

**Arlington Bike Advisory Committee  
6 April 2015 Meeting (approved 4 May 2015)  
2100 Clarendon Blvd. Arlington, VA 22201**

*Gillian Burgess, Megan Jones, Dana Bres, William Fuchs, Eric Goodman, Mike Hanna, Dwight Hlustick, Steve Offutt, Cynthia Palmer, Jim Presswood, Michael Raizen, Allan Reiter, Chris Slatt, Randy Swart,*

*David Goodman, Tim Kelley, David Patton, Kevin Stalica*

**Guests**

*Santosh Neupane (Transportation O&E), Matthew Huston (Transit Bureau), Tom Hutchings (Transportation), Mike Nardolilli (NVRPA), Karl Mohle (NVRPA)*

**Call to Order**

**Introductions**

**Approve minutes** *March 2015 notes were approved (with additional text from Gillian)*

**NVRPA (Mike Nardolilli, Karl Mohle)**

*NVRPA is a six jurisdiction parks authority created in the 1950s. Each jurisdiction (Arlington County, Fairfax County, Loudoun County, Alexandria City, Falls Church City, and Fairfax City) contributes in proportion to the jurisdiction population. Annual appropriation is \$23M with about \$3M coming from the six jurisdictions. The 30 NVRPA parks are self-sufficient in revenue. Mike Nardolilli suggested he was willing to meet with the ABAC on an annual basis.*

*The W&OD nets substantial revenue based on leasing fees by permitting various utilities to cross or use the W&OD right of way.*

*Snow blowing begins in Falls Church and continues along the W&OD towards Shirlington. They use a snow blower to protect the pavement and pavement markings. They cleared snow nine times during the winter of 2015.*

*They said that if Arlington County wanted to do snow removal on the W&OD, it was free to do so if the County would follow the NVRPA snow removal strategies (blowing rather than plowing). They indicated that if Arlington County wanted to apply brine to the W&OD, they would be willing to consider it. Upon questioning, they made a commitment to consider the potential impact of brining and to advise the ABAC of the decision. Kevin Stalica added that there was no funding for such an expansion of trail treatment.*

*Kevin Stalica said that the brine treatment might increase corrosion of structures, impacts to the vegetation and mechanical snow removal could damage the thermo-plastic markings.*

*W&OD markings at road crossings include stop signs, thermo markings, advanced warning signs, and rumble strips. There are 70 grade crossings on the W&OD.*

*NVRPA recently did a study of six intersections (the Six Intersection Study) along the trail. There was some discussion of the changes to the W&OD at Columbia Pike, including the “beg button”. The button does not actually trigger a change in the traffic light as such change is only triggered by the auto sensor in the pavement. David Patton indicated the auditory response of “Wait” was an ADA requirement. Comments about the lack of linkage between the button and a light change suggested that if there were no cars on Four Mile Run Drive, the light on Columbia Pike wouldn’t change. (Note: David Patton spent some time after 11pm one evening after the meeting and found that the light changes regularly whether or not there is a car present.)*

*There was a stakeholders workshop on improvements to the W&OD. Some issues associated with widening the W&OD included the potential for environmental degradation, excessive speed and other issues.*

*NVRPA extended the hours on the W&OD and it is now open from 5am to 9pm to encourage bicycle commuting. Members noted that it is actually a transportation route used 24/7. The NVRPA considers this as a pilot program. To encourage evening trail use, lights were installed on the trail in Herndon.*

*The 2014 W&OD safety study is posted on the Friends of the W&OD website [http://www.wodfriends.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/WOD\\_report\\_6.8\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.wodfriends.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/WOD_report_6.8_FINAL.pdf)*

*Discussion of the stop signs on the trail suggested that the intent was to provide priority to the motorist. Mr. Nardolilli indicated that the VA State Attorney General indicated that NVRPA could put stop signs on the trail but the Authority was trying to build consensus among the member jurisdictions.*

### **Lynn Street Esplanade/Custis Trail Project Update (Tom Hutchings)**

*The design for the project is at 90%. There are actually two projects combined into one – the trail improvements and the Lynn Street esplanade. There have been at least six studies on this area. All the roadways are VDOT with speeds of 35 or 45 mph.*

*Will be widening the Custis Trail between Lynn and Oak and will be installing bike specific signals. They will be looking at lighting improvements, although they indicated that uniformity in lighting levels was more important for safety (to a question about highlighting the crosswalk at Lynn and Lee so motorists might pay particular attention). There was significant discussion of the light poles in the queuing area from the MVT at Lynn and Lee. There were questions about the wisdom of putting trees on the roadside*

*between Fort Myer and the Marriott driveway as it might mask cyclists from motorists turning into the Marriott. Lee Highway will be reduced from 36 to 24 feet wide. There was discussion of using a speed table at the entrance to the Marriott to help avoid autos pulling out across the trail when making a right turn onto Lee. Plan will be to bid in spring 2016 with construction beginning in fall 2016.*

### **Virginia Hospital Center (VHC) bike parking proposal (Daniel Foster)**

*Overarching plan is to have modern, appropriate and available parking at the VHC. The proposed plan would address bike parking inside the garages and outside the entrances.*

*The parking plan was well thought out and would improve support for cyclists who would work at or visit the hospital. A motion was made to encourage Arlington County to work with the VHC in implementing this worthwhile plan.*

