

Arlington Bike Advisory Committee
4 January 2016 Meeting
2100 Clarendon Blvd. Arlington, VA 22201

Gillian Burgess, Megan Jones, Dana Bres, Eric Goodman, Dwight Hlustick, Steve Offutt, Cynthia Palmer, Tim Rosato, Chris Slatt, Randy Swart

Henry Dunbar, David Goodman, David Patton, Kevin Stalica

Guests

Bob Trecheny (Alexandria PBAC), Mercedes Fitchette (Rosslyn), Larry Filler, Aaron LaRocca (NPS GWMP), Jon Lawler (Arlington TE&O), Casey Kane (Alexandria PBAC)

Call to Order

Introductions

Approve minutes: *Minutes for the December meeting were approved*

Access from South Arlington to DC during snow and ice: (NPS GWMP, Aaron LaRocca)

Gillian Burgess provided an overview of the bike routes from South Arlington, Alexandria and points south when the trails aren't open due to snow. She said that with the changes to the access to Fort Myer, the challenge would be greater. Aaron LaRocca suggested that the NPS priorities would be to improve the access to NPS properties to communities. Gillian Burgess discussed the 27 trail to the Memorial Bridge connection or the Wooden Bridge through the Columbia Island Marina to the 14th Street Bridge.

The attached map shows potential routes where snow clearing might be targeted to complete links between Arlington County, VA DOT or DOD cleared roads and the District of Columbia.

Aaron LaRocca said that they had a working group working on the long term plan. He indicated that the GWMP was interested in reengaging with the public. David Patton indicated that Arlington County was participating in the effort.

Dana Bres suggested that the riders on the GWMP could serve as the monitors for the NPS as many cyclists ride the trails twice a day and are observant of trail problems. LaRocca said that problems could be reported with Twitter or superintendent_gwmp@nps.gov

Megan suggested that Aaron LaRocca have a rep join the Women & Bicycles group on Facebook.

Aaron LaRocca was asked about Gravelly Point, TR Island and Memorial Circle projects. Aaron LaRocca said that the TR Island trail realignment project was underway.

Steve Offutt suggested that the pavement on the new trail alignment on the MVT at the DCA was in pretty poor shape. Aaron LaRocca indicated that they would inspect the work as part of the project closeout.

Steve Offutt indicated that the NPS banned bicycles from the GWMP south of Alexandria about five years ago. There was some discussion about the basis for the bicycle ban on the parkway itself.

Steve Offutt asked about the “Trollheim” wooden bridge from the TR Island parking lot and the MVT and efforts to improve the bridge deck. He asked for a show of hands at the meeting for those attendees who had fallen on the bridge (about half of the attendees had fallen on the slick wooden boards).

Eric Goodman asked about the MVT just north of the Crystal City Connector. He said that there are stretches of the trail where the lights of oncoming cars make seeing the trail difficult. At one point (during earlier meetings with the NPS), the NPS had suggested they might be able to block the oncoming lights with plantings.

ACPD (Lt Ken Dennis)

Lt. Dennis was called away and was not able to discuss bike issues with ACPD.

Access from South Arlington to DC during snow and ice: County routes County Staff

Gillian asked about clearing the side trail along Columbia Pike and Washington Blvd. She also asked about the side trails along Route 50 east of Washington Blvd and the Washington Blvd trail under Route 50.

