

Culture and Entertainment Plan CAC Comments

John Moser comments received on February 27, 2010:

I am not enthused about this presentation.

Basically I consider this to be an inferior study, for \$30 K has done only surface research and evaluation and hope, indirectly that we are going to be impressed by volume alone. Research is minimal analysis/evaluation barely existing. I personally thought the only item of value could be the shareholder interviews, and that is not as effective as it could be if each interview were to list all participants (with their Arts/Humanities associations.)

FLUFF! – Specifically:

11 cities cited NOT representative for comparability with Rockville.
Does not consider economic situation of 2011 and 2012.
What is the impact of A/E District on Rockville tax base?

Inventory:

32 pages of already known info – why are we given info already available? A waste

Shareholder Interviews:

Good info! Blue sky but could be of use, but only when the economy revives
Most important- Identify all members of each group with their cultural association.
Anonymous of opinion are all well and good, but they are biased. A study should not only represent data but also evaluate and analyze.

Heritage Area:

Not relevant – none of the cities are in any way shape or form akin to Rockville.
May be of value, but only if Rockville gets involved in the Maryland Heritage Arts Program.
Is this a recruiting folder for Peggy Erikson and her program? Can we afford it?

Arts and Entertainment District:

A&E Districts are very carefully established in the state.
What is the effect on our \$\$ from the state?
Why are we asking an outside organization to tell us about MD legislation when we could obtain the law, study it and make decisions internally? I know about the legislation since I was in Annapolis when it was passed. It is not necessarily beneficial to the City.
Citing Pittsburgh Cultural District and Tucson Arts District is really poor research and analysis.

Note Pg 11 “reduction in property taxes for a finite period of time-usually 4-10 years”
Can we afford/absorb this tax base reduction?

Teresa Harn comments received by e-mail March 17, 2010

Thank you for your hard work. My comments:

1. When Town Ctr was built, people should take Fong-shui (Wind and Water) in to consideration. The Eastern theory of building. Like water, money like Chi (energy) need open space to pour in. Instead of open ground in front like other Shopping Mall or shopping centers, Town Ctr block the flow of money by high parking garage on 355 and also block the flow from other street with high wall. But the building is built and nothing can do about it. That is why, no matter how hard we try, Town Ctr will not be able to be prosperous.

2. There are several small buildings between Bank of America and Maxim Chinese grocery store on 355. One places are empty with 1 tenant (thrifty shop) only. If the open space can be used as weekend day/evening for vendors to bring their goods for sell on their booths/tents with live music/performance, it is easy to access and people may like to drop in and browse. Vendors pay for their spots/sites and can sell what every they want to sell from foods to merchandise.