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DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING, INSPECTIONS AND ENFORCEMENT

BUILDING BLOCKS

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SECTION NEWSLETTER

Permit us to help you build
your business

August 2020

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Business Spotlight

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Good Food Markets



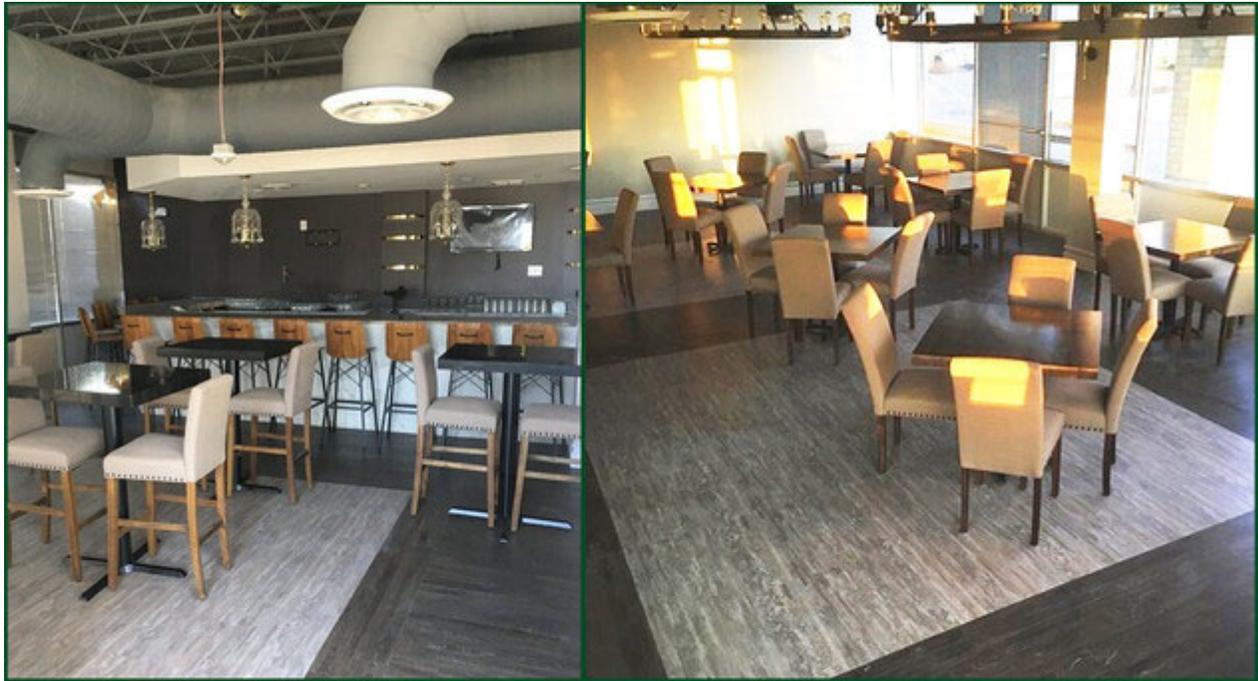
Artist's rendering of a Good Food Markets store



Addison Plaza Shopping Center tenant sign

Good Food Markets (GFM) is about to join several retail businesses expanding into Prince George's County! The Business Development Section (BDS) recently assisted the grocery store company in attaining its health and trade/retail licenses from the County and the State of Maryland. The food market will be located in the Addison Plaza Shopping Center on Central Avenue in Seat Pleasant. It will take over space formerly occupied by Safeway, which left two years ago. Residents said Safeway's closing created a food desert since it was the only grocery store in the area. GFM is expected to fill that void by providing shoppers with fresh, healthy produce and other essential grocery items. GFM officials said they were attracted to the Prince George's County location because of the need for its products and the opportunity to co-locate with established retailers already doing business at the shopping center. The company was also impressed with the County's commitment to its residents' health and providing economic opportunity for businesses.

Cori's Modern Kitchen + Bar



Cori's Modern Kitchen + Bar in Camp Springs

The BDS team also recently assisted Cori's Modern Kitchen + Bar with the permitting process. Cori's Modern Kitchen + Bar is located in Camp Springs near the Branch Avenue Metro Station. Cori's Owner/Executive Chef Ryan Wallen said his goal is to provide an additional dining choice for those who live and work in the area. "I wanted the local business employees to have numerous places to eat while taking a lunch or dinner break," Wallen said. "Several car dealership employees are excited because they have another restaurant to visit while they are working." Wallen said his restaurant specializes in infusing Southern flavor into "American dishes." Some of his specialties include pan-seared rainbow trout, shrimp and grits, macaroni & cheese with white cheddar, Gouda and Gruyère and vanilla bean honey butter cornbread. Cori's is open from 3 p.m. - 9 p.m. Wallen said he is working on extending the eatery's hours. Follow Cori's on social media for updates on operating hours.