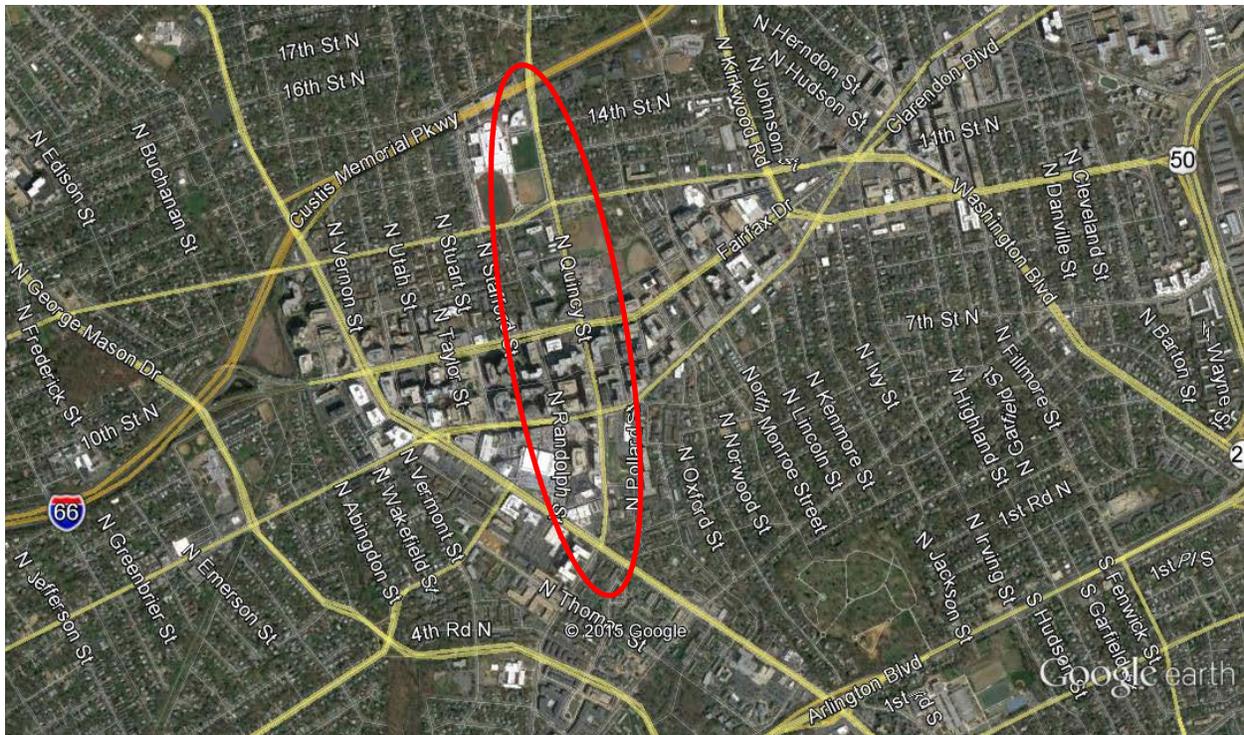
Chris Slatt asked if DES clears the sidewalks that aren't in front of private properties.

Steve Offutt said that the VDOT complaint site at <https://my.vdot.virginia.gov>

David Goodman indicated that the plow operators were aware of the fact that the travel lanes extended to include the full width of both the road and the bike lane.

Better Bike Ballston (Chris Slatt)

Chris discussed a WABA and BikeArlington effort to create a Bike Friendly Ballston. The effort has been reaching out to the businesses and civic associations to improve cycling in Ballston with a PBL on North Quincy Street from Glebe to the Custis Trail.



The suggestion was that the PBL in this area would reduce the number of bikes on the sidewalk.

WABA.org/bikeballston for the petition

A motion was made and accepted for the BAC to send a letter to

Updates from around the region:

Alexandria Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (Dana Bres) – Following the December BAC meeting, the Alexandria BPAC invited the BAC to share our thoughts on the Four Mile Run Trail detour. Dana rode the route and prepared a discussion of the proposed detour which was attached to the December meeting minutes. It appeared that the BPAC had similar concerns about the detour. They were concerned that the appropriate staff at the City and Arlington County were coordinating. In addition, we discussed the Arlington trail snow clearing operations (Kevin Stalica's contact information was provided to the BPAC so they could share it with the appropriate City staff). They were pleased that the Arlington Trail Counter Dashboard <http://www.bikearlington.com/pages/biking-in-arlington/counting-bikes-to-plan-for-bikes/counter-dashboard/> would be hosting counter data from Alexandria's new trail counters.

Kevin Stalica indicated that the Arlington County Urban Foresters would be looking at the access road and that the access road could be constructed with comparatively little tree damage.

