



## **November 4, 2015 Open House Meeting Summary**

The MARC Rail Communities Open House was held on November 4, 2015, from 7 to 9 PM at the Upcounty Regional Services Center in Germantown. The open house was broken into three phases: a brief presentation, a question and answer session and a mapping exercise to receive input from the community on four questions that will help in the development of the scope of work for the project.

The brief presentation described some of existing conditions and planning context that are influencing the larger Boyds and Germantown areas. These influencing factors helped to determine a preliminary proposed boundary for each of the MARC rail station areas. The link to that presentation can be found [here](#).

Following the presentation, there was a questions and answers session regarding information presented during the presentation, some MARC operational issues and master plan process matters. The comments and questions following the presentation can be found [here](#).

Finally, we wanted to receive some information from the community through a mapping exercise that helps inform staff on what the focus of the plan should be. Specifically, we set up four stations in the meeting space. Each station had a unique question and a set of maps and a flip chart for the community to use to answer that question. At each station, staff provided assistance in helping community members fill out this information. The answer to the questions at each of the four stations are as follows:

1. [What makes the Boyds and/or Germantown areas special?](#)
2. [What would you like to change?](#)
3. [How can the MARC rail station areas be a catalyst for that change?](#)
4. [How do you envision the future of your communities?](#)

The transcribed version of the comments and questions during the presentation and the answers to the four questions can be viewed [here](#).



# MARC Rail Communities Plan

Boys & Germantown  
[montgomeryplanning.org/marcrailplan](http://montgomeryplanning.org/marcrailplan)

 The Montgomery County Planning Department

## Next Steps

- **January 28, 2016 (tentative)**

The Scope of Work for the MARC Rail Communities Plan will be presented to the Planning Board.

- **March 14 – 16, 2016 (tentative)**

Planning staff will conduct an intensive, three-day Design Workshop in the community at the Upcounty Regional Services Center. During this event, various stakeholders, including residents, community and civic associations, businesses, government agencies and other pertinent entities, will have the opportunity to work with staff to brainstorm ideas and collectively, as a group, develop some alternative concepts for a preliminary future vision the two MARC station areas.