



East Silver Spring Citizens' Association, Inc.

NOVEMBER 2020

Please join us for the next East Silver Spring Citizens' Association (ESSCA) meeting on Monday, November 16th, 2020, from 7:00 – 8:30 PM.

The meeting will be held online. Please register in advance - details provided below.

JOIN ESSCA'S LIST-SERVE: <https://groups.io/g/eastsilverspringcivic>

JOIN ESSCA'S Facebook Group: [East Silver Spring Citizens' Association](#)

VISIT ESSCA'S WEBSITE: www.eastsilverspring.org • EMAIL CONTACT: esscaprez@gmail.com

NOVEMBER ESSCA MEETING: WHAT'S YOUR VISION FOR DOWNTOWN AND EAST SILVER SPRING IN 20 YEARS?

County Planners will be our special guest and will give us an update on the [Downtown Silver Spring and Adjacent Communities Plan](#) and what they've heard from the community so far. There will be time for questions and answers and time to tell the Planners what you like about Downtown and East Silver Spring, what you don't like and what a successful plan looks like. We would especially like to hear from renters in the neighborhood. Can't make the meeting? You can also [take the County's Listening Survey](#) any time.

We'll also make time for announcements and other community updates. We hope you can join us!

Please join us Monday November 16th at 7:00 PM. *To participate in the meeting, [Registration for the Zoom meeting is required in advance.](#)*

FENTON STREET MEETING

On Wednesday, Nov. 18th at 7:00 PM the County DOT will hold a virtual meeting for the Fenton Street Bikeway Study and the Fenton - MD 410 intersection. [Advanced registration is required to attend.](#)

GROVE STREET NEIGHBORHOOD GREENWAY PILOT PROJECT

On September 29th the County Department of Transportation (DOT) conducted a community meeting to report its initial recommendations for traffic calming measures for Grove Street. Plans will include a dedicated walking lane on the west side of the street. Treatments should be in place and the street reopened within the coming weeks. One issue with the walking lane is that it would be considered a sidewalk and snow removal will need to be handled by adjacent property owners. A few meeting attendees reiterated the importance of focusing efforts on walkers and bikers and it was strongly suggested that the County make counts of walkers, bikers and rollers to measure the increase in usage/level of comfort for these travelers and not just focus solely on vehicle speed and volume metrics. Please see the [county-written Neighborhood Greenway primer](#) for more information on the concept as well as more information on some of the measures typically employed to calm vehicular traffic. As a reminder, this is considered a pilot project; the measures to be installed will be done so on a temporary basis to allow for review, assessment and some degree of experimentation to achieve the right blend of safety and convenience for walkers, bikers and vehicles. Additional opportunities for feedback and input will be available in the

future. We look forward to work starting to make Grove Street safer and more welcoming for everyone.

OUR NEIGHBORHOOD HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION

A special thank you to Enza Barbato, Jennifer Kali, Nevets Ztiworoh and Jessica Geubtner Snowden for organizing a very successful socially-distanced Halloween get-together. The evening started at 5:00 with a walk for parents and children at Bullis Park stopping for candy along the way and culminating with a gathering on Grove Street with a food truck and beverages. The organizers did a great job of managing the logistics to keep everyone socially distanced and safe. Thank you for your creativity to organize such a fun evening for local families!

TASTE THE WORLD OF FENTON VILLAGE PART II WE HAVE A WINNER!

Congratulations to Silver Spring resident Frances Caulfield for winning the grand prize: a brand new 49cc, 4-stroke, 2-seater gas scooter. Now in its tenth year, Taste the World is the annual restaurant crawl celebrating the 40 restaurants in Fenton Village. The event usually occurs in May with a restaurant crawl with small tasting plates available for participants. Because of the pandemic this past May's Taste was postponed and reformatted into a take-out

version during the month of October. Participants were eligible for the raffle to win the grand prize after ordering take-out from 4 restaurants during the month. Taste the World is a great way to patronize and celebrate the many small and locally owned businesses. A special thank you to Fenton Village Inc. for organizing this event. You can learn more by visiting www.fentonvillage.org. Frances, we hope you are enjoying your new ride!

