
	Concessions	2,773	March 201E	
New Construction	Bathrooms and Utilities	2,585	March 2015	
New Construction	Concessions	5,700		
	Stage House and Supports	13,927	December 2015	
	Backstage/Offices	24,380	April 2016	
Total Constructed		50,658		ΥΜΡΗΟΝΥ ΟΙ
	Concession	9,033	Little Patuxent Pkwy	
	Retail	1,131	L'ittle Patou	
	Restrooms	1,436	8	A The start of
Demolition	Box Office	642	FT 8 88	and the state
	Storage	864	0 9 8 B 8 9 9	MERRI AT SY
	Office	1,957	Fe -	AN A Margaret
	Stage Support	264	9	
Total Demolished		15,327		11 6 2 1
Net Total		35,331	11 1 - Mar 1/ Ani	





Development: Merriweather/ Symphony Woods

A strengthened tradition in a new kind of cultural park

Development:

The Crescent

A place where new urban settings face an extensive wooded park

Table 6: The Crescent; Building Permits Issued through August 2018						
Project	Use Type	Units	Square Feet	Building Permit Issue Date		
One Merriweather	Retail/Restaurant		9,316	February 2016		
One Wernweather	Office	207,907	February 2010			
Ture Manufacture them	Retail/Restaurant		15,456	October 2016		
Two Merriweather	Office		114,129	October 2016		
	Retail/Restaurant		80,327	August 2010		
Area 3 Phase 1	Office		338,930	August 2018		
	Residential	382		July 2018		
	Retail/Restaurant		105,099			
Total	Office		660,966			
	Residential	382				





MERRIWEATHER/ LAKEFRONT SYMHPONY WOODS (Pearson Learning) Toby (Downtown Cultural Center) 29 erriweather or Hickory #=Area ID (Areas 5 and 6 comprised of remaining open space within The Crescent)

Development: Lakefront and Lakefront Core

Bringing community life and activity back to the water's edge





Project	Use Type	Units	Square Feet	FDP Status
	Restaurant/Retail		72,400	
	Office		242,000	
	Residential	509		
Lakefront Core Neighborhood Phase I	Demolished Restaurant/Retail		18,156	Approved by
	Demolished Office		128,598	Planning Board on April 19, 2018
	Net New Restaurant/Retail		54,244	
	Net New Office		113,402	
	Net New Residential	509		



HOWARD COUNTY

Development: Symphony Overlook Where the new downtown meets culture in the park









Development: Affordable Housing



Columbia Downtown Housing Corporation (CDHC)

- Oversees implementation of affordable housing programs by developers
- Development Rights and Responsibilities Agreement (DRRA)
 - Official document between Howard County and the master developer (Howard Hughes)
 - Establishes clear goals and mechanisms for providing affordable housing in downtown
 - 2016 amendment to master plan

Plan Goal: 900 Affordable Housing Units

- 200 Very Low Income
- 200 Middle Income
- 417 Low Income in LIHTC projects
- 83 Live Where You Work
- Crescent Area 3 Phase 1
 1st affordable housing units





Development: Urban Design & Architecture









Development

What Lies Ahead?

Continued development of the Crescent and Lakefront neighborhoods.

A design and management plan for the Lakefront spearheaded by Columbia Association.

Completion of the New Cultural Center (former Toby's).

Affordable housing units in the Crescent neighborhood as part of new rental apartment buildings and at the New Cultural Arts Center.

Revised regulations to simplify and consolidate the review and approval process for development in Downtown Columbia.



Transportation and Transit

Roads

- Intersection Improvements
- Interchange Improvements
- Road Design and Complete Streets
- Motor Vehicle Traffic

- Parking
- Walking
- Biking
- Transit
- Transportation Demand Management

Transportation and Transit: Roads and Parking

- Cordon line study conducted in 2011 and 2017
- New roadways added throughout Warfield and Crescent
- Several intersections improved and roadways expanded
- Five new parking garages constructed and two in planning stages
- Emphasis on parking for Merriweather District
- Over 2,000 new parking spaces added

Table 9: Downtown Columbia Parking Change, 2011 - 2018						
Neighborhood	Spaces in 2011	Spaces in 2018	Notes			
The Mall	1,840	1,771	Loss from LifeStyle Center construction			
Warfield	2,388	3,960	Metropolitan, TEN.M and m.flats			
Merriweather-Symphony Woods	225	254	Merriweather Park			
Crescent	3,847	4,353	One and Two Merriweather			
Lakefront & Lakefront Core	3,811	3,811	No change			
Symphony Overlook	3,997	3,997	No change			
Total	16,108	18,146	Increase of 2,038 spaces			





Transportation and Transit: Walking and Biking

- Several miles of new sidewalk and pedestrian multiuse pathway
 - Lake Kittamaqundi Loop and Merriweather District
- Several new and improved crosswalks
- Pedestrian bridge across Rt. 29
- Bikeshare debut in 2017
 - Seven stations in or near downtown
 - 70 bikes, 30 with electric assist
- 200 public bike parking spaces
- Over 300 indoor bike storage spaces







Transportation and Transit: Transit



- Multi-Agency hub
 - Regional Transportation Agency (RTA)
 - Maryland Transit Administration (MTA)
- New Transit Center
 - 2017 study to relocate
 - Proposed site will be mixeduse, mixed-income
 - Projected for 2025/2026
- Transit Development Plan (TDP)
 - Completed May 2018
- Transportation Demand Management Plan
 - Completed July 2018





Transportation and Transit What Lies Ahead?

