MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS

JANUARY 4, 2021





CTE BUILDING OPENED 2019
HIGH SCHOOL OPENED 2020

DEMOGRAPHIC SUMMARY

POPULATION

Over the past ten years Montgomery County has experienced a slowly declining population. From 2010 to 2019, the county has declined in population by 534 people. However, projections for the next ten years indicate a small increase in population. By 2029 the population in the county will grow by 400 citizens from its current level. Population increases could be influenced in the future by proposed growth along the lake in the western part of the county (more Information later in this presentation).

STUDENT ENROLLMENT

The trends in student enrollment mirrors the overall county population trends. However, there are several aggravating factors that influence the trends in this area. In 2014-15 the student average daily membership (ADM), was 4,010 students. For the current school year, 2020-21 enrollment had declined to 3,495 students. This represents a decline of 515 students. A slow decline in student enrollment is projected through the end of the decade. Other significant factors related to ADM include:

- Charter Schools
- Private Schools
- Home Schools
- Covid-19

GOOD NEWS!

For many school districts roofing repairs and replacements are a major expenditure. By closing East and West Montgomery High Schools, over 255,000 square feet of floor space were taken out of the overall inventory. The main buildings at these sites were over 60 years old. It is evident had these facilities remained in operation significant money would have been needed to address roofing repairs and replacements.

Over the past several months, roofing consultant, Mr. Dallas Brickhouse, P.E., conducted an assessment of current schools' roofs and found that the combined identified needs for the next 3-5 years, totaled slightly over $490,000 (see Table 1).

The study identified Candor Elementary, Montgomery County Learning Academy, and the district administrative and transportation building have facilities that needed roof replacements (see individual school reports).

A CHALLENGE TO THE DISTRICT

In the area of HVAC/Mechanical Systems, the district faces a challenge over the next 10 years. Mr. Craig Champion, P.E., an engineer with McKnight, Smith, Ward, Griffin Engineering, conducted field work that estimated $5,105,000 dollars in repairs and replacements would be needed with HVAC/Mechanical Systems from 2021-2030 (see Table 2, Appendix B).

This is not a reflection of the lack of attention to the systems in the past, but rather a reality of the age of facilities and the life span of the systems coming to an end. For example, a list of schools' main buildings and the dates they opened are as follows:

Montgomery Learning Academy, 1960
Star, 1983
Page Street, 2001
Candor, Mt. Gilead, & Troy, 1979
East and West Montgomery Middle Schools, 1990
Green Ridge, 2008

Collectively, these schools and their HVAC/Mechanical Systems average 33 years in age.

Other district facilities of note include: Mt. Gilead auditorium 1927, gym 1938, Star gym 1939, Candor gym 1956, Troy original wing 1962, and Montgomery County Administrative Offices 1958.

The same comments could be made about the closing of East and West Montgomery High Schools that was discussed in the previous section on Roofing Repairs and Replacements. Had these facilities HVAC/Mechanical Systems needs been included, the cost facing the district would have significantly increased.



SAFETY AND SECURITY

Safety and security were a directive of the Montgomery County Schools administration for this study. A goal was established to provide a safe and secure single point of entrance for all schools. Currently electronic access controls are in use and provide for supervised video surveillance to enter the building. But once entry is gained, control over securing access to other parts of the building is compromised.

The design and construction of security vestibules would be a major step in controlling access. Architectural designs would need to be developed for each site to obtain a specific cost estimate for this project. No standard design is possible because of the unique design of each school.

A SECOND SECURITY ISSUE

Several schools were identified that needed security between classrooms. These facilities were designed such that access is available from room to room at the back of the classroom. What appears to be a simple task of constructing a petition between classrooms is only the first step in securing access between classrooms. This must be designed in such a manner as to address air flow for heating and cooling, sound proofing, and egress and ingress to existing exterior doors. A detailed design is necessary to obtain an accurate cost estimate for each project.

