

**April 1, 2013 Arlington Bike Advisory Committee Meeting  
Draft Notes**

Courthouse Plaza, 2100 Clarendon Blvd. (1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting rooms by the Lobby)

Jakob Wolf-Barnett, Megan Jones, Steve Appel, Mark Blacknell, Dana Bres, Eric Goodman, Dwight Hlustick, Karen McMillian, Allen Muchnick, Steve Offutt, Michael Raizen, Allan Reiter, Tim Rosato, Randy Swart, Rich Tepel

David Goodman, Dave Kirschner, David Patton, Kevin Stalica, Zanna Worzella,

**Guests**

Thomas Sheffer and Ben Helwig, NPS GWMP  
Janes Durham, Vice Chair Alexandria BPAC

**General**

New member welcome  
Adoption of March Minutes

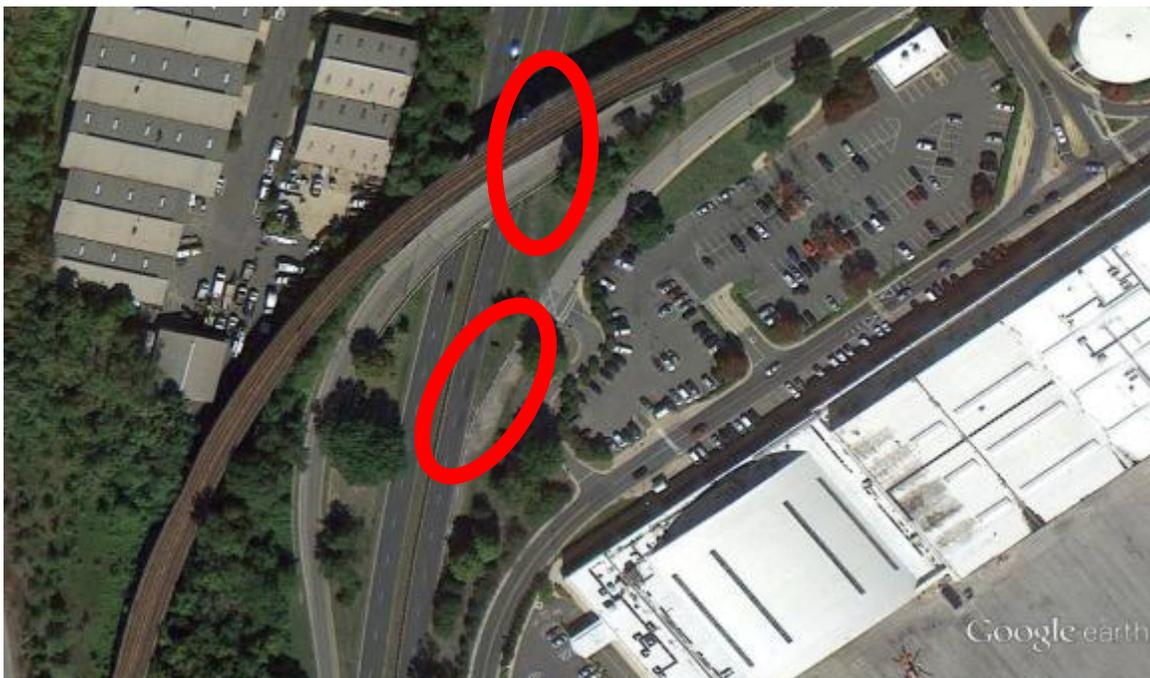
**Thomas Sheffer and Ben Helwig with George Washington Memorial Parkway**

The ABAC invited the National Park Service, George Washington Memorial Parkway to participate and provide an update on the planned activities on the GWMP