Increasing the connectivity of the street network. The emphasis is expected to be the east side of Downtown and the Lakefront core

Fixing gaps in the existing pedestrian network

Completing a shared-use path from Downtown to Stevens Forest Road, under US 29 and Broken Land Parkway

Enhancing local and regional transit service to and from Downtown

A stronger wayfinding program

Establishing a TDM planning, implementation, and monitoring program

Exploring the need for public parking near the Lakefront

Arts & Culture

Organizations focused on art and culture downtown

Key venues for experiencing the arts downtown

More art throughout the community

• A new cultural park and cultural center



Arts & Culture: Organizations



- Downtown Columbia Arts and Culture Commission (DCACC)
 - Established in 2013
 - Goal: responsibility for Merriweather Post Pavilion and influencing arts and culture throughout the area
 - Assumed ownership of Merriweather Post Pavilion from Howard Hughes in 2016



- Howard County Arts Council (HCAC)
 - Established in 1980
 - Goal: Provide guidance and funding for local arts projects and to collaborate in enhancing the prominence of art in Howard County





- Downtown Columbia Partnership
 (DTC Partnership)
 - Established: 2013
 - Goal: Advocate for investment and interest in Downtown and to promote local organizations, businesses, and events



- Columbia Festival of the Arts (CFA)
 - Established in 1980
 - Goal: Provide guidance and funding for local arts projects and to collaborate in enhancing the prominence of art in Howard County



- Merriweather Post Pavilion
 - Constructed in 1967
 - Extensive renovations begun in 2015
 - Host to concerts, artistic performances, and community events
 - Anchor organization to Downtown, Columbia, and central Maryland



- Merriweather Park at Symphony Woods
 - Owned by Columbia Association and donated to the Inner Arbor Trust under perpetual easement
 - Undergoing transformation into immersive cultural park
 - Phase 1: Chrysalis constructed in 2017
 - Performance arts amphitheater
 - Phase 2: Butterfly (planned for near-future)
 - Multi-use space for galleries, cafes, and public amenities



Arts & Culture: Art in the Community

- Revival of Classic Columbian Public Art
 - Iconic village signs
 - Bell Tree refurbishment
- Public Art Contribution from New Development
 - 1% of construction costs for all new development
 - Fund public art on site, pool for larger central projects, fee in lieu
 - Installed:
 - The Metropolitan, Lifestyle Center at the Mall at Columbia, and One Merriweather











HOWARD COUNT

Arts & Culture: The New Cultural Center

DESIGNCOLLECTIVE

- Affordable Housing
 - 190 LIHTC unit project (about 50% affordable)
- Makerspaces
- Galleries
- Performance Stages
- New home to Toby's Dinner Theatre





Arts and Culture

What Lies Ahead?

Ongoing improvements and upgrades at Merriweather Post Pavilion

Butterfly building, restrooms building and pathway at Merriweather Park

Veterans Plaza, memorial at Lakefront

Completion of the following plans: • Downtown-wide Cultural Master Plan • Lakefront Master Plan

Completion of the New Cultural Center

Performance stage in Crescent Area 3

Ongoing planning for the new library site in the south part of Crescent

Review of the Art in the Community Program to ensure continued quality and maintenance of the installations

The Environment and Sustainability

Respect the land and allow the land to impose itself as a discipline on the form of the community

- Restoration of Wetlands and Waterway
- Reforestation of Symphony Woods and Open Space
- Environmental Studies
- LEED Certified Development and Environmentally Sensitive Design
- Stormwater Remediation and Mitigation







Environmental Restoration

- Environmental Studies
- Stream, River, and Shoreline Restoration
 - Lake Kittamaqundi
 - Symphony Stream
 - Little Patuxent River
- Reforestation and Invasive Special Removal
 - Symphony Woods
 - The Crescent
- Lake Kittamaqundi
 - Dredging of sediment by Columbia Association
 - Repair dam and construct forebay
 - Kennedy Gardens

Sustainability





LEED Certification for all new development

- Little Patuxent Square (Gold)
- The Metropolitan (Silver)
- Merriweather Post Pavilion (Certified)
- Two Merriweather (In Progress)
- One Merriweather (Proposed)
- TENm.flats (Proposed)

Stormwater management

- Rain gardens at The Metropolitan
 and One/Two Merriweather
- Permeable surfaces along multi-use pathway, in Symphony Woods, and in Merriweather Post Pavilion
- Extensive stormwater infrastructure
 with new development
- Remediation throughout The Crescent





The Environment and Sustainability What Lies Ahead?

Completion of the ongoing CA Symphony Woods long-term management plan

Ongoing management to mitigate the environmental impacts of development through sensitive and sustainable site design practices, particularly with respect to managing stormwater

Further pursuit of LEED certification for new development

• <u>Downtown Columbia Plan (2010)</u>

• <u>Downtown Columbia Redevelopment</u> <u>Monitoring Report</u> (2018) DOWNTOWN COLUMBIA PLAN A General Plan Amendment

Howard County, Maryland Adopted: February 1, 2010 Amended: November 9, 2010





Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning

September 2018

• <u>From Vision to Reality: Revitalizing</u> <u>Downtown Columbia</u> (2018)





From Vision to Reality: Revitalizing Downtown Columbia



The <u>Downtown Columbia Plan</u> was adopted in 2010. Implementation of this 30-year master plan has been on-going ever since. When the plan is fully realized, there will be over 6,200 new residential units, including 900 affordable units, 4.3 million square feet of roffice space, 1.25 million square feet of roffice space, 640 hotel rooms and convention space, and additional cultural and civic amenities. The plan also calls for an abundance of open space, pathways, and recreational amenities, including the preservation and enhancement of Sym ubury Woeds and