The Inside Scoop



A structural engineer of the Building Plan Review Division, Tezera Lemma, P.E. computes load and grade requirements for building plans submitted to DPIE for review as part of the project permitting process.

DPIE Process: Building Plan Review

The Building Plan Review Division (BPRD) is an integral part of DPIE. The division ensures that construction plans meet applicable County and State codes. BPRD is responsible for the review of plans for residential and commercial projects, new food facilities and renovation projects, among others. The typical plan review time is four to six weeks. Several sections within the division assist with the review process, including Building/Structural, Electrical, Mechanical, Fire & Life Safety and Health. The sections also work in conjunction with other agencies co-located within DPIE in the review process. The co-located agencies include the Prince George's Soil Conservation District (PGSCD), the Maryland–National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M–NCPPC) and the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC). The Health Department, the Office of the Fire Marshal and the State Highway Administration (SHA) are also involved in the process.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, applicants must submit their plans through the electronic plan review system known as [ePlan](#). This system allows applicants to apply for permits and upload plans and documents online, eliminating the need to drop off paper copies. Engineering staffers then review the submitted plans and documents electronically and concurrently with other sections and agencies, which speeds up the process. In addition, DPIE offers applicants optional peer review and third-party plan review programs to expedite

the review process. For more information on the Building Plan Review process, visit the [DPIE website](#).

Business Development Section Helpful Hints



CURRENT PLANS NECESSARY FOR INSPECTIONS

Make sure to have your **current** stamped plans at your construction site. If an Inspector arrives for an inspection and the site does not reflect the final and updated approved plans, a correction order may be issued and the inspection may be delayed, postponing your project.

ZONING DETERMINATIONS EXPEDITE SETTING UP WORK SPACES

Before signing a lease or buying a commercial space, make sure the property is zoned for the intended use by contacting the M-NCPPC Information Services Team at [Planning Information Services](#). Having a zoning determination prior to filing for a permit with DPIE will make the application process move more expeditiously.

OBTAINING INFORMATION IN SPANISH

To share both departmental and County information with our Spanish speaking communities, DPIE is converting some [publications and flyers into Spanish](#). These can be found on the [resources tab](#) of the website. Be sure and check back on a regular basis as we continue to convert and add additional DPIE documents, as well as County notices and COVID-19 updates.

IDENTIFYING THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR PERMITS

Documentation needed to apply for permits is available in the Permits section of DPIE's website. Click on [Permits](#), in the navigation bar on the left side of the main page. There you

Funding Opportunities

FSC First, a lending institution located in Prince George's County, has established the Legacy Fund to provide grants of up to \$10,000 to assist small businesses. The grants are funded by a \$1 million grant from the Greater Washington Community Foundation. The FSC grant may be used for operating expenses to keep businesses afloat during the COVID-19 pandemic. For more details, visit [Legacy Fund for Small Business Development](#).



Business Development Section Upcoming Event

The BDS will sponsor a webinar on DPIE Business Licensing from **2:00–3:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 24**. Watch for registration information and webinar details on the DPIE website and in the BDS *Building Blocks* newsletter in coming weeks. Mark your calendar!

Business Community News

DPIE ePLAN TRAINING VIA ZOOM

DPIE's free ePlan Training is now offered virtually. Customers will be trained on completing online applications and uploading plans for review. The sessions are held monthly from 10 a.m. until 12 noon on the third Thursday via Zoom. Online enrollment is limited. To attend, register by the second Thursday of the month at <http://dpiemypgc.us>.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (EDC)

The EDC provides consultations to businesses on an array of subjects from buying or renting commercial space to obtaining financing and writing a business plan. The EDC also offers a number of informative videos, including COVID-19's impact on local small businesses. The EDC continues to host webinars during COVID-19. For more information, visit <https://www.pgcedc.com/>.

MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The center is hosting several webinars throughout August and September. For more information, visit www.mdsbdc.umd.edu/training/events-calendar.



PRINCE GEORGE'S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (PGCOC) MEETINGS

PGCOC holds monthly committee meetings. For more information, visit <http://business.pgcoc.org/events/calendar/>.

Community Feedback

Community Feedback

“ Thank you for the wealth of information shared on our call. It was very helpful and encouraging. ”

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ION STORAGE SYSTEMS

 **Permit us to help you build your business!**
For more information on the permitting and licensing processes, please contact DPIEBIZDEV@co.pg.md.us.

2020 Census

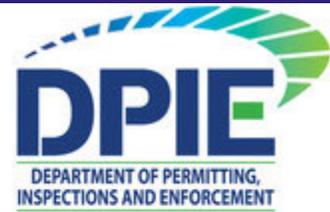
WHAT IS THE U.S. CENSUS?

By law, every 10 years the U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States. Your participation determines representation and how billions in federal funds are distributed. If our community is undercounted, friends and neighbors miss out on an estimated **\$18,250 per person over a 10-year period**. Statewide, that's a total of **\$26.6 billion over a 10-year period**.

<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/3233/2020-Census>



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