Bob Trencheny (Alexandria BPAC) indicated that Alexandria would be repaving and widening the diagonal path at Route 1, just south of Four Mile Run. This diagonal path connects the sidewalk on the upstream side of the Route 1 bridge to the

HP100 (Megan Jones)

The Hains Point 100 is an annual (recurring?) event that serves as a focal point for a fund raising effort in support of the Women & Bicycles program of WABA. It is a personal effort of our Megan Jones and has grown in each of four years. The Women & Bicycles program at WABA has grown to 4400 members. Bike Arlington has supported it for all four years. This year, there were over 500 riders with \$12,000 raised for the program.

Arlington County staff updates

A. Parks (lights) Kevin Stalica

DES was requesting funds for light maintenance and that the BAC might take action to articulate support for trail lighting in the budget. David Goodman suggested that the trail lighting was in the capital budget. Steve Offutt suggested that lighting maintenance should be funded as part of the O&M.

Steve Offutt proposed that the BAC send a letter (he will draft) requesting the county repair lights as part of the operating budget. Was approved by voice vote.

Kevin indicated that they will be a site visit on the undulating pavement near the bridge to nowhere.

B. BikeArlington (submitted in advance by Henry Dunbar)

BikeArlington Updates for January BAC Meeting

Predictable, Alert, and Lawful (PAL) Outreach

- Pizza Party in Rosslyn for volunteers.
- Block Party meetup with DC Bike Ambassadors- dressed as Elves and Santa was extra fun (Dec. 10)

Learner's Loop at Glencarlyn Park now open

BA attended Ribbon Cutting

Photos at

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.888132551255262.1073741889.205971902804667&type=3>

Bicycle Friendly Businesses

The League of American Bicyclists released their new round of designations for BFBs. With 36 businesses, Arlington is now in third place nationwide.

Blog here: <http://www.arlingtontransportationpartners.com/pages/blog/new-bicycle-friendly-business-award-winners/>

Blog has information if you would like your business to apply and help us get first!

Holiday Lights Ride

40 people came out to see lights, including Santa and an Elf! It was picked up by ARLNow a week later: <https://www.arlnow.com/2015/12/22/where-are-the-craziest-christmas-decorations-in-arlington/>

Balaclavas Baklava and Beer

75 people came out to check out the brewery preview, talk winter biking and make fleecy bike accessories. Photos here:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.894306643971186.1073741891.205971902804667&type=3>

Arlington Bike Map Update

In the final stages of updating the Arlington County (standard) Bike Map.

Support for Community Bike Events

BA staff participated in and/or sponsored & promoted Bike Hack Night V (Dec. 16), the Tim Holden Memorial Ride (Dec 18); the Hains Point 100 (Dec 20). Will also support 4th annual Freezing Saddles (Jan. 1 - Mar 20).

Capital Bikeshare

New Stations will start being added in January/February. The installations will push west along Wilson and add some infill sites.

In March, Arlington, DC, and Alexandria plan to announce a partnership program with nonprofit organizations (NPO) to help reach and encourage low-income communities to use Bikeshare. Will include a greatly reduced annual fee, extended initial ride time, and helmet. Will also include extensive training for NPO staff on how system works. Current organizations participating include AHC, APAH, and Phoenix Bikes.

