

Arlington Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC)

Wednesday, July 13 2016

**Courthouse Plaza, Dogwood & Cherry
2100 Clarendon Boulevard**

Minutes **(approved unanimously without change August 10, 2016)**

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

Guests: Joshua Nicholas, Allie Henry, Andrea Walker, and Nia Bagley

The meeting was called to order by the chair at 7:03 PM

Items of Interest and Public Comment:

C. Ng noted that the DC Council had moved forward in updating laws regarding contributory negligence in collisions between pedestrians and vehicles, in order to make it easier for pedestrians to recover from insurance companies when hit.

P. Van Hine mentioned the e-mail that was sent to the PAC by Rosemary Ciotti about the potential to create an app containing information about what pedestrian routes are accessible.

P. Van Hine provided an overview of the update from WalkArlington. She noted the success of the Arlington Street Festival, which Arlington had been designated a [gold level walking community](#), and that parking day was approaching. She also welcomed Allie Henry, who will be joining WalkArlington as the new WalkArlington Coordinator in August.

Ms. Henry introduced herself. She is currently with Arlington Transportation Partners and will be joining WalkArlington on August 1. She looks forward to working with the committee.

Ms. Walker indicated that she was pleased to see the Four Mile Run Trail closure on our agenda.

Public speaker, Joshua Nicholas, Senior ITS & Traffic Signal Engineer:

Mr Nicholas introduced himself to the PAC, as a member of DES's Transportation and Engineering Operations Bureau. His group is responsible for signal operations decisions. Mr. Nicholas explained to the PAC that in determining whether to put in a traffic signal they use [FHWA guidelines](#), looking at traffic volumes accident rates and the location of the intersection in the transportation network.

PAC members asked questions about the county's use of HAWK and RRFD devices as alternatives to full traffic signals. Mr. Nicholas indicated that the county found this most appropriate for mid-block crossings, rather than at signals. Mr. Nicholas also discussed with the PAC the county's use of pedestrian detectors, including both push button and automatic detectors. The PAC and Mr. Nicholas discussed a variety of other issues relating to traffic signals, including leading pedestrian intervals, the timing between pedestrian and vehicle lights turning red, and the county's crosswalk guidance.

The PAC thanked Mr. Nicholas for joining us.

Approval of minutes from June 8 PAC meetings

C. Ng moved to approve the minutes of the June 8 PAC meeting. C. Ng moved to amend the minutes to reflect the proposed pedestrian boot camp would be on “safety awareness”. The motion to amend was approved unanimously, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Four Mile Run Trail Closure

D. Goodman updated the PAC on the plans for the [closure of the Four Mile Run trail](#). He explained that the trail will be closed from US 1 to Mt. Vernon Avenue for approximately one year beginning this fall. He reviewed with the committee the plans for the detour.

CIP Update

P. Van Hine updated the committee on the CIP hearing. She reminded the committee that the CIP includes lots of programs involving pedestrians, but that very few of them come before the PAC. She requested that PAC members send her a list of projects that they would like the PAC to be involved in, and would work with staff to try to get updates on those projects.

Walk the Walk with Charlie Clark Update

P, Van Hine indicated that the recent walk with Falls Church News-Press-Online columnist Charlie Clark was successful. She thanked attendees for coming and noted that there would hopefully be a follow-up article published as a result of the walk.

Pedestrian Safety Forum

The PAC discussed the potential of holding a pedestrian safety forum to engage the community on issues of pedestrian safety. Ideas included focusing on what actions individuals can take to increase safety, utilizing web streaming to expand our reach, and working with PAL.

The chair adjourned the meeting at 9:05 P.M. The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 10, at 7 P.M. in the Dogwood & Cherry Rooms.