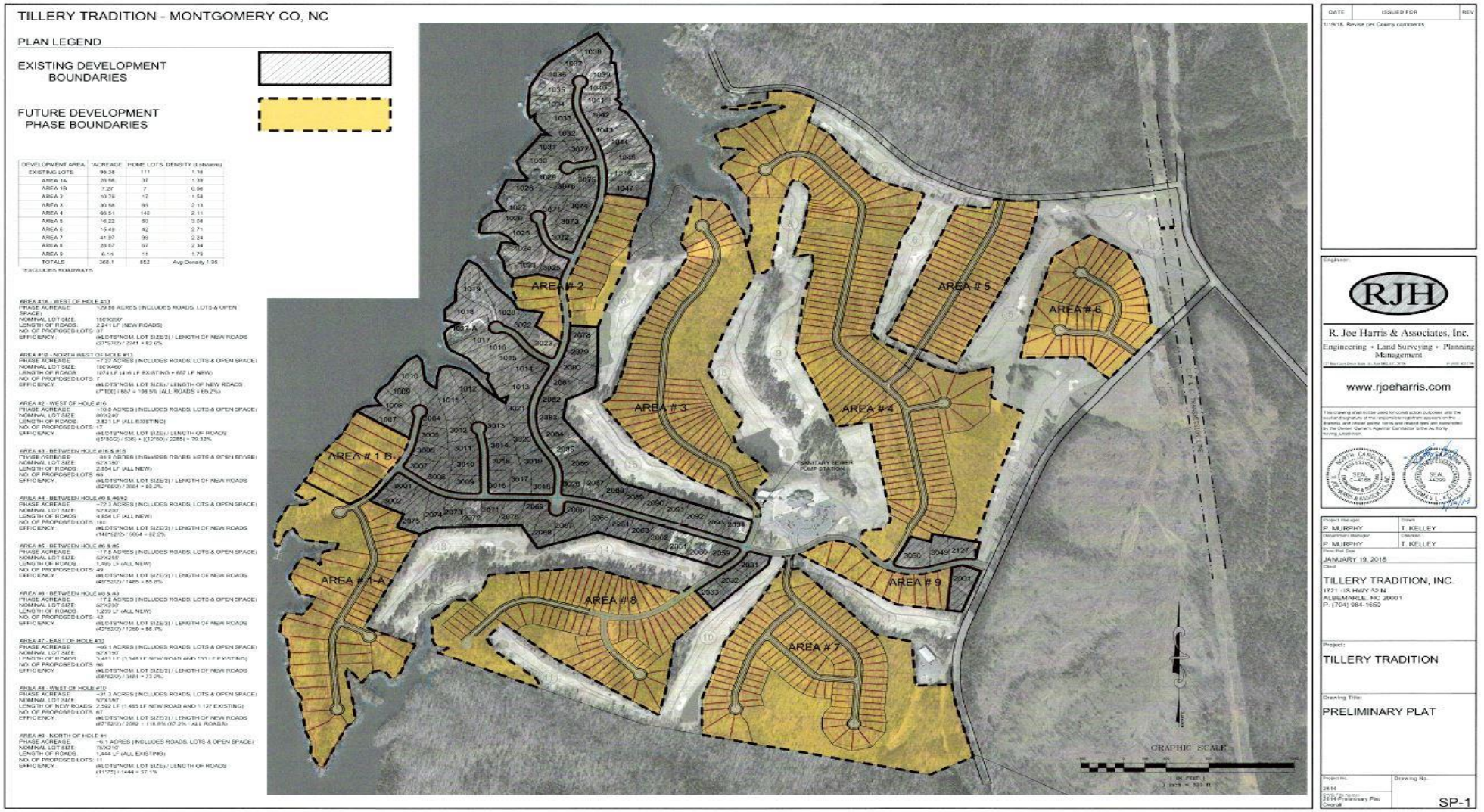
Other Security Enhancements Included:

- Updating/Additional Security Cameras
- Additional Exterior Lighting
- Improvements to Classroom/Office Phone System
- Additional Perimeter Fencing
- Feasibility of a Keyless Access System

THISTLE PARK -- 350+ LOTS



TILLERY TRADITION – 506 LOTS



COUNTY RESTRICTED CAPITAL FUNDS FOR EXISTING FACILITIES (EXCLUSIVE OF DEBT SERVICE FOR GREENRIDGE AND CENTRAL HIGH)

DATE	¼ SALES TAX MCS RECEIVED	¼ SALES TAX MCS PROJECTED	DEDICATED 1 CENT AD VALOREM FOR EXISTING MCS FACILITIES REC'V	DEDICATED 1 CENT AD VALOREM FOR EXISTING MCS FACILITIES PROJECTED
2012	$43,932			
2013	$275,039			
2014	$301,745			
2015	$302,515			
2016	$319,258			
2017	$344,503		$234,675	
2018	$403,200		$247,525	
2019	$443,295		$252,659	
2020	$463,205		$257,043	
2021		$486,365.25		$270,000
2022		$510,683.51		$278,100
2023		$536,217.69		$286,443
2024		$563,028.57		$303,887.38
TOTALS	$2,896,692	$2,687.475.02	$991,902	$1,433,466.67

* Source – Montgomery County Finance Department

SUMMARY

In conclusion Montgomery County Schools should be commended for the progress they have achieved over the past 5-10 years in improving and modernizing school facilities. Collectively, including roofing systems, HVAC/Mechanical Systems, safety and security issues, and repairs to masonry cracks at East Montgomery Middle School this study estimates that $6,893,000 will be needed to address identified facility improvements between 2021-2030.

Montgomery County Schools are projected to experience slowly declining student enrollments over the next ten years. Total student enrollment is projected by 2030 to have 650 students less than the enrollment in 2020.

Several factors could influence this trend. The study identified charter schools and economic conditions as the two most dominate issues that could influence student enrollment. However, proposed development on the lake in western Montgomery County need be monitored for future potential impact.

Due to future enrollment trends there appears to be no need for additional schools or additions. It should be anticipated for the next decade to direct all available school facility funds into the areas of repairs, replacements, and renovations.