C. Projects (signal at Columbia Pike & WO&D; Counts; Signs)

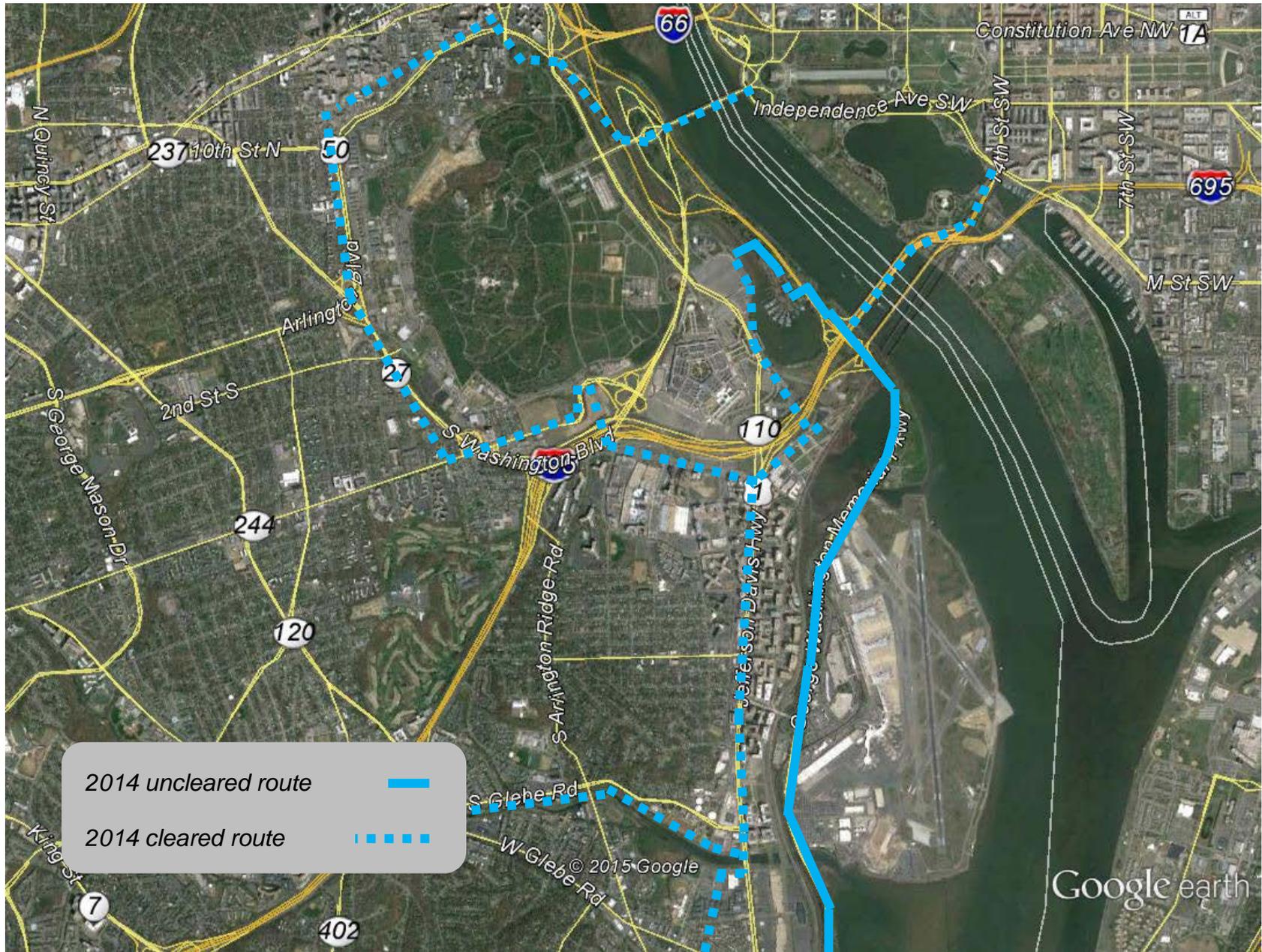
Signals at Columbia Pike and the WO&D have been restored to the “correct” operating regime. Steve Offutt asked how we can assure that mode of operation will remain in effect. Gillian Burgess said that we would ask the Signals Manager to join us at a future meeting.

Other

David Goodman mentioned a recent article where Board Member Fissette indicated that he felt Arlington County could achieve a LAB Gold Level status. Dana suggested that the BAC send a letter to the County Manager suggesting that we thought it was a fine idea and how we could help. Passed by voice vote.

David Goodman said that the Neighborhood Complete Streets program had been delayed pending briefings for the effort to the Board. David Goodman suggested the BAC might want to become familiar with the program.

Adjournment



Washington Boulevard to Memorial Circle



Boundary Channel Drive to 14th Street Bridge



Cyclists on the MVT (no peds in counts)

