

Meeting Discussion Summary
October 25, 2016; 7:00 – 10:00 pm
Navy League, 2300 Wilson Blvd.

1. Draft Joint Facilities Advisory Committee (JFAC) Charter

- Charter scope:
 - The Committee intended the 2+2 Committee and the related Citizen Advisory Committee to focus on emerging facility needs by receiving and assessing information regarding County demographic changes and economic trends and using that data to inform the assessment of facility needs.
 - However, the proposed charter mixes short term tasks (siting for specific facilities) with this long term planning for facility needs. Specifically, the Committee recommends removing references to siting processes from Task 4 (p. 2), Deliverable 3 (develop siting criteria, p. 3), Deliverable 4C (list of specific sites, p.3).
 - The Committee recognizes that critical facility siting decisions need to be made in the coming year. Citizen participation in these siting processes should be conducted by one or more working groups (separate from JFAC), or other community engagement methods, as outlined in the Proposed Siting Principles and Process (Appendix 6 of the CFS report). These efforts could include JFAC members who may contribute a County-wide perspective.
 - The charter as currently drafted provides too many tasks for one group to perform in a year and sets the group up for failure.

2. Community Facilities Study Report Recommendations

- The Committee generally agreed with and supported many of staff responses to the 21 recommendations from the CFS report. Where County and APS staff have made progress on the recommendations, the Committee encourages staff to continue those efforts. Recommendations where there is disagreement or a need for further discussion are described below.
- #18 – Siting Process
 - The County and School Boards should formalize the recommended process from the CFS report.
 - The process was intended to be flexible, but there is concern that pilot projects would “adapt” the process to be unrecognizable from the original intent.
 - The Committee suggests using the proposed siting process for these pilot projects and evaluating the process to identify potential refinements.
 - The Committee members who developed the proposed process are willing to assist those tasked with implementing it.

- #12 – Fiscal Impact Statements
 - The Committee stands behind its recommendation that fiscal impact statements be included for development projects seeking approval from the County Board.
 - The statement could be simple, outlining expected tax revenues and impacts on County/APS services.
 - The Committee primarily interested in broadly informing the community about the impacts of growth.
 - The Committee further clarified that this recommendation is intended to identify impacts, and Committee members do not expect that developers would be asked to compensate for the impacts or their projects.

- #6 – Land Acquisition Fund
 - This is intended to be a new tool that the County could use when unforeseen opportunities for land acquisition arise, particularly when the County needs to act quickly.
 - The Committee agrees that a management structure and clear policies for using the fund should be established upfront. JFAC could be a venue for citizen input on such policies.
 - The Committee is concerned that the staff response reference to “established needs” is too limiting. The eventual use of a site may not be known at the time of acquisition.

- #19-21 – Civic Engagement and Communications
 - The Committee is pleased to see improvement in these areas.
 - There is some concern that the staff responses are heavy on pushing information out rather than engaging the community.
 - It would be a useful exercise to take stock of what is/is not working in civic engagement processes and applying lessons learned to future efforts. This evaluation should include an assessment of how each Board uses its citizen volunteers’ time efficiently and effectively.

Web:

bit.ly/ACGFacStudy



Together, Arlington County and Arlington Public Schools have launched a broad-based planning effort that will build a consensus framework for assessing the community's future funding, resource and facility needs. [Learn more about the Arlington Community Facilities Study.](http://bit.ly/ACGFacStudy)