



Agenda Item Summary Report

Meeting Date:
January 13, 2025

Submitted by:
Michelle Bailey Hedgepeth, Town Administrator

Item Title: **Bostwick House Update | ULI Report Final – January 2025**

An update on the Final Report from the Urban Land Institute (ULI) Technical Assistance Panel (TAP) on the Bostwick, which was conducted in April 2024

Work Session Item [X]
Council Meeting Item [X]

Documentation Attached:
TAP Report

Recommended Action:

INFORMATION ONLY: The Council will meet at a later date to discuss the next steps on this project. Staff is currently working on a myriad of stabilization projects and another study that will be ready by March 2024.

Summary for the Town Council of Bladensburg: Bostwick Adaptive Reuse Plan

Overview: Bostwick House is located at 3901 48th Street in Bladensburg, MD, is a historic property dating from the 18th to 20th centuries. The Town of Bladensburg has owned it for over 30 years, and numerous studies have been conducted to identify a conceptual use plan. Recent efforts have focused on adaptive reuse to activate the property, preserve its historical integrity, and integrate it as a community asset.

Historical Context: The Town of Bladensburg has evolved from its origins as a deep-water port in 1742 to a diverse community in Prince George's County, with 45% African American and 45% Latino residents. The population includes a mix of white- and blue-collar workers in various professions.

Goals for Bostwick:

1. **Activation and Preservation:** Develop uses that respect Bostwick's historic character while creating economic and community value.
2. **Accessibility and Placemaking:** Enhance connections to the broader community and establish Bostwick as a meaningful local anchor.
3. **Historic Interpretation:** Leverage Bostwick's rich history, including its connections to trade, slavery, and military events, for education and cultural engagement.

Current Partnerships:

The Town benefits from collaboration with:

- Aman Memorial Trust
- University of Maryland

- **Anacostia Watershed Society**

Additionally, preservation easements held by the Maryland Historical Trust and M-NCPPC ensure oversight of proposed changes.

Technical Assistance Panel (TAP):

The Urban Land Institute’s TAP provided recommendations after a two-day deliberation, informed by stakeholders from the community, government, and private sector. Their insights focused on economic vitality, adaptive reuse, open space, and community engagement.

Proposed Adaptive Reuse Concepts:

Potential uses for Bostwick include:

- Urban farming
- Educational and cultural centers
- Event and community gathering spaces

Next Steps:

To ensure Bostwick’s future as a community and cultural asset, the Town must prioritize collaboration with its partners, explore funding opportunities, and refine proposals for adaptive reuse that balance preservation with community needs.

The Town Administrator will be able to answer questions from the Council.

Budgeted Item: Yes [] No [] NA Budgeted Amount: One-Time Cost: NA Ongoing Cost: NA	Continued Date:
Council Priority: Yes [] No []	Approved Date: