

Arlington Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC)
Wednesday, September 14, 2016

Courthouse Plaza, Dogwood & Cherry
2100 Clarendon Boulevard

Minutes (approved with edits October 6, 2016)

Present: Pamela Van Hine, Chair; Eric Goldstein, Vice Chair; John Armstrong; Eric Goodman; Tom Korn; Christine Ng; David Patton; David Goodman (arrived at 8:30 PM)

Guests: Tom Norton

The meeting was called to order by the chair at 7:13 PM

Items of Interest and Public Comment:

P. Van Hine updated the committee on upcoming meetings and events:

- The Long Bridge replacement study is accepting public comments. Information on the project is available at <http://longbridgeproject.com>.
- The county is holding a demo of the new LED streetlights on September 15th.
- The Four Mile Run Valley Working Group continues to meet. The PAC discussed the scope of the project and the working group.
- Parking day is Friday 9/16. Neither PAC nor WalkArlington are holding any events. DOT will be doing an event at Courthouse which some members of the committee plan to attend

Invited speaker, Tom Norton, Former Safe Routes to School Coordinator, Arlington Public Schools:

Mr. Norton introduced himself to the PAC and explained that until recently he was the Safe Routes to School Coordinator. He informed the PAC that the hiring process for his replacement is currently underway.

Mr. Norton provided an overview of the [program](#): It exists to increase the percentage of students who bike and walk to school. Some of the main events the program coordinates are walk and bike to school day, a mode of travel survey, crossing guard appreciation day, and bike and walk to school day. The program is part of the Health & PE department, and works closely with PE teachers in the county's elementary and middle schools on curriculum related to biking and walking.

Mr. Norton explained to the PAC that the position is funded by annual grants from the VDOT. This year, the grant required as 20% match from Arlington Public Schools. Each year a significant amount of time is spent on grant writing, and the staff is unable to know in advance if it will receive funding for the future year.

In response to a question, Mr. Norton explained to the PAC that the program works with DES's TE&O bureau, the APD Special Ops group, and county employed crossing guards. Mr. Norton informed the PAC that the county often has trouble filling all the crossing guard positions.

Mr. Norton stressed the importance of getting program buy-in from school staff. The program is working with some staff to pilot a bikes in P.E. program in the 2nd grade. Mr. Norton also explained the middle school bike club sponsored by Phoenix Bikes.

The PAC thanked Mr. Norton for attending.

Approval of minutes from August 10 PAC meetings

J. Armstrong moved to approve the minutes of the August PAC meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously, without amendment.

Future Meeting Update

P. Van Hine reminded members that we had moved our October meeting to October 6th. The speaker for that meeting will be Dan Nabors, TE&O Design Team Leader. The speaker for our November meeting will be Alli Henry from WalkArlington.

Ballston Construction Issues

The PAC discussed the sidewalk closures in place due to the Ballston Mall construction. Both Wilson Blvd and Randolph Street have sidewalks closed due to the demolition. The PAC was informed that discussions regarding the closures are occurring among staff.

Pedestrian Safety: Forum and Social Media

P. Van Hine recapped some of the safety statistics the PAC learned at the previous meeting. The PAC briefly discussed ways of improving pedestrian safety education and outreach. The discussion included mention of the joint PAL & WABA website recruiting PAL volunteers, and the possibility of extending to pedestrians. The discussion will be continued at our November meeting when we hear from the WalkArlington coordinator.

CIP Project Follow-up

The Chair reported back from her request for members to identify CIP projects that are of interest to them: The PAC is particularly interested in trails, the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor, and Crystal City.

E. Goodman mentioned to the committee that plans for a protected bike lane on N. Quincy street are moving forward.

National Foreign Affairs Training Center - Master Plan Update

P. Van Hine updated the committee on our input into the National Foreign Affairs Training Center Master Plan Update. The committee sent a letter to the County Manager outlining our concerns with the plan. These concerns were incorporated in the comments sent by county staff to the Federal government. In addition, a copy of our letter was attached to the staff comments.

The chair adjourned the meeting at 9:11 P.M. The next meeting will be Thursday, October 6, at 7 P.M. in the Dogwood & Cherry Rooms [note: meeting room changed to Azalea].