



Sacramento Region Visit to Suburban Maryland

April 13, 2018

Rhode Island Avenue Station and Mount Rainier, the Gateway to Maryland

Themes: Urban infill, pedestrian access, redevelopment, affordable housing, suburban style development in the city, and commuter and recreational bike facilities

Background on some of the highlights of this tour stop:

[Neighborhood profile: Mount Rainier, a haven for artists, and now redevelopment](#) This short Washington Post article describes the long-envisioned revitalization of Mount Rainier that is underway, and is focused on the area near the Rhode Island Avenue Metro Line where our tour starts.

[Metropolitan Branch Trail](#) When completed, this bicycle and pedestrian trail will run eight miles from the Silver Spring, Maryland Transit Center to Union Station in the District of Columbia, with several connector trails to other area communities. When completed, the Metropolitan Branch Trail will serve as part of the East Coast Greenway.

[Gateway Arts District](#) The Gateway Arts District is an arts-based economic development initiative of the Gateway Community Development Corporation that targets the revitalization of a two-mile area of U.S. Route One/Rhode Island Avenue in Prince George's County, Maryland, just north of the Washington, D.C. border. Along this corridor, the District spans four communities: Mount Rainier, Brentwood, North Brentwood, and Hyattsville. The District is already home to arts and cultural resources, but live/work housing for artists and new homes for area arts organizations are on the way.

[Click here](#) for highlights of the Gateway Arts District in Mount Rainier.

Speakers

Cheryl Cort, Policy Director, Coalition for Smarter Growth

Cheryl leads CSG's efforts in DC and Maryland. Cheryl is the voice of CSG's equitable development campaigns, which work with community activists, nonprofits, and government agencies to promote transit-oriented development, housing choice, economic development, pedestrian and bicyclist safety, and access in less-affluent communities throughout the region. She routinely demonstrates that it's possible to use the bus system for hard-to-reach meetings in the suburbs (but boy, is there room for service improvement). Prior to her work as Policy Director, Cheryl served as the Executive Director for the Washington Regional Network for Livable Communities (WRN), which merged with the Coalition for Smarter Growth in 2007. Before WRN, Cheryl worked for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. She holds a master's degree in Sustainable Development and Conservation Biology from UMD College Park and a Bachelor of Science from UC Berkeley (go Bears).

[Governor Parris Glendening, President of Leadership Institute and Governor’s Institute of Community Design, Smart Growth America](#)

In his role at Smart Growth America, Governor Glendening travels across the country and around the world advising state and local governments on smart growth, transit, and sustainability policies and practices. Parris Glendening served as Governor of the State of Maryland from 1995-2003 where he created the nation’s first state-level smart growth policy package. Prior to being elected Governor, Glendening served three terms as elected county executive of Prince George’s County, Maryland. He taught political science at the University of Maryland, College Park for 27 years and is the author of two books and over 100 articles and conference papers. Glendening has received numerous awards and recognitions, including the American Society of Landscape Architects’ Olmsted Award and the Harvard Innovations in American Government Award. He most recently was named as an Honorary Member of the American Institute of Architects.

[Hyattsville and Riverdale](#)

Themes: Suburban redevelopment, infill development, arts district, old town, 1880s type housing, transition of US 1, diversity of mixed use, residential, and a concerted effort to preserve existing retail

Background on some of the highlights of this tour stop:

[Hyattsville Gateway Arts District Highlights](#)

[Pyramid Atlantic Arts Center](#) is housed in a re-purposed building along Route 1 in Hyattsville.

[Arts District Hyattsville offers townhouses that are attractive and affordable.](#) This short Washington Post Article describes the EYA Townhouse Development and the arts district where it is situated.

[Trolley Trail: More than a decade in the making.](#) When its near 4-mile extent is completed, the Trolley Trail will connect communities along the Route 1 Corridor to trails leading into the District of Columbia’s bike trail network. These north-south communities include the municipalities of College Park, Riverdale Park, University Park, and Hyattsville. The trail is paved, spans 3.8 miles, and takes about 1 hour 30 minutes to walk from start to finish.

Speakers

[Candace Hollingsworth, Mayor, City of Hyattsville](#)

Mayor Hollingsworth, a native of Memphis, TN, is proud resident of Hyattsville, Maryland, where she was elected to serve as mayor in 2015—the youngest and first African-American to hold the position in the City’s history. Located two miles outside of the District of Columbia, the City of Hyattsville is part of the Prince George’s County Gateway Arts District and is home to a diverse and growing community of families, young professionals, entrepreneurs, artists, public servants, and retirees all working together to make the city a great place to live, work, and play. Candace has a profound commitment to servant leadership that was sparked by the tradition of “non sibi” (not for one’s self) at her alma mater. After moving to Hyattsville in 2009, she quickly sought opportunities to get involved—serving as a tutor and mentor and by

volunteering with local organizations before being first elected to the Hyattsville City Council in 2011. As mayor, Candace dedicates her efforts on creating a more effective, productive, and high-performing government. Under her leadership the city has attracted over \$300M in private investment that will position the city for tremendous growth over the next decade and help realize her vision of building a “world-class city that is a model for excellence by every measure.”

