

Arlington Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC)  
Wednesday, January, 13 2016  
Courthouse Plaza, Dogwood & Cherry  
2100 Clarendon Boulevard

Minutes (approved with edits, February 10, 2016)

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

Guests: Ritch Viola, Arlington DOT; Robert Hanifin, Arlington citizen  
No public speakers

### **Items of Interest (PAC members)**

- C. Ng mentioned that she had attended a recent [Walking Tour](#) of the Shirlington Crescent, which is part of the Nauck neighborhood. This event, a kickoff for major [planning effort](#) for the area, was attended by approximately 200 people, including the entire current Arlington Board, our newly appointed County Manager, and Congressman Beyer. Board member J. Vihstadt is the Board liaison for the project.
- E. Goodman noted a proposal for a protected bike lane for Quincy, from Glebe to the Custis Trail. There is an online petition of support through [Bike Friendly Ballston](#) (follow Support This Campaign link).
- T. Kornis updated the committee on plans for [Lee Highway Visioning](#). The [next meeting](#) will be February 6 at Yorktown High School. A task force is planned to start work this fall.

### **Invited Speaker: Ritch Viola, DOT, Neighborhood Complete Streets Program**

The invited speaker R. Viola updated the PAC on plans for the [Neighborhood Complete Streets](#) (NCS) program. He quickly reviewed the history of the proposed program, noting how NCS evolved from the now-defunct Neighborhood Traffic Calming (NTC) program. He showed an [Arlington map \(see p. 20\)](#) that displayed the functional classification of streets by their status as arterial or neighborhood streets. He reviewed the establishment and role of the Neighborhood Complete Streets [Commission](#) and the development of the [NCS program guide](#) and project selection criteria. He also compared and contrasted the NCS program to the existing Neighborhood Conservation (NC) program and noted that these two programs are meant to complement each other. PAC members asked questions about funding, staffing, the application process, and opposition to the program. The speaker responded that the program will probably need two staff – a project manager and an engineer, and that funding would not need a bond issue. Funding would start later this year if the Board approves the project. He emphasized that anyone can propose a project, and that each NCS project will have a custom-designed engagement plan. They plan for the project status list to be public and the entire process to be transparent. They are considering a planning map to help citizens determine if their proposal would have a sufficiently high score. He indicated that the Board felt they did not have sufficient information to vote in December, but now they have all been briefed by staff and are ready to vote. The NCS program proposal will be going before the Arlington County Board for approval on Saturday, January 23. The PAC is encouraged to submit written or oral testimony, as either the PAC or as individual members.

**Approval of minutes from December 9 PAC meeting:** Copies of the draft December minutes were distributed. T. Kornes moved, and E. Goodman seconded approval, and the PAC unanimously voted to approve them as submitted.

**2016 Arlington County Budget – Next Steps for PAC:**

The PAC focused on discussing the pedestrian [wish list](#) that was drafted by the Vice Chair with significant input from several other PAC members. The consensus of the committee was that the wish list was fine, but that it would not be truly valuable unless parts were implemented. Editing is needed to rephrase the frequent “shoulds” and to provide more details. The PAC decided that the first step was to map the wish list to the existing [Pedestrian Element](#) of the Master Transportation Plan (MTP). The Vice Chair volunteered to map the Overall Goals; C. Ng indicated she would map the Other Specific and General Issues; J. Feaster promised to map the Sidewalk section; and E. Goodman noted he would map both the Intersections and Trails sections. The mapping process will uncover many things, including what items on the wish list are not in the pedestrian element (and vice versa) and which existing points are not currently being successfully or adequately implemented in the County. J. Armstrong also noted that many of the points are the responsibility of non-DOT staff and other Arlington committees and commissions, and that these correlations need to be determined and noted.

D. Patton mentioned that the Board has supported Arlington's participation in the US DOT [Mayoral Challenge](#), and that this activity might dovetail nicely with implementing the wish list and revising and implementing the MTP Pedestrian Element. The committee finished with a general discussion of how much detail needed to be included without being overly prescriptive, how to rank the list, and whether it was more appropriate and productive to raise problems with staff or directly to the County Manager.

This planning activity will not have significant financial planning impact until later budget cycles. The [current Arlington budget](#) will be released February 20, and the PAC will need to review and respond as needed very quickly.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 P.M. The next PAC meeting will be Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 7 P.M. in the Dogwood & Cherry Rooms.