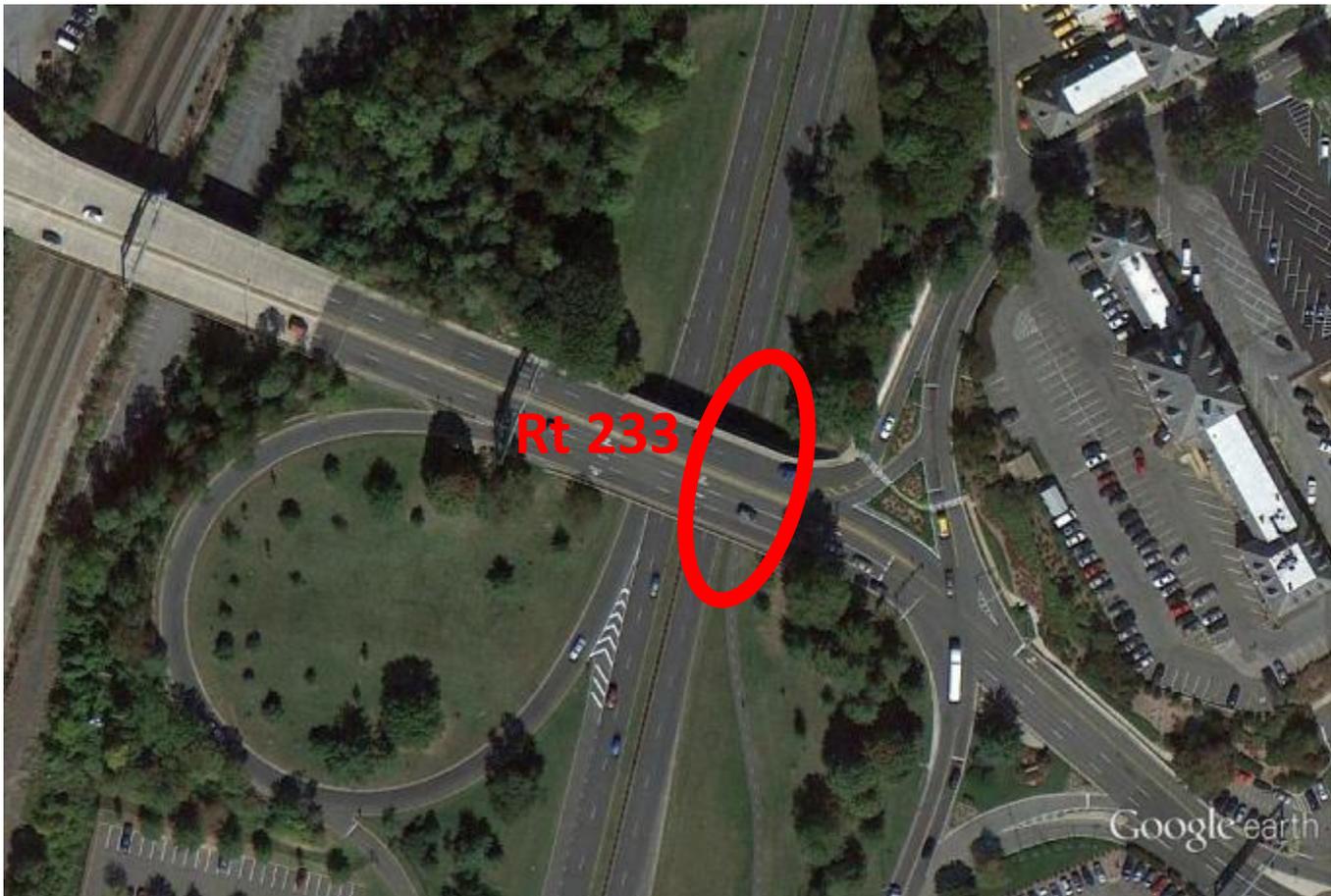
GWMP responsible for the parklands on the Virginia from Mount Vernon to Great Falls

The NPS is working with Arlington County staff on locations for CaBi at Iwo Jima and Arlington Cemetery. Hope to have the Iwo Jima station open by Memorial Day.

Old off ramp to DCA. The NPS is working with the MWAA to remove the abandoned GWMP off ramp south of the Metro tracks (lower oval below). They are considering replacing the pavement with some kind of pavers that would allow the exit to be restored in an emergency. The modifications would take the trail crossing at that location out of the roadway, allowing for the removal of the stop signs on the trail at that location.



NPS is considering a barrier along the MVT under the southbound exit from the airport to the GWMP (upper oval in photo above) and Route 233 (oval in photo below) to better separate the trail and the GWMP to provide additional safety for the trail users.



