

Recommendation for a Strategy

First a piece of reality. Getting a C-SAFE (needs a new name!) type of program going for the DC-PG-TP corner will not be easy. It will be long and hard. The C-SAFE program at the “international corridor” was initiated and paid for by the State of Maryland pretty much in its entirety. It encompasses only an area within Maryland. This is NOT the case in the DC-PG-TP corner! Where the C-SAFE in the international corridor was established and pushed by the State from above, the DC-PG-TP corner C-SAFE (needs a new name!) program is attempted to be started up from the bottom. This is a “horse of a different color”. No deep pockets in sight, no high level County, State, DC political leadership involvement, and no public outcry for it in the three jurisdictions involved. Nothing, ZIP, nil, zilch! Well, maybe an awareness of the problem, but that is about it.

So how to proceed? What is needed?

First of all an active, high energy-working group must be formed with a small, \$1-2,000 budget from the City. I am sure that this can be had and will be needed.

This group needs, absolutely must have representatives from:

- a) Whatever PG County neighborhood association(s) is/are on the TP-DC border;
- b) Takoma DC;
- c) WACO;
- d) OTBA;
- e) North Takoma;
- f) OTRA;
- g) The new MC liaison committee; and
- h) PEN.

In addition, this group must have on board a grant researcher and writer to start getting various Federal “security” type grants for this new DC-PG-TP corner C-SAFE (needs a new name!) program. It is also recommended that the highly vocal critics of the current state of affairs in this DC-PG-TP corner be recruited to become part of the solution.

As a preliminary effort, representative(s) from this working group should collect all written descriptions of how the international-corridor C-SAFE works, attended their meetings, etc. becoming thoroughly familiar with its operation and resource needs in order to be able to adopt its processes for the DC-PG-TP corner C-SAFE (needs a new name!) program.

This high-energy group then must obtain whatever commitment (real commitment, not just a pat on the head) of political support; money, especially long-term money commitment; and other resource support (e.g. office space from MC, various “memorandums of understanding” on how this program would work, what resources would need to be contributed) they must have from:

- a) PG County and PG police;
- b) DC (e.g. Adrian Fenty’s office and police);
- c) Montgomery College;
- d) Metro;
- e) Media; and
- f) TP Council.

The above is my preliminary recommendation for the strategy for obtaining a C-SAFE (needs a new name!) program for the DC-PG-TP corner.