

# **Montgomery County Planning Board Mandatory Referral Presentation—Charles W. Woodward High School Reopening Project**

Montgomery County Board of Education  
September 10, 2020

# Agenda

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- Phase I Design Status Report
  - Community Engagement
- Mandatory Referral Comments
  - Drop-off and Bus Loops, Pedestrian and Bicycle Access, and vehicular traffic patterns
  - Athletic Facilities and Amenities
  - Site Connections and Park Impacts
- Phase II – Next Steps

# Charles W. Woodward HS Reopening

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- **Design Status Report**

- Community Engagement
- Montgomery County Permitting Process
- MSDE/IAC Review and Approval Process
- Mandatory Referral/Forest Conservation
- Montgomery County Parks Department Permit
- State Highway Administration Review and Approval Process
- Existing Cell Tower Lease Discussions
- Edson Lane Property Disposition

# Charles W. Woodward HS Reopening

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- **Community Engagement**

- School Community Presentations and Meetings
- Neighborhood/HOA Presentations and Meetings
- Virtual Informational Presentations/Publications
- FAQ Postings and Information Sharing
- Bi-Weekly Design Meetings (Including Community Stakeholders)
- Edson Lane Representatives Bi-Monthly Workgroup Meeting
- Virtual Updates to continue through the Fall of 2020 and beyond

# Preliminary Plan Approach



## Design Goals

- Compact Footprint
- Site Circulation and Parking to accommodate 2,700 students and staff
- Master Planned Site Amenities and Athletic Facilities
- Dedicated Site Location for Phase II Building Construction
- Prominent Entrance and Community Space (Dual Purpose Space)

# Preliminary Plan Approach

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# Preliminary Plan Approach

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# Preliminary Plan Approach

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# Charles W. Woodward HS Reopening

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- **Phase I Design Challenges**

- Montgomery County Planning Board - Mandatory Referral comments recommends an alternative design
- Park Permit Considerations/Negotiations
- Forest Conservation Approvals have not been secured through the MC Planning Board and continuation of design is reliant on this plan approval
- Various Agency and Community comments, feedback, and requests have resulted in scope creep and slightly higher cost estimates

# Mandatory Referral Comments

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“Redesign the main walkway that leads from the entrance of the building to Old Georgetown Road to improve traffic safety. Redesign the walkway as shown in a sketch developed by planning staff to remove crossings of internal site roadways, reduce conflicting vehicle turning movements, simplify the complicated traffic pattern and create additional recreational space.”