We discussed the trail where it runs between the DCA fence and the parkway, just south of Gravelly Point. The NPS is aware of the issue but does not currently have funding to do a structural intervention. Mark Blacknell suggested that hedges would be really valuable. Thomas Sheffer suggested that we might look for locations where shrubs would be appropriate to prevent glare.

The Gravelly Point EA is currently on hold.

Megan asked about the safety issues about the boardwalks. Allen M suggested that the Rails to Trails Conservancy might have some information on how to make the boardwalks less slippery.

Thomas Sheffer said that they have been making the trails a bit wider as they have been reconstructing them. Allen M indicated that the trail was built at 9 feet wide under the Wilson Bridge. Allen indicated that the ASHTO standard was 10 feet wide with clear zones to the sides.

Crosswalks at Memorial Circle area. The NPS has been looking at a number of short term improvements to make the crosswalks safer, including signs and rumble strips. We briefly discussed the trail/crosswalk realignment that occurred last summer and the general impression was that the grade crossing was safer following the realignment.

The NPS and Arlington County are looking to move forward with an EA for a trail along Route 110. They are working with David Goodman. The design is at the 50% stage. They hope to have an EA

done by the end of 2013. Construction is still a few years out. During the EA process there would be opportunity for public comment.

Question about the two tunnels at the Humpback Bridge. On the south side, the NPS has taken the trail to the end of their property and the Pentagon has not been willing to extend the trail. David Kirschner said that changes to Boundary Channel Drive might get to the point where the Pentagon would allow the trail to be extended. He said that the final resolution might be some years out. For the north trail, the NPS will look at marking the trail to the existing bridge in a manner sensitive to the LBJ Memorial.

The GWMP will be replacing some of the smaller bridges on the southern end of the MVT. This is discussed at <http://www.nps.gov/gwmp/parknews/closures.htm>

They are looking at a Arlington Boathouse EIS sometime in fall 2013.

Members of the ABAC suggested to the NPS that the wayfinding signs should include the East Coast Greenway and US Bike Route 1

### **Jane Rudolph Meeting Recap**

Jane Rudolph is the new Arlington Director of Parks and Recreation. She used to work for NYC. In a recent meeting, ABAC asked to move the trail maintenance to the purview of DES, as they have more technical expertise.

### **Staff Updates**

Kevin Stalica reported that the last light inspection was completed last week and Dominion had posted labels on the lights that needed repairs.

David Goodman – Road diet for North Harrison near Lee Highway. They are looking to improve the intersection of the W&OD and Lee Highway in East Falls Church with improvements to the geometry and signals. They will also get rid of the push buttons for the walk signals.

Bike Arlington Update (submitted in advance)

### RECAP:

**Bikeshare Ribbon Cutting Recap** – Today (March 28<sup>th</sup>) we celebrated the opening of the first Capital Bikeshare station in Central Arlington near Columbia Pike at the Walter Reed Community Center with a [ribbon cutting ceremony](#)! Arlington County Board Chair, Walter Tejada, spoke about the importance of expanding Capital Bikeshare into the Columbia Pike and Shirlington areas (33 stations slated for this year) and did the honors of cutting the ribbon. There was a large group of people who attended including Arlington County personnel, friends from the BAC, WABA, the 55+ cycling group, the Crystal City BID and the general public. There was media coverage from WAMU and [M.V. Jantzen](#) (more photos will be posted on our Facebook). Bonus fact: this was officially the 200th station in the Capital Bikeshare system.

### UPDATES:

**TWT** – our first Two Wheel Tuesdays for the year is *this Tuesday night* (April 2) at Westover Library. We've joined the [meetup](#) community to help reach new people and get more of the interested but concerned audience there. So far, meetup has been very successful in garnering interest – we have 50 members and 13 people are already signed up for the first class. We are really trying to get people to bring a friend who isn't experienced in riding. This is where you guys come in and can really lend a

helping hand: **[ASK]** Come to the session and bring someone you know that is interested, but concerned. The session is only an hour and a half, and who knows, maybe you'll learn something new! We will be at the Westover library in April, the Aurora Hills Library in May, Columbia Pike Library in June and Central Library in July. The link to our TWT page is [bikearlington.com/twt](http://bikearlington.com/twt) and people can either sign up online at [meetup.com/twowheeltuesdays](http://meetup.com/twowheeltuesdays) or they can just show up. Please spread the word, or better yet, show up with a friend!

