

**THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION
MEDIA ADVISORY**

For immediate release:

March 16, 2007

For more information:

Valerie Berton
Manager, Community Outreach and Media Relations
The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
The Montgomery County Planning Board
301/495-4600

**TAKE A PEEK AT HOW LAND USE PLANNING WORKS AT TOWN OF KENSINGTON
COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE**

SILVER SPRING, MD – The town of Kensington may soon see changes to what its future will look like. Residents, landowners, business owners and others interested in the town’s future can learn the ins and outs about how land-use decisions are made at a community open house at 7 p.m. **Wednesday, March 21 at the town’s offices, 3710 Mitchell Street, Kensington.**

Professional land use planners will be on hand to discuss an update to the town’s sector plan – a well-researched document drafted in 1978 that determines the housing mix, public facilities and the balance between housing and employment opportunities near a business district or other area of focused development.

Community members can provide recommendations to improve community character, transportation, the environment and community services such as schools, libraries, police and fire stations in an open forum. The community and the planners will spend the next two years updating the plan to guide the area’s physical development over the next two decades.

The Kensington Sector Plan area includes the incorporated Town of Kensington and three adjacent areas: the West Howard antiques district, the Ken-Gar community north of the CSX railroad tracks and the small commercial district at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and University Boulevard.

The event is hosted by the Montgomery County Planning Department, the Town of Kensington and the Coalition of Kensington Communities, a group founded in 2002 that works with local government to address growth, land use, transportation, recreation and design issues in greater Kensington.

The land use planning process in Montgomery County includes significant opportunities for public involvement in master and sector plan preparation. Planners will host several community meetings at which residents can raise issues and recommend solutions.

For further information, please contact Fred Boyd of the Planning Department’s Community-Based Planning Division at 301/495 4654 or by email at fred.boyd@mncppc-mc.org