To: Residents of Howard County & Interested Parties
From: Michael McCall, President & CEO, Inner Arbor Trust
Date: April 15, 2016
Re: Report on the Chrysalis Development

The Inner Arbor Trust and its world class team of designers, engineers, contractors and specialty fabricators and installers are moving forward on all fronts in the development of the Chrysalis stage, pavilion and sculpture in Merriweather Park at Symphony Woods; designed by acclaimed and award winning international architect/artist, Marc Fornes, of the New York City based THEVERYMANY (theverymany.com).

The construction details of the build design are the responsibility of the Maryland based Architect of Record, Living Design Lab (livingdesignlab.com), and its Engineer, Washington DC based Arup (arup.com).

Aluminum Shell Fabrication

On a recent trip to Kansas City with Inner Arbor Trust President & CEO, Michael McCall, Chrysalis Designer, Marc Fornes (in black), studies an aluminum shingle detail and an uncolored, full scale mockup of a section of the Chrysalis’s “skin” (left), with Bill Zahner (pointing), President & CEO of the 110 year old A. Zahner Company. Zahner is fabricating the Chrysalis aluminum shell in Kansas City, Missouri, using its proprietary ZEPPS system (www.azahner.com/zepps.cfm). Fabrication will begin in early May.
As the center portion of the concrete floor (that will underly the wooden stage) is poured, it is now possible to share the future view performers and the public will have from the Stage & Pavilion, which is also a significant Sculpture. The white and orange construction trailer (to the left side of the photo at the top of the hill) is the future location of the Butterfly guest services building which, when funded, will feature food & beverage, seating, restrooms, a three tier terrace, and roof deck overlooking the Chrysalis.

For many months the Chrysalis’ strong and complex concrete foundation has been the daily and diligent focus of McGuire Concrete foreman, John McVicker (right) who, as a subcontractor, works for Whiting-Turner Construction Company, and its dedicated Project Manager, Sam Grayman (left).
Details
The Whiting-Turner construction trailer is filled with samples, specified by the design team and submitted by the suppliers and subcontractors for final review and approval by the architects and the Inner Arbor Trust.

One such example of samples which have been reviewed and approved (see image above) is the highly pervious “boardwalk” paving system, which will wrap the base of the Chrysalis on the west and south sides, where the public will circulate. Care has been taken to assure that the three color paving system blends well with the beautiful, natural environment in which the Chrysalis will live.

Schedule & Budget
Whiting-Turner will complete the foundation in early May; Metropolitan Walters, from Manhattan, will begin to erect the steel in late May; the aluminum skin will commence in July; and, the one-of-a-kind building will be completed this year.

The Chrysalis will be officially celebrated next year, in honor of Columbia’s 50th Birthday.

The project is on budget, thanks to $6.4 Million in funding from the Howard County government, authorized by the bipartisan support of the former County Executive Ken Ulman and the ongoing support of the current County Executive Allan Kittleman; and, the funding was enacted into law by unanimous Howard County Council support, each year for three consecutive fiscal years.

Additional funding comes from the Inner Arbor Trust’s revenue during the development period.

$1.6 Million of funding for the Inner Arbor Trust’s approved plan for Merriweather Park at Symphony Woods was provided by Columbia Association.

Lastly and critically, the State of Maryland has provided $2 Million to Merriweather Post Pavilion, which is funding paths, handicapped parking and a large restroom in Merriweather Park at Symphony Woods, which will be open to Park patrons, and used by Merriweather Post Pavilion guests during concerts and events.