**Bike Enlightenment** – our on-bike classes have been scheduled and registration is available through WABA's website (<http://waba.org/education/calendar.php>). The CCC classes will be April 13 and June 8, and the L2R classes will be April 14 and April 28. We will run more classes in the fall. **[ASK]** We also encourage you guys to help us spread the word about these classes and to even escort someone to a class. You can direct people to our webpage [bikearlington.com/education](http://bikearlington.com/education)

**Best Buddies** – On October 19<sup>th</sup>, the [Best Buddies Challenge](#) will take place in DC offering up a 100, 50 or 20 mile bike ride. We want to put together a BikeArlington team consisting of citizens in the DC area, and you guessed it, this is where you come in. **[ASK]** Help us promote the challenge and get friends, family, colleagues, etc. to join the team! We're ironing out the details regarding fundraising, but the team will be responsible for raising a certain amount of money.

**National Bike Challenge** – This year the [National Bike Challenge](#) will run from May to the end of September (extended one extra month from last year). If you're not familiar, this challenge is a national movement to encourage people to "get out and ride" by creating a large community of people logging their miles and being entered to win some pretty cool prizes. This year they removed the cap for team size, so the BikeArlington team can be bigger and better! **[ASK]** Recruit new riders to sign up for the bike challenge and join our team! Or better yet, create your own team and recruit new riders to join that!

#### UPCOMING:

**Bike and Walk to School Day** – Bike and WalkArlington are coordinating with APS to get as many schools as possible to participate in the second annual [Bike to School Day](#) (which we are promoting as both bike and walk). Our plan is not to have a big celebration at each school, but to simply recognize all bikers and walkers at each school by having people volunteer as greeters to award "tokens" to the kids who bike or walk to school on May 8<sup>th</sup>. **[ASK]** Volunteer to be greeters for one of the schools that participates. We will have more information about how many and what schools will be participating soon.

**Level of Comfort Map** – The city of Austin has experimented with [a new kind of bicycle map](#) that doesn't show bicycle infrastructure on the city streets. Instead it expresses the level of comfort of its streets, recognizing the fact that just because there's a bicycle facility in place doesn't mean a new rider will feel comfortable riding on it. For example, there are bike lanes on Clarendon and Wilson Blvds, however someone who doesn't like riding next to a lot of cars still might not feel comfortable because of the high volume of traffic on those streets. We think this kind of map is important to appeal to the interested but concerned market and we plan on developing a map based around level of comfort, measured by traffic speed, traffic volume, topography, and bicycle facility. We will be surveying the public to help us gauge what factors are most important to them (i.e. speed or volume?). We will filter the responses to capture the beginners / interested but concerned as their level of comfort is what we want to portray. **[ASK]** We will be asking you to assist us in grading level of comfort of certain sections and links based on how beginners would feel (i.e. you might feel comfortable riding on Washington Blvd, but a beginner would not). An easy way to have that mindset is to think about whether you would ride on the road with children or let your children ride on the road alone.

## **Subcommittees – Pick one**

### **County/Government Outreach**

What steps can the BAC take in the next 4 weeks to increase police engagement with the cycling community? What are our specific asks of the PD?

The Arlington County Police often conducts targeted enforcement with grant funding. They are experiencing the same resource constraints that the rest of the county is seeing.

There may be an opportunity to have a police officer at the Lynn/Lee for BTWD.

Eric Goodman will draft the letter and pass it along to Jakob.

How can we get the police to engage the ABAC?

We should get crash data from the police and capture some crime data

Is enforcement & safety the BAC's main ask for the next 12 months of the County Government? If not, what is our big ask or what's the issue we're going to highlight with the Government?

### **Membership & Cyclist Communications**

BAC Involvement at Bike to Work Day

Megan will be working with Zanna to staff a BAC table. Possibly at Ballston and Rosslyn.

Should the BAC hold a library meeting or major event in the fall again? What's the purpose of that event and what does it look like?

They will do a major outreach event in Fall 2013.

How can the BAC present & market itself more effectively within the cycling community? What's our interaction with the regional Forum and how can we use Twitter (an account already exists)?

**The plan will be to both post to the forum and solicit input from the forum members/participants.**