

Arlington Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC)
Wednesday, December 9, 2015 7 P.M.
Courthouse Plaza, Dogwood & Cherry
2100 Clarendon Boulevard

Minutes (Approved January 13, 2016)

Present: Dennis Jaffe, Chair; Pamela Van Hine, Vice Chair; John Armstrong; Jim Feaster; Dan Foster; Eric Goldstein; David Goodman; Eric Goodman; Tom Kornis; Christine Ng; David Patton; Collin Weber

Guests: Lucia de Cordre, Rosslyn BID; Larry Filler, Arlington County Community Services; Mark Schnauer, Arlington County Transit Bureau; Bonnie Parker, Arlington County Department of Transportation

No Public Speakers

Invited Speaker: Lucia de Cordre, Rosslyn BID, New Streetscape Initiative

The PAC invited speaker described the Rosslyn BID [Streetscape Elements Master Plan](#), which supplements and amplifies information in the [Rosslyn Sector Plan](#). She then displayed a very tall sample wayfinding sign and distributed sample copies of the Streetscape Elements Master Plan guidebook/toolkit and a one-page illustration of sample street furnishings. Their goal is to improve the pedestrian realm in Rosslyn and encourage pedestrian engagement throughout the area. The various sample furnishings share similar design elements and colors and feature distinctive Rosslyn branding. The perforations in several pieces are inspired by the lit windows of the Rosslyn skyline. **The prototype will be available in January at Oak & Wilson.** After 3-6 months of testing, including through focus groups, they plan to implement the streetscape features through Rosslyn. PAC participation in the evaluation is encouraged.

At D. Goodman's request, she then discussed three features of particular interest to the PAC:

- Newsboxes: The BID has developed sample corrals for these boxes, and they have tagged all existing boxes and contacted the owners. She noted that some papers have then contacted them and offered to cooperate.
- Parkletts: They will show a prototype parklett – a publicly accessible deck adjacent to the curb, usually in a parking space – in the same area as the streetscape prototype. They plan to launch parkletts on Parking Day, the second Friday in September.
- Sidewalk clutter: One of the key ways that the BID plans to restrict sidewalk clutter is to use uniform colors for specific features, e.g. brown poles and similar banners. Signage is kept, but pole is spray painted. Planters will be a uniform dark gray. They are currently exploring how to cover utility boxes and are reviewing what other cities are doing with them, e.g. using art in Alexandria or other covering in New York.

Approval of minutes from November 4 PAC meetings (D. Jaffe): Copies of the draft November minutes were distributed. C. Ng moved, and J. Feaster seconded approval, and the PAC unanimously voted to approve them as submitted.

Budget Meeting, December 3, 2015 (D. Jaffe): The Chair noted that E. Goldstein also represented the PAC at this meeting and that J. Feaster attended as a representative of the Commission on Aging. The Chair described the meeting as cordial and informative and that attendees were encouraged to offer budget suggestions. D. Goodman noted that they are currently working on the Capital Improvement Plan (budget) over the winter. The committee then discussed how the PAC can best support pedestrian budget issues and staff efforts. B. Parker suggested that the PAC send a list of ranked recommended programs and activities to the County Manager, as the purpose of the PAC is to advise the County Manager, including advice on proposed capital programming activities. She noted that these recommendations should be broad and at a high level. D. Goodman commented that the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) has developed a list for their use through their consensus process. The PAC briefly discussed how to do this. C. Ng suggested starting to develop the list through the PAC Google Group, as time is short. Other suggestions were to try have the entire PAC meet at a special meeting or have a few PAC members meet. Reapplying as a [Walk Friendly Community](#) was one budget feature suggested to the Chair. Arlington County is currently at the Gold Level. The Vice Chair posted a Google Group message about the budget after the meeting. Link to the presentation from the December 3 meeting and other 2017 budget documents through this Arlington County [budget site](#).

Mark Schnauer, Arlington County Transit Bureau: [Ballston Station Multimodal Project](#)
M. Schnauer has been making presentations to various Arlington groups to discuss the proposed Ballston Station Multimodal project. His presentation to the PAC showed changes to Fairfax Drive crosswalks and expanded bus bays that will accommodate more buses and provide ADA compliant access and enlarged bus stop waiting areas. He highlighted the planned indoor covered bike storage place that can hold up to 75 bikes safely and securely. A prototype can be seen in Vienna and Falls Church. General bike racks will also be available outside. The existing canopy will stay, but they are investigating ways to make it more interesting and attractive. A new Kiss & Ride spot is being developed. Food trucks will need to relocate. Wayfinding signs will be added later, with BID input. This project is fully funded. The first half of 2016 will involve obtaining permits and contractors, with construction to start later in 2016 and run through 2018. **Public Meeting #2 will be held Wednesday, December 16 @ 6:30 P.M. at the NRECA Building, 4301 Wilson Boulevard, Room CC1.**

Adding County contact information on construction signs (E. Goodman): At the October PAC meeting, E. Goodman proposed adding County contact information to construction signs to encourage citizens to contact the County directly to report problems with the construction site. D. Goodman and D. Patton discussed his idea with relevant County staff, who were open to the idea, but commented that one number might not be sufficient because the problem might belong to one of several departments. They encourage the PAC to invite a speaker to an upcoming PAC meeting to discuss the issue.

Walter Reed Drive Improvement Project (D. Jaffe): The Chair described the recent meeting of the newly formed [Shirlington Civic Association](#) that he and C. Ng attended as invited guests to discuss the Walter Reed Drive project. The Chair realized the value of having the WRD letter on the PAC website for easy referral to those who needed to read it, such as the Shirlington association. Because it is not routine Arlington policy to post specific issue letters on Committees/Commissions websites, the Committee discussed various ways to make their letter more widely available. B. Parker noted that currently the County does not have a County-wide process for placing these types of documents on specific websites, and that the County is working on this issue. C. Ng noted that [E2C2](#) had a similar discussion and decided to set up a specific Google Group as a repository for their key documents. It was recommended that the letter be linked through PAC minutes, and the PAC voted unanimously to do that. (See WRD letter, starting on pg.4).

Involvement of PAC with SPRCs (P. Van Hine): At the end of the PAC meeting, the Vice Chair briefly mentioned that she had made major revisions to the PAC document on involvement with the SPRC based upon comments at the November PAC meeting. She is seeking PAC approval of the general plan, any additional edits needed, and approval of any sharing and distribution to other groups, such as the BAC, that might find it useful. She encourages all PAC members to review the edited version and send comments no later than EOB Wednesday, December 16. Timing is critical because the SPRC will be changing its processes in February, 2016.

Other topics:

[Lee Highway Community Visioning](#) (T. Korn): T. Korn briefly reported on the status of the Lee Highway Community Visioning process. On February 6, 2016, a public meeting will be held at Yorktown; and the plan goes before the County Board in March. The plan is to start construction in the fall of 2016.

[Neighborhood Complete Streets Commission](#) (E. Goodman): E. Goodman updated the committee on the project, and B. Parker noted that plans are going before the County Board in December.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 P.M. The next PAC meeting will be Wednesday, January 13, 2016, in the Dogwood & Cherry Rooms.