ARTSPACE UPDATE

Construction work on the artist studios and apartments is nearing completion and rental applications are now being accepted for live/work units. You can apply by visiting [Artspace Silver Spring Arts Campus | Artspace](#). Artists are encouraged to submit an application even if they do not have all of the documentation required or if they are not sure they qualify. Artspace will work through these issues once they receive an application. Also, some units are reserved for veterans with special pricing. For those interested in commercial studio space, the design and pricing information have been pushed back and will not be available until winter/early spring of 2021. Also included in the complex are 11 for sale townhouses facing Grove Street. Seven of these will be market rate and four will be affordable. While they just started building them last month, they will be going on the market soon. If you are interested in purchasing, please contact Compass Real Estate at 703-822-7400. Compass is working with the County on these sales, so they should have information on the process for purchasing the affordable townhouses.

From Reemberto Rodriguez, Silver Spring Regional Area Director for Montgomery County: If you are interested in what is going on in our broader Silver Spring Regional Area (including Takoma Park) you are invited to subscribe to the Regional Area's eNewsletter from the link at www.MontgomeryCountyMD.gov/SilverSpring/

PURPLE LINE UPDATE

Over the summer the contractor building the Purple Line filed a claim with the State for cost overruns. The parties have been unable to reach a compromise and construction has mostly come to a stand-still, though utility relocation and fabrication of the light rail cars are continuing. We understand the State is looking for another partner to finish the construction and they expect the search and negotiation to take approximately 6 months. In the meantime, the State has approved \$2 million to assist businesses along the route that are affected but those funds have not yet been released. The 16 mile east-west light rail line will connect New Carrollton in Prince George's County and Bethesda in Montgomery County with 21 stops including connections to the Red, Green and Orange Metro lines, as well as MARC, Amtrak and local bus lines. When work resumes it will likely take another 3 years to complete. More information is available at www.purplelinemd.com.

How much is community worth to you?

Your community can be improved with just \$10 per household per year. Seriously that's it! Your \$10 enables ESSCA to print and distribute *The Advocate* newsletter, maintain a website, and host 5 public meetings a year. And don't forget ESSCA Fest, our annual block party with free music and refreshments!

If everyone chips in, we can do even more together! We have an amazing community and if you invest in it; together we can become even more effective!!!

Give to ESSCA in any of these three ways:

1. Give at the ESSCA Meeting
2. Go to the website at <https://eastsilverspring.org> and pay via PayPal
3. Send a check payable to ESSCA to Steve Knight at 808 Violet Place, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Please note that ESSCA is a 501(c)(4) non-profit corporation and that member dues are not tax-deductible. Thank you!

ESSCA Officers:

President: Tim Haverland

Vice President: Vacant

Treasurer: Steve Knight

Recording Secretary: Stevan Lieberman

Corresponding Secretary: Gray Kimbrough

Chair for Planning, Zoning & Public Works Committee: Karen Roper

COVID-19 RESOURCES

Food Assistance - Seniors, call the County's Aging and Disability Services at 240-777-3000 or call 311.

Adventist Community Services - Located at 501 Sligo Ave, our local food pantry is available to provide food assistance to all. They also welcome donations at all times of shelf-stable foods (no glass) with their outside collection bin near the entrance. Ken Flemmer, Director of the food bank, is grateful to the community for cash donations as well. They can be reached at 301-585-6556.

Grocery Shopping, Delivery - Seniors, call Senior Connections MC at 301-962-0820. Non-seniors please call the Silver Spring Rotary at 240-781-6586.

Check-ins - Seniors, call Senior Connections MC at 301-962-0820

Mental Health Services - Need someone to talk to? Call 240-777-4000

Rental Assistance - Call 311 or visit the [County Dept. of Health and Human Services COVID-19 Rent Relief Program Phase 2](#)

Still need help? Call 311 to talk with the Montgomery County Service Center, or call ESSCA President Tim Haverland at 240-429-2506.