[Jim Chandler, Director of Community & Economic Development, City of Hyattsville](#)

Jim specializes in the management of local urban revitalization, community, and economic development efforts including capital improvement projects and programs with Federal, State and local funding. In 2007, Jim joined the City of Hyattsville as the Community Development Manager directing the City’s grant and capital projects management, development review, developing the City’s 2007 Community Sustainability Plan, and in 2010, implementing and managing the City’s Commercial Facade Improvement program and GIS operations. In 2011 Jim was promoted to Director of Community & Economic Development with additional responsibilities including oversight of Code Compliance and modernization of parking operations. In 2013, Jim was promoted to the dual role of Assistant City Administrator with an expanded role in modernizing the City’s IT infrastructure, and assisting in city-wide operations and long-range facilities planning. Jim has proudly served as a Board Member of the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA), is an active member of the Maryland Economic Development Association and in 2011 earned his Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) certification from the International Economic Development Council.

[Stuart Eisenberg, Executive Director, Hyattsville Community Development Corporation](#)

Stuart has served as the Executive Director of the Hyattsville Community Development Corporation since 2005, developing the arts and public spaces of Hyattsville and the Gateway Arts District while delivering economic development and revitalization throughout the urban edge of Prince George’s County and along the Route One Corridor. Stuart is a former Hyattsville City Council President, where he focused on implementing strategic plans, expanding community planning, and funding infrastructure renewal. Stuart has had the privilege to serve on several nonprofit organization and advisory boards in Prince George’s County. He is immediate past-President of the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area Inc.; former Vice President of the Hyattsville Preservation Association; and is currently a member of the Gateway Arts District Management Team. Other affiliations include service on Community Forklift’s Capital Acquisition Committee, the Prince George’s County Council’s Gas Safety Policy Task Force; and WSSC’s Environmental Advisory Board.

Riverdale

Themes: New development in town center, mixed use products, addressing transportation challenges of distance to transit options

[Riverdale Park Station](#) is a new community that will bring green space, art, shopping, housing, and dining experiences to the community of Riverdale. You can arrive by bus, train, bike or by a [FREE](#) shuttle that provides service to College Park Metro Station and Prince George's Plaza Metro Station. This Patch news article describes more [project details](#).

Speaker

[Dannielle Glaros, Chair, County Council, Prince George's County](#)

Dannielle was formerly Chief of Staff to Eric Olson before being elected a council member to District 3 in 2015. Her efforts include redevelopment of metro stations. She is an advocate for promoting small businesses to create more jobs and increase local retail amenities that are attractive to major employers as well as residents. Dannielle fully supports The Purple Line to reduce traffic and congestion. She served as associate director for Smart Growth America and deputy chief of staff, under Gov. Parris Glendening, for the Governor's Office of Smart Growth, two organizations focused on building stronger, more sustainable communities. She has a Master's Degree from the University of Maryland of Public Policy in environmental policies.

Route 1 and University of Maryland College Park

Themes: preserving housing, public + private partnerships, transit centers, opportunities and challenges of light rail expansion, office park urbanism, developing, state and local government relationships, urban infill, and leveraging university partnerships.

[University of Maryland is bringing upscale hotels, restaurants to College Park.](#) This Washington Post article describes current revitalization occurring around the University campus in College Park, and traces the origins to improved relations between the University and City.

[College Park City-University partnership](#) The College Park Partnership is the nonprofit local development corporation jointly funded by the City of College Park and the University of Maryland. It is working to make College park a top 20 college town by 2020.

The Purple Line - see attached brief history of this suburban light rail transit service.

Speakers

Eric Olson, Executive Director, College Park City-University Partnership

From 2006 to 2014, Eric represented College Park and surrounding communities as a member of the Prince George's County Council, serving two years as County Council Vice Chair (2011 & 2012). As a Council Member, Eric focused on redevelopment, neighborhood quality of life & safety, walkability, and increasing transportation choices. This work and collaboration resulted in more than \$450 million in new redevelopment projects, a new bus service (the "Route 1 Ride"), four new playgrounds, a recreation building, and new bike trails. He authored legislation to incentivize transit-oriented development, increase recycling, ensure complete and green streets and sidewalks, address nuisance abatement, curtail the proliferation of pawn shops and adult entertainment near neighborhoods, increase security at all-night businesses, and address youth and gang violence. Eric has been diligent in helping redevelopment College Park into more than a "college town" and more for adults that live in the nearby areas such as Riverdale.

Patrick Wojhan, Mayor, City of College Park

Mayor Wojhan graduated from law school in 2002 and immediately started working for the D.C. county superior court and then worked in legal services before becoming a public policy analyst for the National Disability Rights Network (NDRN). In May 2014, he started as the director of government relations for Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, where he still works full-time. The D.C.-based nonprofit aims to create a national trails network from unused rail lines, and Wojahn advocates for trails and safe bicycle and pedestrian networks. Patrick has been a resident of College Park for over 12 years. Patrick ran for Mayor in 2015 after serving for 8 years on the City Council in order to help College Park realize its unfulfilled promise of becoming a top-tier college town. He has worked on committees to help strengthen the City's tools and ensure that vacant and abandoned properties are well-maintained to make the City more environmentally sustainable.

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