

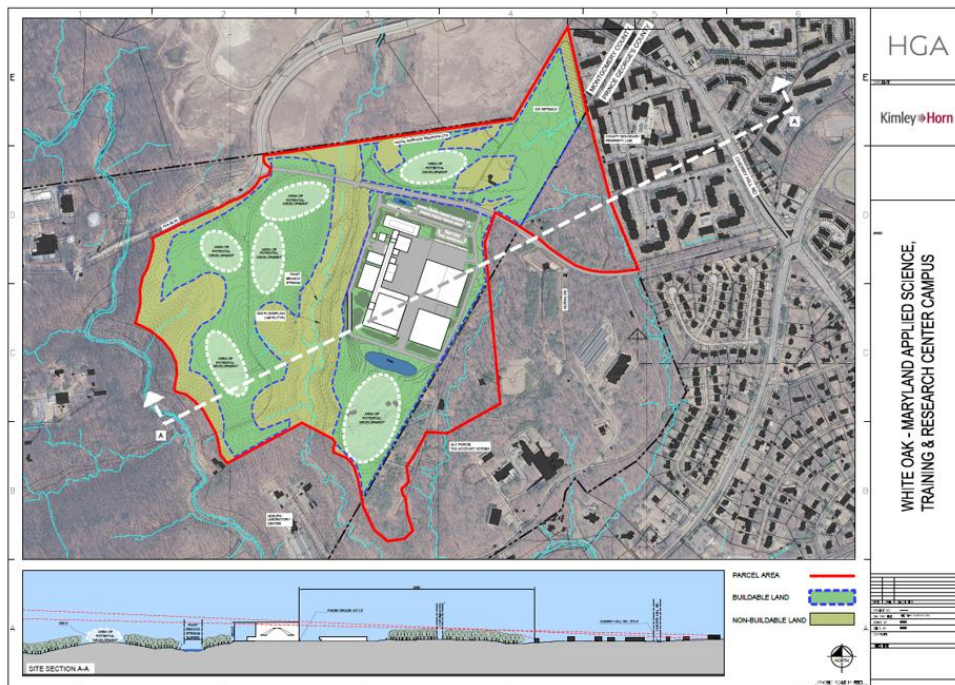
LABQUEST Minutes for Wednesday, March 11, 2026
At WeAchieve, 10501 New Hampshire Ave

Rob Richardson facilitated the meeting. The meeting opened with everyone introducing themselves.

MEDCO/UL Research Institutes

While MEDCO/UL was not represented at the meeting, Stacy provided the diagram below of the conceptual layout that she showed last month. She indicated that they continue to refine the concept. The ovals are locations where future development could go. The blue line is the county boundary and white line is a screen line (at the bottom).

Initial and Future Development/Cross Section (Concept/Illustrative)



Viva White Oak (VWO)

Theresa Stegman, MCB, reported that on February 24 the Council approved the TIF Development District and the maximum TIF limit of \$420M. Many letters were written to oppose the proposal from one councilmember to increase the required number of MDPU's from 12.5% to 15%. That proposal did not go forward.

- Theresa indicated the county has issued an RFP to obtain an underwriter for the bonds. She expects an underwriter will be selected by the end of March. That will be followed by the introduction of a resolution to approve the first draw, which she expects to occur in June, then the final Council vote in July, and closing in August. She indicated they have signed leases for 60% of the town center by closing. Tamarack Triangle Civic Association's Village is hosting a health fair on Saturday, May 16.

- WOMC was recognized by the state for reducing the length of stay by 29% in the Emergency Department, the most significant improvement among Maryland hospitals.

Theresa indicated that they had a meeting with ULRI concerning their plans, to make sure the water and sewer mains MCB will be installing are large enough to accommodate both projects. She said they have been in conversations with DOT and SHA concerning the intersections on US29. She expects a public forum and hearing will occur before long.

White Oak Medical Center (WOMC)

Amy Shaw reported the following:

- Tamarack Triangle Civic Association's Village is hosting a health fair on Saturday, May 16.
- WOMC was recognized by the state for reducing the length of stay by 29% in the Emergency Department, the most significant improvement among Maryland hospitals.

WeAchieve

Daphne Pallozzi reported a \$3M cut is proposed to balance the state budget and that it will have a major impact on their \$20M budget. They will be taking 150 people to Annapolis on Thursday to oppose the cut.

Science Report

Charles Warr highlighted several items from his March 6 and upcoming March 13 reports, including the following:

- While there is no FDA-approved vaccine for Norovirus, two studies are ongoing - a phase 1 for post-partum, breastfeeding women and a phase 3 for adults.
- FDA has approved a wearable radio frequency array that will extend the life of pancreatic cancer patients, but not cure it. This is a totally different and unexpected treatment method.
- A recent study found that of the 66 potential side effects attributed to statins, only 4 were confirmed and those were minor. According to the Cleveland Clinic, 39 million Americans take statins, most over 40.
- Blueberries are a good source of antioxidants. Wild ones are best because a substantial percentage berry are the all-important antioxidants the antioxidants.
- Ukraine's energy infrastructure is built on a highly centralized structure that is vulnerable to missile strikes. This system is rapidly being replaced with wind and solar farms that are distributed. It also includes microgrids and rooftop solar.
- A lot of battery energy storage capacity is being installed in the US.
- A recent trial demonstrated that the Apple watch can detect and track atrial fibrillation.

- A 3-D printed hypersonic rocket from [Rocket Lab](#) is being launched from Wallops Island, VA. The rocket carries a hypersonic aircraft (air-breathing) on top. Before the aircraft can be started, it must first be boosted to at least the hypersonic speed of Mach 5.

FDA/GSA

Andrew Dempser reported that the number of people working on site is about the same as last month. However, he has the impression that the parking lots are fuller.

Montgomery County

Jewru Bandeh reported:

- The Executive's proposed operating budget will be submitted to the council on March 13, since March 15 (legal requirement) is on the weekend.
- The MEDCO/ULIS presentation was given to the ECCAB on March 4.
- Montgomery College, according to Sherwin Collette, is making great progress on their site selection and will be able to begin community engagement/input in two or three weeks. Dan Wilhelm indicated he would invite Sherwin to the next LABQUEST meeting.

Submitted by Dan Wilhelm