# Mandatory Referral Comments

Planning Board Sketch

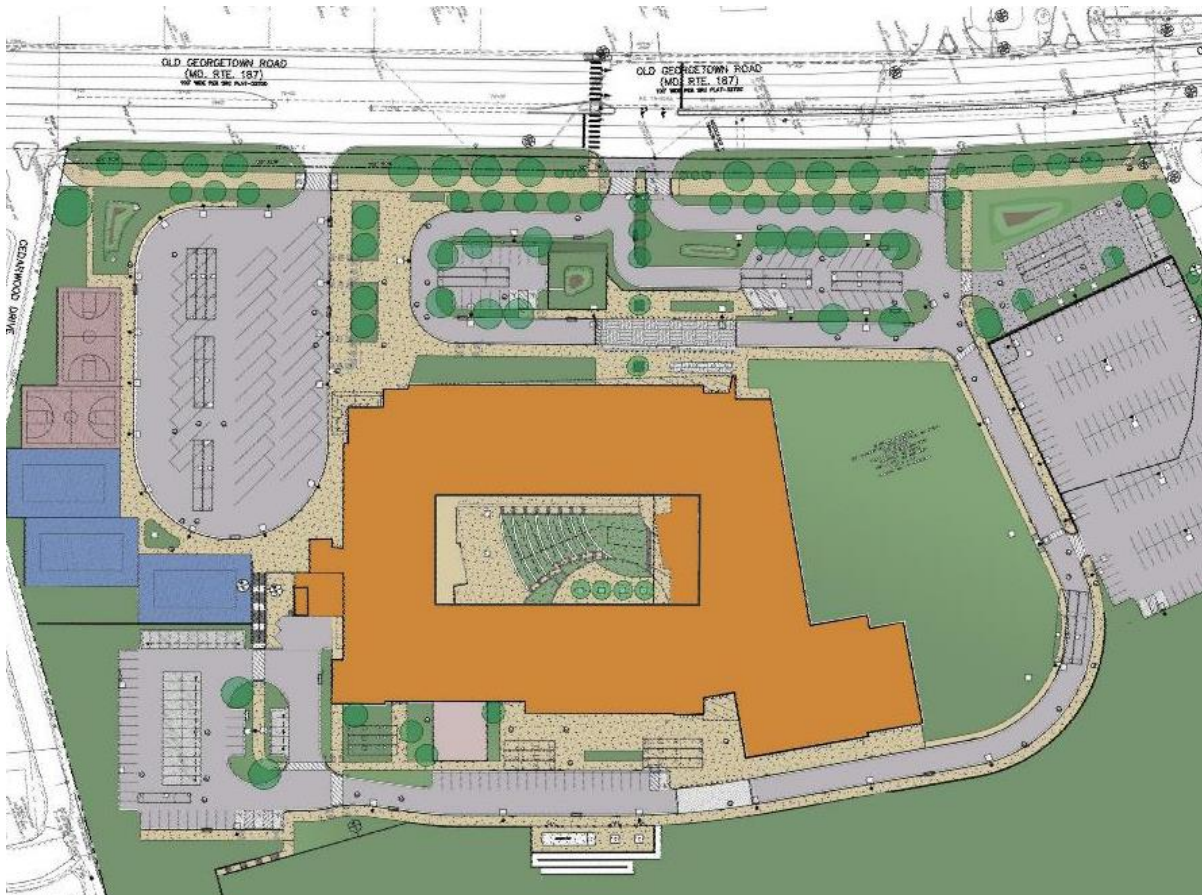


Preliminary Plan



# Mandatory Referral Comments

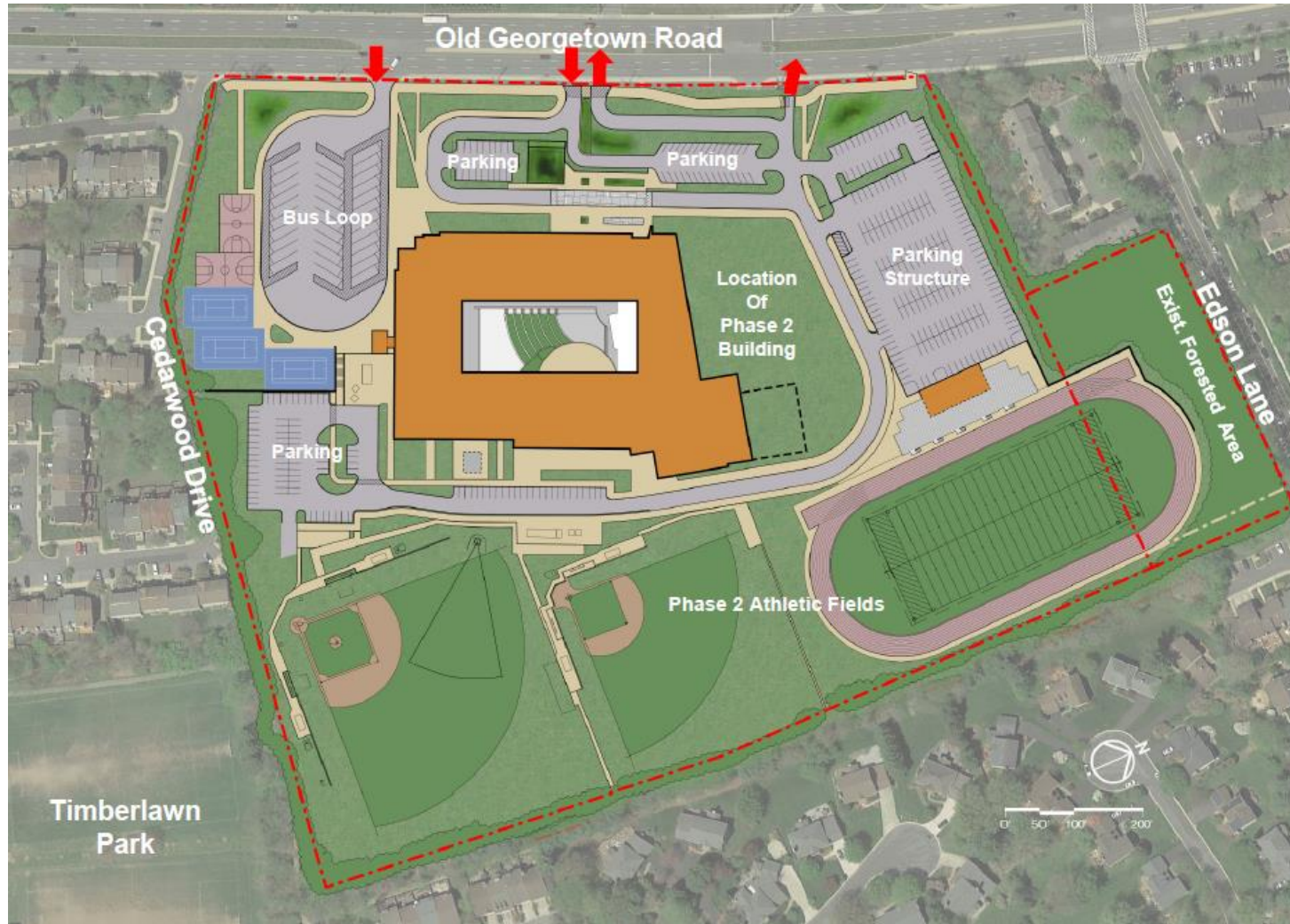
Revised Plan Based on Comments



Planning Board Sketch



# Revised Site Plan



## Revisions

- Old Georgetown Road Crosswalk
- Dedicated and Separated Community Space
- Revised 3<sup>rd</sup> Vehicular Access Point to Right Exit Only
- Maintain Drop-off Loop but create a parking only lane
- Create a Vegetative Buffer between Road Entrance and Front Door
- Refined Pedestrian Pathways but Maintained Separation

# Charles W. Woodward HS Reopening

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- **Next Steps**

- Begin Phase II program discussions with various stakeholders
- Obtain all related environmental and site permits and approvals
- Award Contracts for building demolition/Begin Demolition October 2020
- Obtain building permits and approvals
- Begin Construction March 2021 for Phase I
- Develop scope of work and budgets for Phase II

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- **Phase II Design Requirements**

- Engagement Process to Refine Phase II Program and Building Requirements
- Final Design of Building will Influence Design of Athletic Facilities and “Back of Site” Connections
- Phase II Building Scope of Work will Determine Future Funding Request
- Second Mandatory Referral Submission to Reflect Phase II
- Boundary Scope Determination
- Existing Cell Tower Relocation/Replacement Review and Discussion
- Stadium Design Discussion

# Charles W. Woodward HS Reopening

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- **Recommendation: Approve Continuance of Plans**
  - Balance and integrate all aspects of school site operations to ensure maximum safety for all stakeholders
    - Pedestrians, bicyclists, student drivers, bus riders, visitors, and passengers utilizing drop-off and pick-up
  - Accommodate needed traffic volume and patterns
  - Sequence and integrate community and site amenities within overall project plan
  - Continue inter-agency communication and planning processes



# Charles W. Woodward HS Reopening

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## Discussion