

I N T R O D U C T I O N

More than 140 people attended the Charrette. After a brief staff presentation on the character of the area and some discussion of the charrette format, the participants gathered into seven groups. Five sat at prepared tables, and two other groups formed to accommodate all participants. Some participants moved among groups. Each group approached its work slightly differently, some listing preferences, others focusing on mapping the potential uses.

The evening's task was to articulate a vision and set of planning principles to guide future redevelopment of the area around the Metro Station. While there were differences in opinion, some common elements emerged:

- Improve the pedestrian environment and access
- Renovate the stormwater management pond to include an environmentally sensitive recreation amenity
- Retain Blueberry Park as a local park; do not use it as a school site
- Extend the Metro Red Line beyond Shady Grove
- Improve the area's sense of community and identity

Five of the seven groups expressed an interest in developing some type of urban village in the Metro Station area. This idea was challenged by two other groups who felt that the Derwood community should be "left alone" with no new development occurring.

Future charrettes and workshops will make a similar effort, focused on other parts of the Shady Grove planning area, including attention to Shady Grove Road and recommendations to preserve and enhance the residential neighborhoods.

Notes from each group follow, given in the order their presentations were made.