### **Columbia Pike Transit (Matthew Huston)**

*Arlington County provided an overview of the transportation improvements along Columbia Pike. There will be a series of transit stops that will be of differing size depending on the site constraints. There will be a public information meeting on 28 April.*

### **Arlington County staff updates**

#### **Projects**

#### **Street Lighting (Santosh Neupane)**

*The street lighting infrastructure is fairly old and requires an increasing level of maintenance. Replacement of the lighting would require funding from the capital funding. Resource constraints have delayed the maintenance for lighting. Kevin Stalica indicated he would be able to provide some additional discussion of the lighting on trails at the May 2015 meeting.*

#### **BikeArlington (Tim Kelley) – Submitted in advance**

#### **Previous Events and Launches in March:**

##### [Arlington PAL Ambassador Program](#)

*Whether we're walking, driving, or biking we rely on our fellow road-users to be PALs - Predictable. Alert. Lawful. And we're looking for PAL Ambassadors to spread the word! **What's a PAL Ambassador? You are!** PAL Ambassadors are folks who care about their neighborhood and making our streets safer-they're the smiling faces behind steering wheels, handlebars, or on the sidewalk! **This is the perfect opportunity for BAC members who would like to get out on Arlington streets and trails and interact directly with other residents.** In March, the trailer was pulled 166 miles over*

20.5 hours and our lead ambassador completed an addition 55 hours leading intersection outreach and volunteer recruitment and coordination. Get signed up and come hang out with us during free pizza parties!

### [RackSpotter](#)

We've been hard at work on a new, free, crowdsourced tool that you can use to find, identify and share bike parking locations throughout the greater Washington DC region! RackSpotter, which is available for both web browsers and smartphones, uses the community to inventory bicycle racks. Contributors login to the application, use the available map or their phone's GPS to pinpoint a location, and can then place a bike rack on the map and include photos. Please add your own local racks!

### [Pi Day Ride](#)

We had a great Pi Day Ride + 1 ride on March 15<sup>th</sup> (adjusted on day due to raining conditions on 3.14)! A group of about 20 people on bikes joined us for pie at 5 different locations around Arlington County. [Photos](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

### **Upcoming Events:**

[Zen and the City \(tomorrow!!\)](#) – Women only! Sorry guys... Join us Tuesday, April 7, for our second women's-only evening of delicious food, relaxing yoga, and sharing of bike knowledge. If you're a beginner and are interested in biking more--whether to work, to the store or to coffee with friends, this is the event for you! With experts on hand to answer your questions, you'll be one step closer to a happier, healthier and more "zenful" life! So join us for a night of yoga, biking and fun! Tickets are \$10 and include dinner and a goodie bag.

[Get Spring Rolling – Rosslyn BID Spring Tune Up Event – April 10th](#) - Join BikeArlington and the Rosslyn BID on Friday, April 10th, between 11AM and 2PM at the Plaza on 19th (North Moore & 19th St N in Rosslyn) to make sure you're ready for Spring! Bike need a tune up? Mobile bike mechanic Everything Esmonde has you covered (first come, first serve; he'll be there all day!). Want to learn how to fix a flat? We'll teach ya! The Rosslyn BID and BikeArlington are partnering for an awesome summer of friendly competition and great gear giveaways, so come by to learn more and score free cycling swag

[Bike to School Day – May 6th](#) – Like usual, we'll be working with Arlington Public Schools again this year to encourage students to bike and walk on May 6<sup>th</sup>!

[Bike to Work Day – May 15th](#) – There will be 6 stops in Arlington County this year: Rosslyn, Ballston, Columbia Pike, Crystal City, East Falls Church and a brand new one in Shirlington! Here's the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eIPdkZLh68c> Get registered for your free t-shirt!

[Phoenix Derby – May 2nd](#) - Bikes! Races where you get points for eating pie! Costumes! Kids! In a parking garage? Sure thing! Support the awesome folks of

Phoenix bikes, Arlington's community and youth bike shop, by participating or spectating in this uniquely excellent event.

### **Upcoming Class Schedule:**

#### April

Sunday, April 12 : City Cycling

Saturday, April 26 : Learn to Ride

Wednesday, April 22 : Education Ride

#### May

Wednesday, May 20 : Education Ride

Sunday, May 31 : Learn to Ride

#### June

Saturday, June 13 : Learn to Ride

Sunday, June 14 : City Cycling

Wednesday, June 17 : Education Ride

More info on classes: <http://www.bikearlington.com/pages/bike-education/>

### **Parks**

*With spring, Parks crews will be trimming vegetation to reduce encroachment. They will use some of the trail maintenance funding to do some repair/repaving on the Four Mile Run trail. If Parks gets some funding from DES, they will work on the Custis. Gillian asked about some pavement problems along the eastern portions of the Custis where the surface was undulating.*

### **Budget update (Gillian)**

*There have been a number of letters and testimony about the bike funding. Gillian suggested that there might be a reduction in the amount of project planning for bike and ped projects. She described a number of actions that would result in the positions of cyclists in Arlington articulating their interest in maintaining funding levels. (post meeting note: the County Board decided not to cut the bike/ped budget in meetings held after the BAC meeting).*

*Adjournment*